
**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 August 1, 2009

Or

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

Commission File Number
333-42427

Registrant, State of Incorporation Address
and Telephone Number

I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.
22-2894486

J.CREW GROUP, INC.

(Incorporated in Delaware)

770 Broadway
New York, New York 10003
Telephone: (212) 209-2500

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 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions 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

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

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

Common Stock
Common Stock, \$.01 par value per share

Outstanding at August 21, 2009
63,246,533 shares

J.CREW GROUP, INC.
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PART I – FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

J.CREW GROUP, INC.

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets
(unaudited)

(in thousands, except share data)

| | August 1, 2009 | January 31, 2009 |
|--|-------------------|---------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 204,274 | \$ 146,430 |
| Merchandise inventories | 195,295 | 187,044 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 32,158 | 34,926 |
| Income taxes receivable | 963 | 23,116 |
| Total current assets | <u>432,690</u> | <u>391,516</u> |
| Property and equipment – at cost | 368,913 | 344,952 |
| Less accumulated depreciation and amortization | <u>(165,690)</u> | <u>(143,277)</u> |
| | 203,223 | 201,675 |
| Deferred income taxes, net | 8,862 | 8,862 |
| Other assets | 10,995 | 11,756 |
| Total assets | <u>\$ 655,770</u> | <u>\$ 613,809</u> |
| Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity | | |
| Accounts payable | \$ 116,110 | \$ 119,719 |
| Other current liabilities | 82,207 | 83,889 |
| Deferred income taxes, net | 4,049 | 4,049 |
| Current portion of long-term debt | 1,028 | 800 |
| Total current liabilities | 203,394 | 208,457 |
| Deferred credits | 72,185 | 73,815 |
| Long-term debt | 98,715 | 99,200 |
| Other liabilities | 7,001 | 7,388 |
| Total liabilities | <u>381,295</u> | <u>388,860</u> |
| Stockholders' equity: | | |
| Common stock (\$.01 par value; 200,000,000 shares authorized; 64,466,144 and 63,791,590 shares issued; 63,196,258 and 62,529,563 shares outstanding) | 645 | 637 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 595,590 | 585,003 |
| Accumulated deficit | (318,001) | (357,091) |
| Treasury stock, at cost (1,269,886 and 1,262,027 shares held) | (3,759) | (3,600) |
| Total stockholders' equity | <u>274,475</u> | <u>224,949</u> |
| Total liabilities and stockholders' equity | <u>\$ 655,770</u> | <u>\$ 613,809</u> |

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

J.CREW GROUP, INC.**Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations**

(unaudited)

(in thousands, except for per share data)

| | Thirteen weeks ended | |
|--|----------------------|-------------------|
| | August 1, 2009 | August 2, 2008 |
| Revenues: | | |
| Net sales | \$ 347,251 | \$ 325,493 |
| Other | 10,304 | 10,782 |
| Total revenues | 357,555 | 336,275 |
| Cost of goods sold, including buying and occupancy costs | 210,327 | 198,543 |
| Gross profit | 147,228 | 137,732 |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses | 115,016 | 106,199 |
| Income from operations | 32,212 | 31,533 |
| Interest expense – net | 1,078 | 1,430 |
| Income before income taxes | 31,134 | 30,103 |
| Provision for income taxes | 12,524 | 11,980 |
| Net income | <u>\$ 18,610</u> | <u>\$ 18,123</u> |
| Net income per share: | | |
| Basic | <u>\$ 0.30</u> | <u>\$ 0.29</u> |
| Diluted | <u>\$ 0.29</u> | <u>\$ 0.28</u> |
| Weighted average shares outstanding: | | |
| Basic | <u>62,323</u> | <u>61,693</u> |
| Diluted | <u>64,326</u> | <u>64,346</u> |

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

J.CREW GROUP, INC.**Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations**

(unaudited)

(in thousands, except for per share data)

| | <u>Twenty-six weeks ended</u> | |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | <u>August 1, 2009</u> | <u>August 2, 2008</u> |
| Revenues: | | |
| Net sales | \$ 683,337 | \$ 655,535 |
| Other | 19,988 | 21,318 |
| Total revenues | 703,325 | 676,853 |
| Cost of goods sold, including buying and occupancy costs | 410,160 | 379,234 |
| Gross profit | 293,165 | 297,619 |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses | 225,685 | 213,040 |
| Income from operations | 67,480 | 84,579 |
| Interest expense – net | 2,155 | 3,800 |
| Income before income taxes | 65,325 | 80,779 |
| Provision for income taxes | 26,270 | 32,155 |
| Net income | <u>\$ 39,055</u> | <u>\$ 48,624</u> |
| Net income per share: | | |
| Basic | <u>\$ 0.63</u> | <u>\$ 0.79</u> |
| Diluted | <u>\$ 0.61</u> | <u>\$ 0.76</u> |
| Weighted average shares outstanding: | | |
| Basic | <u>62,227</u> | <u>61,443</u> |
| Diluted | <u>63,864</u> | <u>64,171</u> |

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

J.CREW GROUP, INC.**Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows**

(unaudited)

(in thousands)

| | <u>Twenty-six weeks ended</u> | |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | <u>August 1, 2009</u> | <u>August 2, 2008</u> |
| Cash flows from operating activities: | | |
| Net income | \$ 39,055 | \$ 48,624 |
| Adjustments to reconcile to net cash provided by operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation and amortization of property and equipment | 26,859 | 18,571 |
| Amortization of deferred financing costs | 684 | 1,472 |
| Share-based compensation | 6,051 | 4,230 |
| Excess tax benefit from share-based compensation plans | (2,016) | (12,722) |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities: | | |
| Merchandise inventories | (8,251) | (39,308) |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 2,768 | (5,793) |
| Other assets | 77 | (10) |
| Accounts payable and other liabilities | (6,921) | 3,814 |
| Federal and state income taxes | 23,803 | 2,054 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | <u>82,109</u> | <u>20,932</u> |
| Cash flow from investing activities: | | |
| Capital expenditures | (28,407) | (34,171) |
| Cash flows from financing activities: | | |
| Repayments of long-term debt | (257) | (25,000) |
| Excess tax benefit from share-based compensation plans | 2,016 | 12,722 |
| Proceeds from share-based compensation plans | 2,542 | 7,653 |
| Repurchase of common shares | (159) | (208) |
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities | <u>4,142</u> | <u>(4,833)</u> |
| Increase (Decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | 57,844 | (18,072) |
| Cash and cash equivalents – beginning of period | 146,430 | 131,510 |
| Cash and cash equivalents – end of period | <u>\$204,274</u> | <u>\$113,438</u> |
| Supplemental cash flow information: | | |
| Income taxes paid | \$ 12,155 | \$ 30,380 |
| Interest paid | \$ 1,117 | \$ 2,863 |

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

J.CREW GROUP, INC.

