

MERCADOLIBRE INC
Form 10-Q
May 06, 2011

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**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549
FORM 10-Q**

(Mark One)

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

For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2011

-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 001-33647

MercadoLibre, Inc.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its Charter)

**Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation or organization)**

**98-0212790
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification Number)**

**Arias 3751, 7th Floor
Buenos Aires, C1430CRG, Argentina
(Address of registrant's principal executive offices)
011-54-11-4640-8000**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

APPLICABLE ONLY TO CORPORATE ISSUERS:

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

44,136,660 shares of the issuer's common stock, \$0.001 par value, outstanding as of May 2, 2011.

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PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

MercadoLibre, Inc.

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets

As of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010



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**MercadoLibre, Inc.
Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
as of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010
and for the three-month periods
ended March 31, 2011 and 2010**

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MercadoLibre, Inc.
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets
As of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010

	March 31, 2011 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2010 (Audited)
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 50,968,258	\$ 56,830,466
Short-term investments	3,179,205	5,342,766
Accounts receivable, net	13,446,387	12,618,173
Funds receivable from customers	5,633,787	6,151,518
Prepaid expenses	843,908	913,262
Deferred tax assets	12,956,214	12,911,256
Other assets	7,196,704	6,867,767
Total current assets	94,224,463	101,635,208
Non-current assets:		
Long-term investments	101,824,319	78,846,281
Property and equipment, net	22,672,952	20,817,712
Goodwill, net	60,480,828	60,496,314
Intangible assets, net	3,978,903	4,141,167
Deferred tax assets	2,841,633	2,975,118
Other assets	710,076	771,223
Total non-current assets	192,508,711	168,047,815
Total assets	\$ 286,733,174	\$ 269,683,023
Liabilities and Shareholders Equity		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 17,945,181	\$ 17,232,103
Funds payable to customers	52,771,717	48,788,225
Payroll and social security payable	9,775,513	10,786,534
Taxes payable	9,777,052	11,487,574
Loans payable and other financial liabilities	92,513	100,031
Dividends payable	3,530,510	
Total current liabilities	93,892,486	88,394,467
Non-current liabilities:		
Payroll and social security payable	2,513,539	2,562,343
Loans payable and other financial liabilities	166,592	188,846
Deferred tax liabilities	5,149,708	5,167,699
Other liabilities	1,905,713	1,651,398
Total non-current liabilities	9,735,552	9,570,286
Total liabilities	\$ 103,628,038	\$ 97,964,753

Commitments and contingencies (Note 8)

Shareholders' equity:

Common stock, \$0.001 par value, 110,000,000 shares authorized, 44,131,966 and 44,131,376 shares issued and outstanding at March 31, 2011 and

December 31, 2010, respectively	\$ 44,132	\$ 44,131
Additional paid-in capital	120,426,216	120,391,622
Retained earnings	84,208,680	73,681,556
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(21,573,892)	(22,399,039)
 Total shareholders' equity	 183,105,136	 171,718,270
 Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	 \$ 286,733,174	 \$ 269,683,023

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

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MercadoLibre, Inc.
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income
For the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2011	2010
	(Unaudited)	
Net revenues	\$ 61,459,668	\$ 45,937,774
Cost of net revenues	(14,331,703)	(9,893,051)
Gross profit	47,127,965	36,044,723
Operating expenses:		
Product and technology development	(5,156,890)	(3,224,775)
Sales and marketing	(13,228,942)	(11,108,801)
General and administrative	(9,450,977)	(6,206,881)
Total operating expenses	(27,836,809)	(20,540,457)
Income from operations	19,291,156	15,504,266
Other income (expenses):		
Interest income and other financial gains	1,873,768	794,142
Interest expense and other financial charges	(628,950)	(2,995,418)
Foreign currency gain / (loss)	(500,655)	396,972
Other income, net	20,344	
Net income before income / asset tax expense	20,055,663	13,699,962
Income / asset tax expense	(5,998,029)	(4,079,361)
Net income	\$ 14,057,634	\$ 9,620,601

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2011	2010
	(Unaudited)	
Basic EPS		
Basic net income per common share	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.22
Weighted average shares	44,131,383	44,113,595

Diluted EPS

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Diluted net income per common share	\$	0.32	\$	0.22
Weighted average shares		44,147,667		44,149,700

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

Table of Contents**MercadoLibre, Inc.****Condensed Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders' Equity
For the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010 (unaudited)**

	Comprehensive	Common stock		Additional	Retained	Accumulated	
	income	Shares	Amount	paid-in	Earnings	other	Total
				capital		comprehensive	
						income /	
						(loss)	
Balance as of December 31, 2009		44,120,269	\$ 44,120	\$ 120,257,998	\$ 17,656,537	\$ (23,765,418)	\$ 114,193,237
Stock options exercised		2,307	2	1,968			1,970
Stock-based compensation stock options				61			61
Stock-based compensation restricted shares				21,204			21,204
Stock-based compensation LTRP				39,303			39,303
LTRP shares issued		3,981	4	(4)			
Net income	\$ 9,620,601				9,620,601		9,620,601
Currency translation adjustment	(566,885)					(566,885)	(566,885)
Unrealized net loss on investments	(35,151)					(35,151)	(35,151)
Realized net gain on investments	(27,630)					(27,630)	(27,630)
Comprehensive income	\$ 8,990,935						
Balance as of March 31, 2010		44,126,557	\$ 44,126	\$ 120,320,530	\$ 27,277,138	\$ (24,395,084)	\$ 123,246,710
Stock options exercised		4,819	5	16,224			16,229

Stock-based compensation stock options		183				183
Stock-based compensation restricted shares		16,492				16,492
Stock-based compensation LTRP		38,193				38,193
Net income	\$ 46,404,418			46,404,418		46,404,418
Currency translation adjustment	1,915,367				1,915,367	1,915,367
Unrealized net gain on investments	80,678				80,678	80,678
Realized net gain on investments						
Comprehensive income	\$ 48,400,463					
Balance as of December 31, 2010		44,131,376	\$ 44,131	\$ 120,391,622	\$ 73,681,556	\$ (22,399,039) \$ 171,718,270

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

Table of Contents**MercadoLibre, Inc.****Condensed Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders' Equity
For the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010 (unaudited)**

	Comprehensive	Common stock		Additional	Retained	Accumulated	
	income	Shares	Amount	paid-in	Earnings	other	Total
				capital		comprehensive	
						income /	
						(loss)	
Balance as of December 31, 2010		44,131,376	\$ 44,131	\$ 120,391,622	\$ 73,681,556	\$ (22,399,039)	\$ 171,718,270
Stock options exercised		590	1	884			885
Stock-based compensation LTRP				33,710			33,710
Dividend Distribution					(3,530,510)		(3,530,510)
Net income	\$ 14,057,634				14,057,634		14,057,634
Currency translation adjustment	888,874					888,874	888,874
Unrealized net loss on investments	(18,200)					(18,200)	(18,200)
Realized net gain on investments	(45,527)					(45,527)	(45,527)
Comprehensive income	\$ 14,882,781						
Balance as of March 31, 2011		44,131,966	\$ 44,132	\$ 120,426,216	\$ 84,208,680	\$ (21,573,892)	\$ 183,105,136

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

Table of Contents**MercadoLibre, Inc.****Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows****For the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010 (unaudited)**

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2011	2010
	(Unaudited)	
Cash flows from operations:		
Net income	\$ 14,057,634	\$ 9,620,601
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	1,541,143	946,873
Accrued interest	(575,613)	(228,151)
Stock-based compensation expense stock options		61
Stock-based compensation expense restricted shares		21,204
LTRP accrued compensation	1,170,710	324,607
Deferred income taxes	316,866	(407,531)
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(378,620)	(3,020,745)
Funds receivable from customers	479,325	441,399
Prepaid expenses	71,641	58,009
Other assets	(70,095)	(92,884)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(4,736,229)	3,840,657
Funds payable to customers	3,072,102	418,066
Other liabilities	220,113	(467,618)
Net cash provided by operating activities	15,168,977	11,454,548
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchase of investments	(99,069,739)	(34,354,598)
Proceeds from sale and maturity of investments	80,823,544	12,723,697
Purchases of intangible assets	(73,405)	(12,865)
Purchases of property and equipment	(2,886,154)	(1,396,672)
Net cash used in investing activities	(21,205,754)	(23,040,438)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Decrease in loans payable		(3,213,878)
Stock options exercised	885	1,970
Net cash used in financing activities	885	(3,211,908)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	173,684	(371,305)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(5,862,208)	(15,169,103)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of the period	56,830,466	49,803,402
Cash and cash equivalents, end of the period	\$ 50,968,258	\$ 34,634,299

Supplemental cash flow information:

Cash paid for interest	\$	13,889	\$	2,832,119
Cash paid for income and asset taxes	\$	7,898,283	\$	4,935,701

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

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MercadoLibre, Inc.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)

1. Nature of Business

MercadoLibre Inc. (the Company) is an e-commerce enabler whose mission is to build the necessary online and technology tools to allow practically anyone to trade almost anything, helping to make inefficient markets more efficient in Latin America.

The Company developed a web-based marketplace in which buyers and sellers are brought together to browse, buy and sell items such as computers, electronics, collectibles, automobiles, clothing and a host of practical and miscellaneous items. Additionally, the Company introduced MercadoPago in 2004, an integrated online payments solution. MercadoPago was designed to facilitate transactions on the MercadoLibre Marketplace by providing an escrow mechanism that enables users to send and receive payments online.

Since 2004, the Company introduced an online classifieds platform for motor vehicles, vessels and aircrafts and since 2006 the real state online classifieds platform. In 2006, the Company launched eShops, a new platform tailored to attract lower rotation items and increase the breadth of products offered, the introduction of user generated information guides for buyers that improve the shopping experience, and the expansion of the online classifieds model by adding the services category.

During 2007 the Company also launched a new and improved version of its MercadoPago payments platform in Chile and Colombia as well as in Argentina during 2008. The new MercadoPago, in addition to improving the ease of use and efficiency of payments for marketplace purchases, also allows for payments outside of the Company's marketplaces. Users are able to transfer money to other users with MercadoPago accounts and to incorporate MercadoPago as a means of payments in their independent commerce websites. In this way MercadoPago 3.0 as it has been called is designed to meet the growing demand for Internet based payments systems in Latin America. On March 30, 2010, the Company started processing off-MercadoLibre transactions through its new direct payments product to any site in Brazil which elects to adopt it. On July 16, 2010, the Company launched MercadoPago 3.0 in Brazil for all of its marketplace transactions. In February 2011, the Company started processing off-platform transactions in Mexico using its new direct payments product, MercadoPago 3.0, for any site in Mexico that elects to adopt it, while maintaining the escrow product for on-platform transactions. On April 15, 2011, the Company launched a new and improved version of its MercadoPago payments platform for all its marketplace transactions in Mexico.

As of March 31, 2011, the Company, through its wholly-owned subsidiaries, operated online commerce platforms directed towards Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Uruguay and Venezuela, and online payments solutions directed towards Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Venezuela, Chile and Colombia. In addition, the Company operates a real estate classified platform that covers some areas of Florida, U.S.A.

