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EXFO ELECTRO OPTICAL ENGINEERING INC  
Form 6-K  
March 21, 2002

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 6-K

REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER PURSUANT TO RULE 13a-16 OR 15d-16  
UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the month of March 2002

EXFO ELECTRO-OPTICAL ENGINEERING INC.  
(Translation of registrant's name into English)

465 GODIN AVENUE, VANIER, QUEBEC, CANADA G1M 3G7  
(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F  X  
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Form 40-F  
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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes  
-----

No  X  
-----

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82-\_\_\_\_\_.

On March 18, 2002, EXFO Electro-Optical Engineering Inc., a Canadian corporation, reported its results of operations for the fiscal quarter ended February 28, 2002. This report on Form 6-K sets forth the news release relating to EXFO's announcement and certain information relating to EXFO's financial condition and results of operations for the second fiscal quarter of the 2002 fiscal year. The press release and certain information relating to EXFO's financial condition and results of operations for the second fiscal quarter of the 2002 fiscal year are hereby incorporated as a document by reference to Form F-3 (Registration Statement under the Securities Act of 1933) declared effective as of July 30, 2001 and to Form F-3 (Registration Statement under the Securities Act of 1933) declared effective as of March 11, 2002 and to amend certain material information as set forth in these two Form F-3 documents.

[PRESS RELEASE]

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[EXFO LETTERHEAD]

1 800 663-3936 info@exfo.com - www.exfo.com  
Tel.: (418) 683-0211 Fiber-optic test, measurement and monitoring equipment  
Fax: (418) 683-2170

### EXFO MEETS PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED GUIDANCE

- Sales of US\$14.6 million
- Pro forma net loss\* of US\$0.07 per share
- Net loss of US\$0.37 per share
- Guides towards slight growth in upcoming quarter

QUEBEC CITY, CANADA, March 18, 2002--EXFO Electro-Optical Engineering Inc. (NASDAQ: EXFO, TSE: EXF) announced today that it has met previously issued guidance for the second quarter of fiscal 2002.

EXFO reported sales of US\$14.6 million for the quarter ended February 28, 2002 compared to US\$36.3 million for the same period in fiscal 2001 and US\$20.1 million for the first quarter of 2002.

Pro forma net loss\* for the second quarter of fiscal 2002 was US\$4.1 million, or US\$0.07 per share, compared to pro forma net earnings of US\$7.5 million, or US\$0.14 per share, for the second quarter of 2001 and a pro forma net loss of US\$1.9 million, or \$0.03 per share, for the first quarter of 2002.

EXFO's net loss, which includes amortization of goodwill and the after-tax effect of amortization of intangible assets and restructuring charges, for the second quarter of fiscal 2002 was US\$22.7 million, or US\$0.37 per share, compared to net earnings of US\$24,000, or US\$0.00 per share, for the same period last year and a net loss of US\$19.1 million, or \$0.33 per share, for the first quarter of 2002.

Gross margin, excluding inventory write-offs, amounted to 51.9% of sales for the second quarter of 2002 compared to 64.8% for the same period in 2001 and 55.1% for the first quarter of 2002. Including inventory write-offs of US\$5.9 million and US\$3.5 million in the second and first quarters of 2002, gross margin dropped to 11.8% and 37.8%, respectively.

"After 16 consecutive years of growth in sales, we have been affected by difficult market conditions that are unprecedented in this industry," said Germain Lamonde, Chairman, President and CEO of EXFO. "However, I am pleased that we have strengthened our positioning in the fiber-optic test and measurement segment. Our sequential increase in net bookings and decrease in order cancellations represent encouraging signs that our business strategy is reaping benefits."

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### BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS

EXFO launched an unprecedented nine new products during the second quarter of 2002. Three major releases included the FTB-5800 Chromatic Dispersion Analyzer for high-speed DWDM networks; the IQS-500 Cortex platform for manufacturing automation and RD and the FPMD-5600 Femtosecond Polarization Mode Dispersion

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Analyzer (PMD) to measure first- and second-order PMD for DWDM.

By the time the Optical Fiber Conference concludes this week, the Company will have announced more than 20 new products since the beginning of fiscal 2002. In comparison, EXFO launched the same number of products during the entire 2001 fiscal year.

### OPERATING EXPENSES

Selling and administrative expenses amounted to US\$9.3 million, or 63.4% of sales, for the second quarter of fiscal 2002 compared to US\$10.9 million, or 30.1% of sales, for the same period in 2001 and US\$10.3 million, or 51.3% of sales, for the first quarter of 2002. Gross research and development expenses totalled US\$4.8 million, or 33.0% of sales, for the second quarter of fiscal 2002 compared to US\$4.5 million, or 12.4% of sales, for the same period last year and US\$4.2 million, or 20.9% of sales, for the first quarter of 2002. During the second quarter of 2002, EXFO incurred additional severance expenses of US\$447,000 as part of its restructuring efforts.

The percentage increases in operating expenses were mainly due to decreased sales during the second quarter of 2002 and the full effect of the Avantas acquisition.

### BUSINESS OUTLOOK

EXFO forecasted sales between US\$14.5 million and US\$17.0 million and a pro forma net loss between US\$0.05 and US\$0.07 for the third quarter of fiscal 2002.

"We have made difficult choices preserving our long-term focus on innovation and market share gains while aligning our cost structure to current market conditions," Mr. Lamonde said. "Judging by the string of products we released so far this year, we are optimistic about showing slight growth in the third quarter."

### CONFERENCE CALL AND WEBCAST

EXFO will host a conference call today at 5 p.m. (Eastern time) to review its second-quarter results. To listen to the conference call and participate in the question period via telephone, dial 1 (416) 620-2400.

Germain Lamonde, Chairman, President and CEO, and Pierre Plamondon, CA, Vice-President of Finance and Chief Financial Officer, will participate in the call. A replay of the conference call can be accessed after 7 p.m. (Eastern time) today until midnight (Eastern time) on March 22, 2002. The replay number is 1 (416) 626-4100 and the password is 20395770. A Webcast of the conference call will also be available on EXFO's Web site at [www.exfo.com](http://www.exfo.com), under the Investors section.

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\*PRO FORMA NET EARNINGS (LOSS) REPRESENT NET EARNINGS (LOSS) EXCLUDING AMORTIZATION OF GOODWILL AND THE AFTER-TAX EFFECT OF AMORTIZATION OF INTANGIBLE ASSETS AND RESTRUCTURING CHARGES. ALL FIGURES ARE IN THOUSANDS OF US DOLLARS EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA.

THREE MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28,

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	2001	2002
NET EARNINGS (LOSS) IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAAP	\$ 24	\$ (22,675)
PRO FORMA ADJUSTMENTS:		
AMORTIZATION OF GOODWILL	6,377	12,409
AMORTIZATION OF INTANGIBLE ASSETS	1,648	3,469
TAX EFFECT OF AMORTIZATION OF INTANGIBLE ASSETS	(538)	(1,281)
RESTRUCTURING CHARGES	-	6,309
TAX EFFECT OF THE RESTRUCTURING CHARGES	-	(2,330)
	-----	-----
PRO FORMA NET EARNINGS (LOSS)	\$ 7,511	\$ (4,099)
	=====	=====
BASIC AND DILUTED PRO FORMA NET EARNINGS (LOSS) PER SHARE	\$ 0.14	\$ (0.07)

EXFO PROVIDES PRO FORMA FINANCIAL INFORMATION TO HELP THE READER BETTER UNDERSTAND ITS OPERATING RESULTS. THIS INFORMATION IS NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH, OR AN ALTERNATIVE FOR, GENERALLY ACCEPTED ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES AND MAY NOT BE COMPARABLE TO SIMILARLY TITLED MEASURES REPORTED BY OTHER COMPANIES.

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### ABOUT EXFO

EXFO is a leading designer and manufacturer of fiber-optic test, measurement, monitoring and automation solutions for the global telecommunications industry. EXFO markets more than 90 product families to 2000 customers in 70 countries around the world.

EXFO and its subsidiaries develop products for two main markets. The Portable and Monitoring Division provides handheld and modular instruments for the physical-, optical- and protocol-layer testing needs of telecommunications carriers and network service providers. The Industrial and Scientific Division offers an extensive line of high-performance instruments, test automation systems and manufacturing automation equipment for optical component and transmission system vendors as well as for research and development labs.