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Thirteen and twenty-six weeks ended August 1, 2009 and August 2, 2008

(Dollars in thousands, unless otherwise indicated)

1. Basis of Presentation

The condensed consolidated financial statements presented herein include the accounts of J.Crew Group, Inc. and its wholly owned subsidiaries (the "Company" or "Group"). All significant intercompany balances and transactions are eliminated in consolidation.

The condensed consolidated balance sheet as of August 1, 2009, the condensed consolidated statements of operations for the thirteen and twenty-six weeks ended August 1, 2009 and August 2, 2008, and the condensed consolidated statements of cash flows for the twenty-six weeks ended August 1, 2009 and August 2, 2008 have been prepared by the Company and have not been audited. In the opinion of management, all adjustments, consisting of only normal recurring adjustments necessary for the fair presentation of the financial position, results of operations and cash flows, have been made.

Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles has been condensed or omitted. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and notes thereto included in the consolidated financial statements filed in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009 ("fiscal 2008").

The results of operations for the thirteen and twenty-six weeks ended August 1, 2009 are not necessarily indicative of the operating results for the full fiscal year.

2. Share-Based Compensation

A summary of the impact of share-based awards on our financial condition and results of operations is as follows:

| | Thirteen Weeks Ended | | Twenty-six Weeks Ended | |
|---|----------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| | August 1, 2009 | August 2, 2008 | August 1, 2009 | August 2, 2008 |
| Share-based compensation ⁽¹⁾ | \$ 3,426 | \$ 2,166 | \$ 6,051 | \$ 4,230 |
| Proceeds from exercise of stock options | \$ 1,507 | \$ 835 | \$ 1,729 | \$ 6,822 |
| Proceeds from issuance of common stock under ASPP | 813 | 831 | 813 | 831 |
| Total proceeds from share-based compensation plans ⁽²⁾ | \$ 2,320 | \$ 1,666 | \$ 2,542 | \$ 7,653 |
| Excess tax benefit from share-based compensation plans ⁽²⁾ | \$ 1,884 | \$ 2,629 | \$ 2,016 | \$ 12,722 |

(1) included in selling, general and administrative expenses

(2) included in stockholders' equity

During the twenty-six weeks ended August 1, 2009, the Company issued 1,303,871 stock options with a weighted average grant date fair value of \$8.82. These options become exercisable with a weighted average exercise price of \$16.51 over the requisite service period. The Company also issued 320,514 performance and service-based restricted shares with a weighted average grant date fair value of \$16.74. There have been no significant changes subsequent to the end of fiscal 2008 in the methods or assumptions used to measure share-based awards.

3. Income Taxes

Group files a consolidated federal income tax return, which includes all of its wholly owned subsidiaries. Each subsidiary files separate, or combined where required, state tax returns in required jurisdictions. Tax years ending January 2004 through January 2006 are currently under audit by the IRS. The results of these audits are not expected to have a significant effect on the results of operations or financial position. Various state and local jurisdiction tax authorities are in the process of examining income tax returns of Group's subsidiaries for various tax years ranging from 2002 to 2007.

The Company has \$7.0 million in unrecognized tax benefits, reflected in other liabilities, including interest and penalties. The amount, if recognized, that would affect the effective tax rate is \$3.8 million. While the Company expects the amount of unrecognized tax benefits to change in the next twelve months, the change is not expected to have a significant effect on the estimated effective annual tax rate, the results of operations or financial position.

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It is the Company's policy to recognize interest income and expense related to income taxes as a component of interest expense, and penalties as a component of selling, general and administrative expenses. The amount of interest and penalties accrued at August 1, 2009 was \$1.2 million.

4. Debt and Credit Agreements

Debt

Long-term debt consists of the following:

| | August 1, 2009 | January 31, 2009 |
|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Term loan | \$99,743 | \$ 100,000 |
| Less current portion | (1,028) | (800) |
| Total long-term debt | <u>\$98,715</u> | <u>\$ 99,200</u> |

On May 15, 2006 (the "Closing Date"), J.Crew Operating Corp. ("Operating"), as borrower, Group and certain of Operating's direct and indirect subsidiaries, as guarantors, entered into a Credit and Guaranty Agreement (the "Credit and Guaranty Agreement") with certain lenders named therein as lenders, Goldman Sachs Credit Partners L.P. ("GSCP") and Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc. as joint lead arrangers and joint bookrunners, GSCP as administrative agent and collateral agent, Bear Stearns Corporate Lending Inc. as syndication agent and Wachovia Bank, National Association as documentation agent.

The total amount of the term loan (the "Term Loan") borrowed by Operating under the Credit and Guaranty Agreement on the Closing Date was \$285.0 million. Borrowings bear interest, at the Company's option, at the base rate plus a margin of 0.75% or at LIBOR plus a margin of 1.75% per annum. All borrowings will mature on May 15, 2013.

The Company is required to make the following principal payments based upon certain conditions as set forth in the Term Loan: (i) 1% per annum of the original principal balance, reduced by principal payments, of the Term Loan due in quarterly installments and (ii) an amount equal to 50% of excess cash flow, as defined in the agreement, due within 90 days of the fiscal year-end.

Credit Agreements

Credit Facility

On May 4, 2007, J.Crew Group, Inc. and certain of its subsidiaries, as guarantors, and Operating and certain of its subsidiaries, as borrowers, entered into a Second Amended and Restated Credit Agreement (the "Credit Facility") with Citicorp USA, Inc. ("Citicorp"), as administrative agent, Citicorp, as collateral agent, and Bank of America, N.A. and Wachovia Bank, National Association, as syndication agents.

