

AMERICAN EAGLE OUTFITTERS INC

Form 10-Q

November 29, 2012

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**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

**FORM 10-Q**

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

For the quarterly period ended October 27, 2012

OR

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

Commission File Number: 1-33338

**American Eagle Outfitters, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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<b>Delaware</b> (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	<b>No. 13-2721761</b> (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)
<b>77 Hot Metal Street, Pittsburgh, PA</b> (Address of principal executive offices)	<b>15203-2329</b> (Zip Code)
<b>Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (412) 432-3300</b>	

**Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report:**

N/A

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Accelerated filer <input type="checkbox"/>
Non-accelerated filer <input type="checkbox"/> (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)	Smaller reporting company <input type="checkbox"/>

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: 198,027,373 Common Shares were outstanding at November 26, 2012.

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<i>(In thousands, except per share amounts)</i>	October 27, 2012 (Unaudited)	January 28, 2012	October 29, 2011 (Unaudited)
<b>Assets</b>			
Current assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 544,683	\$ 719,545	\$ 380,284
Short-term investments		25,499	101,036
Merchandise inventory	481,208	367,514	554,900
Assets held for sale		10,912	16,851
Accounts receivable	47,432	40,310	41,138
Prepaid expenses and other	65,326	74,947	64,378
Deferred income taxes	59,203	48,761	47,254
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>1,197,852</b>	<b>1,287,488</b>	<b>1,205,841</b>
Property and equipment, at cost, net of accumulated depreciation	537,058	582,162	629,486
Intangible assets, at cost, net of accumulated amortization	38,459	39,832	40,088
Goodwill	11,492	11,469	11,511
Non-current deferred income taxes	23,199	13,467	8,833
Other assets	25,073	16,384	14,692
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,833,133</b>	<b>\$ 1,950,802</b>	<b>\$ 1,910,451</b>
<b>Liabilities and Stockholders Equity</b>			
Current liabilities:			
Accounts payable	\$ 213,197	\$ 183,783	\$ 222,894
Accrued compensation and payroll taxes	51,992	42,625	18,677
Accrued rent	76,769	76,921	74,888
Accrued income and other taxes	38,133	20,135	19,552
Unredeemed gift cards and gift certificates	23,089	44,970	22,456
Current portion of deferred lease credits	13,886	15,066	15,512
Other liabilities and accrued expenses	26,432	21,901	22,570
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>443,498</b>	<b>405,401</b>	<b>396,549</b>
Non-current liabilities:			
Deferred lease credits	63,220	71,880	74,981
Non-current accrued income taxes	27,110	35,471	38,527
Other non-current liabilities	15,734	21,199	17,853
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	<b>106,064</b>	<b>128,550</b>	<b>131,361</b>
Commitments and contingencies			
Stockholders equity:			
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value; 5,000 shares authorized; none issued and outstanding			
Common stock, \$0.01 par value; 600,000 shares authorized; 249,566, 249,566 and 249,566 shares issued; 197,870, 193,848 and 193,553 shares outstanding, respectively	2,496	2,496	2,496

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Contributed capital	599,343	552,797	550,167
Accumulated other comprehensive income	29,179	28,659	29,116
Retained earnings	1,522,805	1,771,464	1,744,280
Treasury stock, 51,696, 55,718 and 56,013 shares, respectively	(870,252)	(938,565)	(943,518)
Total stockholders' equity	1,283,571	1,416,851	1,382,541
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 1,833,133	\$ 1,950,802	\$ 1,910,451

Refer to Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

**Table of Contents****AMERICAN EAGLE OUTFITTERS, INC.****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS AND RETAINED EARNINGS****(Unaudited)**

<i>(In thousands, except per share amounts)</i>	13 Weeks Ended		39 Weeks Ended	
	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011
Net sales	\$ 910,374	\$ 819,419	\$ 2,358,749	\$ 2,091,623
Cost of sales, including certain buying, occupancy and warehousing expenses	531,284	507,164	1,428,182	1,309,371
Gross profit	379,090	312,255	930,567	782,252
Selling, general and administrative expenses	219,128	185,687	579,792	504,052
Depreciation and amortization expense	31,421	34,415	96,130	103,848
Operating income	128,541	92,153	254,645	174,352
Other income (expense), net	2,822	(407)	5,986	5,536
Income before income taxes	131,363	91,746	260,631	179,888
Provision for income taxes	48,922	33,795	91,309	64,974
Income from continuing operations	82,441	57,951	169,322	114,914
Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax	(3,833)	(5,524)	(31,990)	(14,493)
Net income	\$ 78,608	\$ 52,427	\$ 137,332	\$ 100,421
Basic income per common share				
Income from continuing operations	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.86	\$ 0.59
Loss from discontinued operations	(0.02)	(0.03)	(0.16)	(0.07)
Basic income per common share	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.70	\$ 0.52
Diluted income per common share				
Income from continuing operations	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.85	\$ 0.58
Loss from discontinued operations	(0.02)	(0.03)	(0.16)	(0.07)
Diluted income per common share	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.69	\$ 0.51
Cash dividends per common share	\$ 1.61	\$ 0.11	\$ 1.83	\$ 0.33
Weighted average common shares outstanding basic	197,173	194,378	196,177	194,659
Weighted average common shares outstanding diluted	201,967	195,985	200,041	196,430
Retained earnings, beginning	\$ 1,770,546	\$ 1,713,778	\$ 1,771,464	\$ 1,711,929
Net income	78,608	52,427	137,332	100,421
Cash dividends and dividend equivalents	(324,588)	(21,817)	(368,649)	(65,419)
Reissuance of treasury stock	(1,761)	(108)	(17,342)	(2,651)
Retained earnings, ending	\$ 1,522,805	\$ 1,744,280	\$ 1,522,805	\$ 1,744,280

Refer to Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

**Table of Contents****AMERICAN EAGLE OUTFITTERS, INC.****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME****(Unaudited)**

<i>(In thousands)</i>	13 Weeks Ended		39 Weeks Ended	
	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011
Net income	\$ 78,608	\$ 52,427	\$ 137,332	\$ 100,421
Other comprehensive income:				
Foreign currency translation gain (loss)	1,106	(3,518)	520	1,102
Other comprehensive income (loss)	1,106	(3,518)	520	1,102
Comprehensive income	\$ 79,714	\$ 48,909	\$ 137,852	\$ 101,523

Refer to Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

**Table of Contents****AMERICAN EAGLE OUTFITTERS, INC.****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS****(Unaudited)**

<i>(In thousands)</i>	39 Weeks Ended	
	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011
<b>Operating activities:</b>		
Net income	\$ 137,332	\$ 100,421
Loss from discontinued operations	31,990	14,493
Income from continuing operations	169,322	114,914
Adjustments to reconcile income from continuing operations to net cash from operating activities of continuing operations:		
Depreciation and amortization	97,720	105,787
Share-based compensation	45,458	8,591
Provision for deferred income taxes	(21,233)	11,252
Tax benefit from share-based payments	5,072	293
Excess tax benefit from share-based payments	(4,365)	(152)
Foreign currency transaction loss (gain)	24	(277)
Loss on impairment of assets	449	
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Merchandise inventory	(113,509)	(261,138)
Accounts receivable	(7,735)	(3,209)
Prepaid expenses and other	8,896	(10,398)
Other assets	(9,574)	3,936
Accounts payable	36,713	56,569
Unredeemed gift cards and gift certificates	(21,908)	(18,607)
Deferred lease credits	(6,896)	(5,714)
Accrued compensation and payroll taxes	9,461	(16,329)
Accrued income and other taxes	9,642	(12,105)
Accrued liabilities	13,280	7,560
Total adjustments	41,495	(133,941)
<b>Net cash provided by (used for) operating activities from continuing operations</b>	<b>210,817</b>	<b>(19,027)</b>
<b>Investing activities:</b>		
Capital expenditures for property and equipment	(71,223)	(86,228)
Acquisition of intangible assets	(958)	(33,886)
Purchase of available-for-sale securities	(10,069)	(186,328)
Sale of available-for-sale securities	36,415	157,994
<b>Net cash used for investing activities from continuing operations</b>	<b>(45,835)</b>	<b>(148,448)</b>
<b>Financing activities:</b>		
Payments on capital leases	(2,515)	(2,343)
Repurchase of common stock as part of publicly announced programs		(15,160)
Repurchase of common stock from employees	(4,125)	(2,189)
Net proceeds from stock options exercised	43,914	2,680
Excess tax benefit from share-based payments	4,365	152
Cash dividends paid	(360,498)	(64,273)
<b>Net cash used for financing activities from continuing operations</b>	<b>(318,859)</b>	<b>(81,133)</b>



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Effect of exchange rates changes on cash	264	872
<b>Cash flows of discontinued operations</b>		
Net cash used for operating activities	(20,481)	(29,056)
Net cash used for investing activities	(768)	(10,517)
Net cash used for financing activities		
Effect of exchange rates changes on cash		
<b>Net cash used for discontinued operations</b>	<b>(21,249)</b>	<b>(39,573)</b>
<b>Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>(174,862)</b>	<b>(287,309)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents beginning of period	719,545	667,593
<b>Cash and cash equivalents end of period</b>	<b>\$ 544,683</b>	<b>\$ 380,284</b>
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:		
Cash paid during the period for income taxes	\$ 79,547	\$ 61,625
Cash paid during the period for interest	\$ 247	\$ 0

Refer to Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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**AMERICAN EAGLE OUTFITTERS, INC.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**(Unaudited)**

**1. Interim Financial Statements**

The accompanying Consolidated Financial Statements of American Eagle Outfitters, Inc. (the Company) at October 27, 2012 and October 29, 2011 and for the 13 and 39 week periods ended October 27, 2012 and October 29, 2011 have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) for interim financial information and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. Certain notes and other information have been condensed or omitted from the interim Consolidated Financial Statements presented in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. Therefore, these Consolidated Financial Statements should be read in conjunction with the Company's Fiscal 2011 Annual Report. In the opinion of the Company's management, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring adjustments and those described in the footnotes that follow) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. The existence of subsequent events has been evaluated through the filing date of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

As used in this report, all references to we, our and the Company refer to American Eagle Outfitters, Inc. and its wholly owned subsidiaries.