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MercadoLibre, Inc.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of presentation

The accompanying unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements are prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP) and include the accounts of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries. These financial statements are stated in US dollars. All intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated.

Substantially all revenues and operating costs are generated in the Company's foreign operations, amounting to approximately 99.7% and 99.3% of the consolidated totals during the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Long-lived assets located in the foreign operations totaled \$82,626,400 and \$81,834,265 as of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, respectively. Cash and cash equivalents as well as short and long-term investments, totaling \$155,971,782 and \$141,019,513 at March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, respectively, are mainly located in the United States of America and Brazil.

These unaudited interim condensed financial statements reflect the Company's consolidated financial position as of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010. These statements also show the Company's consolidated statement of income for the three-months ended March 31, 2011 and 2010, its consolidated statement of shareholders' equity and its consolidated statement of cash flows for the three months ended March 31, 2011 and 2010. These statements include all normal recurring adjustments that management believes are necessary to fairly state the Company's financial position, operating results and cash flows.

Because all of the disclosures required by generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America for annual consolidated financial statements are not included herein, these interim financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements and the notes thereto for the year ended December 31, 2010, contained in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on February 25, 2011. The condensed consolidated statements of income, shareholders' equity and cash flows for the periods presented are not necessarily indicative of results expected for any future period.

Revenue Recognition

The Company generates revenues for different services provided. When more than one service is included in one single arrangement with the customer, the Company recognizes revenue according to multiple element arrangements accounting, distinguishing between each of the services provided and allocating revenues based on their respective selling prices.

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MercadoLibre, Inc.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Revenue Recognition (Continued)

Revenues are recognized when evidence of an arrangement exists, the fee is fixed or determinable, no significant obligation remains and collection of the receivable is reasonably assured.

Services are separately recognized as revenue according to the following criteria described for each type of services:

Services for intermediation between on-line buyers and sellers, for which the company charges a percentage on the transaction value (final value fees), are recognized as revenue once the sale transaction between the buyer and seller is successfully completed (which occurs upon confirmation of the sale by the seller).

Services for the use of the Company's on-line payments solution, for transactions off-platform ordered by MercadoPago customers. The Company does not charge a separate fee for on-platform transactions in certain countries. The fee that we charge for all off-marketplace platform transactions is recorded as revenue once the transaction is completed, at the time when the payment is processed by the Company. For on-marketplace platform transactions, we generate revenue in the countries where we offer the service in a way that implies that the customer has to pay an additional fee for the right to use the payments solution.

Listing and optional feature services, which fees relate to the right of a seller to have the item offered listed in a preferential way, as well as classified advertising services, are recorded as revenue ratably during the listing period. Those fees are charged at the time the listing is uploaded onto the Company's platform and is not subject to successful sale of the items listed.

Advertising revenues such as the sale of banners are recognized ratably during the advertising period, and MercadoClics services or sponsorship of sites are recognized based on per-click values and as the impressions are delivered.

Credit Cards Receivables

Credit cards receivables from customers mainly relate to the Company's payments solution and arise due to the time taken to clear transactions through external payment networks or during a short period of time until those credit cards receivables are sold to financial institutions.

The company maintains allowances for doubtful accounts for estimated losses that may result from the inability of its customers to make required payments. Allowances are based upon several factors including, but not limited to, historical experience and the current condition of specific customers.

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MercadoLibre, Inc.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Credit Cards Receivables (Continued)

Credit cards receivables are presented net of the related allowance for doubtful accounts and chargebacks. As of March 31, 2011, there are no past due credit card receivables.

Foreign Currency Translation

All of the Company's foreign operations have determined the local currency to be their functional currency, except for Venezuela, as described below. Accordingly, these foreign subsidiaries translate assets and liabilities from their local currencies to U.S. dollars using year end exchange rates while income and expense accounts are translated at the average rates in effect during the year. The resulting translation adjustment is recorded as part of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), a component of shareholders' equity. Gains and losses resulting from transactions denominated in non-functional currencies are recognized in earnings. Net foreign currency transaction results are included in the consolidated statements of income under the caption Foreign currency gain / (loss) and amounted to \$(500,655) and \$396,972 for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Until September 30, 2009, the Company translated its Venezuelan subsidiaries assets, liabilities, income and expense accounts at the official rate of 2.15 Bolivares Fuertes per US dollar.

Starting in the fourth quarter of 2009, as a result of the changes in facts and circumstances that affected the Company's ability to convert currency for dividends remittances using the official exchange rate in Venezuela, the Venezuelan subsidiaries assets, liabilities, income and expense accounts were translated using the parallel exchange rate resulting in the recognition in that quarter of a currency translation loss adjustment of \$16,977,276 recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income/(loss). The average exchange rate used for translating the fourth quarter of 2009 results was 5.67 Bolivares Fuertes per US dollar and the year-end exchange rate used for translating assets and liabilities was 6.05 Bolivares Fuertes per US dollar.

As of the date of these interim condensed consolidated financial statements the Company did not buy US dollars at the official rate of 2.15 Bolivares Fuertes per US dollar.

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MercadoLibre, Inc.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Foreign Currency Translation (Continued)

According to US GAAP, we have transitioned our Venezuelan operations to highly inflationary status as of January 1, 2010 considering the US dollar as the functional currency. See Highly inflationary status in Venezuela below.

Therefore, no translation effect was accounted for in other comprehensive income since January 1, 2010 related to our Venezuelan operations.

Until May 13, 2010, the only way by which US dollars could be purchased outside the official currency market was using an indirect mechanism consisting in the purchase and sale of securities, including national public debt bonds (DPNs) denominated in Bolivares Fuertes and bonds issued by the government that were denominated in U.S. dollars. This mechanism for transactions in certain securities created an indirect parallel foreign currency exchange market in Venezuela that enabled entities to obtain foreign currency through financial brokers without going through Commission for the Administration of Foreign Exchange (CADIVI). Although the parallel exchange rate was higher, and accordingly less beneficial, than the official exchange rate, some entities used the parallel market to exchange currency because of the delays of CADIVI in approving in a timely manner the exchange of currency requested by such entities. Until May 13, 2010, our Venezuelan subsidiaries used this mechanism to buy US dollars and accordingly we used the parallel average exchange rate to re-measure those foreign currency transactions.

However, on May 14th, 2010, the Venezuelan government enacted reforms to its exchange regulations and close-down such parallel market by declaring that foreign-currency-denominated securities issued by Venezuelan entities were included in the definition of foreign currency, thus making the Venezuelan Central Bank (BCV) the only institution that could legally authorize the purchase or sale of foreign currency bonds, thereby excluding non-authorized brokers from the foreign exchange market.

Trading of foreign currencies was re-opened as a regulated market on June 9, 2010 with the Venezuelan Central Bank as the only institution through which foreign currency-denominated transactions can be brokered. Under the new system, known as the Foreign Currency Securities Transactions System (SITME), entities domiciled in Venezuela can buy U.S. dollar denominated securities only through banks authorized by the BCV to import goods, services or capital inputs. Additionally, the SITME imposes volume restrictions on an entity's trading activity, limiting such activity to a maximum equivalent of \$50,000 per day, not to exceed \$350,000 in a calendar month. This limitation is non-cumulative, meaning that an entity cannot carry over unused volume from one month to the next.

Table of Contents**MercadoLibre, Inc.****Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)****2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)****Foreign Currency Translation (Continued)**

As a consequence of this new system, commencing on June 9, 2010, we have transitioned from the parallel exchange rate to the SITME rate and started re-measuring foreign currency transactions using the SITME rate published by BCV, which was 5.27 Bolivares Fuertes per U.S. dollar as of June 9, 2010.

For the period beginning on May 14, 2010 and ending on June 8, 2010 (during which there was no open foreign currency markets) we applied US GAAP guidelines, which state that if exchangeability between two currencies is temporarily lacking at the transaction date or balance sheet date, the first subsequent rate at which exchanges could be made shall be used.

Accordingly, the June 9, 2010 exchange rate published by the Venezuelan Central Bank has been used to re-measure transactions during the above mentioned period. As of March 31, 2011, the exchange rate used to re-measure transactions is 5.30 Bolivares Fuertes per U.S. dollar.

The following table sets forth the assets, liabilities and net assets of the Company's Venezuelan subsidiaries, before intercompany eliminations, as of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010.

	March 31, 2011	December 31, 2010
Venezuelan operations		
Assets	\$ 19,930,242	\$ 21,928,340
Liabilities	(8,444,346)	(8,212,581)
Net Assets	11,485,896	13,715,759

As of March 31, 2011, net assets of the Venezuelan subsidiaries (before intercompany eliminations) amount to approximately 6.3% of our consolidated net assets, and cash and investments of the Venezuelan subsidiaries held in local currency in Venezuela amount to approximately 5.1% of our consolidated cash and investments.

Although, the current mechanisms available to obtain US dollars for dividends distributions to shareholders outside Venezuela imply increased restrictions, the Company does not expect that the current restrictions to purchase dollars have a significant adverse effect on its business plans with regard to the investment in Venezuela.

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MercadoLibre, Inc.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Highly inflationary status in Venezuela

During May 2009, the International Practices Task Force discussed the highly inflationary status of the Venezuelan economy. Historically, the Task Force has used the Consumer Price Index (CPI) when considering the inflationary status of the Venezuelan economy.

The CPI has existed since 1984. However, the CPI covers only the cities of Caracas and Maracaibo. Commencing on January 1, 2008, the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI) has been developed to cover the entire country of Venezuela. Since inflation data is not available to compute a cumulative three year inflation rate for the entire country solely based on the NCPI, the Company uses a blended rate using the NCPI and CPI to calculate Venezuelan inflation rate.

The cumulative three year inflation rate as of December 31, 2009 was calculated using the CPI information for periods before January 1, 2008 and NCPI information for the period after January 1, 2008. The blended CPI/NCPI three-year inflation index (23 months of NCPI and 13 months of CPI) as of November 30, 2009 exceeded 100%. According to US GAAP, calendar year-end companies should apply highly inflationary accounting as from January 1, 2010. Therefore, the Company transitioned its Venezuelan operations to highly inflationary status as of January 1, 2010 considering the US dollar as the functional currency.

Taxes on revenues

The Company's subsidiaries in Brazil, Argentina, Venezuela and Colombia are subject to certain taxes on revenues which are classified as cost of revenues. Taxes on revenues totaled \$4,461,547 and \$3,008,089 for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Income and Asset Taxes

The Company is subject to U.S. and foreign income taxes. The Company accounts for income taxes following the liability method of accounting which requires the recognition of deferred tax liabilities and assets for the expected future tax consequences of temporary differences between the carrying amounts and the tax bases of assets and liabilities. Deferred tax assets are also recognized for tax loss carryforwards. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets or liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date. A valuation allowance is recorded when, based on the available evidence, it is more likely than not that all or a portion of the Company's deferred tax assets will not be realized. The Company's income tax expense consists of taxes currently payable, if any, plus the change during the period in the Company's deferred tax assets and liabilities.