The Credit Facility provides for revolving loans and letters of credit of up to \$200 million (which amount may be increased up to \$250 million subject to certain conditions) at floating interest rates based on the base rate, as defined, plus a margin of up to 0.25% or LIBOR plus a margin ranging from 1.0% to 1.25%. The margin is based upon quarterly excess availability levels specified in the Credit Facility. The total amount of availability is limited to the sum of: (a) 100% of qualified cash, (b) 90% of eligible receivables, (c) the lesser of 90% of eligible inventory and 92.5% of the net recovery percentage of inventories (as determined by periodic inventory appraisals) for the period August 1 through December 31, or 90% of the net recovery percentage of inventories for the period January 1 through July 31, (d) 65% of the fair market value of eligible real estate, and (e) less any reserves established by Citicorp. The Credit Facility matures on May 4, 2013.

Borrowings under the Credit Facility are guaranteed by the Company and certain of its subsidiaries, and are secured by a perfected first priority security interest in substantially all of the Company's assets and those of certain of its subsidiaries. The Credit Facility includes restrictions on the Company's ability and the ability of certain of its subsidiaries to incur additional indebtedness and liens, pay dividends or make other distributions, make investments, dispose of assets and merge. If excess availability under the Credit Facility is less than \$20 million at any time, then the Company's fixed charge coverage ratio for the most recently ended period of four consecutive fiscal quarters may not be less than 1.10 to 1.00 for that period. Operating has at all times been in compliance with all financial covenants.

If an event of default occurs under the Credit Facility, the lenders may declare all amounts outstanding under the Credit Facility immediately due and payable. In such event, the lenders may exercise any rights and remedies they may have by law or agreement, including the ability to cause all or any part of the collateral securing the Credit Facility to be sold.

There were no short-term borrowings during the first six months of fiscal 2009. Outstanding standby letters of credit were \$6.0 million and excess availability, as defined, under the Credit Facility was \$194.0 million at August 1, 2009.

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[Demand Letter of Credit Facility](#)

On October 31, 2007, Operating entered into an unsecured, demand letter of credit facility with The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (“HSBC”) that provides for the issuance of up to \$35 million of documentary letters of credit on a no fee basis. Outstanding documentary letters of credit were \$10.8 million and availability under this facility was \$24.2 million at August 1, 2009.

5. Net Income Per Share

The calculation of basic and diluted income per share is as follows:

| | Thirteen Weeks Ended | | Twenty-six Weeks Ended | |
|---|----------------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------|
| | August 1, 2009 | August 2, 2008 | August 1, 2009 | August 2, 2008 |
| Net income | \$ 18,610 | \$ 18,123 | \$ 39,055 | \$ 48,624 |
| Income per share: | | | | |
| Basic | \$ 0.30 | \$ 0.29 | \$ 0.63 | \$ 0.79 |
| Diluted | \$ 0.29 | \$ 0.28 | \$ 0.61 | \$ 0.76 |
| Weighted average common shares outstanding: | | | | |
| Basic | 62,323 | 61,693 | 62,227 | 61,443 |
| Diluted | 64,326 | 64,346 | 63,864 | 64,171 |

The number of shares of potentially dilutive securities excluded from the calculation of diluted earnings per share is as follows:

| | Thirteen Weeks Ended | | Twenty-six Weeks Ended | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------|
| | August 1, 2009 | August 2, 2008 | August 1, 2009 | August 2, 2008 |
| Stock options | 2,146 | 2,303 | 3,489 | 2,213 |
| Unvested restricted stock | 43 | 8 | 146 | 8 |
| Total | 2,189 | 2,311 | 3,635 | 2,221 |

6. Fair Value Measurements

SFAS No. 157, *Fair Value Measurements*, establishes a three-level fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs used to measure fair value. This hierarchy requires entities to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. The three levels of inputs used to measure fair value are as follows:

- Level 1 – Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2 – Observable inputs, other than quoted prices included in Level 1, such as quoted prices for markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data.
- Level 3 – Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities. This includes certain pricing models, discounted cash flow methodologies and similar techniques that use significant unobservable inputs.

[Financial Assets and Liabilities](#)

The Company does not have any financial assets or liabilities as of August 1, 2009 or January 31, 2009 that are measured in the financial statements at fair value on a recurring basis (at least annually).

The fair value of the Company’s long-term debt is estimated to be approximately \$87,774 and \$83,000 at August 1, 2009 and January 31, 2009, respectively, and is based on current rates offered to the Company for debt of similar maturities or quoted market prices of the same or similar instruments. The carrying amounts of long-term debt were \$99,743 and \$100,000 at August 1, 2009 and January 31, 2009, respectively. The carrying amounts reported in the consolidated balance sheets for cash and cash equivalents, accounts payable and other current liabilities approximate fair value because of the short-term maturity of those financial instruments. The estimates presented herein are not necessarily indicative of amounts the Company could realize in a current market exchange.

[Non-financial Assets and Liabilities](#)

Except for certain leasehold improvements, the Company does not have any non-financial assets or liabilities as of August 1, 2009 or January 31, 2009 that are measured in the financial statements at fair value.

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In accordance with the provisions of SFAS No.144, *Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets*, certain long-lived assets held and used with a carrying value of \$1.7 million were written down to their fair value, resulting in an impairment charge of \$1.7 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2009. Impairment charges for the twenty-six weeks ended August 1, 2009 were \$2.7 million.

The Company performs impairment tests under the guidance of SFAS No. 144 whenever there are indicators of impairment. These tests typically contemplate assets at a store level (e.g. leasehold improvements). The Company recognizes an impairment loss when the carrying value of a long-lived asset is not recoverable in light of the undiscounted future cash flows and measures an impairment loss as the difference between the carrying amount and fair value of the asset based on discounted future cash flows. Upon the adoption of SFAS No. 157, the Company considered relevant valuation techniques, and determined that the future cash flow approach (level 3 inputs) continued to provide the most relevant and reliable means by which to determine fair value in this circumstance.

7. Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In February 2008, the FASB issued FSP FAS No. 157-2, *Effective Date of FASB Statement No. 157* (“FSP FAS No. 157-2”), that partially deferred the effective date of SFAS No. 157 for one year for non-financial assets and non-financial liabilities that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in the financial statements on a non-recurring basis. The Company adopted FSP FAS No. 157-2 on February 1, 2009. See Note 6, Fair Value Measurements, for additional disclosures required under FSP FAS No. 157-2 for non-financial assets and liabilities recognized or disclosed at fair value in the financial statements.