American Eagle Outfitters, American Eagle, AE and the AE Brand refer to our U.S. and Canadian American Eagle Outfitters stores. aerie refers to our U.S. and Canadian aerie® by American Eagle® stores. AEO Direct refers to our e-commerce operations, ae.com and aerie.com. 77kids refers to the 77kids by american eagle® stores and related e-commerce operations which the Company exited in Fiscal 2012.

The Company's business is affected by the pattern of seasonality common to most retail apparel businesses. The results for the current and prior periods are not necessarily indicative of future financial results.

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

***Principles of Consolidation***

The Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly owned subsidiaries. All intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in consolidation. At October 27, 2012, the Company operated in one reportable segment.

On May 18, 2012, the Company announced plans to exit the 77kids business, which included all 22 stores and related e-commerce operations. These Consolidated Financial Statements reflect the results of 77kids as a discontinued operation for all periods presented. Refer to Note 12 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information regarding the discontinued operations of 77kids.

***Fiscal Year***

The Company's financial year is a 52/53 week year that ends on the Saturday nearest to January 31. As used herein, Fiscal 2012 refers to the 53 week period ending February 2, 2013. Fiscal 2011 and Fiscal 2010 refer to the 52 week periods ended January 28, 2012 and January 29, 2011, respectively.

***Estimates***

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of our contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. On an ongoing basis, our management reviews its estimates based on currently available information. Changes in facts and circumstances may result in revised estimates.

***Recent Accounting Pronouncements***

In June 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2011-05, *Presentation of Comprehensive Income* (ASU 2011-05). ASU 2011-05 requires that all non-owner



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changes in stockholders' equity be presented either in a single continuous statement of comprehensive income or in two separate but consecutive statements. In the two-statement approach, the first statement should present total net income and its components followed consecutively by a second statement that should present total other comprehensive income, the components of other comprehensive income and the total of comprehensive income. For public entities, the amendments in ASU 2011-05 are effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2011, and are to be applied retrospectively, with early adoption permitted. The Company adopted ASU 2011-05 on January 29, 2012 by presenting total other comprehensive income and its components as a separate statement following the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Retained Earnings.

In September 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-08, *Testing Goodwill for Impairment* ( ASU 2011-08 ). ASU 2011-08 permits an entity to first assess qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount as a basis for determining whether it is necessary to perform the two-step goodwill impairment test. ASU 2011-08 applies to all companies that have goodwill reported in their financial statements. The provisions of ASU 2011-08 are effective for annual and interim goodwill impairment tests performed for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2011. The Company adopted ASU 2011-08 on January 29, 2012 with no impact to its Consolidated Financial Statements.

***Foreign Currency Translation***

The Canadian dollar is the functional currency for the Canadian business. In accordance with Accounting Standards Codification ( ASC ) 830, *Foreign Currency Matters*, assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies were translated into U.S. dollars (the reporting currency) at the exchange rate prevailing at the balance sheet date. Revenues and expenses denominated in foreign currencies were translated into U.S. dollars at the monthly average exchange rate for the period. Gains or losses resulting from foreign currency transactions are included in the results of operations, whereas, related translation adjustments are reported as an element of other comprehensive income in accordance with ASC 220, *Comprehensive Income*.

***Revenue Recognition***

Revenue is recorded for store sales upon the purchase of merchandise by customers. The Company's e-commerce operation records revenue upon the estimated customer receipt date of the merchandise. Shipping and handling revenues are included in net sales. Sales tax collected from customers is excluded from revenue and is included as part of accrued income and other taxes on the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets.

Revenue is recorded net of estimated and actual sales returns and deductions for coupon redemptions and other promotions. The Company records the impact of adjustments to its sales return reserve quarterly within net sales and cost of sales. The sales return reserve reflects an estimate of sales returns based on projected merchandise returns determined through the use of historical average return percentages.

Revenue is not recorded on the purchase of gift cards. A current liability is recorded upon purchase, and revenue is recognized when the gift card is redeemed for merchandise. Additionally, the Company recognizes revenue on unredeemed gift cards based on an estimate of the amounts that will not be redeemed ( gift card breakage ), determined through historical redemption trends. Gift card breakage revenue is recognized in proportion to actual gift card redemptions as a component of net sales. For further information on the Company's gift card program, refer to the Gift Cards caption below.

The Company recognizes royalty revenue generated from its franchise agreements based on a percentage of merchandise sales by the franchisee. This revenue is recorded as a component of net sales when earned.

The Company sells off end-of-season, overstock and irregular merchandise to a third-party. The proceeds from these sales are presented on a gross basis, with proceeds and cost of sell-offs recorded in net sales and cost of sales, respectively.

***Cost of Sales, Including Certain Buying, Occupancy and Warehousing Expenses***

Cost of sales consists of merchandise costs, including design, sourcing, importing and inbound freight costs, as well as markdowns, shrinkage and certain promotional costs (collectively, merchandise costs ) and buying, occupancy, and warehousing costs. Buying, occupancy and warehousing costs consist of compensation, employee benefit expenses and travel for our buyers and certain senior merchandising executives; rent and utilities related to our stores, corporate headquarters, distribution centers and other office space; freight from our distribution centers to the stores; compensation and supplies for our distribution centers, including purchasing, receiving and inspection costs;



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and shipping and handling costs related to our e-commerce operation. Merchandise profit is the difference between net sales and merchandise costs. Gross profit is the difference between net sales and cost of sales.

### ***Selling, General and Administrative Expenses***

Selling, general and administrative expenses consist of compensation and employee benefit expenses, including salaries, incentives and related benefits associated with our stores and corporate headquarters. Selling, general and administrative expenses also include advertising costs, supplies for our stores and home office, communication costs, travel and entertainment, leasing costs and services purchased. Selling, general and administrative expenses do not include compensation, employee benefit expenses and travel for our design, sourcing and importing teams, our buyers and our distribution centers as these amounts are recorded in cost of sales.

### ***Other Income (Expense), Net***

Other income (expense), net consists primarily of interest income/expense, foreign currency transaction gain/loss and realized investment gains/losses.

### ***Other-than-Temporary Impairment***

The Company evaluates its investments for impairment in accordance with ASC 320, *Investments – Debt and Equity Securities* ( ASC 320 ). ASC 320 provides guidance for determining when an investment is considered impaired, whether impairment is other-than-temporary, and measurement of an impairment loss. An investment is considered impaired if the fair value of the investment is less than its cost. If, after consideration of all available evidence to evaluate the realizable value of its investment, impairment is determined to be other-than-temporary, then an impairment loss is recognized in the Consolidated Statement of Operations equal to the difference between the investment's cost and its fair value. Additionally, ASC 320 requires additional disclosures relating to debt and equity securities both in the interim and annual periods as well as requires the Company to present total other-than-temporary impairment ( OTTI ) with an offsetting reduction for any non-credit loss impairment amount recognized in other comprehensive income ( OCI ). There was no net impairment loss for investment securities recognized in earnings during the 13 or 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 or October 29, 2011.

### ***Cash and Cash Equivalents, Short-term Investments and Long-term Investments***

Cash includes cash equivalents. The Company considers all highly liquid investments purchased with a maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents. As of October 27, 2012, the Company held no short-term or long-term investments.

Unrealized gains and losses on the Company's available-for-sale securities are excluded from earnings and are reported as a separate component of stockholders' equity, within accumulated other comprehensive income, until realized. The components of OTTI losses related to credit losses, as defined by ASC 320, are considered by the Company to be realized and are recorded in earnings. When available-for-sale securities are sold, the cost of the securities is specifically identified and is used to determine any realized gain or loss.

Refer to Note 3 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments and long-term investments.

### ***Merchandise Inventory***

Merchandise inventory is valued at the lower of average cost or market, utilizing the retail method. Average cost includes merchandise design and sourcing costs and related expenses. The Company records merchandise receipts at the time merchandise is delivered to the foreign shipping port by the manufacturer (FOB port). This is the point at which title and risk of loss transfer to the Company.

The Company reviews its inventory levels to identify slow-moving merchandise and generally uses markdowns to clear merchandise. Additionally, the Company estimates a markdown reserve for future planned permanent markdowns related to current inventory. Markdowns may occur when inventory exceeds customer demand for reasons of style, seasonal adaptation, changes in customer preference, lack of consumer acceptance of fashion items, competition, or if it is determined that the inventory in stock will not sell at its currently ticketed price. Such markdowns may have a material adverse impact on earnings, depending on the extent and amount of inventory affected. The Company also estimates a shrinkage reserve for the period between the last physical count and the



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balance sheet date. The estimate for the shrinkage reserve, based on historical results, can be affected by changes in merchandise mix and changes in actual shrinkage trends.

***Income Taxes***

The Company calculates income taxes in accordance with ASC 740, *Income Taxes* ( ASC 740 ), which requires the use of the asset and liability method. Under this method, deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized based on the difference between the Consolidated Financial Statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases as computed pursuant to ASC 740. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using the tax rates, based on certain judgments regarding enacted tax laws and published guidance, in effect in the years when those temporary differences are expected to reverse. A valuation allowance is established against the deferred tax assets when it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred taxes may not be realized. Changes in the Company's level and composition of earnings, tax laws or the deferred tax valuation allowance, as well as the results of tax audits may materially impact the Company's effective income tax rate.

