



**T H E
S H A R P E R
I M A G E[®]**

1999 Annual Report

Corporate Profile

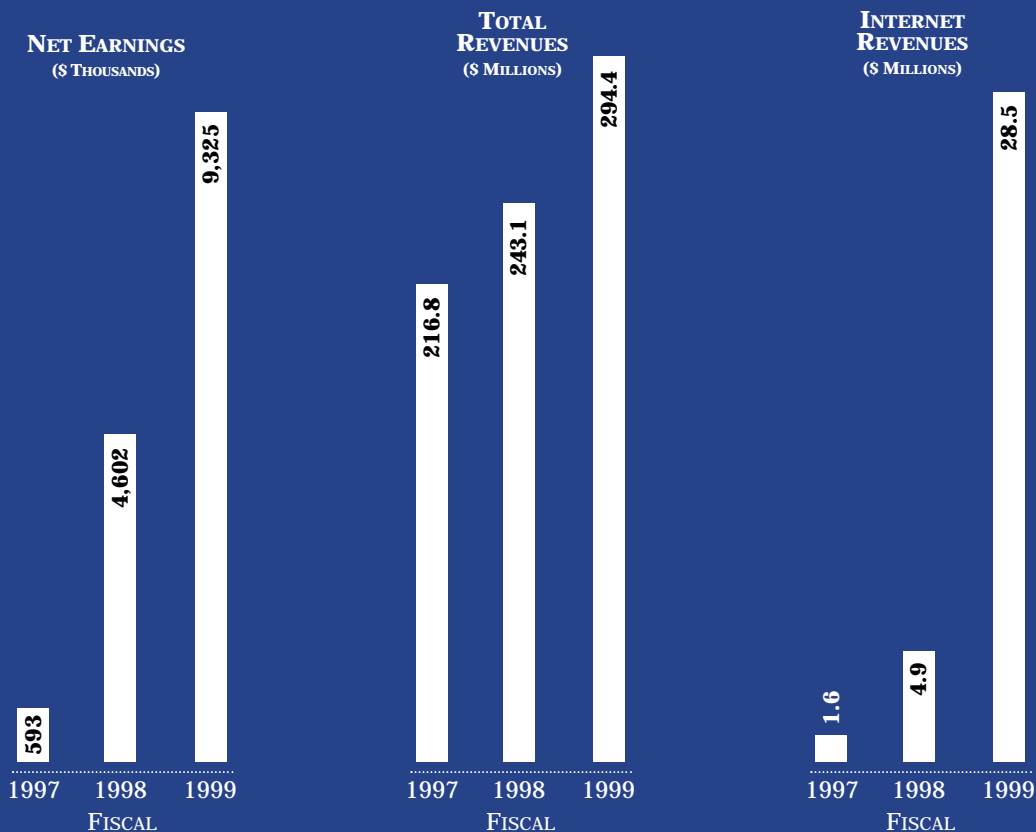
Sharper Image Corporation is a multi-channel specialty retailer and product developer that is nationally and internationally renowned as a leading source of new, innovative, high-quality products that make life easier and more enjoyable.

The Sharper Image enjoys an exceptionally strong brand identity, with a name that is synonymous with fun and entertainment, design and creativity, uniqueness and technological innovation.

A key strength is the Company's ability to create exclusive proprietary merchandise. These products, labeled Sharper Image Design™, are highly marketable and form the foundation of the Company's success in diverse channels of distribution.

The Company currently operates 90 stores nationwide, and generates direct sales through its monthly Sharper Image print catalog and online at *sharperimage.com*, the Company's Internet e-commerce Web site.

The Company also generates business-to-business revenues through its corporate incentive and rewards programs and wholesale operations.



Record Accomplishments

Record net earnings of \$9.3 million, a 103 percent increase over the prior fiscal year, and

Record total revenues of \$294.4 million, a 21 percent increase

Record gross margin rate of 51.0 percent, a 2.0 percentage point increase

Record Internet sales of \$28.5 million, a 479 percent increase

Record store sales of \$188.4 million, a 16 percent increase, including 12 percent increase in comparable store sales.