In April 2009, the FASB issued FSP FAS No. 157-4, *Determining Fair Value When the Volume and Level of Activity for the Asset or Liability Have Significantly Decreased and Identifying Transactions That Are Not Orderly*, which provides additional guidance for estimating fair value in accordance with SFAS No. 157, *Fair Value Measurements*, when the volume and level of activity for the asset or liability have significantly decreased. FSP FAS No. 157-4 includes guidance on identifying circumstances that indicate a transaction is not orderly. FSP FAS No. 157-4 is effective for interim reporting periods ending after June 15, 2009. FSP FAS No. 157-4 does not require disclosures for earlier periods presented for comparative purposes at initial adoption, and, in periods after initial adoption, comparative disclosures are only required for periods ending after initial adoption. The adoption of FSP FAS No. 157-4 did not have an impact on the financial condition or results of operations of the Company.

In April 2009, the FASB issued FSP FAS No. 107-1 and Accounting Principles Board (“APB”) Opinion No. 28-1 (“FSP FAS No. 107-1 and APB No. 28-1”), *Interim Disclosures about Fair Value of Financial Instruments*, which amends SFAS No. 107, *Disclosures about Fair Value of Financial Instruments*, and requires disclosures about the fair value of financial instruments for interim reporting periods of publicly traded companies as well as in annual financial statements. FSP FAS No. 107-1 and APB No. 28-1 also amends APB Opinion No. 28, *Interim Financial Reporting*, to require those disclosures in summarized financial information at interim reporting periods. FSP FAS No. 107-1 and APB No. 28-1 are effective for interim reporting periods ending after June 15, 2009. FSP FAS No. 107-1 and APB No. 28-1 do not require disclosures for earlier periods presented for comparative purposes at initial adoption, and, in periods after initial adoption, comparative disclosures are only required for periods ending after initial adoption. The Company adopted FSP FAS No. 107-1 and APB No. 28-1 on May 3, 2009. See Note 6, Fair Value Measurements, for additional disclosures required under FSP FAS No. 107-1 and APB No. 28-1 for interim disclosures about fair value of financial instruments.

In May 2009, the FASB issued SFAS No. 165, *Subsequent Events*, which formalizes the recognition and nonrecognition of subsequent events and the disclosure requirements not addressed in other applicable generally accepted accounting guidance. This statement was effective for the Company’s financial statements beginning with the quarterly period ended on August 1, 2009. The adoption of SFAS No. 165 did not have an impact on the financial condition, results of operations or footnote disclosures of the Company. The Company has evaluated subsequent events through September 9, 2009, which is the date these financial statements are issued.

In June 2009, the FASB issued SFAS No. 168, *The FASB Accounting Standards Codification and the Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles – a replacement of FASB Statement No. 162*. SFAS No. 168 states that the FASB Accounting Standards Codification will become the source of authoritative U.S. GAAP recognized by the FASB. Once effective, the Codification’s content will carry the same level of authority, effectively superseding Statement No. 162. The GAAP hierarchy will be modified to include only two levels of GAAP: authoritative and nonauthoritative. This statement will be effective for the Company’s financial statements beginning with the interim period ending October 31, 2009. The adoption of SFAS No. 168 will not impact the financial condition or results of operations of the Company.

Forward-Looking Statements

This report contains “forward-looking statements,” which include information concerning our plans, objectives, goals, strategies, future events, future revenues or performance, capital expenditures, financing needs and other information that is not historical information. Many of these statements appear, in particular, under the headings “Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements” and “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.” When used in this report, the words “estimate,” “expect,” “anticipate,” “project,” “plan,” “intend,” “believe” and variations of such words or similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements, including, without limitation, our examination of historical operating trends, are based upon our current expectations and various assumptions. We believe there is a reasonable basis for our expectations and beliefs, but there can be no assurance that we will realize our expectations or that our beliefs will prove correct.

There are a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements contained in this report. Important factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed as forward-looking statements are set forth in this report, including but not limited to those under the heading “Risk Factors” in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and in this report on Form 10-Q. There may be other factors of which we are currently unaware or deem immaterial that may cause our actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements.

All forward-looking statements attributable to us or persons acting on our behalf apply only as of the date they are made and are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements included in this report. Except as may be required by law, we undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances occurring after the date they were made or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

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

This document should be read in conjunction with the Management’s Discussion and Analysis section of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. When used herein, the terms “Group,” “Company,” “we,” “us” and “our” refer to J. Crew Group, Inc., including consolidated subsidiaries.

Executive Overview

J.Crew® is a nationally recognized apparel and accessories retailer that we believe embraces a high standard of style, craftsmanship, quality and customer service. On the basis of data collected on our Internet channel customers, we believe our customer base consists primarily of affluent, college-educated and professional and fashion-conscious women and men.

We have two primary sales channels: Stores, which consists of our retail and factory stores, and Direct, which consists of our catalog and our Internet website at www.jcrew.com. We also maintain a Madewell website at www.madewell1937.com that provides a toll free number to place orders for Madewell merchandise and intend to add the necessary functionality during 2010 to enable customers to place orders online. At August 1, 2009, we operated 242 retail stores (including eight crewcuts® and 18 Madewell® stores) and 77 factory stores (including one crewcuts factory store), compared to 210 retail stores (including four crewcuts stores and nine Madewell stores) and 66 factory stores at August 2, 2008.

The following is a summary of our revenues for the thirteen and twenty –six week periods ended August 1, 2009 and August 2, 2008:

| (Dollars in millions) | Thirteen Weeks Ended | | Twenty-six Weeks Ended | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| | August 1, 2009 | August 2, 2008 | August 1, 2009 | August 2, 2008 |
| Stores | \$ 259.1 | \$ 242.3 | \$ 499.8 | \$ 471.4 |
| Direct | 88.2 | 83.2 | 183.5 | 184.1 |
| Net sales | 347.3 | 325.5 | 683.3 | 655.5 |
| Other | 10.3 | 10.8 | 20.0 | 21.3 |
| Total revenues | <u>\$ 357.6</u> | <u>\$ 336.3</u> | <u>\$ 703.3</u> | <u>\$ 676.9</u> |

The following is a brief summary of second quarter fiscal 2009 highlights:

- Revenues totaled \$357.6 million, reflecting a 6.3% increase over prior year revenues of \$336.3 million.
- Comparable store sales decreased 5.1%.
- Direct net sales increased 6.0% to \$88.2 million.