The Company evaluates its income tax positions in accordance with ASC 740, which prescribes a comprehensive model for recognizing, measuring, presenting and disclosing in the financial statements tax positions taken or expected to be taken on a tax return, including a decision whether to file or not to file in a particular jurisdiction. Under ASC 740, a tax benefit from an uncertain position may be recognized only if it is more likely than not that the position is sustainable based on its technical merits.

The calculation of the deferred tax assets and liabilities, as well as the decision to recognize a tax benefit from an uncertain position and to establish a valuation allowance require management to make estimates and assumptions. The Company believes that its assumptions and estimates are reasonable, although actual results may have a positive or negative material impact on the balances of deferred tax assets and liabilities, valuation allowances or net income.

Refer to Note 10 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information regarding income taxes.

***Property and Equipment***

Property and equipment is recorded on the basis of cost with depreciation computed utilizing the straight-line method over the assets' estimated useful lives. The useful lives of our major classes of assets are as follows:

Buildings	25 years
Leasehold improvements	Lesser of 10 years or the term of the lease
Fixtures and equipment	5 years

In accordance with ASC 360, *Property, Plant, and Equipment* ( ASC 360 ), the Company evaluates long-lived assets for impairment at the individual store level, which is the lowest level at which individual cash flows can be identified, for stores that have been open for a period of time sufficient to reach maturity. Impairment losses are recorded on long-lived assets used in operations when events and circumstances indicate that the assets are impaired and the undiscounted cash flows estimated to be generated by those assets are less than their carrying amounts. When events such as these occur, the impaired assets are adjusted to their estimated fair value and an impairment loss is recorded.

During the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012, the Company recorded asset impairment charges of \$16.6 million related to the impairment of all 22 77kids stores and \$0.5 million related to the impairment of one aerie store. Based on the Company's decision to exit all 77kids stores, the Company determined that the stores would not be able to generate sufficient cash flow over the life of the related leases to recover the Company's initial investment in them. The 77kids asset impairment charges for the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 are recorded within Loss from Discontinued Operations on the Consolidated Statements of Operations. No long-lived asset impairment charges were recorded during the 39 weeks ended October 29, 2011.

Refer to Note 6 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information regarding property, plant and equipment.



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### ***Goodwill***

The Company's goodwill is primarily related to the acquisition of its importing operations and Canadian business. In accordance with ASC 350, *Intangibles - Goodwill and Other* (ASC 350), the Company evaluates goodwill for possible impairment on at least an annual basis and last performed an annual impairment test as of January 28, 2012. As a result of the Company's annual goodwill impairment test, the Company concluded that its goodwill was not impaired.

### ***Intangible Assets***

Intangible assets are recorded on the basis of cost with amortization computed utilizing the straight-line method over the assets' estimated useful lives. The Company's intangible assets, which primarily include trademark assets, are amortized over 15 to 25 years.

The Company evaluates intangible assets for impairment in accordance with ASC 350 when events or circumstances indicate that the carrying value of the asset may not be recoverable. Such an evaluation includes the estimation of undiscounted future cash flows to be generated by those assets. If the sum of the estimated future undiscounted cash flows are less than the carrying amounts of the assets, then the assets are impaired and are adjusted to their estimated fair value. No intangible asset impairment charges were recorded in the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 or October 29, 2011.

Refer to Note 7 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information regarding intangible assets.

### ***Gift Cards***

The value of a gift card is recorded as a current liability upon purchase, and revenue is recognized when the gift card is redeemed for merchandise. The Company estimates gift card breakage and recognizes revenue in proportion to actual gift card redemptions as a component of net sales. The Company determines an estimated gift card breakage rate by continuously evaluating historical redemption data and the time when there is a remote likelihood that a gift card will be redeemed. During the 13 weeks ended October 27, 2012 and October 29, 2011, the Company recorded \$1.0 million and \$0.9 million, respectively, of revenue related to gift card breakage. During the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 and October 29, 2011, the Company recorded \$4.3 million and \$2.9 million, respectively, of revenue related to gift card breakage.

### ***Deferred Lease Credits***

Deferred lease credits represent the unamortized portion of construction allowances received from landlords related to the Company's retail stores. Construction allowances are generally comprised of cash amounts received by the Company from its landlords as part of the negotiated lease terms. The Company records a receivable and a deferred lease credit liability at the lease commencement date (date of initial possession of the store). The deferred lease credit is amortized on a straight-line basis as a reduction of rent expense over the term of the original lease (including the pre-opening build-out period) and any subsequent renewal terms. The receivable is reduced as amounts are received from the landlord.

### ***Co-branded Credit Card and Customer Loyalty Program***

The Company offers a co-branded credit card (the AEO Visa Card) and a private label credit card (the AEO Credit Card). These credit cards are issued by a third-party bank (the Bank), and the Company has no liability to the Bank for bad debt expense, provided that purchases are made in accordance with the Bank's procedures. Once a customer is approved to receive the AEO Visa Card or the AEO Credit Card and the card is activated, the customer is eligible to participate in the credit card rewards program. Customers who make purchases earn discounts in the form of savings certificates when certain purchase levels are reached. Also, AEO Visa Card customers who make purchases at other retailers where the card is accepted earn additional discounts. Savings certificates are valid for 90 days from issuance.

Points earned under the credit card rewards program on purchases are accounted for by analogy to ASC 605-25, *Revenue Recognition, Multiple Element Arrangements* (ASC 605-25). The Company believes that points earned under its point and loyalty programs represent deliverables in a multiple element arrangement rather than a rebate or refund of cash. Accordingly, the portion of the sales revenue attributed to the award points is deferred and recognized when the award is redeemed or when the points expire. Additionally, credit card reward points earned on

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non-AE or aerie purchases are accounted for in accordance with ASC 605-25. As the points are earned, a current liability is recorded for the estimated cost of the award, and the impact of adjustments is recorded in cost of sales.

The Company offers its customers the AEREWARDS<sup>SM</sup> loyalty program (the Program). Under the Program, customers accumulate points based on purchase activity and earn rewards by reaching certain point thresholds during three-month earning periods. Rewards earned during these periods are valid through the stated expiration date, which is approximately one month from the mailing date of the reward. These rewards can be redeemed for a discount on a purchase of merchandise. Rewards not redeemed during the one-month redemption period are forfeited. The Company determined that rewards earned using the Program should be accounted for in accordance with ASC 605-25. Accordingly, the portion of the sales revenue attributed to the award credits is deferred and recognized when the awards are redeemed or expire.

**Segment Information**

In accordance with ASC 280, *Segment Reporting* (ASC 280), the Company has identified three operating segments (American Eagle Brand US and Canadian retail stores, aerie retail stores and AEO Direct) that reflect the basis used internally to review performance and allocate resources. All of the operating segments have been aggregated and are presented as one reportable segment, as permitted by ASC 280.

**Reclassification**

Certain reclassifications have been made to the Consolidated Financial Statements for prior periods in order to conform to the current period presentation.

**3. Cash and Cash Equivalents, Short-term Investments and Long-term Investments**

The following table summarizes the fair market values for the Company's cash and marketable securities, which are recorded on the Consolidated Balance Sheets:

<i>(In thousands)</i>	October 27, 2012	January 28, 2012	October 29, 2011
<b>Cash and cash equivalents:</b>			
Cash	\$ 389,664	\$ 548,728	\$ 325,152
Money-market	107,821	131,785	32,214
Commercial paper	28,069	29,998	
Treasury bills	19,129	9,034	22,918
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>\$ 544,683</b>	<b>\$ 719,545</b>	<b>\$ 380,284</b>
<b>Short-term investments:</b>			
Treasury bills	\$	\$ 19,999	\$ 76,078
State and local government ARS		5,500	5,500
Term-deposits			10,082
Corporate bonds			9,376
<b>Total short-term investments</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 25,499</b>	<b>\$ 101,036</b>
<b>Long-term investments:</b>			
ARS Call Option	\$	\$ 847	\$ 648
<b>Total long-term investments</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 847</b>	<b>\$ 648</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 544,683</b>	<b>\$ 745,891</b>	<b>\$ 481,968</b>

Proceeds from the sale of investments were \$36.4 million and \$158.0 million for the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 and October 29, 2011, respectively. The purchase of investments was \$10.1 million and \$186.3 million for the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 and October 29, 2011, respectively.

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During Fiscal 2010, the Company liquidated ARS investments with \$191.4 million of carrying value for proceeds of \$177.5 million and a realized loss of \$24.4 million (of which \$10.9 million had previously been included in OCI on the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets). The ARS securities sold during Fiscal 2010 included \$119.7 million of par value ARS securities whereby the Company entered into a settlement agreement under which a financial institution (the purchaser) purchased the ARS at a discount to par, plus accrued interest. Additionally, under this agreement, the Company retained a right (the ARS Call Option), for a period ending October 29, 2013 to: (a)

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repurchase any or all of the ARS securities sold at the agreed upon purchase prices received from the purchaser plus accrued interest; and/or (b) receive additional proceeds from the purchaser upon certain redemptions of the ARS securities sold. The ARS Call Option is cancelable by the purchaser for additional cash consideration.

The Company is required to assess the value of the ARS Call Option at the end of each reporting period, with any changes in fair value recorded within the Consolidated Statement of Operations.

**4. Fair Value Measurements**

ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurement Disclosures* ( ASC 820 ), defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in accordance with GAAP, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. Fair value is defined under ASC 820 as the exit price associated with the sale of an asset or transfer of a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

**Financial Instruments**

Valuation techniques used to measure fair value under ASC 820 must maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. In addition, ASC 820 establishes a three-tier fair value hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs used in measuring fair value. These tiers include:

Level 1 Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2 Inputs other than Level 1 that are observable, either directly or indirectly, such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities; quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities.

Level 3 Unobservable inputs (i.e., projections, estimates, interpretations, etc.) that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities.

