

SPARTAN STORES INC  
Form 10-Q  
July 28, 2011

**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 June 18, 2011.

OR

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

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_.

Commission File Number: 000-31127

**SPARTAN STORES, INC.**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Edgar Filing: SPARTAN STORES INC - Form 10-Q

<b>Michigan</b>	<b>38-0593940</b>
<b>(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)</b>	<b>(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)</b>
<b>850 76th Street, S.W.</b>	
<b>P.O. Box 8700</b>	
<b>Grand Rapids, Michigan</b>	<b>49518</b>
<b>(Address of Principal Executive Offices)</b>	<b>(Zip Code)</b>
<b>(616) 878-2000</b>	
<b>(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)</b>	

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  Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer  Smaller Reporting Company

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

As of July 25, 2011 the registrant had 22,870,241 outstanding shares of common stock, no par value.

---

**FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

The matters discussed in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, in our press releases and in our website-accessible conference calls with analysts and investor presentations include forward-looking statements about the plans, strategies, objectives, goals or expectations of Spartan Stores, Inc. (together with its subsidiaries, Spartan Stores ). These forward-looking statements are identifiable by words or phrases indicating that Spartan Stores or management expects, anticipates, plans, believes, or estimates, is confident that a particular occurrence or event began, may, could, should or will likely result or occur, or appears to have occurred, or will continue in the future, that a development is an opportunity, a priority, a strategy, or initiative or similarly stated expectations. Accounting estimates, such as those described under the heading Critical Accounting Policies in Part I, Item 2 of this Form 10-Q, are inherently forward-looking. Our asset impairment, restructuring cost provisions and fair value measurements are estimates and actual costs may be more or less than these estimates and differences may be material. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of the Quarterly Report, release, presentation, or statement.

In addition to other risks and uncertainties described in connection with the forward-looking statements contained in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, Spartan Stores Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended March 26, 2011 (in particular, you should refer to the discussion of Risk Factors in Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K) and other periodic reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, there are many important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially. Our ability to maintain and improve our retail-store performance; assimilate acquired stores; maintain or grow sales; respond successfully to competitors or changing consumer behavior; maintain or increase gross margin; anticipate and successfully respond to openings of competitors; maintain and improve customer and supplier relationships; realize expected benefits of new relationships; realize growth opportunities; expand our customer base; reduce operating costs; generate cash; continue to meet the terms of our debt covenants; continue to pay dividends; and implement the other programs, initiatives, plans, priorities, strategies, objectives, goals or expectations described in this Quarterly Report, our other reports or presentations, our press releases and our public comments is not certain and will be affected by changes in economic conditions generally or in the markets and geographic areas that we serve, adverse effects of the changing food and distribution industries and other factors including, but not limited to, those discussed below.

Anticipated future sales are subject to competitive pressures from many sources. Our Distribution and Retail businesses compete with many distributors, supercenters, warehouse discount stores, supermarkets and other retail stores selling food and related products, pharmacies and product manufacturers. Future sales will be dependent on the number of retail stores that we own and operate, our ability to retain and add to the retail stores to whom we distribute, competitive pressures in the retail industry generally and our geographic markets specifically, our ability to implement effective new marketing and merchandising programs and unseasonable weather conditions. Competitive pressures in these and other business segments may result in unexpected reductions in sales volumes, product prices or service fees.

Our operating and administrative expenses, and as a result, our net earnings and cash flows, may be adversely affected by changes in costs associated with, among other factors: difficulties in the operation of our business segments; future business acquisitions; adverse effects on business relationships with independent retail grocery store customers; difficulties in the retention or hiring of employees; labor stoppages or disputes; business and asset divestitures; increased transportation or fuel costs; current or future lawsuits and administrative proceedings; and losses or financial difficulties of customers or suppliers. Our future costs for pension and postretirement benefit costs may be adversely affected by changes in actuarial assumptions and methods, investment return and the composition of the group of employees and retirees covered, changes in our business that result in a withdrawal liability under multi-employer plans, and the actions, contributions and financial condition of other employers who participate in multi-employer plans to which we contribute. Our future income tax expense, and as a result, our net earnings and cash flows, could be adversely affected by changes in tax laws and related interpretations. Our accounting estimates could change and the actual effects of changes in accounting principles could deviate from our estimates due to changes in facts, assumptions, or acceptable methods, and actual results may vary materially from our estimates. Our operating and administrative expenses, net earnings and cash flow could also be adversely affected by changes in our sales mix. Our ongoing cost reduction initiatives and changes in our marketing and merchandising programs may not

be as successful as anticipated. Acts of terrorism, war, natural disaster, fire, accident, and severe weather may adversely affect the availability of and our ability to operate our warehouses and other facilities, and may adversely affect consumer buying behavior, fuel costs, shipping and transportation costs, product cost inflation or deflation and its impact on LIFO expense. General economic conditions and unemployment, particularly in Michigan, government assistance programs, health care reform, or other circumstances beyond our control, may adversely affect consumer buying behavior. A combination of the aforementioned factors, coupled with a prolonged general economic recession, could result in goodwill and other long-lived asset impairment charges.

Our future interest expense and income also may differ from current expectations, depending upon, among other factors: the amount of additional borrowings; changes in our borrowing agreements; changes in the interest rate environment; changes in accounting pronouncements; and changes in the amount of fees received or paid. The availability of our secured loan agreement depends on compliance with the terms of the loan agreement and financial stability of the banking community.

Our dividend policy does not commit the Board of Directors to declare future dividends. Each future dividend will be considered and declared by the Board of Directors in its discretion. The ability of the Board of Directors to continue to declare dividends and the amount and timing of the Company's future repurchases of shares of common stock, if any, will depend on a number of factors, including our future financial condition and profitability and compliance with the terms of our credit facilities.

This section is intended to provide meaningful cautionary statements. This should not be construed as a complete list of all economic, competitive, governmental, technological and other factors that could adversely affect our expected consolidated financial position, results of operations or liquidity. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to Spartan Stores or that Spartan Stores currently believes are immaterial also may impair its business, operations, liquidity, financial condition and prospects. We undertake no obligation to update or revise our forward-looking statements to reflect developments that occur or information obtained after the date of this Quarterly Report.