This news release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the U. S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and we intend that such forward-looking statements be subject to the safe harbors created thereby. Forward-looking statements are statements other than historical information or statements of current condition. Words such as "may," "will," "expect," "believe," "anticipate," "intend," "could," "estimate" or "continue" or the negative or comparable terminology are intended to identify forward-looking statements. In addition, any statements that refer to expectations, projections or other characterizations of future events or circumstances are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve risks and uncertainties, and actual results may differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements as a result of various factors including continued uncertainty over the world-wide economy, spending in the telecommunications sector and our ability to execute successfully in these

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uncertain conditions; the effects of the actions we have taken in response to such economic uncertainty (including workforce reductions, ability to quickly adapt cost structures to align with decreased levels of business, ability to manage inventory levels to adapt to slowdowns); market acceptance of our recently introduced new products and other upcoming products; limited visibility with regards to customer orders and the timing of such orders; our ability to successfully integrate our acquired and to-be-acquired companies; and future economic, competitive and market conditions. Assumptions relating to the foregoing involve judgments and risks, all of which are difficult or impossible to predict accurately and many of which are beyond our control. Other risk factors that may affect our future performance and our operations are detailed in our Annual Report on Form 20-F and our other filings with the U. S. Securities and Exchange Commission and the Canadian securities commissions. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable based on information currently available to us, we cannot assure you that the expectations will prove to have been correct. Accordingly, you should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. In any event, these statements speak only as of the date of this document. We undertake no obligation to revise or update any of them to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this document.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Mike Lamanna  
 Director, Investor Relations  
 (418) 683-0211  
 michael.lamanna@exfo.com

EXFO ELECTRO-OPTICAL ENGINEERING INC.  
 INTERIM CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

(in thousands of US dollars)

	AS AT AUGUST 31, 2001 -----	AS AT FEBRUARY 28, 2002 ----- (UNAUDITED)
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 7,729	\$ 8,105
Short-term investments	66,861	43,432
Accounts receivable		
Trade, less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$541 (\$893 as at August 31, 2001)	24,531	9,669
Other	3,660	3,408
Income taxes receivable	-	15,781
Inventories (note 3)	44,345	36,143
Prepaid expenses	1,265	1,478
Future income taxes	1,423	1,808
	149,814	119,824
<b>PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>27,140</b>	<b>28,537</b>
<b>INTANGIBLE ASSETS AND GOODWILL</b>	<b>264,242</b>	<b>291,318</b>

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FUTURE INCOME TAXES	1,381	1,909
	-----	-----
	\$442,577	\$441,588
	=====	=====
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 4)	\$ 16,180	\$ 12,525
Income taxes payable	2,623	-
Deferred revenue	616	378
Current portion of long-term debt	106	91
	-----	-----
	19,525	12,994
DEFERRED GRANTS	1,002	636
LONG-TERM DEBT	664	620
FUTURE INCOME TAXES	6,581	5,522
	-----	-----
	27,772	19,772
	-----	-----
CONTINGENCY (NOTE 7)		
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
SHARE CAPITAL	429,995	489,611
CONTRIBUTED SURPLUS	1,457	1,483
CUMULATIVE TRANSLATION ADJUSTMENT	(8,333)	(19,234)
DEFICIT	(8,314)	(50,044)
	-----	-----
	414,805	421,816
	-----	-----
	\$442,577	\$441,588
	=====	=====

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

EXFO ELECTRO-OPTICAL ENGINEERING INC.  
INTERIM UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EARNINGS

(in thousands of US dollars, except share and per share data)

	THREE MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2001	SIX MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2001	THREE ENDED FE 20
	-----	-----	-----
SALES	\$ 36,293	\$ 64,812	\$

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COST OF SALES *	12,787	23,095	
GROSS MARGIN	23,506	41,717	
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Selling and administrative	10,915	19,835	
Net research and development (note 5)	3,315	5,287	
Amortization of property, plant and equipment	716	1,230	
Amortization of intangible assets	1,648	1,662	
Restructuring charges (note 6)	-	-	
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	16,594	28,014	
EARNINGS (LOSS) FROM OPERATIONS	6,912	13,703	
Interest income, net	1,777	4,408	
Foreign exchange gain	811	3,170	
EARNINGS (LOSS) BEFORE INCOME TAXES AND AMORTIZATION OF GOODWILL	9,500	21,281	
INCOME TAXES			
Current	4,070	7,590	
Future	(971)	(339)	
	3,099	7,251	
EARNINGS (LOSS) BEFORE AMORTIZATION OF GOODWILL	6,401	14,030	
AMORTIZATION OF GOODWILL	6,377	6,501	
NET EARNINGS (LOSS) FOR THE PERIOD	\$ 24	\$ 7,529	\$
BASIC AND DILUTED EARNINGS (LOSS) PER SHARE			
Earnings (loss) before amortization of goodwill	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.28	\$
Net earnings (loss)	\$ -	\$ 0.15	\$
BASIC WEIGHTED AVERAGE NUMBER OF SHARES OUTSTANDING (000's)	51,804	49,267	
DILUTED WEIGHTED AVERAGE NUMBER OF SHARES OUTSTANDING (000's) (note 8)	52,043	49,431	

\* including restructuring charges for inventory write-off of \$5,862 and \$9,362 for the three months and the six months ended February 28, 2002, respectively, nil in 2001 (see note 6).

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

EXFO ELECTRO-OPTICAL ENGINEERING INC.  
INTERIM UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF RETAINED EARNINGS (DEFICIT)

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AND CONTRIBUTED SURPLUS  
(in thousands of US dollars)

RETAINED EARNINGS (DEFICIT)

	SIX MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28,	
	2001	2002
BALANCE - BEGINNING OF PERIOD	\$ 6,980	\$ (8,314)
ADD		
Net earnings (loss) for the period	7,529	(41,730)
BALANCE - END OF PERIOD	\$14,509	\$ (50,044)

CONTRIBUTED SURPLUS

	SIX MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28,	
	2001	2002
BALANCE - BEGINNING OF PERIOD	\$ -	\$1,457
ADD		
Premium on resale of share capital	1,350	26
BALANCE - END OF PERIOD	\$1,350	\$1,483

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

EXFO ELECTRO-OPTICAL ENGINEERING INC.  
INTERIM UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(in thousands of US dollars)



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	THREE MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2001	SIX MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2001	THREE END FEBRUAR 20
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Net earnings (loss) for the period	\$ 24	\$ 7,529	\$
Add (deduct) items not affecting cash and cash equivalents			
Discount on short-term investments	2,795	188	
Amortization of property, plant and equipment	716	1,230	
Amortization of intangible assets	1,648	1,662	
Foreign exchange gains (losses) on disposal of short-term investments	(878)	(3,188)	
Future income taxes	(971)	(339)	
Amortization of goodwill	6,377	6,501	
Change in non-cash operating working capital items			
Accounts receivable	(1,039)	(7,297)	
Income taxes	2,571	4,383	
Inventories	(9,307)	(16,300)	
Prepaid expenses	(627)	(605)	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(2,029)	4,371	
Deferred revenue	144	176	
Deferred grants	(71)	(61)	
	(647)	(1,750)	
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Bank advances	654	812	
Repayment of mandatorily redeemable preferred shares	-	(354)	
Repayment of long-term debt	(874)	(1,004)	
Redemption of share capital	(11)	(30)	
Resale of share capital	364	1,380	
Share issue expenses	(26)	(49)	
	107	755	
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Additions to short-term investments	(194,325)	(210,790)	
Proceeds from disposal of short-term investments	245,499	263,831	
Additions to property, plant and equipment and intangible assets	(5,857)	(8,038)	
Business combinations, net of cash and cash equivalents acquired	(42,349)	(42,349)	
	2,968	2,654	
<b>CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>	<b>2,428</b>	<b>1,659</b>	

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EFFECT OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATE CHANGES ON CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(778)	(454)	
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - BEGINNING OF PERIOD	284	729	
	-----	-----	-----
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - END OF PERIOD	\$ 1,934	\$ 1,934	\$
	-----	-----	-----
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION			
Interest paid	\$ (125)	\$ (157)	\$
Interest received	\$ 4,057	\$ 4,723	\$
Income taxes paid	\$ (1,165)	\$ (2,110)	\$

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

EXFO ELECTRO-OPTICAL ENGINEERING INC.  
NOTES TO INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(tabular amounts in thousands of US dollars, except share and  
per share data and as otherwise noted)

1 INTERIM FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The financial information as at February 28, 2002 and for the periods ended February 28, 2001 and 2002 is unaudited. In the opinion of management, all adjustments necessary to present fairly the results of these periods have been included. The adjustments made were of a normal recurring nature. Interim results may not necessarily be indicative of results anticipated for the year.

These interim consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in Canada and use the same accounting policies and methods used in the preparation of the company's most recent annual consolidated financial statements. All disclosures required for annual financial statements have not been included in these financial statements. These interim consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the company's most recent annual consolidated financial statements.

2 BUSINESS COMBINATION

On November 2, 2001, the company acquired a 100% interest in Avantas Networks Corporation (renamed EXFO Protocol Inc. ("EXFO Protocol")), a Canadian company specializing in fiber-optic protocol testing, in exchange for a total consideration valued at \$94,952,000 or \$69,381,000 net of \$25,571,000 of cash and cash equivalents acquired. The total consideration includes acquisition-related costs of \$1,272,000.

The consideration paid consisted of \$9,756,000 in cash, net of cash and cash equivalents acquired of \$25,571,000 and the issuance of 4,374,573 subordinate voting shares valued at \$59,625,000. The fair value of the subordinate voting shares issued was determined based on the market price of the shares beginning three days before and ending three days after the

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terms of the acquisition were agreed and announced, being August 20, 2001.

This acquisition has been accounted for using the purchase method and consequently, the results of operations of EXFO Protocol have been included in the consolidated statements of earnings of the company since November 2, 2001, being the date of acquisition.