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- Income from operations increased 2.2% to \$32.2 million.
- We opened two J.Crew retail stores, one crewcuts store, one J.Crew factory store and five Madewell stores.
- We continued our efforts to optimize our Direct channel systems upgrades.
- We incurred charges of \$2.6 million related to under-performing stores for asset impairment and lease termination actions.

The following is a brief summary of first half fiscal 2009 highlights:

- Revenues totaled \$703.3 million, reflecting a 3.9% increase over prior year revenues of \$676.9 million.
- Comparable store sales decreased 5.1%.
- Direct net sales decreased 0.3% to \$183.5 million.
- Income from operations decreased 20.2% to \$67.5 million.
- We opened six J.Crew retail stores, three crewcuts stores, four J.Crew factory stores and eight Madewell stores. We closed one J.Crew retail store and one J.Crew factory store.
- We continued our efforts to optimize our Direct channel systems upgrades.
- We incurred charges of \$3.6 million related to under-performing stores for asset impairment and lease termination actions.
- We initiated a workforce reduction as part of a cost reduction program. We incurred a pre-tax charge of \$1.3 million for severance and related costs. The Company also suspended its 401(k) Plan matching contributions through the balance of 2009, eliminated 2009 merit based wage increases and initiated other cost reduction initiatives.

Results of Operations – Second quarter of Fiscal 2009 compared to Second quarter of Fiscal 2008

| (Dollars in millions) | Second Quarter Fiscal 2009 Thirteen Weeks Ended August 1, 2009 | | Second Quarter Fiscal 2008 Thirteen Weeks Ended August 2, 2008 | | Increase / (Decrease) | |
|--|--|------------------------|--|------------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| | Amount | Percent of Revenues | Amount | Percent of Revenues | Dollars | Percentage |
| | | | | | | |
| Revenues | \$ 357.6 | 100.0% | \$ 336.3 | 100.0% | \$ 21.3 | 6.3% |
| Gross profit | 147.2 | 41.2 | 137.7 | 41.0 | 9.5 | 6.9 |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses | 115.0 | 32.2 | 106.2 | 31.6 | 8.8 | 8.3 |
| Income from operations | 32.2 | 9.0 | 31.5 | 9.4 | 0.7 | 2.2 |
| Interest expense, net | 1.1 | 0.3 | 1.4 | 0.4 | (0.3) | (24.6) |
| Income taxes | 12.5 | 3.5 | 12.0 | 3.6 | 0.5 | 4.5 |
| Net income | \$ 18.6 | 5.2% | \$ 18.1 | 5.4% | \$ 0.5 | 2.7% |

Revenues

Revenues for the second quarter of fiscal 2009 increased \$21.3 million, or 6.3%, to \$357.6 million from \$336.3 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2008. This increase resulted from non-comparable store sales and an increase in Direct sales, partially offset by a decrease in comparable store sales, consistent with the overall macroeconomic environment.

Stores sales increased \$16.8 million, or 6.9%, to \$259.1 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2009 from \$242.3 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2008. Comparable store sales decreased \$12.0 million, or 5.1%, to \$224.8 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2009 from \$236.8 million last year. Non-comparable store sales were \$34.3 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2009 due primarily to the stores open subsequent to the second quarter of last year. Non-comparable store sales will decline as we slow the rate at which we open new stores.

Direct sales increased \$5.0 million, or 6.0%, to \$88.2 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2009 from \$83.2 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2008. At the end of the second quarter of fiscal 2008, Direct sales were negatively impacted by certain systems upgrades which affected our ability to capture, process, ship and service customer orders.

The approximate percentage of our sales by product category, based on our internal merchandising system, is as follows:

| | Thirteen Weeks Ended | |
|-------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| | August 1, 2009 | August 2, 2008 |
| Apparel: | | |
| Women's | 65% | 65% |
| Men's | 20 | 20 |
| Children's | 3 | 2 |
| Accessories | 12 | 13 |
| | 100% | 100% |

The net increase in Stores and Direct sales in the second quarter of fiscal 2009 was driven by an increase in sales of women's and children's apparel, and accessories. This increase was largely driven by sales of shirts, skirts, and knits. We offer children's apparel in a selection of our retail and factory stores, our stand-alone crewcuts stores and our Direct channel. As of August 1, 2009, we operated 36 crewcuts shop-in-shops in our J.Crew retail stores, 10 shop-in-shops in our J.Crew factory stores, eight stand-alone retail crewcuts stores and one stand-alone factory crewcuts store, compared with 39 shop-in-shops in our J.Crew retail stores and four stand-alone crewcuts retail stores as of August 2, 2008.

Other revenues, which consist primarily of shipping and handling fees and royalties, decreased \$0.5 million, or 4.4%, to \$10.3 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2009 from \$10.8 million in the comparable period last year. This decrease resulted primarily from the termination of our licensing agreement in Japan in January 2009.

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Gross Profit

Gross profit increased \$9.5 million to \$147.2 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2009 from \$137.7 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2008. This increase resulted from the following factors:

| (Dollars in millions) | |
|--|---------------|
| Increase in revenues | \$ 11.5 |
| Increase in merchandise margin | 0.2 |
| Increase in buying and occupancy costs | (2.2) |
| | <u>\$ 9.5</u> |

Gross margin increased to 41.2% in the second quarter of fiscal 2009 from 41.0% in the second quarter of fiscal 2008. The increase in gross margin was driven by a 20 basis point decrease in buying and occupancy costs as a percentage of revenues.

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

Selling, general and administrative expenses increased \$8.8 million, or 8.3%, to \$115.0 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2009 from \$106.2 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2008. This increase primarily resulted from:

- an increase of \$7.5 million in share-based and incentive compensation;
- a charge of \$2.6 million related to under-performing stores, which consists of (i) \$1.7 million related to fixed asset impairment and (ii) \$0.9 million related to lease termination actions;
- an increase of \$2.2 million in depreciation and amortization associated primarily with our growth in store locations and information technology infrastructure; offset by
- a decrease of \$2.7 million in catalog paper, postage and printing costs due to a decrease in pages circulated and other initiatives as a result of our ongoing evaluation of our circulation strategies. The number of catalog pages circulated in the second quarter of fiscal 2009 decreased 36% from the comparable period last year.