**PART I**  
**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**ITEM 1. Financial Statements**

**SPARTAN STORES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

(In thousands)

(Unaudited)

	June 18, 2011	March 26, 2011
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 37,713	\$ 43,824
Accounts receivable, net	62,228	56,344
Inventories, net	132,476	103,814
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	9,216	7,408
Deferred taxes on income	2,041	1,526
Property held for sale	1,708	
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>245,382</b>	<b>212,916</b>
<b>Goodwill</b>	<b>241,132</b>	<b>241,244</b>
<b>Property and equipment, net</b>	<b>239,799</b>	<b>241,448</b>
<b>Other, net</b>	<b>56,781</b>	<b>55,788</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 783,094</b>	<b>\$ 751,396</b>
<b>Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable	\$ 129,737	\$ 100,919
Accrued payroll and benefits	30,035	37,679
Other accrued expenses	19,411	18,343
Current portion of restructuring costs	4,330	4,470
Current maturities of long-term debt and capital lease obligations	4,235	4,205
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>187,748</b>	<b>165,616</b>
<b>Long-term liabilities</b>		
Deferred taxes on income	71,324	66,241
Postretirement benefits	14,635	14,222
Other long-term liabilities	17,765	18,269
Restructuring costs	10,158	10,832
Long-term debt and capital lease obligations	170,489	170,711
<b>Total long-term liabilities</b>	<b>284,371</b>	<b>280,275</b>

Edgar Filing: SPARTAN STORES INC - Form 10-Q

**Commitments and contingencies (Note 5)**

**Shareholders equity**

Common stock, voting, no par value; 50,000 shares authorized; 22,837 and 22,619 shares outstanding	163,079	162,086
Preferred stock, no par value, 10,000 shares authorized; no shares outstanding		
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(13,084)	(13,016)
Retained earnings	160,980	156,435

<b>Total shareholders equity</b>	<b>310,975</b>	<b>305,505</b>
----------------------------------	----------------	----------------

<b>Total liabilities and shareholders equity</b>	<b>\$ 783,094</b>	<b>\$ 751,396</b>
--	-------------------	-------------------

*See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.*

**SPARTAN STORES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EARNINGS**

(In thousands, except per share data)

(Unaudited)

	12 Weeks Ended	
	June 18, 2011	June 19, 2010
<b>Net sales</b>	\$ 602,564	\$ 577,237
<b>Cost of sales</b>	477,227	450,548
<b>Gross margin</b>	125,337	126,689
<b>Operating expenses</b>		
Selling, general and administrative	111,341	110,760
Restructuring, asset impairment and other		2,582
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	111,341	113,342
<b>Operating earnings</b>	13,996	13,347
<b>Other income and expenses</b>		
Interest expense	3,242	3,429
Other, net	(70)	(50)
<b>Total other income and expenses</b>	3,172	3,379
<b>Earnings before income taxes and discontinued operations</b>	10,824	9,968
Income taxes	4,689	3,893
<b>Earnings from continuing operations</b>	6,135	6,075
<b>Loss from discontinued operations, net of taxes</b>	(106)	(88)
<b>Net earnings</b>	\$ 6,029	\$ 5,987
<b>Basic earnings per share:</b>		
Earnings from continuing operations	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.27
Loss from discontinued operations		
<b>Net earnings</b>	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.27
<b>Diluted earnings per share:</b>		
Earnings from continuing operations	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.27
Loss from discontinued operations	(0.01)	(0.01)
<b>Net earnings</b>	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.26
<b>Weighted average shares outstanding:</b>		
Basic	22,691	22,528
Diluted	22,777	22,607

*See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.*



## SPARTAN STORES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY

(In thousands)

(Unaudited)

	Shares Outstanding	Common Stock	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Retained Earnings	Total
<b>Balance March 26, 2011</b>	22,619	\$ 162,086	\$ (13,016)	\$ 156,435	\$ 305,505
<b>Comprehensive income/loss, net of tax:</b>					
Net earnings				6,029	6,029
Change in fair value of interest rate swap, net of taxes of \$43			(68)		(68)
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>					5,961
Dividends \$.065 per share				(1,484)	(1,484)
Stock-based employee compensation		1,721			1,721
Issuances of common stock and related tax benefits on stock option exercises	14	166			166
Issuances of restricted stock and related income tax	256	(99)			(99)
Cancellations of restricted stock	(52)	(795)			(795)
<b>Balance June 18, 2011</b>	22,837	\$ 163,079	\$ (13,084)	\$ 160,980	\$ 310,975

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

## SPARTAN STORES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(In thousands)

(Unaudited)

	12 Weeks Ended	
	June 18, 2011	June 19, 2010
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Net earnings	\$ 6,029	\$ 5,987
Loss from discontinued operations	106	88
Earnings from continuing operations	6,135	6,075
Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Non-cash restructuring, asset impairment and other		2,293
Non-cash convertible debt interest	823	823
Depreciation and amortization	8,359	7,864
LIFO income warehouse consolidation		(1,950)
LIFO expense	658	142
Postretirement benefits expense	301	897
Deferred taxes on income	4,576	4,933
Stock-based compensation expense	1,721	1,106
Excess tax benefit on stock compensation	(84)	(150)
Gain on repurchase of convertible notes		(69)
Other	18	80
Change in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(5,953)	890
Inventories	(29,320)	(8,223)
Prepaid expenses and other assets	(2,792)	(1,804)
Accounts payable	31,377	8,961
Accrued payroll and benefits	(8,248)	(4,269)
Postretirement benefits payments	(79)	(86)
Other accrued expenses and other liabilities	(770)	(6,066)
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>6,722</b>	<b>11,447</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Purchases of property and equipment	(9,668)	(6,316)
Net proceeds from the sale of assets	23	62
Other	(739)	28
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>	<b>(10,384)</b>	<b>(6,226)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
Proceeds from revolving credit facility	333	98,580
Payments on revolving credit facility	(333)	(93,080)
Repurchase of convertible notes		(10,724)
Repayment of other long-term borrowings	(1,015)	(1,380)
Excess tax benefit on stock compensation	84	150
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	164	142
Dividends paid	(1,484)	(1,130)
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>	<b>(2,251)</b>	<b>(7,442)</b>
<b>Cash flows from discontinued operations</b>		

Edgar Filing: SPARTAN STORES INC - Form 10-Q

Net cash used in operating activities	(198)	(434)
Net cash used in investing activities		(74)
<b>Net cash used in discontinued operations</b>	<b>(198)</b>	<b>(508)</b>
<b>Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>(6,111)</b>	<b>(2,729)</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period</b>	<b>43,824</b>	<b>9,170</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of period</b>	<b>\$ 37,713</b>	<b>\$ 6,441</b>

*See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.*

## SPARTAN STORES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Unaudited)

**Note 1****Basis of Presentation and Significant Accounting Policies**

The accompanying unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of Spartan Stores, Inc. and its subsidiaries (Spartan Stores). All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated.