### EXFO ELECTRO-OPTICAL ENGINEERING INC. NOTES TO INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(tabular amounts in thousands of US dollars, except share and per share data and as otherwise noted)

The purchase price, including acquisition-related costs, has been allocated based on the estimated fair value of net assets at the date of acquisition as follows:

	(UNAUDITED)
Assets acquired	
Current assets	\$ 6,040
Property, plant and equipment	2,003
In-process research and development	1,400
Core technology	5,050
Future income tax assets	476
Liabilities assumed	(3,575)
	-----
Net identifiable assets acquired	11,394
Goodwill	57,987
	-----
Purchase price	69,381
Less: Subordinate voting shares issued	59,625
	-----
Cash paid, net of cash and cash equivalents acquired	\$ 9,756
	-----

The fair value allocated to intangible assets acquired was based upon an independent valuation performed in conjunction with this acquisition.

The existing technology that has reached technological feasibility was classified as core technology.

In-process research and development represents the existing technology that has not reached technological feasibility and has no future alternative use.

In-process research and development and core technology are amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives of ten months and five years, respectively. Goodwill is not amortized but is reviewed for impairment when events or circumstances indicated that cost may not be recoverable.

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3 INVENTORIES

	AS AT AUGUST 31, 2001	AS AT FEBRUARY 28, 2002
	-----	-----
		(UNAUDITED)
Raw materials	\$29,891	\$23,003
Work in progress	3,507	2,078
Finished goods	10,947	11,062
	-----	-----
	\$44,345	\$36,143
	-----	-----

EXFO ELECTRO-OPTICAL ENGINEERING INC.  
NOTES TO INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(tabular amounts in thousands of US dollars, except share and  
per share data and as otherwise noted)

4 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES

	AS AT AUGUST 31, 2001	AS AT FEBRUARY 28, 2002
	-----	-----
		(UNAUDITED)
Trade	\$ 7,732	\$ 5,159
Salaries and social benefits	3,917	3,517
Commissions	1,307	275
Tax on capital	463	697
Warranty	901	905
Restructuring charges	1,230	1,136
Other	630	836
	-----	-----
	\$16,180	\$12,525
	-----	-----

5 NET RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENSES

THREE MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2001	SIX MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2001	THREE M ENDED FEB 200
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	(UNAUDITED)	(UNAUDITED)	(UNAUDITED)
Gross research and development expenses	\$ 4,508	\$ 7,356	\$
Research and development tax credits	(867)	(1,567)	
Government grants	(326)	(502)	
	\$ 3,315	\$ 5,287	\$

6 RESTRUCTURING CHARGES

During the three months ended November 30, 2001, the company incurred restructuring charges of \$3,910,000 in order to align its cost structure to market conditions. The company recorded \$410,000 in severance expenses for the 101 employees who were terminated, which are included in the restructuring charges in the statement of earnings for the six months ended February 28, 2002. The company also recorded \$3,500,000 in inventory write-off for excess and obsolete inventories which is included in the cost of sales in the statement of earnings for the six months ended February 28, 2002. As at February 28, 2002, the accrued liabilities related to these restructuring charges amount to \$47,000 and consist of severance expenses.

EXFO ELECTRO-OPTICAL ENGINEERING INC.  
NOTES TO INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(tabular amounts in thousands of US dollars, except share and per share data and as otherwise noted)

During the three months ended February 28, 2002, the company incurred additional restructuring charges of \$6,309,000 in order to align its cost structure to current market conditions. The company recorded \$447,000 in severance expenses for the additional 57 employees who were terminated, which are included in the restructuring charges in the statements of earnings for the periods ended February 28, 2002. The company also recorded \$5,862,000 in additional inventory write-off for excess and obsolete inventories which is included in the cost of sales in the statements of earnings for the periods ended February 28, 2002. As at February 28, 2002, the accrued liabilities related to these restructuring charges amount to \$409,000 and consist of severance expenses.

Finally, as at February 28, 2002, the accrued liabilities related to the restructuring plan of June 2001 amount to \$680,000 and consist of future payments on exit leased facilities.

7 CONTINGENCY

On November 27, 2001, a class action suit was filed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York against the company, four of the underwriters of its Initial Public Offering and some of its executive officers pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder and sections 11, 12 and 16 of the

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Securities Act of 1933. This class action alleges that the company's registration statement and prospectus filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 29, 2000 contained material misrepresentations and/or omissions resulting from (i) the underwriters allegedly soliciting and receiving additional, excessive and undisclosed commissions from certain investors in exchange for which they allocated material portions of the shares issued in connection with the company's Initial Public Offering; and (ii) the underwriters allegedly entering into agreements with customers whereby shares issued in connection with the company's Initial Public Offering would be allocated to those customers in exchange for which customers agreed to purchase additional amounts of shares in the after market at pre-determined prices. The plaintiffs in this suit seek an unspecified amount for damages suffered.

The company believes that its executive officers have fully complied with all applicable securities laws and that the claims against it and its officers are without merit. The company has referred this matter to its insurers and plans to vigorously defend its position in this litigation. However, at this time, it is not possible to predict the outcome of this case, nor determine the amount of possible losses. Accordingly, no provision for this case has been made in the interim consolidated financial statements as of February 28, 2002.

### EXFO ELECTRO-OPTICAL ENGINEERING INC. NOTES TO INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(tabular amounts in thousands of US dollars, except share and per share data and as otherwise noted)

#### 8 EARNINGS (LOSS) PER SHARE

The following table summarizes the reconciliation of the basic weighted average number of shares outstanding and the diluted weighted average number of shares outstanding used in the diluted earnings (loss) per share calculation:

	THREE MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2001	SIX MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2001	THREE M ENDED FEB 200
	----- (UNAUDITED)	----- (UNAUDITED)	----- (UNAU
Basic weighted average number of shares outstanding (000's)	51,804	49,267	
Exercise of options	153	121	
Exercise of restricted stock awards	86	43	
	-----	-----	
Diluted weighted average number of shares outstanding (000's)	52,043	49,431	
	-----	-----	

#### 9 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CANADIAN AND U.S. GAAP

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These interim consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian GAAP which differ in certain respects from U.S. GAAP. Note 19 to the company's most recent annual consolidated financial statements describes the significant differences between Canadian and U.S. GAAP that affect the company. This note describes significant additional changes occurring since the most recent annual consolidated financial statements and provides a quantitative analysis of the significant differences. All disclosures required in annual financial statements under U.S. GAAP have not been provided in these interim consolidated financial statements.

### EXFO ELECTRO-OPTICAL ENGINEERING INC. NOTES TO INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(tabular amounts in thousands of US dollars, except share and per share data and as otherwise noted)

#### RECONCILIATION OF NET EARNINGS (LOSS) TO CONFORM WITH U.S. GAAP

	THREE MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2001	SIX MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2001	THREE END FEBRUAR 20
	----- (UNAUDITED)	----- (UNAUDITED)	----- (UNAU
Net earnings (loss) for the period in accordance with Canadian GAAP	\$ 24	\$ 7,529	\$
Non-cash stock-based compensation costs related to stock option plan	(641)	(174)	
Non-cash stock-based compensation costs related to stock purchase plan	(113)	(234)	
Non-cash stock-based compensation costs related to restricted stock award plan	(339)	(339)	
Unrealized gains (losses) on forward exchange contracts	1,002	103	
Future income taxes on forward exchange contracts	(439)	(34)	
Reclassification of realized foreign exchange gains on available-for-sale securities	4,300	-	
Future income taxes on available-for-sale securities	(1,935)	-	
Acquired in-process research and development	(1,309)	(1,309)	
Future income taxes on acquired in-process research and development	(162)	(162)	
Amortization of goodwill	(2,034)	(2,034)	
	-----	-----	-----
Net earnings (loss) available to common shareholders for the period in accordance with U.S. GAAP	(1,646)	3,346	

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Other comprehensive income (loss)				
Foreign currency translation adjustments	664		(7,878)	
Unrealized holding gains on available-for-sale securities, net of related future income taxes	419		382	
Reclassification of realized foreign exchange gains on available-for-sale securities, net of related future income taxes	(2,365)		-	
Comprehensive loss	\$ (2,928)	\$ (4,150)	\$	
Basic and diluted net earnings (loss) per share in accordance with U.S. GAAP	\$ (0.03)	\$ 0.07	\$	

EXFO ELECTRO-OPTICAL ENGINEERING INC.  
NOTES TO INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(tabular amounts in thousands of US dollars, except share and per share data and as otherwise noted)

SHARE CAPITAL

		AS AT AUGUST 3 2001
		-----
Share capital in accordance with Canadian GAAP	\$	42
Stock-based compensation costs related to stock purchase plan		
Current period		
Cumulative effect of prior periods		
Shares issued upon business combinations		6
		-----
Share capital in accordance with U.S. GAAP	\$	49
		-----

DEFERRED STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION COSTS

AS AT



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AUGUST 3  
2001

	-----
Deferred stock-based compensation costs in accordance with Canadian GAAP	\$
Stock-based compensation costs related to stock-based compensation plans	
Current period	(
Cumulative effect of prior periods	(1
Amortization for the period	
Reduction of stock-based compensation costs	1
	-----
Deferred stock-based compensation costs in accordance with U.S. GAAP	\$ (
	-----

EXFO ELECTRO-OPTICAL ENGINEERING INC.  
NOTES TO INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(tabular amounts in thousands of US dollars, except share and per share data and as otherwise noted)