Table of Contents**MercadoLibre, Inc.****Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)****2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)****Income and Asset Taxes**

From fiscal year 2008 to fiscal year 2014, the Company's Argentine subsidiary is a beneficiary of a software development law. Part of the benefits obtained from being a beneficiary of the aforementioned law is a relief of 60% of total income tax determined in each year, until fiscal year 2014. Aggregate tax benefit totaled \$1,206,609 and \$789,686 for the three-month period ended March 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Aggregate per share effect of the Argentine tax holiday amounts to \$0.03 and \$0.02 for the three-month period ended March 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. If the Company had not been granted the Argentine tax holiday, the Company would have pursued an alternative tax planning strategy and, therefore, the impact of not having this particular benefit could result in a higher effective tax rate but would not necessarily be the above mentioned dollar and per share effect. As of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, MercadoLibre, Inc has included in the non-current deferred tax assets line the foreign tax credits related to the dividend distributions received from its subsidiaries for a total amount of \$2,304,119 and \$2,436,224, respectively. Those foreign tax credits will be used to offset the future domestic income tax payable.

Use of estimates

The preparation of condensed consolidated financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Estimates are used for, but not limited to accounting for allowance for doubtful accounts, depreciation, amortization, impairment and useful lives of long-lived assets, compensation cost related to cash and share-based compensation and restricted shares, recognition of current and deferred income taxes and contingencies. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Comprehensive Income

Comprehensive income is comprised of two components, net income and other comprehensive income (loss), and defined as all other changes in equity of the Company that result from transactions other than with shareholders. Other comprehensive income (loss) includes the cumulative translation adjustment relating to the translation of the financial statements of the Company's foreign subsidiaries and unrealized gains on investments classified as available-for-sale securities. Total comprehensive income for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010 amounted to \$14,882,781 and \$8,990,935, respectively.

Table of Contents**MercadoLibre, Inc.****Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)****3. Net income per share**

Basic earnings per share for the Company's common stock is computed by dividing net income available to common shareholders attributable to common stock for the period by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period.

The Company's restricted shares granted to its outside directors were participating securities. Accordingly, net income available to common stockholders for the three-month period ended March 31, 2010, was allocated between unvested restricted shares and common stock under the two class method for purposes of computing basic and diluted earnings per share.

Diluted earnings per share for the Company's common stock assume the exercise of outstanding stock options and vesting restricted shares, additional shares and shares granted under the 2008 Long Term Retention Plan under the Company's stock based employee compensation plans.

The following table shows how net income available to common shareholders is allocated using the two-class method, for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010:

	Three Months Ended March 31,			
	2011		2010	
	Basic	Diluted	Basic	Diluted
Net income	\$ 14,057,634	\$ 14,057,634	\$ 9,620,601	\$ 9,620,601
Net income available to common shareholders attributable to unvested restricted shares			1,821	1,821
Net income available to common shareholders attributable to common stock	\$ 14,057,634	\$ 14,057,634	\$ 9,618,780	\$ 9,618,780

Table of Contents**MercadoLibre, Inc.****Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)****3. Net income per share (Continued)**

Net income per share of common stock is as follows for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010:

	Three Months Ended March 31,			
	2011		2010	
	Basic	Diluted	Basic	Diluted
Net income available to common shareholders per common share	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.22
Numerator:				
Net income available to common shareholders	\$ 14,057,634	\$ 14,057,634	\$ 9,618,780	\$ 9,618,780
Denominator:				
Weighted average of common stock outstanding for Basic earnings per share	44,131,383	44,131,383	44,113,595	44,113,595
Adjustment for stock options		11,474		16,362
Adjustment for additional shares				7,969
Adjustment for shares granted under LTRP		4,810		11,774
Adjusted weighted average of common stock outstanding for Diluted earnings per share	44,131,383	44,147,667	44,113,595	44,149,700

The calculation of diluted net income per share excludes all anti-dilutive shares. During the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010, there were no anti-dilutive shares.

4. Goodwill and Intangible Assets

The composition of goodwill and intangible assets is as follows:

	March 31, 2011	December 31, 2010
Goodwill	\$ 60,480,828	\$ 60,496,314
Intangible assets with indefinite lives		
- Trademarks	2,473,943	2,460,952
Amortizable intangible assets		
- Licenses and others	2,638,816	2,606,402
- Non-compete agreement	1,249,909	1,241,357
- Customer list	1,602,673	1,607,097
Total intangible assets	\$ 7,965,341	\$ 7,915,808
Accumulated amortization	(3,986,438)	(3,774,641)
Total intangible assets, net	\$ 3,978,903	\$ 4,141,167

Table of Contents**MercadoLibre, Inc.****Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)****4. Goodwill and Intangible Assets (Continued)**Goodwill

The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill for the three-month period ended March 31, 2011 and the year ended December 31, 2010, are as follows:

Three Months Ended March 31, 2011

	Brazil	Argentina	Chile	Mexico	Venezuela	Colombia	Other Countries	Total
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 13,130,649	\$ 23,364,326	\$ 7,296,888	\$ 5,025,623	\$ 4,846,030	\$ 5,448,068	\$ 1,384,730	\$ 60,496,314
- Effect of exchange rates changes	302,325	(449,536)	(174,255)	193,827		100,035	12,118	(15,486)
Balance, end of the period	\$ 13,432,974	\$ 22,914,790	\$ 7,122,633	\$ 5,219,450	\$ 4,846,030	\$ 5,548,103	\$ 1,396,848	\$ 60,480,828

Year Ended December 31, 2010

	Brazil	Argentina	Chile	Mexico	Venezuela	Colombia	Other Countries	Total
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 12,565,062	\$ 24,446,463	\$ 6,734,405	\$ 4,770,560	\$ 4,846,030	\$ 5,100,939	\$ 1,359,287	\$ 59,822,746
- Effect of exchange rates changes	565,587	(1,082,137)	562,483	255,063		347,129	25,443	673,568
Balance, end of the year	\$ 13,130,649	\$ 23,364,326	\$ 7,296,888	\$ 5,025,623	\$ 4,846,030	\$ 5,448,068	\$ 1,384,730	\$ 60,496,314

Amortizable intangible assets

Amortizable intangible assets are comprised of customer lists and user base, trademarks and trade names, non-compete agreements, acquired software licenses and other acquired intangible assets including developed technologies. Aggregate amortization expense for intangible assets totaled \$236,121 and \$172,861 for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Expected future intangible asset amortization completed as of March 31, 2011 is as follows:

For year ended 12/31/2011	\$ 566,718
For year ended 12/31/2012	673,963
For year ended 12/31/2013	262,232
For year ended 12/31/2014	2,047

\$ 1,504,960

5. Segments

Reporting segments are based upon the Company's internal organizational structure, the manner in which the Company's operations are managed, the criteria used by management to evaluate the Company's performance, the availability of separate financial information, and overall materiality considerations.

Segment reporting is based on geography as the main basis of segment breakdown to reflect the evaluation of the Company's performance defined by the management. The MercadoLibre segments include Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, Venezuela and other countries (such as Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Panama, Peru, Portugal and Uruguay).

Table of Contents**MercadoLibre, Inc.****Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)****5. Segments (Continued)**

Direct contribution consists of net revenues from external customers less direct costs. Direct costs include specific costs of net revenues, sales and marketing expenses, and general and administrative expenses over which segment managers have direct discretionary control, such as advertising and marketing programs, customer support expenses, allowances for doubtful accounts, headcount compensation, third party fees. All corporate related costs have been excluded from the Company's direct contribution.

Expenses over which segment managers do not currently have discretionary control, such as certain technology and general and administrative costs are monitored by management through shared cost centers and are not evaluated in the measurement of segment performance.

The following tables summarize the financial performance of the Company's reporting segments:

Three Months Ended March 31, 2011

	Brazil	Argentina	Mexico	Venezuela	Other Countries	Total
Net revenues	\$ 34,723,195	\$ 10,579,932	\$ 5,234,333	\$ 6,770,453	\$ 4,151,755	\$ 61,459,668
Direct costs	(20,075,608)	(4,427,098)	(2,716,359)	(3,069,739)	(2,100,316)	(32,389,120)
Direct contribution	14,647,587	6,152,834	2,517,974	3,700,714	2,051,439	29,070,548
Operating expenses and indirect costs of net revenues						(9,779,392)
Income from operations						19,291,156
Other income (expenses):						
Interest income and other financial gains						1,873,768
Interest expense and other financial results						(628,950)
Foreign currency losses						(500,655)
Other income, net						20,344
Net income before income / asset tax expense						\$ 20,055,663

Table of Contents**MercadoLibre, Inc.****Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)****5. Segments (Continued)****Three Months Ended March 31, 2010**

	Brazil	Argentina	Mexico	Venezuela	Other Countries	Total
Net revenues	\$ 26,351,472	\$ 8,354,246	\$ 4,469,937	\$ 3,475,490	\$ 3,286,629	\$ 45,937,774
Direct costs	(14,862,460)	(3,945,784)	(2,800,357)	(1,914,056)	(1,723,523)	(25,246,180)
Direct contribution	11,489,012	4,408,462	1,669,580	1,561,434	1,563,106	20,691,594
Operating expenses and indirect costs of net revenues						(5,187,328)
Income from operations						15,504,266
Other income (expenses):						
Interest income and other financial gains						794,142
Interest expense and other financial results						(2,995,418)
Foreign currency gains						396,972
Other income, net						
Net income before income / asset tax expense						\$ 13,699,962

The following table summarizes the allocation of the long-lived tangible assets based on geography:

	March 31, 2011	December 31, 2010
US long-lived tangible assets	\$ 4,506,285	\$ 3,617,420
Other countries long-lived tangible assets		
Argentina	13,985,160	13,580,175
Brazil	3,352,655	3,264,625
Mexico	310,590	68,878
Venezuela	177,628	206,815
Other countries	340,634	79,799

	\$ 18,166,667	\$ 17,200,292
Total long-lived tangible assets	\$ 22,672,952	\$ 20,817,712

Table of Contents**MercadoLibre, Inc.****Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)****5. Segments (Continued)**

The following table summarizes the allocation of the goodwill and intangible assets based on geography:

	March 31, 2011	December 31, 2010
US intangible assets	\$	\$ 3,507
Other countries goodwill and intangible assets		
Argentina	24,230,203	24,825,718
Brazil	13,438,965	13,137,658
Mexico	5,234,534	5,043,335
Venezuela	6,595,597	6,595,866
Other countries	14,960,432	15,031,397
	\$ 64,459,731	\$ 64,633,974
Total goodwill and intangible assets	\$ 64,459,731	\$ 64,637,481

6. Fair Value Measurement of Assets and Liabilities

The following table summarizes the Company's financial assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010:

Description	Balances as of March 31, 2011	Quoted Prices in active markets for identical Assets (Level 1)	Balances as of December 31, 2010	Quoted Prices in active markets for identical Assets (Level 1)
Assets				
Cash and Cash Equivalents:				
Money Market Funds	\$ 10,171,913	\$ 10,171,913	\$ 14,578,477	\$ 14,578,477
Investments:				
Asset backed securities	20,639,376	20,639,376	14,319,103	14,319,103
Sovereign Debt Securities	12,009,357	12,009,357	13,147,239	13,147,239
Corporate Debt Securities	15,063,598	15,063,598	11,381,761	11,381,761
Total financial Assets	\$ 57,884,244	\$ 57,884,244	\$ 53,426,580	\$ 53,426,580

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MercadoLibre, Inc.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)

6. Fair Value Measurement of Assets and Liabilities (Continued)

The Company's financial assets are valued using market prices on active markets (level 1). Level 1 instrument valuations are obtained from real-time quotes for transactions in active exchange markets involving identical assets. As of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, the Company did not have any assets obtained from readily-available pricing sources for comparable instruments (level 2) or without observable market values that would require a high level of judgment to determine fair value (level 3).