As of October 27, 2012 and October 29, 2011, the Company held certain assets that are required to be measured at fair value on a recurring basis. These include cash equivalents and short and long-term investments, including ARS.

In accordance with ASC 820, the following table represents the Company's fair value hierarchy for its financial assets (cash equivalents and investments) measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of October 27, 2012 and October 29, 2011:

(In thousands)	Carrying Amount	Fair Value Measurements at October 27, 2012		
		Quoted Market Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
<b>Cash and cash equivalents:</b>				
Cash	\$ 389,664	\$ 389,664	\$	\$
Money-market	107,821	107,821		
Commercial paper	28,069	28,069		
Treasury bills	19,129	19,129		
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>\$ 544,683</b>	<b>\$ 544,683</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>



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<i>(In thousands)</i>	Carrying Amount	Fair Value Measurements at October 29, 2011		
		Quoted Market Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
<b>Cash and cash equivalents:</b>				
Cash	\$ 325,152	\$ 325,152	\$	\$
Money-market	32,214	32,214		
Treasury bills	22,918	22,918		
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>\$ 380,284</b>	<b>\$ 380,284</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Short-term investments:</b>				
Treasury bills	\$ 76,078	\$ 76,078	\$	\$
Term-deposits	10,082	10,082		
Corporate bonds	9,376	9,376		
State and local government ARS	5,500			5,500
<b>Total short-term investments</b>	<b>\$ 101,036</b>	<b>\$ 95,536</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 5,500</b>
<b>Long-term investments:</b>				
ARS Call Option	\$ 648	\$	\$	\$ 648
<b>Total long-term investments</b>	<b>\$ 648</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 648</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 481,968</b>	<b>\$ 475,820</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 6,148</b>

The Company uses a discounted cash flow model to value its Level 3 investments. There were no Level 3 investments at October 27, 2012. At October 29, 2011, the assumptions in the Company's model included different recovery periods, ranging from two months to 11 months, a discount factor for yield of 0.1% and illiquidity of 0.5%. These assumptions are subjective. They are based on the Company's current judgment and its view of current market conditions. The use of different reasonable assumptions would not result in a material change to the valuation.

As a result of the discounted cash flow analysis, no impairment loss was recorded for the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 or October 29, 2011.

The fair value of the ARS Call Option described in Note 3 to the Consolidated Financial Statements was also estimated using a discounted cash flow model. The model considered potential changes in yields for securities with similar characteristics to the underlying ARS and evaluated possible future refinancing opportunities for the issuers of the ARS. The analysis then assessed the likelihood that the options would be exercisable as a result of the underlying ARS being redeemed or traded in a secondary market at an amount greater than the exercise price prior to the end of the option term. Changes in the fair value of the ARS Call Option are recorded within the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Retained Earnings.

The reconciliation of the Company's assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis using unobservable inputs (Level 3) for the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 and October 29, 2011 is as follows.

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<i>(In thousands)</i>	Total	Level 3 (Unobservable inputs)	
		Auction-Rate Municipal Securities	ARS Call Option
Carrying value at January 28, 2012	\$ 6,347	\$ 5,500	\$ 847
Settlements	(6,043)	(5,500)	(543)
<b>Losses:</b>			
Reported in earnings	(304)		(304)
<b>Balance at October 27, 2012</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>

<i>(In thousands)</i>	Total	Auction-Rate Municipal Securities		ARS Call Option
Carrying value at January 29, 2011	\$ 9,615	\$ 9,200	\$ 415	
Settlements	(3,700)	(3,700)		
<b>Gains:</b>				
Reported in earnings	233		233	
<b>Balance at October 29, 2011</b>	<b>\$ 6,148</b>	<b>\$ 5,500</b>	<b>\$ 648</b>	

**Non-Financial Assets**

The Company's non-financial assets, which include goodwill, intangible assets and property and equipment, are not required to be measured at fair value on a recurring basis. However, if certain triggering events occur, or if an annual impairment test is required and the Company is required to evaluate the non-financial instrument for impairment, a resulting asset impairment would require that the non-financial asset be recorded at the estimated fair value. As a result of the Company's annual goodwill impairment test performed as of January 28, 2012, the Company concluded that its goodwill was not impaired.

Certain long-lived assets were measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis using Level 3 inputs as defined in ASC 820. During the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012, certain long-lived assets related to all 22 77kids and one aerie store were determined to be unable to recover their respective carrying values and were written down to their fair value, resulting in a loss on impairment of assets of \$17.1 million. \$16.6 million of the total loss on impairment of assets relates to 77kids stores, which were determined to not be able to generate sufficient cash flows due to the Company's decision to exit the brand.

The fair value of the Company's stores were determined by estimating the amount and timing of net future cash flows and discounting them using a risk-adjusted rate of interest. The Company estimates future cash flows based on its experience and knowledge of the market in which the store is located.

**5. Earnings per Share**

The following is a reconciliation between basic and diluted weighted average shares outstanding:

<i>(In thousands)</i>	13 Weeks Ended		39 Weeks Ended	
	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011
<b>Weighted average common shares outstanding:</b>				
Basic number of common shares outstanding	197,173	194,378	196,177	194,659
Dilutive effect of stock options and non-vested restricted stock	4,794	1,607	3,864	1,771
Diluted number of common shares outstanding	201,967	195,985	200,041	196,430

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Equity awards to purchase approximately 1.5 million and 2.8 million shares of common stock during the 13 and 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 and approximately 7.6 million and 7.5 million shares of common stock during the 13 and 39 weeks ended October 29, 2011, respectively, were outstanding, but were not included in the computation of weighted average diluted common share amounts as the effect of doing so would be anti-dilutive.



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There were no shares for both the 13 and 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 and approximately 1.9 million shares for both the 13 and 39 weeks ended October 29, 2011 of restricted stock units that were outstanding, but not included in the computation of weighted average diluted common share amounts as the effect of doing so would have been anti-dilutive.

Refer to Note 9 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information regarding share-based compensation.

**6. Property and Equipment**

Property and equipment consists of the following:

<i>(In thousands)</i>	October 27, 2012	January 28, 2012	October 29, 2011
Property and equipment, at cost	\$ 1,467,321	\$ 1,458,522	\$ 1,503,858
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(930,263)	(876,360)	(874,372)
<b>Property and equipment, net</b>	<b>\$ 537,058</b>	<b>\$ 582,162</b>	<b>\$ 629,486</b>

**7. Intangible Assets**

Intangible assets consist of the following:

<i>(In thousands)</i>	October 27, 2012	January 28, 2012	October 29, 2011
Trademarks, at cost	\$ 44,106	\$ 44,142	\$ 43,847
Less: Accumulated amortization	(5,647)	(4,310)	(3,759)
<b>Intangible assets, net</b>	<b>\$ 38,459</b>	<b>\$ 39,832</b>	<b>\$ 40,088</b>

**8. Other Credit Arrangements**

On March 2, 2012, the Company entered into a five-year, \$150.0 million syndicated, unsecured, revolving credit agreement (the Credit Agreement). The primary purpose of the Credit Agreement is to provide additional access to capital for general corporate purposes, growth initiatives and the issuance of letters of credit.

The Credit Agreement contains financial covenants that require the Company to maintain certain coverage and leverage ratios, and various customary affirmative and negative covenants such as the ability to incur additional debt not otherwise permitted under the Credit Agreement.

The Credit Agreement has various borrowing options, including rates of interest that are based on (i) an Adjusted London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR as defined in the Credit Agreement) plus a margin ranging from 1.00% to 1.75% based on a defined leverage ratio, payable at the end of the applicable interest period; and (ii) a Base Rate (as defined in the Credit Agreement), plus a margin ranging from 0.00% to 0.75% based on a defined leverage ratio, payable quarterly.

Under the Credit Agreement, the Company is also required to pay a commitment fee ranging from 0.175% to 0.30%, based on the defined leverage ratio, on the unused portion of the total lender commitments.

As of October 27, 2012, the Company was in compliance with the terms of the Credit Agreement and had \$7.6 million outstanding in letters of credit and no borrowings.

The Credit Agreement replaced uncommitted demand lines in the aggregate amount of \$110.0 million United States dollars (USD) and \$25.0 million Canadian dollars (CAD).

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Additionally, the Company has borrowing agreements with two separate financial institutions under which it may borrow an aggregate of \$135.0 million USD for the purposes of trade letter of credit issuances. As of October 27, 2012, the Company had outstanding trade letters of credit of \$54.7 million. The availability of any future borrowings under the trade letter of credit facilities is subject to acceptance by the respective financial institutions.

### **9. Share-Based Compensation**

The Company accounts for share-based compensation under the provisions of ASC 718, *Compensation - Stock Compensation* ( ASC 718 ), which requires companies to measure and recognize compensation expense for all share-based payments at fair value. Total share-based compensation expense included in the Consolidated

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Statements of Operations for the 13 and 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 was \$17.5 million (\$10.8 million, net of tax) and \$45.5 million (\$28.0 million net of tax), respectively, and for the 13 and 39 weeks ended October 29, 2011 was \$3.2 million (\$2.0 million, net of tax) and \$8.6 million (\$5.3 million net of tax), respectively.

**Stock Option Grants**

The Company grants both time-based and performance-based stock options under its 2005 Stock Award and Incentive Plan. Time-based stock option awards vest over the requisite service period of the award or to an employee's eligible retirement date, if earlier. Performance-based stock option awards vest over one year and are earned if the Company meets pre-established performance goals.

A summary of the Company's stock option activity for the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 follows:

	Options (In thousands)	Weighted-Average Exercise Price	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Term (In years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value (In thousands)
Outstanding January 28, 2012	11,197	\$ 15.31		
Granted	1,666	\$ 14.35		
Exercised (1)	(3,532)	\$ 12.36		
Cancelled	(747)	\$ 16.47		
Outstanding October 27, 2012	8,584	\$ 15.22	2.2	\$ 58,441
Vested and expected to vest October 27, 2012	8,487	\$ 15.23	2.2	\$ 57,755
Exercisable October 27, 2012 (2)	5,272	\$ 12.26	1.8	\$ 45,736

- (1) Options exercised during the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 had exercise prices ranging from \$4.24 to \$22.46.
- (2) Options exercisable represent in-the-money vested options based upon the weighted average exercise price of vested options compared to the Company's stock price at October 27, 2012.