OTHER CAPITAL

AS AT  
AUGUST 3  
2001

	-----
Other capital in accordance with Canadian GAAP	\$
Stock-based compensation costs related to stock-based compensation plans	
Current period	
Cumulative effect of prior periods	1
Reduction of stock-based compensation costs	(1
	-----
Other capital in accordance with U.S. GAAP	\$ 1
	-----

DEFICIT

AS AT  
AUGUST 3  
2001

Deficit in accordance with Canadian GAAP	\$	(
Stock-based compensation costs related to stock-based compensation plans		
Current period		(
Cumulative effect of prior periods		(
Unrealized gains (losses) on forward exchange contracts, net of related future income taxes		
Current period		
Cumulative effect of prior periods		
Acquired in-process research and development		
Current period		
Future income taxes on acquired in-process research and development		
Current period		
Cumulative effect of prior periods		
Amortization of goodwill		
Current period		(
Cumulative effect of prior periods		(
Change in reporting currency		
Cumulative effect of prior periods		
-----		
Deficit in accordance with U.S. GAAP	\$	(2
-----		

EXFO ELECTRO-OPTICAL ENGINEERING INC.  
NOTES TO INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(tabular amounts in thousands of US dollars, except share and per share data and as otherwise noted)

ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE LOSS

		AS AT
		AUGUST 3
		2001
-----		
Foreign currency translation adjustments		
Balance - Beginning of period	\$	(9
Change during the period		)
-----		
Balance - End of period		(9
-----		
Unrealized holding gains on available-for-sale securities, net of future income taxes		
Balance - Beginning of period		
Reclassification adjustment for amounts included in net loss, net of		

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related future income taxes

Balance - End of period

Accumulated other comprehensive loss

\$ (9

EXFO ELECTRO-OPTICAL ENGINEERING INC.  
NOTES TO INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(tabular amounts in thousands of US dollars, except share and per share data and as otherwise noted)

BALANCE SHEETS

	AS AT AUGUST 31, 2001		AS
	AS REPORTED	U.S. GAAP	AS R
Goodwill			(UNA
Cost	\$ 250,497	\$ 315,547	\$ 3
Accumulated amortization	(31,325)	(39,762)	(
	\$ 219,172	\$ 275,785	\$ 2
Shareholders' equity			
Share capital	\$ 429,995	\$ 498,121	\$ 4
Contributed surplus	1,457	1,457	
Cumulative translation adjustment	(8,333)	-	(
Deferred stock-based compensation costs	-	(7,968)	
Other capital	-	12,350	
Deficit	(8,314)	(23,494)	(
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	-	(9,349)	
	\$ 414,805	\$ 471,117	\$ 4

STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

For the periods ended February 28, 2001 and 2002, there are no significant differences between the statements of cash flows under Canadian GAAP as compared to U.S. GAAP.

UNAUDITED PRO FORMA INFORMATION ON BUSINESS COMBINATION

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Under U.S. GAAP, pro forma information must be provided as though the business combination had occurred at the beginning of the reported periods.

The following unaudited pro forma information reflects the results of operations as if the acquisition of EXFO Protocol Inc. had been completed on September 1, 2000 and 2001.

Such information is not necessarily indicative of the actual results which would have been achieved, nor is it necessarily indicative of future consolidated results of the company.

### EXFO ELECTRO-OPTICAL ENGINEERING INC. NOTES TO INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(tabular amounts in thousands of US dollars, except share and per share data and as otherwise noted)

	THREE MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2001	SIX MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2001	THREE M ENDE FEBRUAR 200
	-----	-----	-----
Sales	\$ 36,459	\$ 65,143	\$ 14,
Net loss	\$ (3,680)	\$ (313)	\$ (27,
Basic and diluted net loss per share	\$ (0.07)	\$ (0.01)	\$ (0

#### NEW ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

In November 2001, The Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants (CICA) revised section 1650, "Foreign Currency Translation", which is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after January 1, 2002. The revised standard no longer permits the deferral and amortization of unrealized exchange gains and losses that arise on the translation of long-term foreign currency denominated monetary assets and liabilities. Under the new rules, such gains and losses must be reported in earnings as they arise. Adopting this revised standard is not expected to have a significant impact on the company's financial statements.

In November 2001, the CICA issued Accounting Guideline No. 13, "Hedging Relationships", which shall be applied to hedging relationships in effect in fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2002. This new accounting guideline establishes basic criteria that must be met before hedge accounting can be used. It also describes the types of exposures that can be hedged and the types of instruments that qualify as hedges, sets detailed designation and documentation requirements and requires formal effectiveness testing. The company has not yet assessed the impact of the adoption of this new guideline.

In November 2001, the CICA issued section 3870, "Stock-Based Compensation and Other Stock-Based Payments", which is effective for fiscal years

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beginning on or after January 1, 2002. The new section applies to awards granted on or after the date of adoption, and requires that stock-based payment to non-employees and direct awards to employees and non-employees be accounted for using a fair value-based method. The company has not yet assessed the impact of the adoption of this new standard.

In July 2001, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued SFAS 141 "Business Combinations" and SFAS 142 "Goodwill and other intangible assets" and in August 2001 the CICA issued section 1581 "Business Combination" and section 3062 "Goodwill and other intangible assets". SFAS 141 and section 1581 require business combinations initiated after June 30, 2001 or business combinations accounted for by the purchase method with a date of acquisition after June 30, 2001 to be accounted for using the purchase method of accounting. SFAS 141 and section 1581 also broaden criteria for recording intangible assets separately from goodwill. Upon the adoption of SFAS 142 and section 3062, recorded goodwill and intangible assets will be evaluated against those new criteria and may result in certain intangible assets being reclassified into goodwill or, alternatively, amounts initially recorded as goodwill being separately identified and recognized apart from goodwill as intangible assets. SFAS 142 and section 3062 require the use of a non-amortization approach to account for purchased goodwill and indefinite-lived intangibles. Under the non-amortization approach, goodwill and indefinite-lived intangibles will not be amortized, but instead they will be reviewed for impairment and written down and charged to earnings only in the periods in which the recorded value of goodwill and indefinite-lived intangibles exceed the fair value. SFAS 142 and section 3062 will be adopted on September 1, 2002.

### EXFO ELECTRO-OPTICAL ENGINEERING INC. NOTES TO INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(tabular amounts in thousands of US dollars, except share and per share data and as otherwise noted)

The impact of adopting SFAS 142 and section 3062 will result in the non-amortization of goodwill recorded prior to July 1, 2001 resulting in the elimination of goodwill amortization for the year ending August 31, 2003 by approximately \$63,000,000 under SFAS 142 and \$50,000,000 under section 3062. Moreover, the company will implement a new goodwill impairment methodology and any potential initial impairment losses on goodwill determined by this methodology will be charged to earnings under SFAS 142 and to deficit under section 3062. Any subsequent impairment losses on goodwill will be charged to earnings in the period in which it is incurred.

Under the transitional provisions of SFAS 142 and section 3062, the company did not amortize the goodwill resulting from the acquisition of EXFO Protocol Inc., which closed on November 2, 2001.

In June 2001, the FASB issued SFAS 143 "Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligation", which is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after June 15, 2002. This standard requires that the fair value of a liability for an asset retirement obligation be recognized in the period in which it is incurred if a reasonable estimate of fair value can be made. The company has not yet assessed the impact of the adoption of this new standard.

In October 2001, the FASB issued SFAS 144, "Accounting for Impairment or

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Disposal of Long-Lived Assets", which supersedes SFAS 121 and the provisions of APB 30, "Reporting the Results of Operations - Reporting the Effects of Disposal of a Segment of a Business, and Extraordinary, Unusual and Infrequently Occurring Events and Transactions" with regard to reporting the effects of a disposal of a segment of a business. SFAS 144 retains many of the provisions of SFAS 121, but significantly changes the criteria that would have to be met to classify an asset as held for disposal such that long-lived assets to be disposed of other than by sale are considered held and used until disposed of. In addition, SFAS 144 retains the basic provisions of APB 30 for presentation of discontinued operations in the statement of earnings but broadens that presentation to a component of an entity. This new standard is effective for fiscal years beginning on December 15, 2001. Adopting this new standard is not expected to have a significant impact on the company's financial statements.

### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

THIS DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS MAY CONTAIN FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE U. S. PRIVATE SECURITIES LITIGATION REFORM ACT OF 1995 AND WE INTEND THAT SUCH FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS BE SUBJECT TO THE SAFE HARBORS CREATED THEREBY. FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS ARE STATEMENTS OTHER THAN HISTORICAL INFORMATION OR STATEMENTS OF CURRENT CONDITION. WORDS SUCH AS "MAY," "WILL," "EXPECT," "BELIEVE," "ANTICIPATE," "INTEND," "COULD," "ESTIMATE" OR "CONTINUE" OR THE NEGATIVE OR COMPARABLE TERMINOLOGY ARE INTENDED TO IDENTIFY FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS. IN ADDITION, ANY STATEMENTS THAT REFER TO EXPECTATIONS, PROJECTIONS OR OTHER CHARACTERIZATIONS OF FUTURE EVENTS OR CIRCUMSTANCES ARE FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS. FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS ARE NOT GUARANTEES OF FUTURE PERFORMANCE AND INVOLVE RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES, AND ACTUAL RESULTS MAY DIFFER MATERIALLY FROM THOSE IN THE FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS AS A RESULT OF VARIOUS FACTORS, INCLUDING CONTINUED UNCERTAINTY OVER THE WORLD-WIDE ECONOMY, SPENDING IN THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SECTOR AND OUR ABILITY TO EXECUTE SUCCESSFULLY IN THESE UNCERTAIN CONDITIONS; THE EFFECTS OF THE ACTIONS WE HAVE TAKEN IN RESPONSE TO SUCH ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTY (INCLUDING WORKFORCE REDUCTIONS, ABILITY TO QUICKLY ADAPT COST STRUCTURES TO ALIGN WITH DECREASED LEVELS OF BUSINESS, ABILITY TO MANAGE INVENTORY LEVELS TO ADAPT TO SLOWDOWNS); MARKET ACCEPTANCE OF OUR RECENTLY INTRODUCED NEW PRODUCTS AND OTHER UPCOMING NEW PRODUCTS; LIMITED VISIBILITY WITH REGARDS TO CUSTOMER ORDERS AND THE TIMING OF SUCH ORDERS; OUR ABILITY TO SUCCESSFULLY INTEGRATE OUR ACQUIRED AND TO-BE-ACQUIRED COMPANIES; AND FUTURE ECONOMIC, COMPETITIVE AND MARKET CONDITIONS. ASSUMPTIONS RELATING TO THE FOREGOING INVOLVE JUDGMENTS AND RISKS, ALL OF WHICH ARE DIFFICULT OR IMPOSSIBLE TO PREDICT ACCURATELY AND MANY OF WHICH ARE BEYOND OUR CONTROL. OTHER RISK FACTORS THAT MAY AFFECT OUR FUTURE PERFORMANCE AND OUR OPERATIONS ARE DETAILED IN OUR ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 20-F AND OUR OTHER FILINGS WITH THE U. S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION AND THE CANADIAN SECURITIES COMMISSIONS. ALTHOUGH WE BELIEVE THAT THE EXPECTATIONS REFLECTED IN THE FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS ARE REASONABLE BASED ON INFORMATION CURRENTLY AVAILABLE TO US, WE CANNOT ASSURE YOU THAT THE EXPECTATIONS WILL PROVE TO HAVE BEEN CORRECT. ACCORDINGLY, YOU SHOULD NOT PLACE UNDUE RELIANCE ON THESE FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS. IN ANY EVENT, THESE STATEMENTS SPEAK ONLY AS OF THE DATE OF THIS DOCUMENT. WE UNDERTAKE NO OBLIGATION TO REVISE OR UPDATE ANY OF THEM TO REFLECT EVENTS OR CIRCUMSTANCES AFTER THE DATE OF THIS DOCUMENT.

ALL DOLLAR AMOUNTS ARE EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS, EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE NOTED.

#### OVERVIEW

Market conditions in the telecommunications industry worsened during the second quarter of fiscal 2002 compared to the same period last year. Not only did the

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market deteriorate, but the quarter ended February 28, 2002 was marked by many telecommunications carriers and optical equipment manufacturers postponing buying decisions because their capital spending budgets for 2002 were not finalized or because they reduced their spending outright. In addition, the slow sales months of December and January negatively affected our quarterly results, especially those for our Portable and Monitoring Division. As a result, we witnessed decreases in spending from several customers in the second quarter.

In the first two quarters of fiscal 2002, we implemented cost-cutting measures to align our cost structure to current market conditions, that provided approximately \$6 million in annualized pre-tax savings. We lowered operating expenses, froze employee salaries, reduced our workforce and wrote-off excess and obsolete inventories. These measures incurred charges of \$3.9 million, consisting of inventory write-off of \$3.5 million and severance expenses of \$410,000, in the first quarter of 2002 and of \$6.3 million, consisting of inventory write-off of \$5.9 million and severance expenses of \$447,000, in the second quarter of 2002.

In terms of new product development, we expect to announce more than 20 new product introductions (since the beginning of fiscal 2002) by the time the Optical Fiber Conference and Exhibit concludes at Anaheim, California in mid-March 2002. In comparison, we launched the same number of products during the entire fiscal year in 2001. This unprecedented number of product launches in fiscal 2002 is a clear indicator that we continue to invest heavily in R&D, despite the downturn in the telecommunications industry.

On December 1, 2001, our new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system was implemented at our major facility in Quebec City, QC. This ERP system will enable us to improve the efficiency of our operations and should provide our customers with better and more prompt service down the line.

On November 2, 2001, we completed our acquisition of Avantas Networks Corporation (renamed EXFO Protocol Inc) for a total consideration valued at \$94,952,000 or \$69,381,000 net of \$25,571,000 of cash and cash equivalents acquired. This acquisition has been accounted for using the purchase method and has resulted in goodwill of \$57,987,000 which, under the new accounting rules, is not amortized. EXFO Protocol Inc., a Montreal-based, pre-revenue company, is a supplier of leading-edge fiber-optic testing and optical network performance management equipment that supports a wide range of protocols and data transmission rates. This acquisition will enable us to enter the critical protocol-layer testing market and, more importantly, almost double our addressable market size to an estimated \$3.3 billion, according to reports from Frost and Sullivan.

### RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations for the periods ended February 28, 2001 and 2002 should be read in conjunction with our interim consolidated financial statements and the related notes thereto. All figures are expressed in thousands of US dollars unless otherwise noted. Our interim consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in Canada, or Canadian GAAP, which conform in all material respects with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States, or U.S. GAAP, except as described in note 9 to our interim consolidated financial statements.

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	THREE MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28,		SIX MONTHS FEBRUARY	
	2001	2002	2001	
	(UNAUDITED)			
Sales	\$ 36,293	\$ 14,601	\$ 64,812	\$
Cost of sales	12,787	12,885	23,095	
Gross margin*	23,506	1,716	41,717	
Operating expenses				
Selling and administrative	10,915	9,252	19,835	
Net research and development	3,315	3,673	5,287	
Amortization of property, plant and equipment	716	1,487	1,230	
Amortization of intangible assets	1,648	3,469	1,662	
Restructuring charges	-	447	-	
Total operating expenses	16,594	18,328	28,014	
Earnings (loss) from operations	6,912	(16,612)	13,703	
Interest income, net	1,777	279	4,408	
Foreign exchange gain	811	54	3,170	
Earnings (loss) before income taxes and amortization of goodwill	9,500	(16,279)	21,281	
Income tax expense (recovery)	3,099	(6,013)	7,251	
Earnings (loss) before amortization of goodwill	6,401	(10,266)	14,030	
Amortization of goodwill	6,377	12,409	6,501	
Net earnings (loss) for the period	\$ 24	\$ (22,675)	\$ 7,529	\$
Basic and diluted net earnings (loss) per share	\$ -	\$ (0.37)	\$ 0.15	\$
Research and development data:				
Gross research and development	\$ 4,508	\$ 4,823	\$ 7,356	\$
Net research and development	\$ 3,315	\$ 3,673	\$ 5,287	\$
Other data:				
Pro forma net earnings (loss)**	\$ 7,511	\$ (4,099)	\$ 15,126	\$
Basic and diluted pro forma net earnings (loss) per share**	\$ 0.14	\$ (0.07)	\$ 0.31	\$

\* Including restructuring charges for inventory write-off of \$5,862 and \$9,362 for the three months and the six months ended February 28, 2002, respectively, nil in 2001.

\*\* Net earnings (loss) excluding amortization of goodwill and the after-tax effect of amortization of intangible assets and restructuring charges. This information may not be comparable to similarly titled measures reported by other companies because it is non-GAAP information.



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	THREE MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28,		SIX MONTHS FEBRUARY
	2001	2002	2001
	(UNAUDITED)		
Sales	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of sales	35.2	88.2	35.6
Gross margin*	64.8	11.8	64.4
Operating expenses			
Selling and administrative	30.1	63.4	30.6
Net research and development	9.1	25.2	8.2
Amortization of property, plant and equipment	2.0	10.2	1.9
Amortization of intangible assets	4.5	23.7	2.6
Restructuring charges	-	3.1	-
Total operating expenses	45.7	125.6	43.3
Earnings (loss) from operations	19.1	(113.8)	21.1
Interest income, net	4.9	1.9	6.8
Foreign exchange gain	2.2	0.4	4.9
Earnings (loss) before income taxes and amortization of goodwill	26.2	(111.5)	32.8
Income tax expense (recovery)	8.5	(41.2)	11.2
Earnings (loss) before amortization of goodwill	17.7	(70.3)	21.6
Amortization of goodwill	17.6	85.0	10.0
Net earnings (loss) for the period	0.1%	(155.3)%	11.6%
Research and development data:			
Gross research and development	12.4%	33.0%	11.3%
Net research and development	9.1%	25.2%	8.2%
Other data:			
Pro forma net earnings (loss)**	20.7%	(28.1)%	23.3%

\* Including restructuring charges for inventory write-off of 40.1 % and 26.9 % of sales for the three months and the six months ended February 28, 2002, respectively. Excluding these restructuring charges, gross margin would have reached 51.9% and 53.8% of sales for the three months and the six months ended February 28, 2002, respectively.

\*\* Net earnings (loss) excluding amortization of goodwill and the after-tax effect of amortization of intangible assets and restructuring charges. This

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information may not be comparable to similarly titled measures reported by other companies because it is non-GAAP information.