In the opinion of management, the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements, taken as a whole, contain all adjustments, which are of a normal recurring nature, necessary to present fairly the financial position of Spartan Stores as of June 18, 2011, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the interim periods presented. Interim results are not necessarily indicative of results for a full year.

**Note 2****Restructuring, Asset Impairment and Other**

Restructuring, asset impairment and other included in the Consolidated Statements of Earnings consisted of the following:

(In thousands)

	Distribution	Retail	Total
<b>12 Weeks Ended June 19, 2010</b>			
Restructuring and asset impairment	\$ 2,432	\$ 150	\$ 2,582

The following table provides the activity of restructuring costs for the 12 weeks ended June 18, 2011. Restructuring costs recorded in the Consolidated Balance Sheets are included in Current portion of restructuring costs in Current liabilities and Restructuring costs in Long-term liabilities based on when the obligations are expected to be paid.

(In thousands)

Balance at March 26, 2011	\$ 15,302
Changes in estimates	(112)
Payments, net of interest accretion	(702)
Balance at June 18, 2011	\$ 14,488

Included in the liability are lease obligations recorded at the present value of future minimum lease payments, calculated using a risk-free interest rate, and related ancillary costs from the date of closure to the end of the remaining lease term, net of estimated sublease income.

**Note 3****Fair Value Measurements**

Financial instruments include cash and cash equivalents, accounts and notes receivable, accounts payable and long-term debt. The carrying amounts of cash and cash equivalents, accounts and notes receivable, and accounts payable approximate fair value because of the short-term nature of these financial instruments. At June 18, 2011, and March 26, 2011, the estimated fair value and the book value of our debt instruments were as follows:

(In thousands)	June 18, 2011	March 26, 2011
<b>Book value of debt instruments:</b>		
Current maturities of long-term debt and capital lease obligations	\$ 4,235	\$ 4,205
Long-term debt and capital lease obligations	170,489	170,711
Equity component of convertible debt	11,806	12,629
<b>Total book value of debt instruments</b>	<b>186,530</b>	<b>187,545</b>
Fair value of debt instruments	176,993	177,112
<b>Excess of book value over fair value</b>	<b>\$ 9,537</b>	<b>\$ 10,433</b>

The estimated fair value of debt is based on market quotes for instruments with similar terms and remaining maturities.

ASC 820 prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value into the following hierarchy:

Level 1: Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability, reflecting the reporting entity's own assumptions about the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing.

At June 18, 2011 and March 26, 2011, the fair value of the interest rate swap liability was approximately \$1.2 million and \$1.1 million, respectively, and is included in other long-term liabilities in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets. The fair value measurements are classified within Level 2 of the hierarchy as significant observable market inputs are readily available as the basis of the fair value measurements.

**Note 4****Derivative Instruments**

Spartan Stores has limited involvement with derivative financial instruments and uses them only to manage well-defined interest rate risk exposure when appropriate, based on market conditions. Spartan Stores' objective in managing exposure to changes in interest rates is to reduce fluctuations in earnings and cash flows, and consequently, from time to time Spartan Stores uses interest rate swap agreements to manage this risk. Spartan Stores does not use financial instruments or derivatives for any trading or other speculative purposes.

On January 2, 2009, Spartan Stores entered into an interest rate swap agreement. The interest rate swap has been designated as a cash flow hedge of interest payments on \$45.0 million of borrowings under Spartan Stores' senior secured revolving credit facility by effectively converting a portion of the variable rate debt to a fixed rate basis. Under the terms of the agreement, Spartan Stores has agreed to pay the counterparty a fixed interest rate of 3.33% and the counterparty has agreed to pay Spartan Stores a floating interest rate based upon the 1-month LIBOR plus 1.25% (1.44% at June 18, 2011) on a notional amount of \$45 million. The interest rate swap agreement expires concurrently with the senior secured revolving credit facility on December 24, 2012.

## Edgar Filing: SPARTAN STORES INC - Form 10-Q

For derivative instruments that are designated and qualify as cash flow hedges, the effective portion of the gain or loss on the derivative is reported as a component of other comprehensive income and reclassified into earnings in the same period during which the hedged transaction affects earnings. Gains and losses on the derivative representing hedge ineffectiveness are recognized in current earnings.

The following table provides a summary of the fair value and balance sheet classification of the derivative financial instrument designated as an interest rate cash flow hedge:

(In thousands)	June 18, 2011	March 26, 2011
Balance Sheet Classification		
Other long-term liabilities	\$ 1,196	\$ 1,085

The following table provides a summary of the financial statement effect of the derivative financial instrument designated as an interest rate cash flow hedge for the first quarter ended June 18, 2011:

(In thousands)	Location in Consolidated Financial Statements	
Loss, net of taxes, recognized in other comprehensive income	Accumulated Other	
	Comprehensive Income	\$ 68
Pre-tax loss reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss	Interest expense	141

**Note 5**

**Commitments and Contingencies**

Various lawsuits and claims, arising in the ordinary course of business, are pending or have been asserted against Spartan Stores. While the ultimate effect of such actions cannot be predicted with certainty, management believes that their outcome will not result in a material adverse effect on the consolidated financial position, operating results or liquidity of Spartan Stores.

Spartan Stores contributes to the Central States multi-employer pension plan based on obligations arising from its collective bargaining agreement covering its warehouse union associates. This plan provides retirement benefits to participants based on their service to contributing employers. The benefits are paid from assets held in trust for that purpose. Trustees are appointed by employers and unions; however, Spartan Stores is not a trustee. The trustees are responsible for determining the level of benefits to be provided to participants as well as for such matters as the investment of the assets and the administration of the plan.

Based on the most recent information available to Spartan Stores, we believe that the present value of actuarial accrued liabilities in this multi-employer plan exceeds the value of the assets held in trust to pay benefits. Because we are one of a number of employers contributing to this plan, it is difficult to ascertain what our share of the underfunding would be, although we anticipate that our contributions to this plan will increase each year. To reduce this underfunding we expect meaningful increases in expense as a result of required incremental multi-employer pension plan contributions over the years. Any adjustment for a withdrawal liability will be recorded when it is probable that a liability exists and can be reasonably determined.