The unrealized net gains on short term and long term investments are reported as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income. The Company does not anticipate any significant realized losses associated with those investments in excess of the Company's historical cost.

In addition, as of March 31, 2011, the Company had \$57,291,193 of short-term and long-term investments, which consisted of time deposits maintained as held to maturity investments. As of December 31, 2010, the Company had \$45,340,944 of short-term and long-term investments, which consisted of time deposits considered held to maturity securities. Those investments are accounted for at amortized cost which, as of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, approximates their fair values.

As of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, the carrying value of the Company's cash and cash equivalents approximated their fair value which was held primarily in money markets funds and bank deposits. In addition, the carrying value of accounts receivables, funds receivables from customers, other receivables, other assets, accounts payables, social security payables, taxes payables, loans and provisions and other liabilities approximates their fair values because of its short term maturity.

For the three-month period ended March 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company held no direct investments in auction rate securities, collateralized debt obligations, structured investment vehicles. As of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, the Company does not have any non-financial assets or liabilities measured at fair value.

Table of Contents**MercadoLibre, Inc.****Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)****6. Fair Value Measurement of Assets and Liabilities (Continued)**

As of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, the fair value of short and long-term investments classified as available for sale securities are as follows:

	March 31, 2011			
	Gross			
	Gross	Gross	Unrealized	Estimated
	Amortized	Unrealized	Losses	Fair Value
	Cost	Gains	Losses	Fair Value
Short-term investments				
Sovereign Debt Securities	\$ 443,218	\$	\$ (13,326)	\$ 429,892
Corporate Debt Securities	431,569	7,338	(11,986)	426,921
Asset Backed Securities (2)	546,046		(8,734)	537,312
Total Short-term investments	\$ 1,420,833	\$ 7,338	\$ (34,046)	\$ 1,394,125
Long-term investments				
Sovereign Debt Securities	\$ 11,736,024	\$ 79,659	\$ (236,218)	\$ 11,579,465
Corporate Debt Securities	14,659,990	150,143	(173,456)	14,636,677
Asset Backed Securities (2)	19,919,527	509,621	(327,084)	20,102,064
Total Long-term investments	\$ 46,315,541	\$ 739,423	\$ (736,758)	\$ 46,318,206
Total	\$ 47,736,374	\$ 746,761	\$ (770,804)	\$ 47,712,331
December 31, 2010				
	Gross			
	Gross	Unrealized	Gross	Estimated
	Amortized	Gains	Unrealized	Fair
	Cost	Gains	Losses (1)	Value
Short-term investments				
Corporate Debt Securities	\$ 398,752	\$ 26	\$ (773)	\$ 398,005
Total short-term investments	\$ 398,752	\$ 26	\$ (773)	\$ 398,005
Long-term investments				
Sovereign Debt Securities	\$ 13,282,207	\$ 98,958	\$ (233,926)	\$ 13,147,239
Corporate Debt Securities	10,987,910	110,521	(114,675)	10,983,756
Asset Backed Securities (2)	14,107,501	439,239	(227,637)	14,319,103
Total long-term investments	\$ 38,377,618	\$ 648,718	\$ (576,238)	\$ 38,450,098

Total	\$ 38,776,370	\$ 648,744	\$ (577,011)	\$ 38,848,103
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- (1) Unrealized losses from securities are primarily attributable to market price movements. Management does not believe any remaining unrealized losses represent other-than-temporary impairments based on our evaluation of available evidence including the credit rating of the investments, as of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010.
- (2) Asset backed securities have investment grade credit ratings. These investments are collateralized by real estate and they are guaranteed by the U.S. Federal Government.

Table of Contents**MercadoLibre, Inc.****Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)****6. Fair Value Measurement of Assets and Liabilities (Continued)**

As of March 31, 2011, the estimated fair values of short-term and long-term investments classified by its contractual maturities are as follows:

One year or less	\$ 1,394,124
One year to two years	8,312,798
Two years to three years	1,770,761
Three years to four years	4,536,279
Four years to five years	3,336,260
More than five years	28,362,109
 Total	 \$ 47,712,331

7. Compensation Plan for Outside Directors

The Company compensates its outside directors through the payment of cash fees and, from time to time, through the issuance of equity awards.

On June 10, 2009, the Company issued an aggregate of 2,305 shares of common stock and 8,350 restricted shares of common stock (the Restricted Shares) to our outside directors. The Restricted Shares vested in full in June 2010. Restricted Shares awarded to directors were measured at their fair market value using the grant-date price of the Company's shares.

The total accrued compensation cost for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010 in cash and equity awards amounts to \$129,135 and 68,546, respectively which were included in operating expenses.

8. Commitments and Contingencies**Litigation and Other Legal Matters**

The Company has certain contingent liabilities with respect to existing or potential claims, lawsuits and other proceedings. The Company accrues liabilities when it considers probable that future costs will be incurred and such costs can be reasonably estimated. The proceeding-related reserve is based on developments to date and historical information related to actions filed against the Company. As of March 31, 2011, the Company had established reserves for proceeding-related contingencies of \$1,836,533 to cover legal actions against the Company. As of March 31, 2011 no loss amount has been accrued for other legal actions considered by the Company's legal counsels to be reasonably possible for the aggregate amount up to \$3,893,702.

Table of Contents**MercadoLibre, Inc.****Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)****8. Commitments and Contingencies (Continued)****Litigation and Other Legal Matters (Continued)**

As of March 31, 2011, 338 legal actions were pending in the Brazilian ordinary courts, 8 of which were related to alleged intellectual property infringement. In addition, as of March 31, 2011, there were more than 1,591 cases still pending in Brazilian consumer courts. Filing and pursuing of an action before Brazilian consumer courts do not require the assistance of a lawyer. In most of the cases filed against the Company, the plaintiffs asserted that the Company was responsible for fraud committed against them, or responsible for damages suffered when purchasing an item on the Company's website, when using MercadoPago, or when the Company invoiced them. On March 17, 2006, Vintage Denim Ltda., or Vintage, sued the Company's Brazilian subsidiaries MercadoLivre.com Atividades de Internet Ltda. and eBazar.com.br Ltda. in the 29th Civil Court of the County of São Paulo, State of São Paulo, Brazil. Vintage requested a preliminary injunction alleging that these subsidiaries were infringing Diesel trademarks and their right of exclusive distribution as a result of sellers listing allegedly counterfeit and original imported Diesel branded clothing through the Brazilian page of the Company's website, based on Brazilian Industrial Property Law (Law 9,279/96). Vintage sought an order enjoining the sale of Diesel-branded clothing on the Company's platform. A preliminary injunction was granted on April 11, 2006 to prohibit the offer of Diesel-branded products, and a fine for non-compliance was imposed in the approximate amount of \$5,300 per defendant per day of non-compliance. The Company appealed that fine and obtained its suspension in 2006. Because the appeal of the preliminary injunction failed, in March of 2007, Vintage presented petitions alleging the Company's non-compliance with the preliminary injunction granted to Vintage and requested a fine of approximately \$3.3 million against the Company's subsidiaries, which represents approximately \$5,300 per defendant per day of alleged non-compliance since April 2006. In July 2007, the judge ordered the payment of the fine mandated in the preliminary injunction, without specifying the amount. In September 2007, the judge decided that (i) the Brazilian subsidiaries were not responsible for alleged infringement of intellectual property rights by its users; and that (ii) the plaintiffs did not prove the alleged infringement of its intellectual property rights. However, the decision maintained the injunction until such ruling is non-appealable. The plaintiff appealed the judge's ruling regarding the subsidiary's non-responsibility and the Company appealed the decision that maintained the preliminary injunction. Both appeals are still pending. In the opinion of the Company's legal counsel the probable loss amounts to \$259,409 and a remaining amount of \$1,828,145 was not reserved since it was considered reasonably possible but not probable.

State of São Paulo Fraud Claim

On June 12, 2007, a state prosecutor of the State of São Paulo, Brazil presented a claim against the Brazilian subsidiary. The state prosecutor alleges that the Brazilian subsidiary should be held liable for any fraud committed by sellers on the Brazilian version of the Company's website, or responsible for damages suffered by buyers when purchasing an item

Table of Contents**MercadoLibre, Inc.****Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)****8. Commitments and Contingencies (Continued)****Litigation and Other Legal Matters (Continued)**

on the Brazilian version of the MercadoLibre website. On June 26, 2009, the Judge of the first instance court ruled in favor of the State of São Paulo prosecutor, declaring that the Brazilian subsidiary shall be held joint and severally liable for fraud committed by sellers and damages suffered by buyers when using the website, and ordering us to remove from the Terms of Service of the Brazilian website any provision limiting the Company's responsibility, with a penalty of approximately \$2,500 per day of non-compliance. On June 29, 2009 the Company presented a recourse to the lower court. On September 29, 2009 the Company presented an appeal and requested to suspend the effects of the ruling issued by the lower court until the appeal is decided by State Court of Appeals, which request was granted on December, 1, 2009. The decision on the appeal is still pending. In the opinion of the Company's legal counsel the risk of loss is reasonably possible.

City of São Paulo Tax Claim

On September 13, 2007, the Company paid to tax authorities in São Paulo, Brazil approximately \$1.1 million, consisting of \$1.0 million in accrued taxes and \$0.1 million in fines, related to the Brazilian subsidiary's activities in São Paulo for the period 2002 through 2004. The Company had reserved approximately \$1.1 million against these taxes as of December 31, 2006 so no additional provision was recorded for the payment. São Paulo tax authorities have also asserted taxes and fines against us relating to the period from 2005 to 2007 in an approximate additional amount of \$5.9 million according to the exchange rate at that moment. In January 2005, the Brazilian subsidiary had moved its operations to Santana de Parnaíba City, Brazil and began paying taxes to that jurisdiction, therefore the Company believes it has strong defenses to the claims of the São Paulo authorities with respect to this period. On August 31, 2007, the Company presented administrative defenses against the authorities' claim. On September, 12, 2009 the tax authorities ruled against the Brazilian subsidiary. On October 13, 2009, the Company presented an appeal to the Conselho Municipal de Tributos or Sao Paulo Municipal Council of Taxes. On January 19, 2011, Sao Paulo Municipal Council of Taxes ruled on our appeal and reduced the fine to approximately \$4.7 million. On February 11, 2011, the Company appealed this decision to the Câmaras Reunidas do Egrégio Conselho Municipal de Tributos (Superior Chamber of the São Paulo Municipal Council of Taxes) and awaits a ruling on this appeal. As of the date of these financial statements, the total amount of the claim is approximately \$15.3 million including surcharges and interest. The Company believes that the risk of loss is remote, and as a result, has not reserved provisions for this claim. In the opinion of the Company's legal advisors, it is unlikely and remote that the resolution of this matter could have a material negative effect on the Company's results of operations and for the Company's financial position.