### SALES

For the three months ended February 28, 2002, sales decreased 60% to \$14.6 million from \$36.3 million for the same period last year. The decrease in sales is directly related to a reduced demand for our products and pricing pressure attributable to the continued severe downturn in the telecommunications industry. Indeed, market conditions worsened and the second quarter of 2002 was marked by many telecommunications carriers as well as optical equipment manufacturers postponing buying decisions because their capital spending budgets for 2002 were not finalized or were reduced outright. Telecommunications carriers have reduced their capital expenditures for network deployments and they are focusing on providing additional bandwidth at the minimum cost by turning up data transmission rates, increasing DWDM channels and lighting dark fiber. Optical equipment manufacturers were hit harder due to reduction in network deployments. Both our Portable and Monitoring products and our Industrial and Scientific products suffered from this lack of demand and pricing pressure but the downturn was more severe in the Industrial and Scientific division as it was the case in the first quarter of 2002, as compared with the same periods last year.

Portable and Monitoring products and Industrial and Scientific products accounted both for 50% of our sales in the second quarter of 2002, compared to 43% and 57%, respectively for the same period last year. They represented 62% and 38%, respectively for the first quarter of 2002.

We expected our Portable and Monitoring products to represent a larger portion of our sales during the second quarter of 2002. Nevertheless, our sales of Portable and Monitoring products decreased 41% compared to the first quarter of 2002, because slow sales months December and January negatively affected our quarterly results in this division more than anticipated. On the other hand, our sales of Industrial and Scientific products remained flat in dollars in this quarter compared to the first quarter of 2002. We believe that our extensive product portfolio in this division helped us gain a relative stability.

Our net book-to-bill ratio for the three months ended February 28, 2002 is at 0.91 compared to 0.63 for the previous quarter. Order cancellations amounted to approximately \$4 million and \$2 million during the first two quarters of 2002. Without these cancellations, our book-to-bill ratio would be at 0.84 and 1.05 for the first two quarters of 2002.

North American sales accounted for 48% and 59% of sales for the three months ended February 28, 2002 and 2001, respectively. International sales represented 52% and 41% of sales for the three months ended February 28, 2002 and 2001, respectively. The increase in our international sales is the result of our sustained efforts to develop the Asian market. Despite the significant decrease in sales for every other geographical area, especially in North America, our sales to the Asian market remained flat at \$3.8 million year over year. For the three months ended February 28, 2002, no customer accounted for more than 4.6% of sales.

For the six months ended February 28, 2002, sales decreased 46% to \$34.7 million from \$64.8 million for the same period last year. The decrease in sales is directly related to a reduced demand for our products and pricing pressure attributable to the continued severe downturn in the telecommunications industry. Indeed, market conditions worsened and the first half of 2002 was marked by many telecommunications carriers as well as optical equipment manufacturers postponing buying decisions because their capital spending budgets

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for 2002 were not finalized or were reduced. Telecommunications carriers have reduced their capital expenditures for network deployments and they are focusing on providing additional bandwidth at the minimum cost by turning up data transmission rates, increasing DWDM channels and lighting dark fiber. Optical equipment manufacturers were hit harder due to reduction in network deployments. Both our

Portable and Monitoring products and our Industrial and Scientific products suffered from this lack of demand and pricing pressure but the downturn was more severe in the Industrial and Scientific division.

Portable and Monitoring products accounted for 57% of our sales and Industrial and Scientific products accounted for 43% of our sales in the first half of 2002, compared to 52% and 48%, respectively for the same period last year.

North American sales accounted for 53% and 60% of sales for the six months ended February 28, 2002 and 2001, respectively. International sales represented 47% and 40% of sales for the six months ended February 28, 2002 and 2001, respectively. The increase in our international sales is the result of our sustained efforts to develop the Asian market. Despite the significant decrease in sales for every other geographical area, especially in North America, our sales to the Asian market increased 4.4% to \$7.3 million in the first half of 2002, compared to \$7.0 million for the same period last year. For the six months ended February 28, 2002, no customer accounted for more than 5.9% of sales.

### GROSS MARGIN

Gross margin represented 11.8% of sales for the three months ended February 28, 2002, compared to 64.8% for the same period last year.

The percentage decline in gross margin is due to a number of reasons. First of all, we recorded an additional inventory write-off of \$5.9 million for obsolete and excess inventories as part of our restructuring plan. Excluding this restructuring charge, gross margin would have reached 51.9%. Secondly, the continued severe slowdown in the telecommunications industry resulted in a reduced demand and pricing pressure for our products in the second quarter of 2002 which prevented a better absorption of our fixed manufacturing costs. Our manufacturing capacity in Quebec City, QC and Victor, NY, have almost doubled since November 2000, while our sales decreased significantly in the second quarter of 2002. Thirdly, we experienced a shift in product mix in favor of Portable and Monitoring products which tend to be slightly lower-margin products. Finally, EXFO Photonic Solutions operates in a market that has relatively lower-margin products.

Gross margin represented 26.8% of sales for the six months ended February 28, 2002, compared to 64.4% for the same period last year.

The percentage decline in gross margin is due to a number of reasons. First of all, we recorded \$9.4 million in inventory write-offs for obsolete and excess inventories as part of our restructuring plans. Excluding these restructuring charges, gross margin would have reached 53.8%. Secondly, the continued severe slowdown in the telecommunications industry resulted in a reduced demand and pricing pressure for our products in the first half of 2002 which prevented a better absorption of our fixed manufacturing costs. Our manufacturing capacity in Quebec City, QC and Victor, NY, have almost doubled since November 2000, while our sales decreased significantly in the first half of 2002. Thirdly, we experienced a shift in product mix in favor of Portable and Monitoring products which tend to be slightly lower-margin products. Finally, EXFO Photonic Solutions operates in a market that has relatively lower-margin products.

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Gross margin can be negatively affected by competitive pricing pressure, increase in obsolescence costs, shifts in product mix, reductions in government grants, under-absorption of fixed manufacturing costs and increases in products offerings by other suppliers in the fiber-optic test, measurement, monitoring and automation industry.

### SELLING AND ADMINISTRATIVE

For the three months ended February 28, 2002, selling and administrative expenses were \$9.3 million, or 63.4 % of sales, compared to \$10.9 million, or 30.1% of sales for the same period last year. The dollar decrease is mainly due to lower expenses resulting from our restructuring plans implemented since June 2001 and lower commission expenses as our sales decreased significantly during the second quarter of 2002. However, the dollar decrease was offset in part by the impact of the acquisitions of EXFO Photonic Solutions and EXFO Protocol.

The significant decrease in sales in the second quarter of 2002 caused the percentage to increase since a large portion of our selling and administrative expenses tends to be fixed and because sales decreased at a faster rate than selling and administrative expenses.

For the six months ended February 28, 2002, selling and administrative expenses were \$19.6 million, or 56.4 % of sales, compared to \$19.8 million, or 30.6% of sales for the same period last year. The slight dollar decrease is due to lower expenses resulting from our restructuring plans implemented since June 2001 and lower commission expenses as our sales decreased significantly during the first half of 2002, which were mainly offset by the impact of the acquisitions of Burleigh Instruments, EXFO Photonic Solutions and EXFO Protocol.

The significant decrease in sales in the first half of 2002 caused the percentage to increase since a large portion of our selling and administrative expenses tends to be fixed and because sales decreased at a faster rate than selling and administrative expenses.

Considering persistent market conditions, efforts will continue to be undertaken in order maintain our selling and administrative expenses at an acceptable level without impeding our efforts to strategically position our company, improve sales, service our customers, integrate our acquired companies and satisfy our customers.

### RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For the three months ended February 28, 2002, gross research and development expenses were \$4.8 million, or 33.0% of sales, compared to \$4.5 million, or 12.4% of sales for the same period last year. The slight increase in gross research and development dollars is related to the acquisitions of EXFO Photonic Solutions and EXFO Protocol, offset in part by the effect of our cost-cutting measures. However, those measures had relatively limited impact on our research and development activities as compared to the significant decrease in sales, and did not jeopardize the development of our key products.

The percentage increase reflects our strong and continued focus on innovation despite the significant decrease in sales. We firmly believe that innovation and new product introductions will be the key to gain market share in this current economic environment and ensure the long-term growth and profitability of the company. In this quarter, 49.9% of our sales originated from products that have been on the market for two years or less. This is an improvement compared to 43.1% of our sales reached in the same period last year.

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We launched nine new products during the second quarter of fiscal 2002. Three major releases included the FTB-5800 Chromatic Dispersion Analyzer for deployments and upgrades of high-speed DWDM networks; the IQS-500 Cortex platform for fiber-optic manufacturing and research and development applications; and the FPMD-5600 Femtosecond Polarization Mode Dispersion Analyzer for measuring second-order PMD in narrowband DWDM channels and broadband components.

For the three months ended February 28, 2002, tax credits and grants from federal, provincial and state governments for research and development activities were \$1.2 million, or 23.8% of gross research and development expenses, compared to \$1.2 million, or 26.5% of gross research and development expenses, for the same period last year.

Our tax credits and government grants remained flat since our gross research and development only slightly increased.

In terms of net research and development expenses, they amounted to \$3.7 million, or 25.2% of sales for the three months ended February 28, 2002, compared to \$3.3 million, or 9.1% of sales, for the same period last year.