**Note 6****Associate Retirement Plans**

The following table provides the components of net periodic pension and postretirement benefit costs for the first quarter ended June 18, 2011 and June 19, 2010:

(In thousands) 12 Weeks Ended	Pension Benefits		SERP Benefits		Postretirement Benefits	
	June 18, 2011	June 19, 2010	June 18, 2011	June 19, 2010	June 18, 2011	June 19, 2010
	Service cost	\$	\$ 807	\$	\$ 14	\$ 44
Interest cost	668	723	12	12	98	97
Expected return on plan assets	(942)	(998)				
Amortization of prior service cost		(147)			(12)	(12)
Recognized actuarial net loss	382	345	9	10	30	28
Net periodic benefit cost	\$ 108	\$ 730	\$ 21	\$ 36	\$ 160	\$ 158

No contribution payments are required to be made in fiscal 2012 to meet the minimum pension funding requirements until the accumulated funding standard carryover balance of \$3.0 million is fully utilized. As of June 18, 2011, no contributions have been made. Spartan Stores will assess the prudence of making an additional voluntary contribution to the plan during the third quarter of fiscal 2012.

Effective January 1, 2011, the Cash Balance Pension Plan was frozen and, as a result, additional service credits will no longer be added to each Associate's account, however, interest credits will continue to accrue. Effective the same date, Company matching contributions to the Savings Plus 401k Plan were reinstated at a rate of 50% of pay deferral contributions up to 6% of each Associate's qualified compensation. Additionally, a provision allowing for a discretionary annual profit sharing contribution was added to the Company's 401k Plan.

See Note 5 for information regarding Spartan's participation in the Central States multi-employer pension plan.

**Note 7****Taxes on Income**

During the first quarter of fiscal 2012, the Michigan state legislature enacted the Corporate Income Tax (CIT) effective January 1, 2012. The new CIT will replace the current Michigan Business Tax that is in effect through December 31, 2011. As a result, Spartan Stores recorded a one-time, non-cash income tax charge relating to the write-off of net deferred tax assets and liabilities that will no longer be realized under the CIT of approximately \$0.5 million in Income Taxes in the first quarter and a corresponding change in Deferred Taxes on Income. As a result of this charge and the current state tax provision in the first quarter of fiscal 2012, the effective income tax rate was 43.3% versus the Federal statutory income tax rate of 35.0%. The effective tax rate without this charge was 38.5%

There were no material changes to the amount of unrecognized tax benefits during the first quarter of fiscal 2012.

The effective income tax rate differs from the statutory Federal income tax rate primarily due to state income taxes.

**Note 8****Stock-Based Compensation**

Spartan Stores has two shareholder-approved stock incentive plans that provide for the granting of incentive stock options, non-qualified stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, restricted stock units, stock awards, and other stock-based awards to directors, officers and other key associates.

Spartan Stores accounts for stock-based compensation awards in accordance with the provisions of ASC Topic 718 which requires that share-based payment transactions be accounted for using a fair value method and the related compensation cost recognized in the consolidated



financial statements over the period that an employee is required

Edgar Filing: SPARTAN STORES INC - Form 10-Q

to provide services in exchange for the award. Spartan Stores recognized stock-based compensation expense (net of tax) of \$0.7 million (\$0.03 per diluted share) and \$0.7 million (\$0.03 per diluted share) in the first quarter of fiscal 2012 and 2011, respectively, as a component of Operating expenses and Income taxes in the Consolidated Statements of Earnings.

The following table summarizes activity in the share-based compensation plans for the first quarter ended June 18, 2011:

	Shares Under Options	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Restricted Stock Awards	Weighted Average Grant-Date Fair Value
<b>Outstanding at March 26, 2011</b>	804,721	\$ 17.71	547,771	\$ 16.99
Granted			222,848	16.06
Exercised/Vested	(14,263)	12.84	(171,511)	17.62
Cancelled/Forfeited			(1,942)	14.65
<b>Outstanding at June 18, 2011</b>	790,458	\$ 17.80	597,166	\$ 16.47
Vested and expected to vest in the future at June 18, 2011	784,171	\$ 17.80		
<b>Exercisable at June 18, 2011</b>	643,557	\$ 17.81		

There were no stock options granted during the first quarter ended June 18, 2011 and June 19, 2010. If stock options had been granted the fair value of each stock option grant would be estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model.

Due to certain events that are considered unusual and/or infrequent in nature, and that resulted in significant business changes during the limited historical exercise period, management does not believe that Spartan Stores' historical exercise data will provide a reasonable basis upon which to estimate the expected term of stock options. Therefore, the expected term of stock options granted is determined using the simplified method as described in SEC Staff Accounting Bulletins that uses the following formula:  $((\text{vesting term} + \text{original contract term})/2)$ .

As of June 18, 2011, total unrecognized compensation cost related to nonvested share-based awards granted under our stock incentive plans was \$0.6 million for stock options and \$8.9 million for restricted stock. The remaining compensation costs not yet recognized are expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 1.3 years for stock options and 3.0 years for restricted stock.

**Note 9**

**Discontinued Operations**

Results of the discontinued operations are excluded from the accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements for all periods presented, unless otherwise noted.

The following table details the results of discontinued operations reported on the Consolidated Statements of Earnings:

(In thousands)	12 Weeks Ended	
	June 18, 2011	June 19, 2010
Loss from discontinued operations (net of taxes of (\$81) and (\$56))	\$ (106)	\$ (88)

**Note 10**

**Supplemental Cash Flow Information**

Non-cash financing activities include the issuance of restricted stock/units to employees and directors of \$3.6 million and \$3.2 million for the first quarters ended June 18, 2011 and June 19, 2010, respectively. Non-cash investing activities include capital expenditures included in current liabilities of \$2.4 million and \$1.0 million for the first quarters ended June 18, 2011 and June 19, 2010, respectively.

**Note 11**

**Operating Segment Information**

The following tables set forth information about Spartan Stores by operating segment:

(In thousands)	Distribution	Retail	Total
<b>12 Weeks Ended June 18, 2011</b>			
Net sales	\$ 257,129	\$ 345,435	\$ 602,564
Inter-segment sales	150,437		150,437
Depreciation and amortization	1,913	6,454	8,367
Operating earnings	7,402	6,594	13,996
Capital expenditures	1,906	7,762	9,668
<b>12 Weeks Ended June 19, 2010</b>			
Net sales	\$ 245,275	\$ 331,962	\$ 577,237
Inter-segment sales	149,132		149,132
Depreciation and amortization	1,871	5,964	7,835
Operating earnings	7,985	5,362	13,347
Capital expenditures	1,785	4,531	6,316

	June 18, 2011	March 26, 2011
<b>Total assets</b>		
Distribution	\$ 285,179	\$ 261,028
Retail	492,469	484,839
Discontinued operations	5,446	5,529
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 783,094</b>	<b>\$ 751,396</b>

The following table presents sales by type of similar product and services:

(Dollars in thousands)	12 Weeks Ended			
	June 18, 2011		June 19, 2010	
Non-perishables <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 292,977	49%	\$ 294,535	51%
Perishables <sup>(2)</sup>	218,205	36	211,731	37
Pharmacy	49,710	8	44,084	7
Fuel	41,672	7	26,887	5
<b>Consolidated net sales</b>	<b>\$ 602,564</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$ 577,237</b>	<b>100%</b>

<sup>(1)</sup> Consists primarily of general merchandise, grocery, beverages, snacks and frozen foods.