As a percentage of revenues, selling, general and administrative expenses increased to 32.2% in the second quarter of fiscal 2009 from 31.6% in the comparable period last year, primarily due to the above mentioned items.

Interest Expense, Net

Interest expense, net of interest income, decreased \$0.3 million to \$1.1 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2009 from \$1.4 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2008, resulting from \$0.7 million decrease in interest expense, offset by \$0.4 million decrease in interest income.

Income Taxes

The income tax provision for the second quarter of fiscal 2009 and 2008 reflects the estimated annual effective tax rate of approximately 40%.

Net Income

Net income increased \$0.5 million to \$18.6 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2009 from \$18.1 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2008. This increase was due to a \$9.5 million increase in gross profit, and a \$0.3 million decrease in interest expense, offset by a \$8.8 million increase in selling, general and administrative expenses, and a \$0.5 million increase in the provision for income taxes.

Results of Operations – First Half of Fiscal 2009 compared to First Half of Fiscal 2008

| (Dollars in millions) | First Half Fiscal 2009 Twenty-six Weeks Ended August 1, 2009 | | First Half Fiscal 2008 Twenty-six Weeks Ended August 2, 2008 | | Increase / (Decrease) | |
|--|--|---------------------|--|---------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| | Amount | Percent of Revenues | Amount | Percent of Revenues | Dollars | Percentage |
| Revenues | \$ 703.3 | 100.0% | \$ 676.9 | 100.0% | \$ 26.4 | 3.9% |
| Gross profit | 293.2 | 41.7 | 297.6 | 44.0 | (4.4) | (1.5) |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses | 225.7 | 32.1 | 213.0 | 31.5 | 12.7 | 5.9 |
| Income from operations | 67.5 | 9.6 | 84.6 | 12.5 | (17.1) | (20.2) |
| Interest expense, net | 2.2 | 0.3 | 3.8 | 0.6 | (1.6) | (48.3) |
| Income taxes | 26.3 | 3.7 | 32.2 | 4.8 | (5.9) | (18.3) |
| Net income | \$ 39.1 | 5.6% | \$ 48.6 | 7.2% | \$ (9.5) | (19.7)% |

Revenues

Revenues for the first half of fiscal 2009 increased \$26.4 million, or 3.9%, to \$703.3 million from \$676.9 million in the first half of fiscal 2008. This increase resulted from non-comparable store sales, partially offset by decreases in comparable store sales and Direct sales, consistent with the overall macroeconomic environment.

Stores sales increased \$28.4 million, or 6.0%, to \$499.8 million in the first half of fiscal 2009 from \$471.4 million in the first half of fiscal 2008. Comparable store sales decreased \$23.2 million, or 5.1%, to \$435.7 million in the first half of fiscal 2009 from \$458.9 million last year. Non-comparable store sales were \$64.1 million in the first half of fiscal 2009 due primarily to the stores open subsequent to the second quarter of last year. Non-comparable store sales will decline as we slow the rate at which we open new stores.

Direct sales decreased \$0.6 million, or 0.3%, to \$183.5 million in the first half of fiscal 2009 from \$184.1 million in the first half of fiscal 2008 resulting from decreased net sales experienced in the first quarter of fiscal 2009.

The approximate percentage of our sales by product category, based on our internal merchandising system, is as follows:

| | Twenty-six Weeks Ended | |
|-------------|------------------------|----------------|
| | August 1, 2009 | August 2, 2008 |
| Apparel: | | |
| Women's | 67% | 67% |
| Men's | 18 | 18 |
| Children's | 3 | 2 |
| Accessories | 12 | 13 |
| | <u>100%</u> | <u>100%</u> |

The net increase in Stores and Direct sales in the first half of fiscal 2009 was driven by an increase in sales of women's and children's apparel, and accessories. This increase was largely driven by sales of shirts, skirts, and knits. We offer children's apparel in a selection of our retail and factory stores, our stand-alone crewcuts stores and our Direct channel. As of August 1, 2009, we operated 36 crewcuts shop-in-shops in our J.Crew retail stores, 10 shop-in-shops in our J.Crew factory stores, eight stand-alone retail crewcuts stores and one stand-alone factory crewcuts store, compared with 39 shop-in-shops in our J.Crew retail stores and four stand-alone crewcuts retail stores as of August 2, 2008.

Other revenues, which consist primarily of shipping and handling fees and royalties, decreased \$1.3 million, or 6.2%, to \$20.0 million in the first half of fiscal 2009 from \$21.3 million in the comparable period last year. This decrease resulted from the termination of our licensing agreement in Japan in January 2009.

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Gross Profit

Gross profit decreased \$4.4 million to \$293.2 million in the first half of fiscal 2009 from \$297.6 million in the first half of fiscal 2008. This decrease resulted from the following factors:

| (Dollars in millions) | |
|--|-----------------|
| Increase in revenues | \$ 15.0 |
| Decrease in merchandise margin | (15.8) |
| Increase in buying and occupancy costs | (3.6) |
| | <u>\$ (4.4)</u> |

Gross margin decreased to 41.7% in the first half of fiscal 2009 from 44.0% in the first half of fiscal 2008. The decrease in gross margin was driven by a 230 basis point decline in merchandise margin due primarily to increased markdowns in the first quarter.

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

Selling, general and administrative expenses increased \$12.7 million, or 5.9%, to \$225.7 million in the first half of fiscal 2009 from \$213.0 million in the first half of fiscal 2008. This increase primarily resulted from:

- an increase of \$9.7 million in share-based and incentive compensation;
- an increase of \$5.0 million in depreciation and amortization associated primarily with our growth in store locations and information technology infrastructure;
- a charge of \$3.6 million related to under-performing stores, which consists of (i) \$2.7 million related to fixed asset impairment and (ii) \$0.9 million related to lease termination actions;
- a charge of \$1.3 million for severance and related costs due to our workforce reduction; offset by
- a decrease of \$4.7 million in catalog paper, postage and printing costs due to a decrease in pages circulated and other initiatives as a result of our ongoing evaluation of our circulation strategies. The number of catalog pages circulated in the first half of fiscal 2009 decreased 31% from the comparable period last year.