For the six months ended February 28, 2002, gross research and development expenses were \$9.0 million, or 26.0% of sales, compared to \$7.4 million, or 11.3% of sales, for the same period last year. The increase in gross research and development dollars is mainly related to the acquisitions of Burleigh Instruments, EXFO Photonic Solutions and EXFO Protocol.

The percentage increase reflects our strong and continued focus on innovation despite the significant decrease in sales. We firmly believe that innovation and new product introduction will be the key to gain market share in this current economic environment and ensure the long-term growth and profitability of the company. In the first half of 2002, 50.3% of our sales originated from products that have been on the market two years or less. This is a strong improvement compared to 39.6% of our sales reached in the same period last year.

For the six months ended February 28, 2002, we released 16 new products. In comparison, we released just over 20 new products during the entire fiscal year in 2001.

For the six months ended February 28, 2002, tax credits and grants from federal, provincial and state governments for research and development activities were \$2.2 million, or 24.5% of gross research and development expenses, compared to \$2.1 million, or 28.1% of gross research and development expenses, for the same period last year.

Our tax credits and government grants remained flat mainly due to the fact that our U.S based Burleigh Instruments, which caused an increase in gross research and development expenses, is not eligible for tax credits.

In terms of net research and development expenses, they amounted to \$6.8 million, or 19.6% of sales for the six months ended February 28, 2002, compared to \$5.3 million, or 8.2% of sales, for the same period last year.

We expect to continue investing heavily in research and development in the up-coming quarters, reflecting our focus on innovation, our desire to gain market share and our goal to exceed our customers' needs and expectations.

### AMORTIZATION OF INTANGIBLE ASSETS

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In conjunction with the acquisitions of Burleigh Instruments, EXFO Photonic Solutions and EXFO Protocol, we recorded \$61.1 million in intangible assets, primarily consisting of core technology. These intangible assets, which are amortized over periods from five months to five years from the date of acquisition, resulted in amortization expenses of \$3.5 million and \$6.7 million for the three months and the six months ended February 28, 2002, respectively, compared to \$1.6 million and \$1.7 million for the corresponding periods of last year.

### RESTRUCTURING CHARGES

During the first two quarters of 2002, we implemented structured plans in order to align our costs to current market conditions and to better position ourselves amidst a challenging environment. Under these structured plans, we lowered our operating expenses, froze employee salaries and reduced our work force in part by attrition.

As a result, we recorded restructuring charges of \$410,000 in severance expenses for the 101 employees who were terminated in the first quarter of 2002 and \$447,000 in severance expenses for the 57 employees who were terminated in the second quarter of 2002.

Our cost-cutting measures represent our efforts to respond to the difficult market conditions. However, these efforts may be inappropriate or insufficient. Our actions in this regard may not be successful in achieving the cost reductions or other benefits expected, may be insufficient to align our cost structure to market conditions, or may be more costly or extensive than anticipated.

### INTEREST INCOME, NET

For the three months ended February 28, 2002, net interest income amounted to \$0.3 million compared to \$1.8 million for the same period last year. For the six months ended February 28, 2002, net interest income amounted to \$1.0 million compared to \$4.4 million for the same period last year. These decreases are directly related to the use of short-term investments to finance our acquisitions of Burleigh Instruments, EXFO Photonic Solutions and EXFO Protocol as well as a general decrease in interest rates. Our net interest income will decrease in the upcoming quarters since we used short-term investments to pay for cash consideration in our recent acquisitions and because interest rates may continue to drop.

### FOREIGN EXCHANGE GAIN

For the three months ended February 28, 2002, foreign exchange gain amounted to \$54,000 compared to \$0.8 million for the same period last year. These foreign exchange gains are the result of the translation of operating activities denominated in currency other than the Canadian dollar.

For the six months ended February 28, 2002, foreign exchange gain amounted to \$87,000 compared to \$3.2 million for the same period last year. Last year's foreign exchange gain was mainly due to the translation of short-term investments denominated in US dollars.

During the three months and the six months ended February 28, 2002, we were able to manage our exposure to currency risk with forward exchange contracts and operating activities of Canadian entities denominated in currency other than the Canadian dollar.

### INCOME TAXES

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Our effective income tax recovery rate was 36.9% for the three months ended February 28, 2002, compared to our effective income tax rate of 32.6% for the same period last year. The increase in our effective income tax recovery rate is explained by the fact that our current operating loss will be carried back for tax purposes and applied against specific prior years' taxable income that was imposed at higher rates.

For the six months ended February 28, 2002, our effective income tax recovery rate was 36.2%, compared to our effective income tax rate of 34.1% for the same period last year. The increase in our effective income tax recovery rate can be explained by the fact that our current operating loss will be carried back for tax purposes and applied against specific prior years' taxable income that was imposed at higher rates.

### AMORTIZATION OF GOODWILL

In conjunction with the acquisitions of Burleigh Instruments and EXFO Photonic Solutions, we recorded \$248.5 million in goodwill, which is amortized over five years, resulting in amortization expenses of \$12.4 million and \$24.9 million for the three months and the six months ended February 28, 2002, respectively, compared to \$6.4 million and \$6.5 million for the corresponding periods of last year. The acquisition of EXFO Protocol has been accounted for using the new accounting standards contained in sections 1581 and 3062 of the CICA and consequently, goodwill resulting from this acquisition is not amortized but instead reviewed for impairment. Considering that this acquisition closed on November 2, 2002, no impairment review of goodwill has been made on February 28, 2002.

### NET EARNINGS (LOSS)

Net loss amounted to \$22.7 million, or \$0.37 per share and \$41.7 million, or \$0.70 per share, for the three months and the six months ended February 28, 2002, respectively, compared to net earnings of \$24,000, or \$0.00 per share and \$7.5 million, or \$0.15 per share, for the corresponding periods of last year.

### PRO FORMA NET EARNINGS (LOSS)

As a measure to assess financial performance, we use pro forma net earnings (loss) and pro forma net earnings (loss) per share. Pro forma net earnings (loss) represent net earnings (loss) excluding amortization of goodwill and the after-tax effect of amortization of intangible assets and restructuring charges.

Pro forma net loss amounted to \$4.1 million, or \$0.07 per share and \$6.0 million, or \$0.10 per share, for the three months and the six months ended February 28, 2002, respectively, compared to pro forma net earnings of \$7.5 million, or \$0.14 per share, and \$15.1 million, or \$0.31 per share, for the corresponding periods of last year.

Pro forma net earnings (loss) is reconciled as follows:

THREE MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28,		SIX MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY
2001	2002	2001

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(in thousands of US dollars, except per share)

Net earnings (loss) in accordance with GAAP	\$ 24	\$ (22,675)	\$ 7,529
Pro forma adjustments:			
Amortization of goodwill	6,377	12,409	6,501
Amortization of intangible assets	1,648	3,469	1,662
Tax effect of amortization of intangible assets	(538)	(1,281)	(566)
Restructuring charges	-	6,309	-
Tax effect of the restructuring charges	-	(2,330)	-
	-----	-----	-----
Pro forma net earnings (loss)	\$ 7,511	\$ (4,099)	\$ 15,126
	-----	-----	-----
Basic and diluted pro forma net earnings (loss) per share	\$ 0.14	\$ (0.07)	\$ 0.31

We provide pro forma financial information to help the reader better understand our operating results. This information is not in accordance with, or an alternative for, generally accepted accounting principles and may not be comparable to similarly titled measures reported by other companies.

### LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Prior to our Initial Public Offering, we financed operations and met our capital expenditure requirements mainly through cash flows from operations, research and development tax credits and government grants. On June 29, 2000, we closed our Initial Public Offering of 8,050,000 subordinate voting shares for net proceeds of approximately \$209 million, including the over-allotment option exercised by the underwriters. Since our Initial Public Offering, we have financed our major investments mainly by the issuance of subordinate voting shares and the use of our short-term investments.

### CASH POSITION AND SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS

As at February 28, 2002, cash and cash equivalents as well as short-term investments consisted of \$51.5 million. Our working capital was \$106.8 million. Our cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments have decreased by approximately \$6.7 million since November 30, 2001, mainly due to the financing of operating activities for \$4.7 million and the cash payment of \$1.2 million for the purchase of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets.

Our cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments have decreased by approximately \$23.1 million since August 31, 2001, mainly due to the cash payment of \$9.8 million for the acquisition of EXFO Protocol, the cash payment of \$4.3 million for the purchases of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets and the financing of operating activities of \$6.4 million for the first half of 2002.

### OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Cash flows used by operating activities were \$4.7 million for the three months ended February 28, 2002, compared to \$0.6 million for the same period last year. Cash flows used by operating activities were primarily due to the net loss after



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items not affecting cash and cash equivalents of \$6.1 million. This figure was offset, in part, by the net decrease in accounts receivable and inventories of \$13.0 million over the decrease in accounts payable and accrued liabilities of \$3.2 million and the increase in income taxes receivable of \$8.2 million. The decrease in our accounts receivable, inventories and accounts payable and accrued liabilities is respectively due to the reduction in our sales level, our inventory write-off and our efforts to maintain inventories at the lowest acceptable level and the reduction in our purchases due to the actual slowdown in our industry. The increase in our income taxes receivable is directly related to income tax recovery following the carry back to previous years' taxable income of our consolidated tax loss for the second quarter of 2002.