<sup>(2)</sup> Consists primarily of produce, dairy, meat, bakery, deli, floral and seafood.

**Note 12**

**Convertible Note Repurchase**

During the first quarter of fiscal 2011 the Company repurchased \$12.3 million in principal amount of its outstanding convertible senior notes for approximately \$10.7 million and a resultant gain of \$0.1 million.

**Note 13**

**Company-Owned Life Insurance**

During the first quarter of fiscal 2011 the Company purchased variable universal life insurance policies on certain key associates. The company-owned policy had annual premium payments of \$0.8 million recorded in the first quarter of fiscal 2012 and fiscal 2011 and currently has a net cash surrender value of \$1.6 million, which is recorded on the balance sheet in Other Assets. These company-owned policies have an aggregate amount of life insurance coverage of approximately \$15 million.

**ITEM 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**  
**Executive Overview**

Spartan Stores is a leading regional grocery distributor and grocery retailer, operating principally in Michigan and Indiana.

We operate two reportable business segments: Distribution and Retail. Our Distribution segment provides a full line of grocery, general merchandise, health and beauty care, frozen and perishable items to approximately 375 independently owned grocery stores and our 97 corporate owned stores. Our Retail segment operates 97 retail supermarkets in Michigan under the banners *D&W Fresh Markets*, *Family Fare Supermarkets*, *Glen's Markets*, and *VG's Food and Pharmacy* and 25 fuel centers/convenience stores, adjacent to our supermarket locations, under the banners *D&W Fresh Markets Quick Stop*, *Family Fare Quick Stop*, *Glen's Quick Stop* and *VG's Quick Stop*. Our retail supermarkets have a neighborhood market focus to distinguish them from supercenters and limited assortment stores.

Our sales and operating performance vary with seasonality. Our first and fourth quarters are typically our lowest sales quarters and therefore operating results are generally lower during these two quarters. Additionally, these two quarters can be affected by the timing of the Easter holiday, which results in a strong sales period. Many northern Michigan stores are dependent on tourism, which is affected by the economic environment and seasonal weather patterns, including, but not limited to, the amount and timing of snowfall during the winter months and the range of temperature during the summer months. Typically all quarters are 12 weeks, except for our third quarter, which is 16 weeks and includes the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. However, fiscal year 2012 will include a 53<sup>rd</sup> week.

At the beginning of the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010, we began implementing the conclusions of a comprehensive, multi-year supply chain optimization study. This was another important step in our ongoing strategy of maintaining a low cost grocery distribution operation. We reached an agreement with the Teamsters Local 337 to transition our Plymouth, Michigan dry grocery distribution operation to our Grand Rapids, Michigan facility. The transition was substantially complete at the end of the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010. During the past several years, we have prudently invested capital to upgrade our distribution system technology, expand our produce ripening operations, upgrade our entire fleet of trucks, and complete a major warehouse re-racking project at our Grand Rapids grocery distribution center that significantly increased warehouse capacity and improved space utilization. In addition to improved customer service through a centralized Grand Rapids facility, this decision, along with our other cost reduction initiatives is intended to create better alignment between the current level of business activity and our cost structure. In conjunction with the warehouse optimization, we implemented another administrative cost reduction initiative by eliminating certain positions. For the full year fiscal 2011, we incurred an after tax net benefit of \$0.6 million as a result of a favorable LIFO inventory benefit due to inventory reductions, partially offset by a lease termination and additional distribution center closing costs.

**Results of Operations**

The following table sets forth items from our Consolidated Statements of Earnings as a percentage of net sales and the year-to-year percentage change in dollar amounts:

(Unaudited)	Percentage of Net Sales		Percentage Change
	June 18, 2011	June 19, 2010	Fiscal 2012 / Fiscal 2011
Net sales	100.0	100.0	4.4
Gross margin	20.8	21.9	(1.1)
Selling, general and administrative expenses	18.5	19.2	0.5
Restructuring and asset impairment costs	0.0	0.4	*
Operating earnings	2.3	2.3	4.9
Other income and expenses	0.5	0.6	(6.1)
Earnings before income taxes and discontinued operations	1.8	1.7	8.6
Income taxes	0.8	0.7	20.4
Earnings from continuing operations	1.0	1.0	1.0
Earnings from discontinued operations, net of taxes	0.0	0.0	*
Net earnings	1.0	1.0	0.7

\* Percentage change is not meaningful

**Net Sales** Net sales for the quarter ended June 18, 2011 ( first quarter ) increased \$25.4 million, or 4.4%, from \$577.2 million in the quarter ended June 19, 2010 ( prior year first quarter ) to \$602.6 million.

Net sales for the first quarter in our Retail segment increased \$13.4 million, or 4.1%, from \$332.0 million in the prior year first quarter to \$345.4 million. The first quarter increase was primarily due to an increase in fuel center sales of \$14.9 million partially offset by a comparable store sales decrease of 0.9%.

The comparable store sales decrease was primarily a result of cautious consumer spending due to Michigan's current economic state and competitive activity. We define a retail store as comparable when it is in operation for 14 periods (a period equals four weeks), and we include remodeled, expanded and relocated stores in comparable stores.

Net sales for the first quarter in our Distribution segment increased \$11.8 million, or 4.8%, from \$245.3 million in the prior year first quarter to \$257.1 million. The first quarter increase was primarily due to new distribution customer business of \$5.7 million and pharmacy sales growth of \$5.2 million.

The Company expects that the second quarter distribution sales growth and retail comparable store sales rate, excluding fuel, will be comparable to the first quarter of fiscal 2012. Excluding the 53<sup>rd</sup> week in fiscal 2012, the Company continues to expect comparable store sales to turn positive in the second half of the year as we benefit from cycling fiscal 2011's competitive store activity, and we continue to execute our capital investment program, rollout our loyalty program across the remaining banners and the economy continues to experience inflation.