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MercadoLibre, Inc.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)

8. Commitments and Contingencies (Continued)

Litigation and Other Legal Matters (Continued)

State of São Paulo Customer Service Level Claim

On September 1, 2010, a state prosecutor of the State of São Paulo, Brazil presented a claim against the Company's Brazilian subsidiary. The state prosecutor alleges that the Brazilian subsidiary should improve our customer service level and provide (among other things) a telephone number for customer support. On November 17, 2010, the Judge of the first instance court granted an injunction against the Brazilian subsidiary imposing the obligation to provide customer service over telephone means within 60 days with a penalty of approximately \$65,000 per day of non-compliance. On April 08, 2011, the Company was summoned of the lawsuit and the injunction. On April 14, 2011, the Company presented recourse to the lower court; even though, the injunction was not lifted, an extension of 30 days was granted, and the non-compliance fine would start running as of July 11, 2011. On April 20, 2011 the Company presented an appeal and requested to suspend the effects of the injunction issued by the lower court until the appeal is decided by State Court of Appeals. The decision on the appeal is still pending. In the opinion of the Company's legal counsel the risk associated with this claim is approximately \$307,000 which considered reasonably possible.

Other third parties have from time to time claimed, and others may claim in the future, that the Company was responsible for fraud committed against them, or that the Company has infringed their intellectual property rights. The underlying laws with respect to the potential liability of online intermediaries like the Company are unclear in the jurisdictions where the Company operates. Management believes that additional lawsuits alleging that the Company has violated copyright or trademark laws will be filed against the Company in the future.

Intellectual property and regulatory claims, whether meritorious or not, are time consuming and costly to resolve, require significant amounts of management time, could require expensive changes in the Company's methods of doing business, or could require the Company to enter into costly royalty or licensing agreements. The Company may be subject to patent disputes, and be subject to patent infringement claims as the Company's services expand in scope and complexity. In particular, the Company may face additional patent infringement claims involving various aspects of the Payments businesses.

From time to time, the Company is involved in other disputes or regulatory inquiries that arise in the ordinary course of business. The number and significance of these disputes and inquiries are increasing as the Company's business expands and the Company grows larger.

Other contingencies

As of March 31, 2011 the Company had reserved \$71,820 against some tax contingencies (other than income tax) identified in some of its subsidiaries.

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MercadoLibre, Inc.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)

9. Long Term Retention Plan

On August 8, 2008, the Board of Directors approved an employee retention program (the 2008 LTRP) that will be payable 50% in cash and 50% in shares, in addition to the annual salary and bonus of certain executives. Payments will be made in the first quarter on annual basis according to the following vesting schedule:

Year 1 (2008): 17%

Year 2 (2009): 22%

Year 3 (2010): 27%

Year 4 (2011): 34%

The shares granted for the 2008 LTRP were valued at the grant-date fair market value PF \$36.8 per share. For the three-month period ended March 31, 2011, the related accrued compensation expense was \$69,818 corresponding \$33,710 to the share portion of the award credited to Additional Paid-in Capital and \$36,108 to the cash portion included in the Balance Sheet as Social security payable.

For the three-month period ended March 31, 2010, the related accrued compensation expense was \$91,652 corresponding \$34,376 to the share portion of the award credited to Additional Paid-in Capital and \$57,276 to the cash portion included in the Balance Sheet as Social security payable.

On June 15, 2009, and June 25, 2010, the Board of Directors, upon the recommendation of the compensation Committee approved the 2009 and the 2010 employee retention programs (the 2009 and 2010 LTRP). The awards under the 2009 and 2010 LTRP are fully payable in cash in addition to the annual salary and bonus of each employee.

The 2009 and 2010 LTRP will be paid in 8 equal annual quotas (12.5% each) commencing on March 31, 2010 and March 31, 2011, respectively. Each quota is calculated as follows:

6.25% of the amount is calculated in nominal terms (the nominal basis share),

6.25% is adjusted by multiplying the nominal amount by the average closing stock price for the last 60 trading days of the year previous to the payment date and divided by the average closing stock price for the last 60 trading days of 2008 and 2009 for the 2009 and 2010 LTRP, respectively. The average closing stock price for the 2009 and 2010 LTRP amounted to \$13.81 and \$45.75, respectively (the variable share).

The 2008, 2009 and 2010 LTRP have performance and/or eligibility conditions to be achieved at each year end and also require the employee to stay in the Company at the payment date.

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MercadoLibre, Inc.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)

The 2008 LTRP compensation cost and the variable share compensation cost of the 2009 and 2010 LTRP are recognized in accordance with the graded-vesting attribution method and are accrued up to each payment date. The 2009 and 2010 LTRP nominal basis share are recognized in straight line bases using the equal annual accrual method.

As of March 31, 2011, the 2009 LTRP accrued compensation expense for the three-month period ended March 31, 2011 and March 31, 2010 were \$519,086 and \$328,012, respectively.

As of March 31, 2011, the 2010 LTRP accrued compensation expense for the three-month period ended March 31, 2011 was \$507,977.

10. Cash dividend distribution

On February 18, 2011, the Board of Directors approved the first quarterly cash dividend distribution of \$3.5 million or \$0.08 per share which was paid on April 15, 2011.

* * * *

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**Item 2 Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations
Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements**

Certain statements regarding our future performance made or implied in this report are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The words anticipate, believe, expect, intend, plan, estimate, target, should, may, could, will and similar words and expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements generally relate to information concerning our possible or assumed future results of operations, business strategies, financing plans, competitive position, industry environment, potential growth opportunities, the effects of future regulation and the effects of competition. Such forward-looking statements reflect, among other things, our current expectations, plans, projections and strategies, anticipated financial results, future events and financial trends affecting our business, all of which are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and important factors (in addition to those discussed elsewhere in this report) that may cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties include, among other things:

our expectations regarding the continued growth of online commerce and Internet usage in Latin America;

our ability to expand our operations and adapt to rapidly changing technologies;

government regulation;

litigation and legal liability;

systems interruptions or failures;

our ability to attract and retain qualified personnel;

consumer trends;

security breaches and illegal uses of our services;

competition;

reliance on third-party service providers;

enforcement of intellectual property rights;

our ability to attract new customers, retain existing customers and increase revenues;

seasonal fluctuations; and

political, social and economic conditions in Latin America in general, and Venezuela and Argentina in particular, including Venezuela's status as a highly inflationary economy and new exchange rate system.

Many of these risks are beyond our ability to control or predict. New risk factors emerge from time to time and it is not possible for management to predict all such risk factors, nor can it assess the impact of all such risk factors on our company's business or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements.

These statements are based on currently available information and our current assumptions, expectations and projections about future events. While we believe that our assumptions, expectations and projections are reasonable in view of the currently available information, you are cautioned not to place undue reliance on our forward-looking

statements. These statements are not guarantees of future performance. They are subject to future events, risks and uncertainties many of which are beyond our control as well as potentially inaccurate assumptions that could cause actual results to differ materially from our expectations and projections. Some of the material risks and uncertainties (in addition to those referred to above and elsewhere in this report) that could cause actual results to differ materially from our expectations and projections are described in Item 1A Risk Factors in Part I of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 25, 2011. You should read that information in conjunction with Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in Item 2 of Part I of this report and our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and related notes in Item 1 of Part I of this report. We note such information for investors as permitted by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. There also may be other factors that we cannot anticipate or that are not described in this report, generally because we do not perceive them to be material that could cause results to differ materially from our expectations.

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Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made, and we do not undertake to update these forward-looking statements except as may be required by law. You are advised, however, to review any further disclosures we make on related subjects in our periodic filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

The discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations has been organized to present the following:

- a brief overview of our company;
- a discussion of our principal trends and results of operations for the quarters ended March 31, 2011 and 2010;
- a review of our financial presentation and accounting policies, including our critical accounting policies;
- a discussion of the principal factors that influence our results of operations, financial condition and liquidity;
- a discussion of our liquidity and capital resources, a discussion of our capital expenditures and a description of our contractual obligations; and
- a discussion of the market risks that we face.

Business Overview

MercadoLibre, Inc. (together with its subsidiaries us, we, our or the company) hosts the largest online commerce platform in Latin America located at www.mercadolibre.com, which is focused on enabling e-commerce and its related services. Our services are designed to provide our users with mechanisms for buying, selling, paying, collecting, generating leads and comparing via e-commerce transactions in an effective and efficient manner. We are market leaders in e-commerce in each of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela, based on unique visitors and page views. Additionally, we also operate online commerce platforms in the Dominican Republic, Panama and Portugal.

Through our online commerce platform, we provide buyers and sellers with a robust online commerce environment that fosters the development of a large and growing e-commerce community in Latin America, a region with a population of over 550 million people and one of the fastest-growing Internet penetration rates in the world. We believe that we offer a technological and commercial solution that addresses the distinctive cultural and geographic challenges of operating an online commerce platform in Latin America.

We offer our users an eco-system of four related e-commerce services: the MercadoLibre Marketplace, the MercadoPago payments solution, the MercadoClics advertising program and the MercadoShops on-line stores solution.

The MercadoLibre Marketplace, which we sometimes refer to as our marketplace, is a fully-automated, topically-arranged and user-friendly online commerce service. This service permits both businesses and individuals to list items and conduct their sales and purchases online in either a fixed-price or auction-based format. Additionally, through online classified listings, our registered users can list and purchase motor vehicles, vessels, aircraft, real estate and services. Any Internet user can browse through the various products and services that are listed on our web site and register with MercadoLibre to list, bid for and purchase items and services.

To complement the MercadoLibre Marketplace, we developed MercadoPago, an integrated online payments solution. MercadoPago is designed to facilitate transactions both on and off the MercadoLibre Marketplace by providing a mechanism that allows our users to securely, easily and promptly send, receive and finance payments online.

As a further enhancement to the MercadoLibre Marketplace, in 2009, we launched our MercadoClics program to allow businesses to promote their products and services on the Internet. Through MercadoClics users and advertisers are able to place display and/or text advertisements on our web pages in order to promote their brands and offerings. MercadoClics offers advertisers a cost efficient and automated platform through which it will acquire traffic. Advertisers purchase, on a cost per clicks basis, advertising space that appear alongside product search results for

specific categories and other pages. These advertising placements are clearly differentiated from product search results and direct traffic both to and off our platform to the advertisers destination of choice.