The weighted-average grant date fair value of stock options granted during the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 and October 29, 2011 was \$3.72 and \$4.73, respectively. The aggregate intrinsic value of options exercised during the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 and October 29, 2011 was \$24.9 million and \$1.3 million, respectively.

Cash received from the exercise of stock options was \$43.9 million for the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 and \$2.7 million for the 39 weeks ended October 29, 2011. The actual tax benefit realized from stock option exercises totaled \$5.1 million for the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 and \$0.3 million for the 39 weeks ended October 29, 2011.

The fair value of stock options was estimated based on the closing market price of the Company's common stock on the date of the grant using a Black-Scholes option pricing model with the following weighted-average assumptions:

Black-Scholes Option Valuation Assumptions	39 Weeks Ended	
	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011
Risk-free interest rate (1)	0.6%	2.1%
Dividend yield	2.8%	2.6%
Volatility factor (2)	41.2%	42.7%
Weighted-average expected term (3)	4.0 years	5.0 years

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Expected forfeiture rate (4)	8.0%	8.0%
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- (1) Based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve in effect at the time of grant with a term consistent with the expected life of our stock options.
- (2) Based on a combination of historical volatility of the Company's common stock and implied volatility.
- (3) Represents the period of time options are expected to be outstanding, based on historical experience.
- (4) Based upon historical experience.

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As of October 27, 2012, there was \$2.4 million of unrecognized compensation expense related to non-vested stock option awards that is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 2.0 years.

**Restricted Stock Grants**

Time-based restricted stock awards are comprised of time-based restricted stock units. These awards vest over three years; however, they may be accelerated to vest over one year if the Company meets pre-established performance goals in the year of grant. Time-based restricted stock units receive dividend equivalents in the form of additional time-based restricted stock units, which are subject to the same restrictions and forfeiture provisions as the original award.

Performance-based restricted stock awards include performance-based restricted stock units. These awards cliff vest at the end of a three year period based upon the Company's achievement of pre-established goals throughout the term of the award. Performance-based restricted stock units receive dividend equivalents in the form of additional performance-based restricted stock units, which are subject to the same restrictions and forfeiture provisions as the original award.

The grant date fair value of all restricted stock awards is based on the closing market price of the Company's common stock on the date of grant.

A summary of the Company's restricted stock activity is presented in the following tables:

	Time-Based Restricted Stock Units 39 Weeks Ended October 27, 2012		Performance-Based Restricted Stock Units 39 Weeks Ended October 27, 2012	
	Shares	Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value	Shares	Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value
<i>(Shares in thousands)</i>				
Nonvested January 28, 2012	1,784	\$ 15.73	1,762	\$ 14.23
Granted	1,497	14.77	888	14.76
Vested	(1,074)	16.65		
Cancelled	(758)	15.94	(564)	12.56
Nonvested October 27, 2012	1,449	\$ 13.94	2,086	\$ 14.91

As of October 27, 2012, there was \$14.5 million of unrecognized compensation expense related to non-vested time-based restricted stock unit awards that is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 0.7 years. Additionally, there was \$6.9 million of unrecognized compensation expense related to performance-based restricted stock unit awards which will be recognized as achievement of performance goals is probable over a one to three year period.

As of October 27, 2012, the Company had 22.8 million shares available for all equity grants.

**10. Income Taxes**

The provision for income taxes from continuing operations is based on the current estimate of the annual effective income tax rate and is adjusted as necessary for quarterly events. The effective income tax rate from continuing operations based on actual operating results for the 13 weeks ended October 27, 2012 was 37.2% compared to 36.8% for the 13 weeks ended October 29, 2011. The effective income tax rate from continuing operations based on actual operating results for the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 was 35.0% compared to 36.1% for the 39 weeks ended October 29, 2011. The lower effective income tax rate for the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 was primarily due to state income tax settlements and other changes in income tax reserves.

The Company records accrued interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits in income tax expense.

The Company recognizes income tax liabilities related to unrecognized tax benefits in accordance with ASC 740 and adjusts these liabilities when its judgment changes as the result of the evaluation of new information not previously available. Unrecognized tax benefits did not change significantly during the 13 weeks ended October 27,



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2012 and October 29, 2011. Over the next twelve months, the Company believes that it is reasonably possible that unrecognized tax benefits may decrease by approximately \$8 million due to settlements, expiration of statute of limitations or other changes in unrecognized tax benefits.

**11. Legal Proceedings**

The Company is subject to certain legal proceedings and claims arising out of the conduct of its business. In accordance with ASC 450, *Contingencies* ( ASC 450 ), management records a reserve for estimated losses when the loss is probable and the amount can be reasonably estimated. If a range of possible loss exists and no anticipated loss within the range is more likely than any other anticipated loss, the Company records the accrual at the low end of the range, in accordance with ASC 450. As the Company believes that it has provided adequate reserves, it anticipates that the ultimate outcome of any matter currently pending against the Company will not materially affect the consolidated financial position or results of operations of the Company.

**12. Discontinued Operations**

On May 18, 2012, the Company announced plans to exit the 77kids business, which included all 22 stores and related e-commerce operations. Effective August 3, 2012, the Company completed the sale of the 77kids business to a third party, which included store assets, the related on-line business, inventory and a temporary license to use the 77kids name through January 15, 2013. These Consolidated Financial Statements reflect the results of 77kids as a discontinued operation for all periods presented.

Additionally, the third party purchaser has assumed certain liabilities associated with the 77kids business and paid the Company an amount equal to 65% of the cost of the acquired inventory. All prior year inventory balances for 77kids has been recorded as an asset held for sale on the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets. At the end of the third quarter, the Company is substantially complete with the exit of 77kids and incurred total after-tax losses of approximately \$32.0 million in the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012, of which \$3.8 million, or \$0.02 per diluted share, was incurred in the 13 weeks ended October 27, 2012.

In connection with the 77kids business exit, the Company is secondarily liable for obligations under the lease agreements for 21 store leases assumed by the third party purchaser. These obligations will remain in effect until the leases expire through 2022, unless the Company otherwise is released by the applicable landlord. In the event that the third party purchaser does not fulfill its obligations under any of the leases and the Company is required to make any such payments, the Company would seek full reimbursement from the third party purchaser in accordance with the asset purchase agreement. The third party purchaser has provided a stand-by letter of credit to the Company in order to secure payment of obligations under the leases.

In accordance with ASC 460, *Guarantees* ( ASC 460 ), as we became secondarily liable under the leases at the time that we transferred them to the third party, no amounts have been accrued in our Consolidated Financial Statements related to these guarantees.

Costs associated with exit or disposal activities are recorded when incurred. The Company is complete with the exit of the 77kids brand, and a summary of the pre-tax exit and disposal costs recognized within Loss from Discontinued Operations on the Consolidated Income Statement are as follows:

<i>(In thousands)</i>	13 Weeks Ended October 27, 2012	39 Weeks Ended October 27, 2012
Non-cash charges		
Asset impairments	\$	\$ 16,623
Inventory charges		7,768
Cash charges		
Support payments to purchaser	10,237	10,237
Severance charges		3,439
<b>Total charges</b>	<b>\$ 10,237</b>	<b>\$ 38,067</b>





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A rollforward of the liabilities recognized in the Consolidated Balance Sheets is as follows:

<i>(In thousands)</i>	October 27, 2012
Accrued liability as of January 28, 2012	\$
Add: Costs incurred, excluding non-cash charges	13,676
Less: Cash payments	(13,676)
Accrued liability as of October 27, 2012	\$

The table below presents the significant components of 77kids results included in Loss from Discontinued Operations on the Consolidated Statement of Operations.

<i>(In thousands, except per share amounts)</i>	13 Weeks Ended		39 Weeks Ended	
	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011
Net sales	\$	\$ 12,407	\$ 20,117	\$ 25,738
Loss from discontinued operations, before income taxes (1)	(6,191)	(8,968)	(51,839)	(23,490)
Income tax benefit	2,358	3,444	19,849	8,997
Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax	\$ (3,833)	\$ (5,524)	\$ (31,990)	\$ (14,493)
<b>Loss per common share from discontinued operations:</b>				
Basic	\$ (0.02)	\$ (0.03)	\$ (0.16)	\$ (0.07)
Diluted	\$ (0.02)	\$ (0.03)	\$ (0.16)	\$ (0.07)

(1) For the 13 and 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012, loss from discontinued operations is presented net of the reversal of non-cash lease credits.

The major classes of assets and liabilities included in the Consolidated Balance Sheets for 77kids are as follows:

<i>(In thousands)</i>	October 27, 2012	January 28, 2012	October 29, 2011
Current assets	\$	\$ 12,296	\$ 19,133
Non-current assets		15,722	17,849
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 28,018</b>	<b>\$ 36,982</b>
Current liabilities		\$ 5,838	7,659
Non-current liabilities		2,646	2,732
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 8,484</b>	<b>\$ 10,391</b>

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**Review by Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

Ernst & Young LLP, our independent registered public accounting firm, has performed a limited review of the unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements as of and for the thirteen and thirty-nine week periods ended October 27, 2012 and October 29, 2011, as indicated in their report on the limited review included below. Since they did not perform an audit, they express no opinion on the unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements referred to above.

**Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

The Board of Directors and Stockholders

American Eagle Outfitters, Inc.