**Gross Margin** Gross margin represents sales less cost of sales, which include purchase costs and promotional allowances. Vendor allowances that relate to our buying and merchandising activities consist primarily of promotional allowances, which are generally allowances on purchased quantities and, to a lesser extent, slotting allowances, which are billed to vendors for our merchandising costs, such as setting up warehouse infrastructure. Vendor allowances associated with product cost are recognized as a reduction in cost of sales when the product is sold. Lump sum

Edgar Filing: SPARTAN STORES INC - Form 10-Q

payments received for multi-year contracts are amortized over the life of the contracts based on contractual terms.

Gross margin for the first quarter decreased \$1.4 million, or 1.1%, from \$126.7 million in the prior year first quarter to \$125.3 million. As a percent of net sales, gross margin for the first quarter decreased to 20.8% from 21.9%. The decrease in gross margin rate was due primarily to a shift in mix of sales to fuel and distribution, a decline in distribution margins driven by LIFO income of \$2.0 million that was recognized in the prior year related to the Company's reduced inventory levels resulting from the warehouse consolidation initiative as well as a lower rate of procurement related income. LIFO expense for first quarter fiscal 2012 was \$0.7 million versus \$0.2 million in the prior year, excluding the impact of the LIFO income mentioned above.

**Selling, General and Administrative Expenses** Selling, general and administrative ( SG&A ) expenses consist primarily of salaries and wages, employee benefits, warehousing costs, store occupancy costs, utilities, equipment rental, depreciation and other administrative costs.

SG&A expenses for the first quarter increased \$0.5 million, or 0.5%, from \$110.8 million (excluding restructuring charges) in the prior year first quarter to \$111.3 million. As a percent of net sales, SG&A expenses were 18.5% for the first quarter compared to 19.2% (excluding restructuring charges) in the prior year first quarter.

The net increase in first quarter SG&A expenses was primarily due to the following:

Increased compensation and benefit expenses of \$0.7 million, reduced promotional reimbursements of \$0.6 million, and increased transportation costs of \$0.5 in our Distribution segment.

Increased depreciation and amortization of \$0.5 million.

Increased debit/credit card fees of \$0.4 million.

Decreases in our Retail segment primarily due to lower occupancy costs of \$0.8 million.

Decreases in store labor of \$0.6 million primarily due to a favorable variance in health benefits as a result of lower claims activity.

Decreased incentive compensation expense of \$0.4 million.

Decreases in various other expenses due to continuing focus on containing costs.

**Restructuring, Asset Impairment and Other** The prior year first quarter charges of \$2.6 million consisted primarily of charges/adjustments related to the Company's warehouse consolidation initiative, which began in fiscal 2010.

**Interest Expense** Interest expense decreased \$0.2 million, or 6.1%, from \$3.4 million in the prior year first quarter to \$3.2 million. The decrease in interest expense was due primarily to lower net borrowings.

**Income Taxes** The effective tax rate is 43.3% and 39.1% for the first quarter and prior year first quarter, respectively. The difference from the statutory rate is primarily due to State of Michigan income taxes plus the charge related to a tax law change outlined below. Without this change the effective rate would be 38.5% this year.

In the first quarter of fiscal 2012, the Michigan state legislature enacted the Corporate Income Tax (CIT) effective January 1, 2012. The new CIT will replace the current Michigan Business Tax that is in effect through December 31, 2011. As a result, Spartan Stores recorded a one-time, non-cash income tax charge relating to the write-off of net deferred tax assets and liabilities that will no longer be realized under the CIT of approximately \$0.5 million in Income Taxes in the first quarter and a corresponding change in Deferred Taxes on Income. As a result of this charge, in the first quarter of fiscal 2012, the effective income tax rate was 43.3% versus the Federal statutory income tax rate of 35.0%.





**Discontinued Operations**

Certain of our retail and grocery distribution operations have been recorded as discontinued operations. Results of the discontinued operations are excluded from the accompanying notes to the condensed consolidated financial statements for all periods presented, unless otherwise noted.

**Liquidity and Capital Resources**

The following table summarizes our consolidated statements of cash flows for the first quarter and prior year first quarter:

(In thousands)	June 18, 2011	June 19, 2010
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 6,722	\$ 11,447
Net cash used in investing activities	(10,384)	(6,226)
Net cash used in financing activities	(2,251)	(7,442)
Net cash used in discontinued operations	(198)	(508)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(6,111)	(2,729)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	43,824	9,170
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 37,713	\$ 6,441

Net cash provided by operating activities decreased from the prior year first quarter period primarily due to increased working capital as a result of increased sales and the payment of fiscal year 2011 incentive compensation.

Net cash used in investing activities increased during the first quarter primarily due to capital expenditures which increased \$3.4 million to \$9.7 million. Of this amount, our Retail and Distribution segments utilized 80.3% and 19.7%, respectively. Expenditures during the current fiscal year were primarily related to three store remodels.

The terms of our senior secured revolving credit facility contain certain covenants which could restrict our capital expenditures if we fail to achieve the required ratios. Our current available borrowings are approximately \$126.6 million above these limits as of June 18, 2011 and we do not expect to fall below the restricted levels. We expect capital and real estate development expenditures to range from \$42.0 million to \$45.0 million for fiscal 2012.

Net cash used in financing activities includes cash paid and received related to our long-term borrowings, dividends paid, tax benefits of stock compensation and proceeds from the issuance of common stock. Net payments on long-term borrowings were \$1.0 million in the first quarter this year. In the prior year net long term repayments totaled \$12.1 million partially offset by net proceeds from revolver borrowings of \$5.5 million. Cash dividends of \$1.5 million were paid in the first quarter versus \$1.1 million in the prior year. This increase was due to a 30% increase in dividends from \$0.05 per share to \$0.065 per share that was approved by the Board of Directors and announced on May 18, 2011. Although we expect to continue to pay a quarterly cash dividend, adoption of a dividend policy does not commit the Board of Directors to declare future dividends. Each future dividend will be considered and declared by the Board of Directors at its discretion. Whether the Board of Directors continues to declare dividends depends on a number of factors, including our future financial condition and profitability and compliance with the terms of our credit facilities. Our current maturities of long-term debt and capital lease obligations at June 18, 2011 are \$4.2 million. Our ability to borrow additional funds is governed by the terms of our credit facilities.