To close out our suite of e-commerce services we launched, during 2010, the MercadoShops on-line stores solution. Through MercadoShops users can set-up, manage and promote their own on-line webstores. These webstores are hosted by MercadoLibre and offer integration with the other marketplace, payments and advertising services we offer. Users can choose from a basic, free webstore or pay monthly subscriptions for enhanced functionality and added services on their stores.

Reporting Segments

Our segment reporting is based on geographic areas, this being the current criteria we are using to evaluate our segment performance. Our geography segments include Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, Venezuela and other countries (such as Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Panama, Peru, Portugal and Uruguay).

In addition, we operate a real estate classifieds platform that covers some areas of Florida in the United States, the operations of which are included in our segment for other countries .

Table of Contents**Recent Developments*****Launch of MercadoPago 3.0 in Mexico***

In February 2011, we started processing off-platform transactions in Mexico using our new direct payments product, MercadoPago 3.0, for any site in Mexico that elects to adopt it, while maintaining the escrow product for on-platform transactions. On April 15, 2011, we launched a new and improved version of our MercadoPago payments platform that may be used for all our marketplace transactions in México. We also made offering MercadoPago obligatory in our marketplace listings (with the exception of free listings).

MercadoPago 3.0, which had previously been available only in Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Colombia, is designed to meet the growing demand for Internet-based payments systems in Latin America. In addition to improving the ease of use and efficiency of payments for purchases made in our marketplace, MercadoPago 3.0 also allows payments for transactions that occur outside of our platforms. Users are able to transfer money to other users with MercadoPago accounts and to incorporate MercadoPago as a means for payments on their independent commerce websites. In addition, with Mercado Pago 3.0 in Mexico, the MercadoPago processing fee for on-platform transactions is borne entirely by the seller through a single MercadoLibre-MercadoPago fee that entitles the seller to free usage of the MercadoPago platform for their sales. In the case of off-platform transactions, the seller will be required to pay a service fee. The finance fee of any transaction is paid by the buyer according to the installment plan elected.

Finally, in Venezuela we have available MercadoPago 2.0, which is a closed system in which the buyer pays for its usage.

Description of line items***Net revenues***

We recognize revenues in each of our five reporting segments. Our reporting segments include our operations in Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, Venezuela and other countries (Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Panama, Peru, Portugal and Uruguay).

We offer three types of up-front fees for three different combinations of placement and features. Up-front fees are charged at the time the listing is uploaded onto our platform and are not subject to successful sale of the items listed. Following this fee structure modification, revenues for the MercadoLibre Marketplace transactions are now generated by:

up front fees;

final value fees; and

online advertising fees.

As from the third quarter of 2010, we offer payment processing through our MercadoPago solution at no added cost in Brazil and Argentina. This change in pricing implies that for Marketplace transactions we no longer charge our users a specific fee for processing on-platform payments as we did in the past. We do continue, however, to generate payment related revenues, reported within each of our reporting segments, attributable to:

commissions charged to sellers for the use of the MercadoPago platform with respect to transactions that occur outside of our Marketplace platform;

revenues from a financial charge when a buyer elects to pay in installments through our MercadoPago platform, both on transaction occurs on or off our Marketplace platform.

The following table sets forth the percentage of consolidated net revenues by country for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010:

(% of total consolidated net revenues)	Three Month Period Ended March 31,	
	2011	2010
Brazil	56.5%	57.4%

Argentina	17.2%	18.2%
Venezuela	8.5%	9.7%
Mexico	11.0%	7.6%
Other Countries	6.8%	7.2%

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The following table summarizes the changes in net revenues for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010:

	Three Month Period Ended March 31,		Change from 2010 to 2011 (*)	
	2011	2010	in Dollars	in %
	(in millions, except percentages)			
Net Revenues:				
Brazil	\$ 34.7	\$ 26.3	\$ 8.4	31.8%
Argentina	\$ 10.6	\$ 8.4	\$ 2.2	26.6%
Venezuela	\$ 6.8	\$ 3.5	\$ 3.3	94.8%
Mexico	\$ 5.2	\$ 4.5	\$ 0.7	17.1%
Other Countries	\$ 4.2	\$ 3.3	\$ 0.9	26.3%
Total Net Revenues	\$ 61.5	\$ 45.9	\$ 15.5	33.8%

(*) Percentages have been calculated using whole-dollar amounts rather than rounded amounts that appear in the table.

The table above may not add due to rounding

We have a highly fragmented customer revenue base given the large numbers of sellers and buyers who use our platforms. For the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010, no single customer accounted for more than 1.0% of our net revenues. Our MercadoLibre Marketplace is available in thirteen countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Uruguay and Venezuela), and MercadoPago is available in six countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Venezuela). The functional currency for each country's operations is the local currency, except for Venezuela whose functional currency is the US dollar due to Venezuela's status as a highly inflationary economy. See Critical accounting policies and estimates Foreign Currency Translation included in this report. Therefore, our net revenues are generated in multiple foreign currencies and then translated into US dollars at the average monthly exchange rate.

Our subsidiaries in Brazil, Argentina, Venezuela and Colombia are subject to certain taxes on revenues which are classified as a cost of net revenues. These taxes represented 7.3% of net revenues for the three-month period ended March 31, 2011.

Cost of net revenues

Cost of net revenues primarily represents bank and credit card processing charges for transactions and fees paid with credit cards and other payment methods, certain taxes on revenues, compensation for customer support personnel, ISP connectivity charges, depreciation and amortization and hosting and site operation fees.

Product and technology development expenses

Our product and technology development related expenses consist primarily of depreciation and amortization costs related to product and technology development, compensation for our engineering and web-development staff, telecommunications costs and payments to third-party suppliers who provide technology maintenance services to our company.

Sales and marketing expenses

Our sales and marketing expenses consist primarily of marketing costs for our platforms through online and offline advertising, bad debt charges, the salaries of employees involved in these activities, public relations costs, marketing activities for our users and depreciation and amortization costs.

We carry out the vast majority of our marketing efforts on the Internet. In that context, we enter in agreements with portals, search engines, social networks, ad networks and other sites in order to attract Internet users to the

MercadoLibre Marketplace and convert them into confirmed registered users and active traders on our platform. Additionally, we allocate a portion of our marketing budget to cable television advertising in order to improve our brand awareness and to complement our online efforts.

We also work intensively on attracting, developing and growing our seller community through our supply efforts. We have dedicated professionals in most of our operations that work with sellers, through trade show participation, seminars and meetings to provide them with important tools and skills to become effective sellers on our platform.

General and administrative expenses

Our general and administrative expenses consist primarily of salaries for management and administrative staff, compensation for outside directors, long term retention plan compensation, expenses for legal, accounting and other professional services, insurance expenses, office space rental expenses, travel and business expenses, as well as depreciation and amortization costs. General and administrative expenses include the costs of the following areas of our company: general management, finance, administration, accounting, legal and human resources.

Table of Contents***Other income (expenses)***

Other income (expenses) consists of interest income derived primarily from our investments and cash equivalents, foreign currency gains or losses, and other non-operating results. In addition, other income (expenses) included mainly interest expense related to the working capital requirements for our MercadoPago operations through the second quarter of 2010. Beginning in the third quarter of 2010 and for as long as we continue pre-selling credit card receivables there has been, and will in the future be, no interest expense included in Other income (expenses) line.

Income and asset tax

We are subject to federal and state taxes in the United States, as well as foreign taxes in the multiple jurisdictions where we operate. Our tax obligations consist of current and deferred income taxes and asset taxes incurred in these jurisdictions. We account for income taxes following the liability method of accounting. Therefore, our income tax expense consists of taxes currently payable, if any (given that in certain jurisdictions we still have net operating loss carry-forwards), plus the change during the period in our deferred tax assets and liabilities.

Critical accounting policies and estimates

The preparation of our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and related notes requires us to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect our reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. We have based our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that we believe to be 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. Our management has discussed the development, selection and disclosure of these estimates with our audit committee and board of directors. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

An accounting policy is considered to be critical if it requires an accounting estimate to be made based on assumptions about matters that are highly uncertain at the time the estimate is made, and if different estimates that reasonably could have been used, or changes in the accounting estimates that are reasonably likely to occur periodically, could materially impact our condensed consolidated financial statements. We believe that the following critical accounting policies reflect the more significant estimates and assumptions used in the preparation of our condensed consolidated financial statements. You should read the following descriptions of critical accounting policies, judgments and estimates in conjunction with our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements, the notes there to and other disclosures included in this report.

Foreign Currency Translation

Historically, all of our foreign operations have used the local currency as their functional currency. Accordingly, these foreign subsidiaries translate assets and liabilities from their local currencies to US dollars using year end exchange rates while income and expense accounts are translated at the average rates in effect during the year. The resulting translation adjustment is recorded as part of other comprehensive income (loss), a component of shareholders' equity. Gains and losses resulting from transactions denominated in non-functional currencies are recognized in earnings. Net foreign currency exchange losses or gains are included in the consolidated statements of income under the caption

Foreign currency gain /(loss) .

Until September 30, 2009, our Venezuelan subsidiaries assets, liabilities, income and expenses were translated at the official exchange rate of 2.15 Bolivares Fuertes per US dollar.

In the fourth quarter of 2009, we began to use the parallel exchange rate rather than the official exchange rate to translate our Venezuelan financial statements. The following facts and circumstances have been considered in our analysis of the applicable exchange rate:

At the date we changed the translation exchange rate (and as of the date of this report), we have not obtained dividends remittances at the official exchange rate (and we have not at the date of this report),

The industry in which we operate may not influence our ability to access to the official exchange rate,

The Commission for the Administration of Foreign Exchange (CADIVI) volume of approvals of the use of the Official Rate was down 50% on a year-to-year basis as of July 2009.

CADIVI has not only delayed approvals but also removed many items from priority lists (current priorities appear to be food and medicine) causing delays in the repatriation of dividends for many companies. Consequently, in the fourth quarter of 2009, we translated our Venezuelan assets, liabilities, income and expense accounts using the parallel exchange rate.

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As of the date of this report the Company did not buy dollars at the CADIVI official rate.

In accordance with US GAAP, we have classified our Venezuelan operations as highly inflationary as of January 1, 2010 and have used the US dollar to be the functional currency for purposes of our financial statements. Therefore, no translation effect was accounted for in other comprehensive income since October 1, 2009 related to our Venezuelan operations.

Until May 13, 2010, the only way by which US dollars could be purchased outside the official currency market was using an indirect mechanism consisting in the purchase and sale of securities, including national public debt bonds (DPNs) denominated in Bolivares Fuertes and bonds issued by the government that were denominated in US dollars. This mechanism for transactions in certain securities created an indirect parallel foreign currency exchange market in Venezuela that enabled entities to obtain foreign currency through financial brokers without going through CADIVI. Although the parallel exchange rate was higher, and accordingly less beneficial, than the official exchange rate, some entities have used the parallel market to exchange currency because, as already mentioned, CADIVI used not to approve in a timely manner the exchange of currency requested by such entities. Until May 13, 2010, our Venezuelan subsidiaries used this mechanism to buy US dollars and accordingly we used the parallel average exchange rate to re-measure those foreign currency transactions.