We have reviewed the consolidated balance sheets of American Eagle Outfitters, Inc. (the Company) as of October 27, 2012 and October 29, 2011, and the related consolidated statements of operations and retained earnings and the consolidated statements of comprehensive income for the thirteen and thirty-nine week periods ended October 27, 2012 and October 29, 2011 and the consolidated statements of cash flows for the thirty-nine week period ended October 27, 2012 and October 29, 2011. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management.

We conducted our reviews in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). A review of interim financial information consists principally of applying analytical procedures and making inquiries of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters. It is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Based on our reviews, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the consolidated financial statements referred to above for them to be in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We have previously audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheet of American Eagle Outfitters, Inc. as of January 28, 2012, and the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for the year then ended not presented herein, and in our report dated March 15, 2012, we expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements. In our opinion, the information set forth in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet as of January 28, 2012, is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the consolidated balance sheet from which it has been derived.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

November 29, 2012

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

The following discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations should be read in conjunction with our Fiscal 2011 Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations which can be found in our Fiscal 2011 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

In addition, the following discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations are based upon our Consolidated Financial Statements and should be read in conjunction with these statements and notes thereto.

This report contains various 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, which represent our expectations or beliefs concerning future events, including the following:

the planned opening of approximately 16 new American Eagle stores during Fiscal 2012;

the selection of approximately 48 to 50 American Eagle stores in the United States and Canada for remodeling and refurbishing during Fiscal 2012;

the potential closure of approximately 25 to 30 American Eagle and 5 to 10 aerie stores in the United States and Canada during Fiscal 2012;

the planned opening of approximately 28 new franchised American Eagle stores during Fiscal 2012;

the success of our core American Eagle and aerie brands, through retail store locations and e-commerce operations, within North America;

the expected payment of a dividend in future periods;

the possibility to expand internationally, engage in future franchise/license agreements, and/or growth through acquisitions;

the possibility that our credit facilities may not be available for future borrowings;

the possibility that rising prices of raw materials, labor, energy and other inputs to our manufacturing process, if unmitigated, will have a significant impact to our profitability; and

the possibility that we may be required to take additional store impairment charges related to underperforming stores.

We caution that these forward-looking statements, and those described elsewhere in this report, involve material risks and uncertainties and are subject to change based on factors beyond our control as discussed within Item 1A of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q and Item 1A of our Fiscal 2011 Annual Report on Form 10-K. Accordingly, our future performance and financial results may differ materially from those expressed or implied in any such forward-looking statements.

### **Key Performance Indicators**

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Our management evaluates the following items, which are considered key performance indicators, in assessing our performance:

*Comparable store sales* Comparable store sales provide a measure of sales growth for stores open at least one year over the comparable prior year period. In fiscal years following those with 53 weeks, the prior year period is shifted by one week to compare similar calendar weeks. A store is included in comparable store sales in the thirteenth month of operation. However, stores that have a gross square footage increase of 25% or greater due to a remodel are removed from the comparable store sales base, but are included in total sales. These stores are returned to the comparable store sales base in the thirteenth month following the remodel. Sales from American Eagle, aerie and AEO Direct are included in comparable stores sales. Sales from franchise stores are not included in comparable store sales.

Our management considers comparable store sales to be an important indicator of our current performance. Comparable store sales results are important to achieve leveraging of our costs, including store payroll, store supplies, rent, etc. Comparable store sales also have a direct impact on our total net sales, cash and working capital.

*Gross profit* Gross profit measures whether we are optimizing the price and inventory levels of our merchandise and achieving an optimal level of sales. Gross profit is the difference between net sales and cost of sales. Cost of sales consists of: merchandise costs, including design, sourcing, importing and inbound freight costs, as well as markdowns, shrinkage, certain promotional costs and buying, occupancy and warehousing costs. Buying, occupancy and warehousing costs consist of: compensation, employee benefit expenses and travel for our buyers; rent and utilities related to our stores, corporate headquarters, distribution centers and other office space; freight from our

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distribution centers to the stores; compensation and supplies for our distribution centers, including purchasing, receiving and inspection costs; and shipping and handling costs related to our e-commerce operation. The inability to obtain acceptable levels of sales, initial markups or any significant increase in our use of markdowns could have an adverse effect on our gross profit and results of operations.

*Operating income* Our management views operating income as a key indicator of our success. The key drivers of operating income are comparable store sales, gross profit, our ability to control selling, general and administrative expenses, and our level of capital expenditures. Management also uses earnings before interest and taxes ( EBIT ) as an indicator of successful operating results.

*Return on invested capital* Our management uses return on invested capital ( ROIC ) as a key measure to assess our efficiency at allocating capital to profitable investments. This measure is critical in determining which strategic alternatives to pursue.

*Store productivity* Store productivity, including net sales per average square foot, sales per productive hour, average unit retail price ( AUR ), conversion rate, the number of transactions per store, the number of units sold per store, the number of units per transaction and four wall profit, is evaluated by our management in assessing our operational performance.

*Inventory turnover* Our management evaluates inventory turnover as a measure of how productively inventory is bought and sold. Inventory turnover is important as it can signal slow moving inventory. This can be critical in determining the need to take markdowns on merchandise.

*Cash flow and liquidity* Our management evaluates cash flow from operations, investing and financing in determining the sufficiency of our liquidity. Cash flow from operations has historically been sufficient to cover our uses of cash. Our management believes that cash flow from operations will be sufficient to fund anticipated capital expenditures and working capital requirements.

Our management's goals are to drive improvements to our gross profit performance, bring greater consistency to our results and to deliver profitable growth over the long term. Specifically, our targets are to deliver a total net sales compounded annual growth rate ( CAGR ) of 7% to 9%, an EBIT CAGR of 12% to 15% and a ROIC in the range of 14% to 17%.

## **Results of Operations**

### **Overview**

Our third quarter performance resulted in a net sales increase of 11% and EPS from continuing operations increasing 37% to \$0.41 per diluted share. In the third quarter, we experienced continued positive momentum in our business with less promotional activity compared to last year. Additionally, favorable merchandise costs and the leverage of rent expense drove higher margins and returns.

Net sales for the third quarter increased 11% to \$910.4 million and comparable store sales, including AE Direct, increased 10%, against a 7% comparable store sales increase last year. By brand, AE comparable store sales increased 8% to last year, aerie comparable store sales increased 5% and sales for AEO Direct increased 27%.

Gross profit increased 21% from last year and increased 350 basis points to 41.6% as a rate to sales. Merchandise margin increased 290 basis points with both favorable product costs and lower markdowns contributing to the improvement. Rent leverage on the 10% increase in comparable store sales drove a 60 basis point improvement in buying, occupancy and warehousing costs.

Operating income for the third quarter was \$128.5 million compared to \$92.2 million last year. Operating income as a rate to net sales was 14.1% this year compared to 11.2% last year. Income from continuing operations for the third quarter was \$82.4 million, or \$0.41 per diluted share, compared to \$58.0 million, or \$0.30 per diluted share, last year.

We had \$544.7 million in cash and cash equivalents as of October 27, 2012 after paying \$317.4 million of cash dividends in the third quarter. Merchandise inventory at October 27, 2012 was \$481.2 million, compared to \$554.9 million last year, a decrease of 11% on a cost per foot basis. The decrease is primarily comprised of a 7% decrease in ending average unit cost as a result of favorable merchandise costs as compared to last year.

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Our business is affected by the pattern of seasonality common to most retail apparel businesses. The results for the current and prior periods are not necessarily indicative of future financial results.

The following table shows the percentage relationship to net sales of the listed line items included in our Consolidated Statements of Operations.

	13 Weeks Ended		39 Weeks Ended	
	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011
Net sales	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of sales, including certain buying, occupancy and warehousing expenses	58.4	61.9	60.5	62.6
Gross profit	41.6	38.1	39.5	37.4
Selling, general and administrative expenses	24.1	22.7	24.6	24.1
Depreciation and amortization expense	3.4	4.2	4.1	5.0
Operating income	14.1	11.2	10.8	8.3
Other income (expense), net	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.3
Income before income taxes	14.4	11.2	11.1	8.6
Provision for income taxes	5.4	4.1	3.9	3.1
Income from continuing operations	9.0	7.1	7.2	5.5
Loss from discontinued operations	(0.4)	(0.7)	(1.4)	(0.7)
Net income	8.6	6.4	5.8	4.8

The following table shows our adjusted consolidated store data, which excludes 77kids stores:

	13 Weeks Ended		39 Weeks Ended	
	October 27, 2012 (1)	October 29, 2011 (1)	October 27, 2012 (1)	October 29, 2011 (1)
Number of stores:				
Beginning of period	1,063	1,103	1,069	1,086
Opened	4	13	13	33
Closed	(4)		(19)	(3)
End of period	1,063	1,116	1,063	1,116
Total gross square feet at end of period	6,300,662	6,536,564	6,300,662	6,536,564
International franchise stores at end of period (2)	44	12	44	12

(1) Number of stores and gross square feet excludes 77kids stores.

(2) International franchise stores are not included in the consolidated store data or the total gross square feet calculation.

Our operations are conducted in one reportable segment, which includes 909 U.S. and Canadian AE retail stores, 154 aerie stand-alone retail stores and AEO Direct.

**Comparison of the 13 weeks ended October 27, 2012 to the 13 weeks ended October 29, 2011**

*Net Sales*

Net sales increased 11% to \$910.4 million compared to \$819.4 million last year. The change in net sales resulted primarily from a comparable store sales increase of 10% for the period, including a 27% increase in AEO Direct sales.

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AE women's and men's comparable store sales increased 8% and 12%, respectively. For the third quarter, transactions increased in the mid single-digits, driven by higher traffic and conversion. AUR increased in the low single-digits, leading to a higher overall average transaction value.