Net cash used in discontinued operations includes the net cash flows of our discontinued operations and consists primarily of the payment of store asset impairment costs, insurance run-off claims and other liabilities offset by the proceeds from the sale of assets and sublease income.

Our principal sources of liquidity are cash flows generated from operations and our senior secured revolving credit facility. Interest on our convertible senior notes is payable on May 15 and November 15 of each

year. The revolving credit facility matures December 2012, and is secured by substantially all of our assets. As of June 18, 2011, our senior secured revolving credit facility had outstanding borrowings of \$45.0 million and additional available borrowings of \$146.6 million, which exceeds the minimum excess availability levels, as defined in the credit agreement. We believe that cash generated from operating activities and available borrowings under the credit facility will be sufficient to meet anticipated requirements for working capital, capital expenditures, dividend payments, and debt service obligations for the foreseeable future. However, there can be no assurance that Spartan Stores' business will continue to generate cash flow at or above current levels or that we will maintain our ability to borrow under our credit facility.

Our current ratio increased to 1.31:1.00 at June 18, 2011 from 1.29:1.00 at March 26, 2011 and our investment in working capital increased to \$57.7 million at June 18, 2011 from \$47.3 million at March 26, 2011 principally due to seasonality and increased sales. Our total net long-term debt (including current maturities and capital lease obligations net of cash and cash equivalents) to total capital ratio at June 18, 2011 was 0.31:1.00 versus 0.30:1.00 at March 26, 2011.

Consolidated Adjusted EBITDA is a non-GAAP financial measure that is defined under the terms of our credit facility as net earnings from continuing operations plus depreciation and amortization, and other non-cash charges including imputed interest, deferred (stock) compensation, LIFO expense and costs associated with the closing of operational locations, plus interest expense and the provision for income taxes to the extent deducted in the computation of net earnings.

Adjusted EBITDA is not a measure of performance under accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and should not be considered as a substitute for net earnings, cash flows from operating activities and other income or cash flow statement data. The adjusted EBITDA information has been included as one measure of our operating performance and historical ability to service debt. The Company believes that investors find the information useful because it reflects the resources available for strategic investments including, for example, capital needs of the business, strategic acquisitions and debt service. Our definition of Adjusted EBITDA may not be identical to similarly titled measures reported by other companies.

Edgar Filing: SPARTAN STORES INC - Form 10-Q

Following is a reconciliation of net earnings to Adjusted EBITDA for quarters ended June 18, 2011 and June 19, 2010.

(In thousands)	Year-to-Date	
	June 18, 2011	June 19, 2010
Net earnings	\$ 6,029	\$ 5,987
Add:		
Discontinued operations	106	88
Income taxes	4,689	3,893
Interest expense	3,242	3,429
Non-operating expense	(70)	(50)
Operating earnings	13,996	13,347
Add (Subtract):		
Depreciation and amortization	8,367	7,835
LIFO (income) expense	658	(1,808)
Restructuring, asset impairment and other		2,582
Non-cash stock compensation and other	1,550	1,078
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 24,571	\$ 23,034
<b>Reconciliation of operating earnings to adjusted EBITDA by segment:</b>		
<b>Retail:</b>		
Operating earnings	\$ 6,594	\$ 5,362
Add (Subtract):		
Depreciation and amortization	6,454	5,964
LIFO expense	438	100
Restructuring, asset impairment and other		150
Non-cash stock compensation and other	772	596*
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 14,258	\$ 12,172
<b>Distribution:</b>		
Operating earnings	\$ 7,402	\$ 7,985
Add (Subtract):		
Depreciation and amortization	1,913	1,871
LIFO (income) expense	220	(1,908)
Restructuring, asset impairment and other		2,432
Non-cash stock compensation and other	778	482*
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 10,313	\$ 10,862

\* Prior year stock compensation has been reclassified to conform to the current year to reflect the amount included in the cost allocated to the Retail segment.

Total net long-term debt is a non-GAAP financial measure that is defined as long-term debt and capital lease obligations plus current maturities of long-term debt and capital lease obligations less cash and cash equivalents. The Company believes investors find the information useful because it reflects the amount of long term debt obligations that are not covered by available cash and temporary investments.

Following is a reconciliation of long-term debt and capital lease obligations to total net long-term debt and capital lease obligations as of June 18, 2011 and March 26, 2011.

(In thousands)	June 18, 2011	March 26, 2011
Current maturities of long-term debt and capital lease obligations	\$ 4,235	\$ 4,205
Long-term debt and capital lease obligations	170,489	170,711
<b>Total Debt</b>	<b>174,724</b>	<b>174,916</b>
Cash and cash equivalents	(37,713)	(43,824)
<b>Total net long-term debt</b>	<b>\$ 137,011</b>	<b>\$ 131,092</b>

For information on contractual obligations, see our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 26, 2011. At June 18, 2011, there have been no material changes to our significant contractual obligations outside the ordinary course of business.

*Indebtedness and Liabilities of Subsidiaries*

On May 30, 2007, the Company sold \$110 million aggregate principal amount of 3.375% Convertible Senior Notes due 2027 (the Notes). The Notes are general unsecured obligations and rank equally in right of payment with all of the Company's other existing and future obligations that are unsecured and unsubordinated. Because the Notes are unsecured, they are structurally subordinated to our subsidiaries' existing and future indebtedness and other liabilities and any preferred equity issued by our subsidiaries. We rely in part on distributions and advances from our subsidiaries in order to meet our payment obligations under the notes and our other obligations. The Notes are not guaranteed by our subsidiaries. Many of our subsidiaries serve as guarantors with respect to our existing credit facility. Creditors of each of our subsidiaries, including trade creditors, and preferred equity holders, generally have priority with respect to the assets and earnings of the subsidiary over the claims of our creditors, including holders of the Notes. The Notes, therefore, are effectively subordinated to the claims of creditors, including trade creditors, judgment creditors and equity holders of our subsidiaries. In addition, our rights and the rights of our creditors, including the holders of the notes, to participate in the assets of a subsidiary during its liquidation or reorganization are effectively subordinated to all existing and future liabilities and preferred equity of that subsidiary. The Notes are effectively subordinated to our existing and future secured indebtedness to the extent of the assets securing such indebtedness and to existing and future indebtedness and other liabilities of our subsidiaries (including subsidiary guarantees of our senior credit facility).