For the three months ended February 28, 2002, the major items not affecting cash and cash equivalents consisted of amortization expenses of \$17.4 million.

Cash flows used by operating activities were \$6.4 million for the six months ended February 28, 2002, compared to \$1.8 million for the same period last year. Cash flows used by operating activities were primarily due to the net loss after items not affecting cash and cash equivalents of \$8.6 million. This figure was offset, in part, by the net decrease in accounts receivable and inventories of \$24.4 million over the decrease in accounts payable and accrued liabilities of \$5.4 million and the increase in income taxes receivable of \$16.3 million. The decrease in our accounts receivable, inventories and accounts payable and accrued liabilities is respectively due to the reduction in our sales level, our inventory write-offs and our efforts to maintain inventories at the lowest acceptable level and the reduction in our purchases due to the actual slowdown in our industry. The increase in our income taxes receivable directly relates to income tax recovery following the carry back to previous years' taxable income of our consolidated tax loss for the first half of 2002.

For the six months ended February 28, 2002, the major items not affecting cash and cash equivalents consisted of amortization expenses of \$34.4 million.

### FINANCING ACTIVITIES

Cash flows used by financing activities were \$22,000 for the three months ended February 28, 2002, compared to cash flows provided by financing activities of \$107,000 for the same period last year.

Cash flows used by financing activities were \$47,000 for the six months ended February 28, 2002, compared to cash flows provided by financing activities of \$0.8 million for the same period last year.

As at February 28, 2002, we have credit facilities that provide for advances of up to \$6.2 million under lines of credit. These lines of credits bear interest at prime rate.

### INVESTING ACTIVITIES

Cash flows used by investing activities were \$8.0 million for the three months ended February 28, 2002, compared to cash flows provided by investing activities of 3.0 million for the same period last year. During the second quarter of 2002, we acquired for \$6.8 million in short-term investments and for \$1.2 million in property, plant and equipment and intangible assets.

Cash flows provided by investing activities were \$7.0 million for the six months ended February 28, 2002, compared to \$2.7 million for the same period last year. During the first half of 2002, we disposed of \$21.1 million in short-term investments to finance the \$4.3 million purchases of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets and to pay the cash consideration of \$9.8

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million for the acquisition of EXFO Protocol. Despite these purchases and acquisition, the disposal of short-term investments generated net cash flows of \$7.0 million in the first half of 2002.

### OUTLOOK

As described above, we incurred an operating loss in the second quarter and the first half of 2002, and operating activities for these periods used \$4.7 million and \$6.4 million in cash flows, respectively. There can be no assurance as to whether and when we will return to profitability or that our revenues will return to prior level. However, we believe that our cash balances and short-term investments, together with available credit facilities, will be sufficient to meet our expected liquidity and capital requirements for the next twelve months. However, possible additional operating losses and/or possible investments in or acquisition of complementary businesses, products or technologies may require additional financing prior to such time. There can be no assurance that additional debt or equity financing will be available when required or, if available, it can be secured on terms satisfactory to us.

### NEW ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

In November 2001, The Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants (CICA) revised section 1650, "Foreign Currency Translation", which is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after January 1, 2002. The revised standard no longer permits the deferral and amortization of unrealized exchange gains and losses that arise on the translation of long-term foreign currency denominated monetary assets and liabilities. Under the new rules, such gains and losses must be reported in earnings as they arise. Adopting this revised standard is not expected to have a significant impact on our financial statements.

In November 2001, the CICA issued Accounting Guideline No. 13, "Hedging Relationships", which shall be applied to hedging relationships in effect in fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2002. This new accounting guideline establishes basic criteria that must be met before hedge accounting can be used. It also describes the types of exposures that can be hedged and the types of instruments that qualify as hedges, sets detailed designation and documentation requirements and requires formal effectiveness testing. We have not yet assessed the impact of the adoption of this new guideline.

In December 2001, the CICA issued section 3870, "Stock-Based Compensation and Other Stock-Based Payments", which is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after January 1, 2002. The new section applies to awards granted on or after the date of adoption, and requires that stock-based payment to non-employees and direct awards to employees and non-employees be accounted for using a fair value-based method. We have not yet assessed the impact of the adoption of this new standard.

In July 2001, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued SFAS 141 "Business Combinations" and SFAS 142 "Goodwill and other intangible assets" and in August 2001, the CICA issued section 1581 "Business Combination" and section 3062 "Goodwill and other intangible assets". SFAS 141 and section 1581 require business combinations initiated after June 30, 2001 or business combinations accounted for by the purchase method with a date of acquisition after June 30, 2001 to be accounted for using the purchase method of accounting. These sections also broaden criteria for recording intangible assets separately from goodwill. Upon the adoption of SFAS 142 and section 3062, recorded goodwill and intangible assets will be evaluated against those new criteria and may result in certain intangible assets being reclassified into goodwill or, alternatively, amounts initially recorded as goodwill being separately identified and recognized apart from goodwill as intangible assets. SFAS 142 and section 3062 require the use of

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a non-amortization approach to account for purchased goodwill and indefinite-lived intangibles. Under the non-amortization approach, goodwill and indefinite-lived intangibles will not be amortized, but instead they will be reviewed for impairment and written down and charged to earnings only in the periods in which the recorded value of goodwill and indefinite-lived intangibles exceeds the fair value. SFAS 142 and section 3062 will be adopted on September 1, 2002.

The impact of adopting SFAS 142 and section 3062 will result in the non-amortization of goodwill recorded prior to July 1, 2001 and resulting in the elimination of goodwill amortization for the year ending August 31, 2003 by approximately \$63,000,000 under SFAS 142 and \$50,000,000 under section 3062. Moreover, we will implement a new goodwill impairment methodology and any potential initial impairment losses on goodwill determined by this methodology will be charged to earnings under SFAS 142 and to deficit under section 3062. Any subsequent impairment losses on goodwill will be charged to earnings in the period in which it is incurred.

Under the transitional provisions of SFAS 142 and section 3062, we did not amortize the goodwill resulting from the acquisition of EXFO Protocol Inc., which closed on November 2, 2001.

In June 2001, the FASB issued SFAS 143 "Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligation", which is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after June 15, 2002. This standard requires that the fair value of a liability for an asset retirement obligation be recognized in the period in which it is incurred if a reasonable estimate of fair value can be made. We have not yet assessed the impact of the adoption of this new standard.

In October 2001, the FASB issued SFAS 144, "Accounting for Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets", which supersedes SFAS 121 and the provisions of APB 30, "Reporting the Results of Operations - Reporting the Effects of Disposal of a Segment of a Business, and Extraordinary, Unusual and Infrequently Occurring Events and Transactions" with regard to reporting the effects of a disposal of a business segment. SFAS 144 retains many of the provisions of SFAS 121, but significantly changes the criteria that would have to be met to classify an asset as held for disposal such that long-lived assets to be disposed of other than by sale are considered held and used until disposed of. In addition, SFAS 144 retains the basic provisions of APB 30 for presentation of discontinued operations in the statement of earnings but broadens that presentation to a component of an entity. This new standard is effective for fiscal years beginning on December 15, 2001. Adopting this new standard is not expected to have a significant impact on our financial statements.

### RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

We operate in a highly competitive field that is in constant evolution and, as a result, we encounter various risks and uncertainties that must be given appropriate consideration in our strategic management policies.

The main risks and uncertainties related to the fiber-optic test, measurement, monitoring and automation industry involve the quick development of new products that have short lifecycles and require extensive research and development; the difficulty of attracting and retaining highly skilled employees as well as offering them effective training programs; and the ability to quickly adapt our cost structure to changing market conditions in order to ensure our growth.

In addition, given our strategic goals for growth and competitive positioning in our industry, we are expanding into international markets. This exposes us to certain risks and uncertainties related to changes in local laws and

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regulations, multiple technological standards, protective legislation and pricing pressure.

Furthermore, while the important strategic acquisitions we have made are essential to our long-term growth, they also expose us to certain risks and uncertainties related to the rapid and effective integration of these companies as well as their products, technologies and personnel.

We are also exposed to currency risks as a result of the export of our products manufactured in Canada, substantially all of which are denominated in US dollars. These risks are partially hedged by the operating expenses of certain international subsidiaries, the purchase of raw materials in US dollars and forward exchange contracts.

Also, the economic slowdown in our industry could result in some of our customers experiencing difficulties and, consequently, this could have a negative effect on our results. However, the sectorial and geographic diversity of our customer base provides us with a reasonable level of protection in this area. Finally, other financial instruments which potentially subject us to credit risks consist principally of cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments and forward exchange contracts. Our short-term investments consist of debt instruments issued by high-credit quality financial institutions and corporations. Our cash and cash equivalents and forward exchange contracts are held with or issued by high-credit quality financial institutions; therefore, we consider the risk of non-performance on these instruments to be remote.

For a more complete understanding of risk factors that may affect us, we refer you to the risk factors set forth in our disclosure documents published with securities commissions.

### 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.

EXFO ELECTRO-OPTICAL ENGINEERING INC.

By: /s/ Kimberley Okell

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Name: Kimberley Okell  
Title: Corporate Secretary

Date: March 20, 2002