As a percentage of revenues, selling, general and administrative expenses increased to 32.1% in the first half of fiscal 2009 from 31.5% in the comparable period last year, primarily due to the above mentioned items.

Interest Expense, Net

Interest expense, net of interest income, decreased \$1.6 million to \$2.2 million in the first half of fiscal 2009 from \$3.8 million in the first half of fiscal 2008, resulting from \$1.5 million decrease due to declining interest rates and \$0.8 million decrease due to accelerated amortization of deferred financing costs in the first half of fiscal 2008, offset by \$0.9 million decrease in interest income.

Income Taxes

The income tax provision for the first half of fiscal 2009 and 2008 reflects the estimated annual effective tax rate of approximately 40%.

Net Income

Net income decreased \$9.5 million to \$39.1 million in the first half of fiscal 2009 from \$48.6 million in the first half of fiscal 2008. This decrease was due to a \$4.4 million decrease in gross profit, and a \$12.7 million increase in selling, general and administrative expenses, offset by a \$1.6 million decrease in interest expense and a \$5.9 million decrease in the provision for income taxes.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Our primary sources of liquidity are our current balances of cash and cash equivalents, cash flows from operations and borrowings available under the Credit Facility. Our primary cash needs are (i) capital expenditures in connection with opening new stores, remodeling existing stores and information technology system enhancements, (ii) working capital requirements and (iii) debt service requirements. The most significant components of our working capital are merchandise inventories, accounts payable and other current liabilities.

Operating Activities

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| | Twenty-six Weeks Ended | |
|--|------------------------|-------------------|
| | August 1, 2009 | August 2, 2008 |
| | (amounts in millions) | |
| Net income | \$ 39.1 | \$ 48.6 |
| Adjustments to reconcile to net cash provided by operations: | | |
| Depreciation and amortization of property and equipment | 26.9 | 18.6 |
| Amortization of deferred financing costs | 0.7 | 1.5 |
| Share-based compensation | 6.1 | 4.2 |
| Excess tax benefit from share-based compensation plans | (2.0) | (12.7) |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities | 11.3 | (39.3) |
| Net cash provided by operations | <u>\$ 82.1</u> | <u>\$ 20.9</u> |

Cash provided by operating activities in the first half of fiscal 2009 was \$82.1 million and consisted of (i) net income of \$39.1 million, (ii) adjustments to net income of \$33.7 million, and (iii) changes in operating assets and liabilities (including the impact of excess tax benefits from share-based compensation plans) of \$9.3 million due primarily to a decrease in income taxes receivable, offset by increases in inventories and related accounts payable.

Cash provided by operating activities in the first half of fiscal 2008 was \$20.9 million and consisted of (i) net income of \$48.6 million, (ii) adjustments to net income of \$24.3 million, offset by (iii) changes in operating assets and liabilities (including the impact of excess tax benefits from share-based compensation plans) of \$52.0 million due to (a) increases in inventories due primarily to anticipated sales increases and (b) an increase in income taxes paid due primarily to the depletion of net operating loss carry-forwards and a decreased tax benefit from share-based compensation plans.

Investing Activities

Capital expenditures were \$28.4 million in the first half of fiscal 2009 compared to \$34.2 million in the first half of fiscal 2008. Capital expenditures for the opening of new stores were \$15.4 million and \$16.6 million in the first half of fiscal 2009 and fiscal 2008, respectively. Capital expenditures are planned at approximately \$55 million for fiscal 2009, including approximately \$35 million for new stores, store renovations and refurbishments, and \$20 million for information technology enhancements and general corporate purposes.

Financing Activities

| | Twenty-six Weeks Ended | |
|--|------------------------|-------------------|
| | August 1, 2009 | August 2, 2008 |
| | (amounts in millions) | |
| Repayments of long-term debt | \$ (0.3) | \$ (25.0) |
| Excess tax benefit from share-based compensation plans | 2.0 | 12.7 |
| Proceeds from share-based compensation plans | 2.6 | 7.7 |
| Repurchase of common shares | (0.2) | (0.2) |
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities | <u>\$ 4.1</u> | <u>\$ (4.8)</u> |

Cash provided by financing activities in the first half of fiscal 2009 was \$4.1 million due primarily to (i) proceeds from share-based compensation plans of \$2.6 million and (ii) excess tax benefits from share-based compensation plans of \$2.0 million.

Cash used in financing activities in the first half of fiscal 2008 was \$4.8 million due primarily to (i) a voluntary principal payment under the Term Loan of \$25.0 million, offset by (ii) excess tax benefits from share-based compensation plans of \$12.7 million and (iii) proceeds from share-based compensation plans of \$7.7 million.

Amended and Restated Credit Agreement

On May 4, 2007, J.Crew Group, Inc. and certain of its subsidiaries, as guarantors, and Operating and certain of its subsidiaries, as borrowers, entered into a Second Amended and Restated Credit Agreement (the "Credit Facility") with Citicorp USA, Inc. ("Citicorp"), as administrative agent, Citicorp, as collateral agent, and Bank of America, N.A. and Wachovia Bank, National Association, as syndication agents.

The Credit Facility provides for revolving loans and letters of credit of up to \$200 million (which amount may be increased up to \$250 million subject to certain conditions) at floating interest rates based on the base rate, as defined, plus a margin of up to 0.25% or LIBOR plus a margin ranging from 1.0% to 1.25%. The margin is based upon quarterly excess availability levels specified in the

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Credit Facility. The total amount of availability is limited to the sum of: (a) 100% of qualified cash, (b) 90% of eligible receivables, (c) the lesser of 90% of eligible inventory and 92.5% of the net recovery percentage of inventories (as determined by periodic inventory appraisals) for the period August 1 through December 31, or 90% of the net recovery percentage of inventories for the period January 1 through July 31, (d) 65% of the fair market value of eligible real estate, and (e) less any reserves established by Citicorp. The Credit Facility matures on May 4, 2013.

Borrowings under the Credit Facility are guaranteed by the Company and certain of its subsidiaries, and are secured by a perfected first priority security interest in substantially all of the Company's assets and those of certain of its subsidiaries. The Credit Facility includes restrictions on the Company's ability and the ability of certain of its subsidiaries to incur additional indebtedness and liens, pay dividends or make other distributions, make investments, dispose of assets and merge. If excess availability under the Credit Facility is less than \$20 million at any time, then the Company's fixed charge coverage ratio for the most recently ended period of four consecutive fiscal quarters may not be less than 1.10 to 1.00 for that period. Operating has at all times been in compliance with all financial covenants.