### *Gross Profit*

Gross profit increased 21% from last year and increased 350 basis points to 41.6% as a rate to sales. Merchandise margin increased 290 basis points with tighter inventory principles, favorable product costs and lower markdowns contributing to the improvement. Rent leverage on the 10% increase in comparable store sales drove a 60 basis point improvement in buying, occupancy and warehousing costs.

There was \$9.3 million of share-based payment expense included in gross profit for the period, comprised of both time and performance-based awards, compared to \$1.3 million last year, comprised of only time-based awards.

Our gross profit may not be comparable to that of other retailers, as some retailers include all costs related to their distribution network as well as design costs in cost of sales and others may exclude a portion of these costs from cost of sales, including them in a line item such as selling, general and administrative expenses. Refer to Note 2 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for a description of our accounting policy regarding cost of sales, including certain buying, occupancy and warehousing expenses.

### *Selling, General and Administrative Expenses*

Selling, general and administrative expenses increased to \$219.1 million from \$185.7 million last year and increased 140 basis points, as a rate to net sales, to 24.1% from 22.7% last year. The dollar increase was driven primarily by incremental incentive costs, advertising investments to support our back-to-school selling season, and variable expenses related to our strong top-line results.

There was \$8.1 million of share-based payment expense included in selling, general and administrative expenses, comprised of both time and performance-based awards, compared to \$1.7 million last year, comprised of only time-based awards.

### *Depreciation and Amortization Expense*

Depreciation and amortization expense as a rate to net sales decreased to 3.4% compared to 4.2% for the corresponding period last year as a result of the higher net sales for the period and a \$3.0 million reduction in expense. Depreciation and amortization expense decreased to \$31.4 million, compared to \$34.4 million last year, as a result of the maturing of assets.

### *Other Income (Expense), Net*

Other income was \$2.8 million, compared to expense of \$0.4 million last year, primarily the result of proceeds received from the ARS Call Option this year.

### *Provision for Income Taxes*

The provision for income taxes from continuing operations is based on the current estimate of the annual effective income tax rate and is adjusted as necessary for quarterly events. The effective income tax rate from continuing operations based on actual operating results for the 13 weeks ended October 27, 2012 was 37.2% compared to 36.8% for the 13 weeks ended October 29, 2011.



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### *Income from Continuing Operations*

Income from continuing operations for the third quarter was \$82.4 million, or \$0.41 per diluted share, compared to \$58.0 million, or \$0.30 per diluted share, last year. The change in income from continuing operations is attributable to the factors noted above, including strong top-line growth and margin improvement.

### *Loss from Discontinued Operations*

Due to the completion of the sale of the 77kids business to a third party, the results of 77kids are presented as a discontinued operation. Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax, was \$3.8 million, or a \$0.02 loss per diluted share, for the third quarter, compared to \$5.5 million, or a \$0.03 loss per diluted share, last year.

Refer to Note 12 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information regarding the discontinued operations of 77kids.

### *Net Income*

Net income increased to \$78.6 million, or 8.6% as a percent to net sales, from \$52.4 million, or 6.4% as a percent to net sales last year. Net income per diluted share increased to \$0.39 per diluted share from \$0.27 per diluted share in the prior year. The change in net income is attributable to the factors noted above, including the impact of the discontinued operations of 77kids.

## **Comparison of the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 to the 39 weeks ended October 29, 2011**

### *Net Sales*

Net sales for the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 increased 13% to \$2.359 billion compared to \$2.092 billion for the 39 weeks ended October 29, 2011. The increase in net sales resulted primarily from a 12% increase in comparable store sales for the period, including a 26% increase in AEO Direct sales.

For the 39 week period, AE women's and men's comparable store sales increased 13% and 10%, respectively. Transactions increased in the high single-digits, driven by higher traffic and conversion. Year-to-date AUR increased in the low single-digits reflecting the increase in AUR for the third quarter of Fiscal 2012. Average transaction value for the 39 week period increased in the low single-digits.

### *Gross Profit*

Gross profit this year increased 19% to \$930.6 million, or 39.5% as a rate to net sales, compared to \$782.3 million, or 37.4% as a rate to net sales last year. Merchandise margin increased by 100 basis points driven by decreased product costs, primarily in the third quarter of 2012, and improved markdowns, offset by increased incentive compensation. Buying, occupancy and warehousing costs improved by 110 basis points as a result of the 12% year-to-date increase in comparable store sales.

There was \$23.8 million of share-based payment expense for the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012, comprised of both time and performance-based awards, compared to \$3.9 million last year, comprised of only time-based awards.

Our gross profit may not be comparable to that of other retailers, as some retailers include all costs related to their distribution network as well as design costs in cost of sales and others may exclude a portion of these costs from cost of sales, including them in a line item such as selling, general and administrative expenses. Refer to Note 2 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for a description of our accounting policy regarding cost of sales, including certain buying, occupancy and warehousing expenses.

### *Selling, General and Administrative Expenses*

Selling, general and administrative expenses increased to \$579.8 million, or 24.6% as a rate to net sales, from \$504.1 million, or 24.1% as a rate to net sales, last year. The dollar increase was driven primarily by incremental incentive costs, variable expenses related to our strong top-line results, and advertising investments. Restructuring costs, including severance of \$3.9 million and store asset impairments of \$0.5 million, were included in selling, general and administrative expenses this year.



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There was \$21.7 million of share-based payment expense included in selling, general and administrative expenses, comprised of both time and performance-based awards, compared to \$4.7 million last year, comprised of only time-based awards.

### *Depreciation and Amortization Expense*

Depreciation and amortization expense decreased to \$96.1 million compared to \$103.8 million last year due the maturing of assets. As a rate to net sales, depreciation and amortization decreased to 4.1% from 5.0% last year as a result of the higher net sales and a \$7.7 million reduction in depreciation and amortization expense this year. Depreciation and amortization includes \$0.7 million of restructuring asset write-offs in the second quarter of Fiscal 2012.

### *Other Income, Net*

Other income was \$6.0 million for the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012, compared to income of \$5.5 million for the 39 weeks ended October 29, 2011, primarily as a result of proceeds received from the ARS Call Option in both years.

### *Provision for Income Taxes*

The provision for income taxes from continuing operations is based on the current estimate of the annual effective income tax rate and is adjusted as necessary for quarterly events. The effective income tax rate from continuing operations based on actual operating results for the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 was 35.0% compared to 36.1% for the 39 weeks ended October 29, 2011. The lower effective income tax rate for the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 was primarily due to state income tax settlements and other changes in income tax reserves.

### *Income from Continuing Operations*

Income from continuing operations for the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 was \$169.3 million, or \$0.85 per diluted share, compared to \$114.9 million, or \$0.58 per diluted share, last year. The change in income from continuing operations is attributable to the factors noted above, including strong top-line growth and margin improvement.

### *Loss from Discontinued Operations*

Due to the completion of the sale of the 77kids business to a third party, the results of 77kids are presented as a discontinued operation. Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax, was \$32.0 million, or a \$0.16 loss per diluted share, for the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012, compared to \$14.5 million, or a \$0.07 loss per diluted share, last year.

Refer to Note 12 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information regarding the discontinued operations of 77kids.

### *Net Income*

Net income increased to \$137.3 million, or 5.8% as a percent to net sales, from \$100.4 million, or 4.8% as a percent to net sales last year. Net income per diluted share increased to \$0.69 from \$0.51 in the prior year. The change in net income is attributable to the factors noted above, including the impact of the discontinued operations of 77kids.

## **International Operations**

We have entered into franchise agreements with multiple partners to expand our brands internationally. Through these franchise agreements, we plan to open a series of American Eagle Outfitters stores in Eastern Europe, Northern Africa and various parts of Asia. As of October 27, 2012, we had 44 franchised stores operated by our franchise partners in 13 countries. These franchise agreements do not involve a capital investment from AEO and require minimal operational involvement. International franchise stores are not included in the consolidated store data or the total gross square feet calculation.

As of October 27, 2012, we operated 94 Canadian and six Puerto Rican wholly-owned stores and plan to open several wholly-owned stores in Mexico in the spring of 2013. We continue to evaluate further opportunities to



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expand internationally, which may include additional franchise agreements or wholly-owned stores, as well as joint ventures.

**Fair Value Measurements**

ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurement Disclosures* ( ASC 820 ), defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in accordance with GAAP, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. Fair value is defined under ASC 820 as the exit price associated with the sale of an asset or transfer of a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

**Financial Instruments**

Valuation techniques used to measure fair value under ASC 820 must maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. In addition, ASC 820 establishes a three-tier fair value hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs used in measuring fair value. These tiers include:

Level 1 Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2 Inputs other than Level 1 that are observable, either directly or indirectly, such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities; quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities.

Level 3 Unobservable inputs (i.e., projections, estimates, interpretations, etc.) that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities.

As of October 27, 2012, we held certain assets that are required to be measured at fair value on a recurring basis. These include cash equivalents and short and long-term investments.

In accordance with ASC 820, the following table represents the fair value hierarchy of our financial assets (cash equivalents and investments) measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of October 27, 2012:

<i>(In thousands)</i>	Carrying Amount	Fair Value Measurements at October 27, 2012		
		Quoted Market Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Cash and cash equivalents:				
Cash	\$ 389,664	\$ 389,664	\$	\$
Money-market	107,821	107,821		
Commercial paper	28,069	28,069		
Treasury bills	19,129	19,129		
Total cash and cash equivalents	\$ 544,683	\$ 544,683	\$	\$
Percent to Total	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Refer to Notes 3 and 4 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information on our investment securities, including a description of the securities and a discussion of the uncertainties relating to their liquidity.

**Liquidity and Capital Resources**

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Our uses of cash are generally for working capital, the construction of new stores and remodeling of existing stores, information technology upgrades, distribution center improvements and expansion, the purchase of both short and long-term investments, the repurchase of common stock and the payment of dividends. Historically, these uses of cash have been funded with cash flow from operations and existing cash on hand. We expect to be able to fund our future cash requirements through current cash holdings as well as cash generated from operations.