However, on May 14th, 2010, the Venezuelan government enacted reforms to its exchange regulations and close-down such parallel market by declaring that foreign-currency-denominated securities issued by Venezuelan entities were included in the definition of foreign currency, thus making the Venezuelan Central Bank (BCV) the only institution that could legally authorize the purchase or sale of foreign currency bonds, thereby excluding non-authorized brokers from the foreign exchange market.

Trading of foreign currencies was re-opened as a regulated market on June 9, 2010 with the Venezuelan Central Bank as the only institution through which foreign currency-denominated transactions can be brokered. Under the new system, known as the Foreign Currency Securities Transactions System (SITME), entities domiciled in Venezuela can buy US dollar denominated securities only through banks authorized by the BCV to import goods, services or capital inputs. Additionally, the SITME imposes volume restrictions on an entity's trading activity, limiting such activity to a maximum equivalent of \$50,000 per day, not to exceed \$350,000 in a calendar month. This limitation is non-cumulative, meaning that an entity cannot carry over unused volume from one month to the next.

As a consequence of this new system, commencing on June 9, 2010, we have transitioned from the parallel exchange rate to the SITME rate and started re-measuring foreign currency transactions using the SITME rate published by BCV, which was 5.27 Bolivares Fuertes per US dollar as of June 9, 2010.

For the period beginning on May 14, 2010 and ended on June 8, 2010 (during which there was no open foreign currency markets), we applied US GAAP guidelines, which state that if exchangeability between two currencies is temporarily lacking at the transaction date or balance sheet date, the first subsequent rate at which exchanges could be made shall be used.

Accordingly, the June 9, 2010 exchange rate published by the Venezuelan Central Bank has been used to re-measure transactions during the above-mentioned period.

During 2010 and previous years we were able to obtain U.S. dollars using alternative mechanisms other than the Venezuelan Commission of Foreign Exchange Administration (CADIVI). These dollars, obtained at a higher exchange rate than the one offered by CADIVI, and held in balance at U.S. bank accounts of our Venezuelan subsidiaries, were used for dividend distributions from our Venezuelan subsidiary. As a result, during 2010, lack of CADIVI approval did not restrict our ability to distribute the full amount of our retained earnings as dividends related to fiscal years 2008 (\$0.8 million), and 2009 (\$1.8 million). In addition, during 2011, our Venezuelan subsidiary distributed dividends of a \$4.2 million, related to earnings for fiscal year 2010, using existing cash balances held in the U.S. bank accounts of our Venezuelan subsidiaries.

The following table sets forth the assets, liabilities and net assets of our Venezuelan subsidiaries, before intercompany eliminations, as of March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010.

March 31,	December 31,
2011	2010

Venezuelan operations

Assets	\$ 19,930,242	\$ 21,928,340
Liabilities	(8,444,346)	(8,212,581)
Net Assets	11,485,896	13,715,759

Net assets of our Venezuelan subsidiary amount to approximately 6.3% of our consolidated net assets, and cash and investments of our Venezuelan subsidiary held in local currency in Venezuela amount only to approximately 5.1% of our consolidated cash and investments.

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Although, the current mechanisms available to obtain US dollars for dividends distributions to shareholders outside Venezuela imply increased restrictions, the Company does not expect that the current restrictions to purchase dollars have a significant adverse effect on its business plans with regard to the investment in Venezuela.

Impairment of long-lived assets and goodwill

We review long-lived assets for impairments whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of an asset may not be recoverable. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of an asset to undiscounted future net cash flows expected to be generated by the asset. If such assets are considered to be impaired on this basis, the impairment loss to be recognized is measured by the amount by which the carrying amount of the assets exceeds the fair value of the assets.

Goodwill and certain indefinite life trademarks are reviewed at the end of the year for impairment or more frequently when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. Impairment of goodwill and certain trademarks are tested at the reporting unit level (considering each segment of the Company as a reporting unit) by comparing the reporting unit's carrying amount, including goodwill and certain trademarks, to the fair value of the reporting unit. The fair values of the reporting units are estimated using a combination of the income or discounted cash flows approach and the market approach, which utilizes comparable companies' data. If the carrying amount of the reporting unit exceeds its fair value, goodwill or indefinite useful life intangible assets are considered impaired and a second step is performed to measure the amount of impairment loss, if any. No impairments were recognized during the reporting periods and management's assessment of each reporting unit's fair value materially exceeds its carrying value.

We believe that the accounting estimate related to impairment of long lived assets and goodwill is critical since it is highly susceptible to change from period to period because: (i) it requires management to make assumptions about gross merchandise volume growth, future interest rates, sales and costs; and (ii) the impact that recognizing an impairment would have on the assets reported on our balance sheet as well as our net income would be material. Management's assumptions about future sales and future costs require significant judgment.

Allowances for doubtful accounts and chargebacks

We are exposed to losses due to uncollectible accounts and credits to sellers. Allowances for these items represent our estimate of future losses based on our historical experience. The allowance for doubtful accounts and chargebacks is recorded as a charge to sales and marketing expenses. Historically, our actual losses have been consistent with our charges. However, future changes in trends could have a material impact on our future consolidated statements of income and cash flows.

We believe that the accounting estimate related to allowances for doubtful accounts and chargebacks is a critical accounting estimate because it requires management to make assumptions about future collections and credit analysis. Our management's assumptions about future collections require significant judgment.

Legal contingencies

In connection with certain pending litigation and other claims, we have estimated the range of probable loss and provided for such losses through charges to our condensed consolidated statement of income. These estimates are based on our assessment of the facts and circumstances and historical information related to actions filed against the Company at each balance sheet date and are subject to change based upon new information and future events.

From time to time, we are involved in disputes that arise in the ordinary course of business. We are currently involved in certain legal proceedings as described in *Legal Proceedings* in Item 1 of Part II of this report, Item 3 of Part I of our annual report on Form 10-K for our most recently completed fiscal year filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, and in Note 8 to our unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements. We believe that we have meritorious defenses to the claims against us, and we will defend ourselves accordingly. However, even if successful, our defense could be costly and could divert management's time. If the plaintiffs were to prevail on certain claims, we might be forced to pay damages or modify our business practices. Any of these consequences could materially harm our business and could have a material adverse impact on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

Income taxes

We are required to recognize a provision for income taxes based upon taxable income and temporary differences between the book and tax bases of our assets and liabilities for each of the tax jurisdictions in which we operate. This process requires a calculation of taxes payable under currently enacted tax laws in each jurisdiction and an analysis of temporary differences between the book and tax bases of our assets and liabilities, including various accruals, allowances, depreciation and amortization. The tax effect of these temporary differences and the estimated tax benefit from our tax net operating losses are reported as deferred tax assets and liabilities in our condensed consolidated balance sheet. We also assess the likelihood that our net deferred tax assets will be realized from future taxable income. To the extent we believe that it is more likely than not that some portion or all of deferred tax asset will not be realized, we establish a valuation allowance. At March 31, 2011, we had a valuation allowance on certain foreign net operating losses based on our assessment that it is more likely than not that the deferred tax asset will not be realized. To the extent we establish a valuation allowance or change the allowance in a period, we reflect the change with a corresponding increase or decrease in our Income/asset tax expense line in our condensed consolidated statement of income.

Table of Contents**Results of operations for the three-month period ended March 31, 2011 compared to three-month period ended March 31, 2010.**

The selected financial data for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010 have been derived from our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements included in Item 1 of Part I of this report. These statements include all normal recurring adjustments that management believes are necessary to fairly state our financial position, results of operations and cash flows. Results of operations for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the full year ending December 31, 2011 or for any other period.

Statement of income data

(In millions)	Three Months Ended March	
	2011 (*)	2010 (*)
	31, (Unaudited)	
Net revenues	\$ 61.5	\$ 45.9
Cost of net revenues	(14.3)	(9.9)
Gross profit	47.1	36.0
Operating expenses:		
Product and technology development	(5.2)	(3.2)
Sales and marketing	(13.2)	(11.1)
General and administrative	(9.5)	(6.2)
Total operating expenses	(27.8)	(20.5)
Income from operations	19.3	15.5
Other income (expenses):		
Interest income and other financial gains	1.9	0.8
Interest expense and other financial charges	(0.6)	(3.0)
Foreign currency gains / losses	(0.5)	0.4
Other income, net	0.0	
Net income before income / asset tax expense	20.1	13.7
Income / asset tax expense	(6.0)	(4.1)
Net income	\$ 14.1	\$ 9.6

(*) Totals may not add due to rounding

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(In millions)	Three Months Ended March	
	2011	31, 2010
Number of confirmed registered users at end of the period ¹	55.6	44.9
Number of confirmed new registered users during the period ²	2.7	2.3
Gross merchandise volume ³	954.0	731.6
Number of items sold ⁴	10.9	8.3
Total payment volume ⁵	245.2	123.8
Total payment transactions ⁶	2.6	1.1
Capital expenditures	3.0	1.4
Depreciation and amortization	1.5	0.9

- 1 Measure of the cumulative number of users who have registered on the MercadoLibre Marketplace and confirmed their registration.
- 2 Measure of the number of new users who have registered on the MercadoLibre Marketplace and confirmed their registration.
- 3 Measure of the total U.S. dollar sum of all transactions completed through the MercadoLibre Marketplace, excluding motor vehicles, vessels, aircraft and real estate.
- 4 Measure of the number of items that were sold/purchased through the MercadoLibre Marketplace.
- 5 Measure of the total U.S. dollar sum of all transactions paid for using MercadoPago.
- 6 Measure of the number of all transactions paid for using MercadoPago.

Net revenues

	Three Month Period Ended		Change from 2010	
	March 31,		to 2011 (*)	
	2011	2010	in Dollars	in %
	(in millions, except percentages)			
Total Net Revenues	\$ 61.5	\$ 45.9	\$ 15.5	33.8%
As a percentage of net revenues (*)	100.0%	100.0%		

(*) Percentages have been calculated using whole-dollar amounts rather than rounded amounts that appear in the table.

The 33.8% growth in net revenues from the first quarter of 2010 to the first quarter of 2011 resulted principally from a 30.4% increase in the gross merchandise volume (GMV) transacted through our platform from the first quarter of 2010 to the first quarter of 2011 and a 30.7% increase in items sold between those periods . In addition, there is a positive impact on US dollars figures mainly due to the appreciation of the Brazilian Real and because the parallel exchange rate used by our Venezuelan subsidiary in the first quarter of 2010 was 6.52 Bolivares Fuertes per US dollar as compared to 5.3 Bolivares Fuertes per US dollar for the first quarter of 2011. See Critical accounting policies and estimates Foreign currency translation for more detail.

For the three-month period ended March 31, 2011, net revenues also include the net amount collected from financial institutions as a result of pre-selling installment-related financing receivables. We entered into these pre-selling agreements with the aim of substantially eliminating credit risk and optimizing financial cost. For the three-month period ended March 31, 2011, our net revenues have no financial related expenses. For the three-month period ended March 31, 2010, as we had assumed the financial risk of installment-related financing receivables, our MercadoPago financing revenues had an associated \$3.4 million of financial expenses.