The following table shows the indebtedness and other liabilities of our subsidiaries as of June 18, 2011:

**Spartan Stores Subsidiaries Only**

(In thousands)

	<b>June 18, 2011</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
Accounts payable	\$ 129,620
Accrued payroll and benefits	28,449
Other accrued expenses	19,822
Current portion of restructuring costs	4,330
Current maturities of long-term debt and capital lease obligations	4,235
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>186,456</b>
<b>Long-term Liabilities</b>	
Postretirement benefits	13,677
Other long-term liabilities	15,013
Restructuring costs	10,158
Long-term debt and capital lease obligations	39,555
<b>Total long-term liabilities</b>	<b>78,403</b>
<b>Total Subsidiary Liabilities</b>	<b>264,859</b>
<b>Operating Leases</b>	<b>123,379</b>
<b>Total Subsidiary Liabilities and Operating Leases</b>	<b>\$ 388,238</b>

*Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges*

Our ratio of earnings to fixed charges was 2.88:1.00 and 2.64:1.00 for the first quarter and prior year first quarter, respectively. For purposes of calculating the ratio of earnings to fixed charges, earnings consist of pretax earnings from continuing operations plus fixed charges (excluding capitalized interest). Fixed charges consist of interest costs, whether expensed or capitalized, the interest component of rental expense and amortization of debt issue costs, whether expensed or capitalized.

**Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

We had letters of credit totaling \$0.5 million outstanding and unused at June 18, 2011. The letters of credit are maintained primarily to support payment or deposit obligations. We pay a commission of approximately 2% on the face amount of the letters of credit.

**Critical Accounting Policies**

This discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations is based upon our consolidated financial statements. The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts. On an ongoing basis, we evaluate our estimates, including those related to bad debts, inventories, intangible assets, assets held for sale, long-lived assets, income taxes, self-insurance reserves, restructuring and asset impairment costs, retirement benefits, stock-based compensation and contingencies and litigation. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions and factors that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances. Based on our ongoing review, we make adjustments we consider appropriate under the facts and circumstances. We have discussed the development, selection and disclosure of these estimates with the Audit Committee. The accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements are prepared using the same critical accounting policies discussed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 26, 2011.



**ITEM 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure About Market Risk**

There have been no material changes in market risk of Spartan Stores from the information provided under Part II, Item 7A, Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure About Market Risk, of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 26, 2011.

**ITEM 4. Controls and Procedures**

An evaluation of the effectiveness of the design and operation of Spartan Stores' disclosure controls and procedures (as currently defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) was performed as of June 18, 2011 (the Evaluation Date). This evaluation was performed under the supervision and with the participation of Spartan Stores' management, including its Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO). Spartan Stores' management, including the CEO and CFO, concluded that Spartan Stores' disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the Evaluation Date to ensure that material information required to be disclosed in the reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified by the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms. Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports that we file or submit under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 is accumulated and communicated to management, including our principal executive and principal financial officers as appropriate to allow for timely decisions regarding required disclosure. During the last fiscal quarter there was no change in Spartan Stores' internal control over financial reporting that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, Spartan Stores' internal control over financial reporting.



## PART II

## OTHER INFORMATION

**ITEM 5. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds**

The following table provides information regarding the Company's purchases of its own common stock during the first quarter. On May 17, 2011, the Board of Directors authorized a five-year share repurchase program for up to \$50 million of the Company's common stock. There were no repurchases of the Company's common stock under this program during the quarter ended June 18, 2011. All transactions reported below are with associates under stock compensation plans. These may include: (1) shares of Spartan Stores, Inc. common stock delivered in satisfaction of the exercise price and/or tax withholding obligations by holders of employee stock options who exercised options, and (2) shares submitted for cancellation to satisfy tax withholding obligations that occur upon the vesting of the restricted shares. The value of the shares delivered or withheld is determined by the applicable stock compensation plan.

**Spartan Stores, Inc. Purchases of Equity Securities**

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid per Share
March 27 – April 23, 2011		
Employee Transactions		\$
April 24 – May 21, 2011		
Employee Transactions	50,064	\$ 15.87
May 22 – June 18, 2011		
Employee Transactions		\$
<b>Total for First Quarter ended June 18, 2011</b>	<b>50,064</b>	<b>\$ 15.87</b>

**ITEM 6. Exhibits**

The following documents are filed as exhibits to this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q:

Exhibit Number	Document
3.1	Restated Articles of Incorporation of Spartan Stores, Inc. Previously filed as an exhibit to Spartan Stores Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended January 1, 2011. Here incorporated by reference.
3.2	Bylaws of Spartan Stores, Inc., as amended. Previously filed as an exhibit to Spartan Stores Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 11, 2010. Here incorporated by reference.
10.1	Form of restricted stock award to executive officers.
10.2	Form of restricted stock award to non-employee directors.
10.3	Form of fiscal 2012 Incentive Award under the Spartan Stores, Inc. Executive Cash Incentive Plan of 2010.
10.4	Form of amended and restated fiscal 2011 Incentive Award under the Spartan Stores, Inc. Executive Cash Incentive Plan of 2010.
31.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.1	Certification pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document*
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document*
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document*
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document*
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document*
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document*

\* Pursuant to Regulation S-T, this interactive data file is deemed not filed or part of a registration statement or prospectus for purposes of Sections 11 or 12 of the Securities Act of 1933, is deemed not filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and otherwise is not subject to liability under these sections.

**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.

SPARTAN STORES, INC.

(Registrant)

Date: July 28, 2011

By /s/ DAVID M. STAPLES  
David M. Staples

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal  
Financial Officer and duly authorized signatory for Registrant)

-26-

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

Exhibit Number	Document
3.1	Restated Articles of Incorporation of Spartan Stores, Inc. Previously filed as an exhibit to Spartan Stores Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended January 1, 2011. Here incorporated by reference.
3.2	Bylaws of Spartan Stores, Inc., as amended. Previously filed as an exhibit to Spartan Stores Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 11, 2010. Here incorporated by reference.
10.1	Form of restricted stock award to executive officers.
10.2	Form of restricted stock award to non-employee directors.
10.3	Form of fiscal 2012 Incentive Award under the Spartan Stores, Inc. Executive Cash Incentive Plan of 2010.
10.4	Form of amended and restated fiscal 2011 Incentive Award under the Spartan Stores, Inc. Executive Cash Incentive Plan of 2010.
31.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.1	Certification pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document*
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document*
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document*
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document*
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document*
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document*

\* Pursuant to Regulation S-T, this interactive data file is deemed not filed or part of a registration statement or prospectus for purposes of Sections 11 or 12 of the Securities Act of 1933, is deemed not filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and otherwise is not subject to liability under these sections.