Our growth strategy includes internally developing our brands and the possibility of further international expansion or acquisitions. We periodically consider and evaluate these options to support future growth. In the event we do pursue such options, we could require additional debt financing. There can be no assurance that we would be successful in any endeavor we may undertake to increase our profitability.

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The following sets forth certain measures of our liquidity:

	October 27, 2012	January 28, 2012	October 29, 2011
Working Capital (in 000's)	\$ 754,354	\$ 882,087	\$ 809,292
Current Ratio	2.70	3.18	3.04

The \$127.7 million decrease in working capital compared to January 28, 2012 and the \$54.9 million decrease compared to last year, is primarily related to use of cash for financing and investing activities including capital expenditures and the distribution of cash to shareholders through the payment of dividends and additional incentive compensation accruals, which is partially offset from positive cash flow from operations as detailed below.

*Cash Flows from Operating Activities of Continuing Operations*

Net cash provided by (used for) operating activities totaled \$210.8 million and (\$19.0) million for the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 and October 29, 2011, respectively. For both periods, our major source of cash from operations was merchandise sales and our primary outflow of cash for operations was for the payment of operational costs. Cash flows from operations this year were positive, driven in part by an increase in income from continuing operations, net of non-cash adjustments, as a result of the 11% increase in sales, improved margin rates resulting from favorable product costs and lower overall inventory balances.

*Cash Flows from Investing Activities of Continuing Operations*

Investing activities for the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 included \$71.2 million of capital expenditures for property and equipment, \$1.0 million for the acquisition of intangible assets primarily related to our international expansion strategy, and \$10.1 million of investment purchases partially offset by \$36.4 million of proceeds from the sale of investments classified as available-for-sale. Investing activities for the 39 weeks ended October 29, 2011 primarily included \$86.2 million of capital expenditures for property and equipment, \$33.9 million for the acquisition of intangible assets related to our international expansion strategy and \$186.3 million of investment purchases partially offset by \$158.0 million of proceeds from the sale of investments classified as available-for-sale.

*Cash Flows from Financing Activities of Continuing Operations*

Cash used for financing activities for the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 consisted primarily of \$360.5 million for the payment of dividends, offset by \$43.9 million related to net proceeds from stock options exercised. Dividends paid included regular quarterly dividends of \$0.11 per share and a special cash dividend of \$1.50 per share. Cash used for financing activities for the 39 weeks ended October 29, 2011 consisted primarily of \$64.3 million for the payment of dividends and \$15.2 million for the repurchase of 1.4 million shares as part of our publicly announced repurchase program.

*Credit Facilities*

On March 2, 2012, we entered into a five-year, \$150.0 million syndicated, unsecured, revolving credit agreement (the *Credit Agreement*). The primary purpose of the *Credit Agreement* is to provide additional access to capital for general corporate purposes, growth initiatives and the issuance of letters of credit.

The *Credit Agreement* contains financial covenants that require us to maintain certain coverage and leverage ratios, and various customary affirmative and negative covenants such as the ability to incur additional debt not otherwise permitted under the *Credit Agreement*.

The *Credit Agreement* has various borrowing options, including rates of interest that are based on (i) an Adjusted London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR as defined in the *Credit Agreement*) plus a margin ranging from 1.00% to 1.75% based on a defined leverage ratio, payable at the end of the applicable interest period; and (ii) a Base Rate (as defined in the *Credit Agreement*), plus a margin ranging from 0.00% to 0.75% based on a defined leverage ratio, payable quarterly.

Under the *Credit Agreement*, we are also required to pay a commitment fee ranging from 0.175% to 0.30%, based on the defined leverage ratio, on the unused portion of the total lender commitments.

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As of October 27, 2012, we were in compliance with the terms of the Credit Agreement and had \$7.6 million outstanding in letters of credit and no borrowings.



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The Credit Agreement replaced uncommitted demand lines in the aggregate amount of \$110.0 million United States dollars ( USD ) and \$25.0 million Canadian dollars ( CAD ).

Additionally, we had borrowing agreements with two separate financial institutions under which we may borrow an aggregate of \$135.0 million USD for the purposes of trade letter of credit issuances. As of October 27, 2012, we had outstanding trade letters of credit of \$54.7 million. The availability of any future borrowings under our trade letter of credit facilities is subject to acceptance by the respective financial institutions.

### *Capital Expenditures for Property and Equipment*

Capital expenditures for the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 were \$71.2 million and included \$40.6 million related to investments in our stores, including 13 new AE stores and 46 remodels. Additionally, we continued to support our infrastructure growth by investing in information technology initiatives (\$17.5 million), other home office projects (\$6.2 million), the improvement and expansion of our distribution centers (\$4.2 million) and investments in e-commerce (\$2.7 million).

For Fiscal 2012, we continue to expect capital expenditures to be approximately \$100 million related to stores, information technology and investments in e-commerce. New store growth is primarily related to outlet centers, which are among our most productive format. Additionally, we plan to remodel and refurbish approximately 48 to 50 AE stores with average operating results above the chain average. During the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012, the Company completed 46 remodel and refurbishes.

### *Stock Repurchases*

There were no share repurchases as a part of our publicly announced repurchase programs during the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012. During the 39 weeks ended October 29, 2011, we repurchased 1.4 million shares as part of our publicly announced share repurchase program for approximately \$15.2 million, at a weighted average price of \$11.10 per share. As of October 27, 2012, we had 13.1 million shares remaining authorized for repurchase. These shares may be repurchased at our discretion through February 2, 2013.

During the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 and October 29, 2011, we repurchased approximately 0.3 million and 0.1 million shares, respectively, from certain employees at market prices totaling \$4.1 million and \$2.2 million, respectively. These shares were repurchased for the payment of taxes, not in excess of the minimum statutory withholding requirements, in connection with the vesting of share-based payments, as permitted under the 2005 Stock Award and Incentive Plan. The aforementioned shares repurchased have been recorded as treasury stock.

### *Dividends*

During the 13 weeks ended October 27, 2012, our Board declared and paid a \$1.50 per share special cash dividend along with a regular quarterly cash dividend of \$0.11 per share on October 10, 2012. The payment of future dividends is at the discretion of our Board and is based on future earnings, cash flow, financial condition, capital requirements, changes in U.S. taxation and other relevant factors. It is anticipated that any future dividends paid will be declared on a quarterly basis.

## **Critical Accounting Policies**

Our critical accounting policies are described in Item 7, *Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations*, and in the notes to our Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended January 28, 2012 contained in our Fiscal 2011 Annual Report on Form 10-K. Any new accounting policies or updates to existing accounting policies as a result of new accounting pronouncements have been discussed in the notes to our Consolidated Financial Statements in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. The application of our critical accounting policies may require management to make judgments and estimates about the amounts reflected in the Consolidated Financial Statements. Management uses historical experience and all available information to make these estimates and judgments, and different amounts could be reported using different assumptions and estimates.

## **ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK.**

There were no material changes in our exposure to market risk from January 28, 2012. Our market risk profile as of January 28, 2012 is disclosed in Item 7A, *Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk*, of our Fiscal 2011 Annual Report on Form 10-K.



**Table of Contents****ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.***Disclosure Controls and Procedures*

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures that are designed to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed in our reports under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management including our Principal Executive Officer and our Principal Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. In designing and evaluating the disclosure controls and procedures, management recognized that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving the desired control objectives.

In connection with the preparation of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, as of October 27, 2012, an evaluation was performed under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including the Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Exchange Act). Based upon that evaluation, our Principal Executive Officer and our Principal Financial Officer have concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective at the reasonable assurance level as of the end of the period covered by this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

*Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting*

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the 39 weeks ended October 27, 2012 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

**PART II OTHER INFORMATION****ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS.**

Risk factors that affect our business and financial results are discussed within Item 1A of our Fiscal 2011 Annual Report on Form 10-K. There have been no material changes to the disclosures relating to this item from those set forth in our Fiscal 2011 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

**ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS.****Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities**

The following table provides information regarding our repurchases of our common stock during the 13 weeks ended October 27, 2012.

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased (1)	Average Price Paid Per Share (2)	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Programs (1)	Maximum Number of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Program (1) (3)
Month #1 (July 29, 2012 through August 25, 2012)	782	\$ 21.27		13,134,545
Month #2 (August 26, 2012 through September 29, 2012)		\$		13,134,545
Month #3 (September 30, 2012 through October 27, 2012)		\$		13,134,545
Total	782	\$ 21.27		13,134,545

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- (1) There were no shares repurchased as part of our publicly announced share repurchase program during the 13 weeks ended October 27, 2012 and there were 782 shares repurchased from employees for the payment of taxes in connection with the vesting of share-based payments.
- (2) Average price paid per share excludes any broker commissions paid.
- (3) In January 2008, our Board authorized the repurchase of 60.0 million shares of our common stock. The authorization of the remaining 13.1 million shares that may yet be purchased has been extended through the end of Fiscal 2012.

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**ITEM 6. EXHIBITS.**

* Exhibit 15	Acknowledgement of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
* Exhibit 31.1	Certification by Robert L. Hanson pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or Rule 15d-14(a)
* Exhibit 31.2	Certification by Mary M. Boland pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or Rule 15d-14(a)
**Exhibit 32.1	Certification of Principal Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
**Exhibit 32.2	Certification of Principal Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
* Exhibit 101	Interactive Data File

\* Filed with this report.

\*\* Furnished with this report.

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**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.

Dated: November 29, 2012

American Eagle Outfitters, Inc.

(Registrant)

By: /s/ Robert L. Hanson  
Robert L. Hanson  
Chief Executive Officer  
(Principal Executive Officer)

By: /s/ Mary M. Boland  
Mary M. Boland  
Chief Financial Officer and Chief Administrative Officer  
(Principal Financial Officer)