Measured in local currencies, net revenues grew 25.5% in the three-month period ended March 31, 2011, compared to the same period a year earlier. The local currency revenue growth was calculated by using the average monthly exchange rates for each month during 2010 and applying them to the corresponding months in 2011, so as to calculate what our financial results would have been had exchange rates remained stable from one year to the next.

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In addition, net revenues increased slightly due to growth in our take rate, defined as net revenues as a percentage of gross merchandise volume, from 6.3% for the three-month period ended March 31, 2010 to 6.4% for the three-month period ended March 31, 2011.

The following table summarizes the changes in net revenues by each reporting segment for the three -month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010:

	Three Month Period Ended March 31,		Change from 2010 to 2011 (*)	
	2011	2010	in Dollars	in %
	(in millions, except percentages)			
Net Revenues:				
Brazil	\$ 34.7	\$ 26.3	\$ 8.4	31.8%
Argentina	\$ 10.6	\$ 8.4	\$ 2.2	26.6%
Venezuela	\$ 6.8	\$ 3.5	\$ 3.3	94.8%
Mexico	\$ 5.2	\$ 4.5	\$ 0.7	17.1%
Other Countries	\$ 4.2	\$ 3.3	\$ 0.9	26.3%
Total Net Revenues	\$ 61.5	\$ 45.9	\$ 15.5	33.8%

(*) Percentages have been calculated using whole-dollar amounts rather than rounded amounts that appear in the table.

The table may not add due to rounding.

On a segment basis, our net revenues for the three-month period ended March 31, 2011 as compared to the same periods in 2010, increased across all segments. In local currency, our revenues grew 25.5% in the three-month period ended March 31, 2011 compared to the same period in the previous year.

The following table sets forth our total net revenues and the sequential quarterly growth of these net revenues for the periods described below:

	March 31,	Quarter Ended		December 31,
		June 30,	September 30,	
	(in millions, except percentages)			
	(*)			
2011				
Net Revenues	\$ 61.5	n/a	n/a	n/a
Percent change from prior quarter	-1%			
2010				
Net Revenues	\$ 45.9	\$ 52.5	\$ 56.0	\$ 62.3
Percent change from prior quarter	-6%	14%	7%	11%
2009				
Net Revenues	\$ 32.3	\$ 40.9	\$ 50.6	\$ 49.0
Percent change from prior quarter	-3%	27%	24%	-3%

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Net Revenues	\$	28.8	\$	34.5	\$	40.3	\$	33.4
Percent change from prior quarter		7%		20%		17%		-17%

(*) Percentages have been calculated using whole-dollar amounts rather than rounded amounts that appear in the table.

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	Three Month Period Ended March 31,		Change from 2010 to 2011 (*)	
	2011	2010	in Dollars	in %
	(in millions, except percentages)			
Total cost of net revenues	\$ 14.3	\$ 9.9	\$ 4.4	44.9%
As a percentage of net revenues (*)	23.3%	21.5%		

(*) Percentages have been calculated using whole-dollar amounts rather than rounded amounts that appear in the table.

For the three-month period ended March 31, 2011, the increase in cost of net revenues as compared to the same period of 2010 was primarily attributable to a \$1.6 million increase in collection fees which includes our payment processing fees. The increase in collection fees, which occurred primarily in Brazil and Argentina, was a result of the higher penetration of our Payment solution into our Marketplace, which has a higher collection fee cost. In addition, sales taxes on our net revenues increased by \$1.5 million, or 48.3% for the three-month period ended March 31, 2011, compared to the same period of 2010 mainly as a consequence of increases in net revenues. Moreover, during the three-month period ended March 31, 2011 as compared to the same period in the prior year, expenditures related to our in-house customer support operations increased by \$1.0 million primarily driven by an increase in compensation costs, recruitment, investments in improved service and initiatives to combat fraud, illegal items and fee evasion. Finally, during the three-month period ended March 31, 2011 as compared to the same period in the prior year, our hosting expenditures grew \$0.2 million because we occupied more space in data centers located in the U.S..

Product and technology development

	Three Month Period Ended March 31,		Change from 2010 to 2011 (*)	
	2011	2010	in Dollars	in %
	(in millions, except percentages)			
Product and technology development	\$ 5.2	\$ 3.2	\$ 2.0	59.9%
As a percentage of net revenues (*)	8.4%	7.0%		

(*) Percentages have been calculated using whole-dollar amounts rather than rounded amounts that appear in the table.

For the three-month period ended March 31, 2011, the growth in product and technology development expenses as compared to the same periods in 2010 was primarily attributable to an increase of \$1.0 million or a 60.8% increase in compensation costs. These additional compensation expenses were primarily related to increases in compensation costs, as we continue to invest in top quality talent to develop enhancements and new features across our platforms. We believe product development is one of our key competitive advantages and intend to continue to invest in adding engineers to meet the increasingly sophisticated product expectations of our customer base.

Product and technology development expenses also grew during the three-month period ended March 31, 2011 as a consequence of increased depreciation and amortization expenses related to product and technology development of \$0.4 million, or 61.6% compared to the same period in 2010 and an increase in maintenance expenses of \$0.3 million compared to the same period in 2010.

Sales and marketing

	Three Month Period Ended March 31,		Change from 2010 to 2011 (*)	
	2011	2010	in Dollars	in %
	(in millions, except percentages)			
Sales and marketing	\$ 13.2	\$ 11.1	\$ 2.1	19.1%
As a percentage of net revenues (*)	21.5%	24.2%		

(*) Percentages have been calculated using whole-dollar amounts rather than rounded amounts that appear in the table.

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For the three-month period ended March 31, 2011, the increase in sales and marketing expenses when compared to the same period in 2010 was primarily attributable to a \$0.8 million increase in compensation costs driven by higher salaries to retain talent, and a \$0.7 million increase in bad debt charges in the 2011 period. Bad debt charges for the three-month period ended March 31, 2011 represented 6.5% of net revenues versus 7.2% for the same period in 2010. In addition, sales and marketing expenses related to trust and safety expenses increased by \$0.5 million in the first quarter of 2011 when compared to the same period in 2010, due to the increased use of our buyer protection program, developed to compensate buyers for unfulfilled transactions or other claims related to the quality of the purchased goods. In addition, other marketing expenses increased by \$0.4 million in the three-month period ended March 31, 2011 as compared to the same period of the previous year. The increase in sales and marketing expenses for the three-month period ended March 31, 2011 was partially offset by a \$0.4 million decrease in our online advertising expenses related to specific deals, as we have optimized investment allocation over the same period ended March 31, 2010. Online advertising represented 6.2% of our net revenues in the three-month period ended March 31, 2011, down from 9.3% for the same period in 2010.

General and administrative

	Three Month Period Ended March 31,		Change from 2010 to 2011 (*)	
	2011	2010	in Dollars	in %
	(in millions, except percentages)			
General and administrative	\$ 9.5	\$ 6.2	\$ 3.3	52.3%
As a percentage of net revenues (*)	15.4%	13.5%		

(*) Percentages have been calculated using whole-dollar amounts rather than rounded amounts that appear in the table.

For the three-month period ended March 31, 2011, the increase in general and administrative expenses as compared to the same period of 2010, was primarily attributable to a \$1.8 million increase in compensation costs in the 2011 period related to increases in salaries to retain talent and to increases in our long term retention plan cost, a \$0.6 million increase in outside services mainly related to legal and tax fees, a \$0.4 million increase in office expenses mainly related to new offices in our main locations and to a \$0.3 million related to other general and administrative expenses.

Other income (expenses)

	Three Month Period Ended March 31,		Change from 2010 to 2011 (*)	
	2011	2010	in Dollars	in %
	(in millions, except percentages)			
Other income (expenses)	\$ 0.8	\$ (1.8)	\$ 2.6	-142.4%
As a percentage of net revenues	1.2%	-3.9%		

(*) Percentages have been calculated using whole-dollar amounts rather than rounded amounts that appear in the table.

For the three-month period ended March 31, 2011 as compared to the same period in 2010, the decrease in other expenses was primarily a result of: (a) a \$2.4 million decrease in financial expenses, because in the first quarter of 2011 as we pre-sold installment related financing receivables related to our payment solution to better managed credit

risk and to generate increased predictability of the associated cost, there is no related financial expense; and (b) a \$1.1 million increase in interest income and other financial charges related to higher interest income earned on our investments driven by higher interest rates and a greater volume of investments, particularly in Brazil.

The increase in other income (expenses) was partially offset by an increase of \$0.9 million in foreign currency losses, from \$0.4 million of foreign currency gains in the first quarter of 2010 to a \$0.5 million of foreign currency loss in the first quarter of 2011. The increase in foreign currency losses for the three-month period ended March 31, 2011 was primarily due to losses in Brazil and Mexico attributable to the impact of the local currency appreciation on the cash balances held by our Brazilian and Mexican subsidiaries in US dollars during the first quarter of 2011 versus a devaluation of those local currencies in the first quarter of 2010.

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	Three Month Period Ended March 31,		Change from 2010 to 2011 (*)	
	2011	2010	in Dollars	in %
	(in millions, except percentages)			
Income and asset tax	6.0	4.1	1.9	47.0%
As a percentage of net revenues (*)	9.8%	8.9%		

(*) Percentages have been calculated using whole-dollar amounts rather than rounded amounts that appear in the table.

During the three-month period ended March 31, 2011 as compared to the three-month period ended March 31, 2010, income and asset tax increased \$1.9 million or 47.0% as a consequence of increases in our pre-tax income. In addition, our income and asset taxes expense margin was negatively impacted by increases in income tax charge in Brazil as a consequence of permanent tax differences period over period.

Our blended tax rate is defined as income and asset tax expense as a percentage of income before income and asset tax. Our effective income tax rate is defined as the provision for income taxes (net of charges related to dividend distribution from foreign subsidiaries which are offset with domestic foreign tax credits) as a percentage of pre tax income. The effective income tax rate excludes the effects of the deferred income tax, and the Mexican tax called Impuesto Empresarial a Tasa Única (IETU).

The following table summarizes the changes in our blended and effective tax rate for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2011	2010
Blended tax rate	29.9%	29.8%
Effective tax rate	28.2%	30.4%

(*) Percentages have been calculated using whole-dollar amounts rather than rounded amounts that appear in the table.

Our blended tax rate for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2011 and 2010 was 29.9% and 29.8%, respectively. The decrease in our effective tax rate from the three-month period ended March 31, 2010 to the same period in 2011 was mainly due to our Brazilian businesses reorganization, generated as part of our tax planning strategy, permitted us to use tax loss carryforwards in that country. Our effective tax rate also decreased due to permanent tax differences in Venezuela that reduce our local effective tax rate.

The following table sets forth our effective income tax rate related to our main locations as of March 31, 2011 and 2010:

Three Months Ended March 31,	
2011	2010