If an event of default occurs under the Credit Facility, the lenders may declare all amounts outstanding under the Credit Facility immediately due and payable. In such event, the lenders may exercise any rights and remedies they may have by law or agreement, including the ability to cause all or any part of the collateral securing the Credit Facility to be sold.

There were no short-term borrowings during the first half of fiscal 2009. Outstanding standby letters of credit were \$6.0 million and excess availability, as defined, under the Credit Facility was \$194.0 million at August 1, 2009.

Demand Letter of Credit Facility

On October 31, 2007, Operating entered into an unsecured, demand letter of credit facility with The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited ("HSBC") that provides for the issuance of up to \$35 million of documentary letters of credit on a no fee basis. Outstanding documentary letters of credit were \$10.8 million and availability under this facility was \$24.2 million at August 1, 2009.

Liquidity and Capital Resources Outlook

Management anticipates that capital expenditures in fiscal 2009 will be approximately \$55 million, primarily for opening 24 new stores, information technology enhancements, store renovations and refurbishments and general corporate purposes. Capital expenditures in fiscal 2008 were approximately \$78 million. Management believes that the Company's current cash position, cash flow from operations and availability under the Credit Facility will be adequate to finance working capital needs, operating lease payments, planned capital expenditures and debt service obligations for the next twelve months. Our ability to fund our operations and make planned capital expenditures, to make scheduled debt payments, and to remain in compliance with the financial covenants under our debt agreements depends on our future operating performance, cash flow and financing activities, which in turn, are subject to prevailing economic conditions and to financial, business and other factors, some of which are beyond our control. See Item 1A. "Risk Factors" in part II of this report.

Off Balance Sheet Arrangements

We enter into documentary letters of credit to facilitate the international purchase of merchandise. We also enter into standby letters of credit to secure certain of our obligations, including insurance programs and duties related to import purchases. As of August 1, 2009, we had the following obligations under letters of credit in future periods:

| | <u>Total</u> | <u>Within 1 Year</u> | <u>2-3 Years</u> | <u>4-5 Years</u> | <u>After 5 Years</u> |
|-------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| | <u>(amounts in millions)</u> | | | | |
| Letters of Credit | | | | | |
| Standby | \$ 6.0 | \$ — | \$ — | \$ — | \$ 6.0 |
| Documentary | 10.8 | 10.8 | — | — | — |
| | <u>\$16.8</u> | <u>\$10.8</u> | <u>\$—</u> | <u>\$—</u> | <u>\$ 6.0</u> |

In fiscal 2008, we converted a substantial amount of international merchandise purchases to open account terms from letters of credit thereby reducing outstanding documentary letters of credit.

Seasonality

Our business is seasonal. As a result, our revenues fluctuate from quarter to quarter. We have four distinct selling seasons that align with our four fiscal quarters. Revenues are usually higher in our fourth fiscal quarter, particularly December, as customers make holiday purchases. Approximately 27% of our revenues in fiscal year 2008 occurred in the fourth quarter. Our working capital

requirements also fluctuate throughout the year, increasing substantially in September and October in anticipation of holiday season inventory requirements.

Critical Accounting Policies

A summary of our critical accounting policies is included in the Management's Discussion and Analysis section of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURE ABOUT MARKET RISK

Our principal market risk relates to interest rate sensitivity, which is the risk that future changes in interest rates will reduce our net income or net assets. Our Credit Facility and Term Loan carry floating rates of interest that are a function of prime rate or LIBOR. A one percentage point per annum change in the interest rate on our variable rate debt would result in a change in income before taxes of approximately \$100,000 for each \$10.0 million of borrowings under the Credit Facility and approximately \$1.0 million for the \$100.0 million of borrowings under the Term Loan.

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Our management, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Financial Officer, carried out an evaluation of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act) as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based on that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the end of the period covered by this report to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in SEC rules and forms.

There were no changes in internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the last fiscal quarter that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

PART II – OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The Company is a party to routine litigation arising in the ordinary course of its business. Although the amount of any liability that could arise with respect to these actions cannot be accurately predicted, in the Company's opinion, any such liability will not have a material adverse effect on its consolidated financial position, consolidated results of operations or liquidity.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

The Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009 contains a detailed discussion of certain risk factors that could materially adversely affect our business, our operating results, or our financial condition. There have been no material changes to the risk factors previously disclosed.

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

None.

ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES

None.

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

None.

ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION

None.

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

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| <u>Exhibit No.</u> | <u>Document</u> |
|---|---|
| Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws | |
| 3.1 | Certificate of Incorporation of J. Crew Group, Inc. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the S-1/A Registration Statement filed on October 11, 2005. |
| 3.2 | Bylaws of J. Crew Group, Inc. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Form 8-K/A filed on October 17, 2005. |

Certifications

| <u>Exhibit No.</u> | <u>Document</u> |
|--------------------|---|
| 31.1* | Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |
| 31.2* | Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |
| 32.1** | Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |

* Filed herewith.

** Furnished herewith.

SIGNATURES

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

J. CREW GROUP, INC.
(Registrant)

Date: September 9, 2009

By: /s/ Millard Drexler
Millard Drexler
Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer

Date: September 9, 2009

By: /s/ James Scully
James Scully
Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

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* Filed herewith.

** Furnished herewith.

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 302
OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, Millard Drexler, certify that:

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

Date: September 9, 2009

/s/ MILLARD DREXLER

Millard Drexler
Chief Executive Officer

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 302
OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, James Scully, certify that:

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

Date: September 9, 2009

/s/ JAMES SCULLY

James Scully

Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Financial Officer

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 906
OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the quarterly report of J. Crew Group, Inc. (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the period ended August 1, 2009 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), we, Millard Drexler, Chief Executive Officer of the Company, and James Scully, Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Financial Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that to the best of each of our knowledge:

1. The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
2. The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: September 9, 2009

/S/ MILLARD DREXLER

Millard Drexler
Chief Executive Officer

/S/ JAMES SCULLY

James Scully
Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Financial Officer

The foregoing certification is being furnished solely pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (18 U.S.C. Section 1350) and is not being filed as part of the Report or as a separate disclosure document.

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906 has been provided to the Company and will be retained by the Company and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.