Financial Highlights

	Fiscal Year Ended January 31,				
	2000 (Fiscal 1999)	1999 (Fiscal 1998)	1998 (Fiscal 1997)	1997 (Fiscal 1996)	1996 (Fiscal 1995)
Operating Results					
Revenues	\$ 294,365	\$ 243,114	\$ 216,815	\$ 210,245	\$ 204,184
Provision for loss on the closure of the SPA Collection division	-	-	-	(8,000) ¹	-
Earnings (loss) before income taxes	15,541	7,670	988	(7,241)	739
Net earnings (loss)	9,325	4,602	593	(4,345)	444
Net earnings (loss) per share – Basic	0.89 ²	0.54	0.07	(0.53)	0.05
Diluted	\$ 0.82 ²	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.07	\$ (0.53)	\$ 0.05
Balance Sheet Data					
Working capital	\$ 54,644	\$ 16,003	\$ 11,633	\$ 9,429	\$ 17,233
Total assets	142,119	82,045	78,662	78,804	70,456
Long term notes payable	2,366	2,513	3,299	4,245	3,355
Stockholders' equity	\$ 77,123	\$ 36,649	\$ 29,156	\$ 28,449	\$ 32,758
Current ratio	1.93	1.40	1.27	1.22	1.56
Statistics					
Number of stores at year end	89	87	85	82 ³	78 ³
Comparable store sales increase (decrease)	12.3%	5.3%	1.1%	(2.1%)	3.3%
Annualized net sales per square foot	\$ 546	\$ 484	\$ 465	\$ 458	\$ 473
Number of catalogs mailed ⁴	47,581,000	41,338,000	38,261,000	34,795,000	32,780,000
Average revenue per transaction:					
Stores	\$ 106	\$ 102	\$ 104	\$ 97	\$ 106
Catalog ⁴	\$ 145	\$ 141	\$ 160	\$ 169	\$ 122
Internet	\$ 97 ⁵	\$ 140	\$ 111	\$ 77	\$ 77
Return on average stockholders' equity	16.4%	14.0%	2.1%	N/A	1.4%
Book value per share	\$ 7.33	\$ 4.30	\$ 3.51	\$ 3.44	\$ 3.97
Weighted average number of shares outstanding –					
Basic	10,516,358	8,532,588	8,303,425	8,260,208	8,249,259
Diluted	11,358,004	9,072,832	8,537,032	8,260,208	8,682,078

Dollars are in thousands except net earnings (loss) per share and statistics.

¹The Company incurred a one-time charge related to the closure of the SPA Collection division of \$0.56 loss per share.

²The earnings per share for fiscal 1999 reflect the dilutive effect of the additional 3.0 million shares generated from the July 1999 secondary offering.

³Excludes six and four SPA Collection stores at January 31, 1997 and 1996.

⁴Based upon Sharper Image catalog – excludes other specialty and test mailing catalogs.

⁵Includes results from auction site started in February 1999.

To Our Shareholders

I'm delighted to report that 1999 was our best year ever. Annual revenues reached a record \$294.4 million – climbing 21 percent over last year's record level. Our net earnings were the highest in our 23-year history, reaching \$9.3 million, a 103 percent increase over the prior year's \$4.6 million. Every sales channel posted consistently impressive gains and outperformed our expectations.

Our comparable store sales increased 12 percent on top of last year's five percent gain; total retail store sales increased 16 percent, to a record \$188.4 million. The Sharper Image catalog posted sales of \$65.6 million, a 12 percent gain, as increased circulation help to drive sales in stores and online. Internet sales surged 479 percent, to \$28.5 million. Our business-to-business operations also enjoyed excellent sales gains to record levels.

Most importantly, we achieved these outstanding financial results by having a sound strategic vision that was consistently executed by an experienced team of associates.

Sharper Image Design™

Sharper Image is one of the most powerful brand names in retail, and our sophisticated product development capability gives us a distinct advantage over other retailers of hard goods. This year, Sharper Image Design™ products accounted for an impressive 29 percent of sales – 11 percentage points over last year's 18 percent. The popularity of both established and new proprietary products exceeded our expectations. The Ionic Breeze™ Silent Air Purifier, with exclusive patented electronics that propel air silently, was again the year's top seller. In 1999, we extended the Ionic Breeze line to include a Car Air Purifier, a Plug-In Air Purifier for small spaces, and a wearable Personal Air Purifier – all top performers. We created the Q Ball™, an irreverent, talking, high-tech version of a fortune-teller's crystal ball – our best-selling novelty item ever. And we created the world's first and only shower CD stereo.

Sharper Image Design™ products, combined with private-label merchandise from other manufacturers, accounted for 50 percent of sales in 1999 and helped raise our gross margin to 51.0 percent, up 2.0 percentage points. As the selection continues to expand, plans for 2000 target our own-label products to account for up to 60% of sales.

Internet E-Commerce

We launched our Web site nearly half a decade ago. It's difficult to fully characterize the dimensions of shifts in consumers' buying patterns, but one story will tell: During the peak days of December 1999, we did more online business in 72 hours than we did in all of 1997!

In 1999, innovations at our Web site included establishing an auction site; adding 3D interactivity and sound to Web product presentations; creating successful email campaigns to our Internet buyers; and enhancing the ease of use with express shopping settings in a secure environment. E-commerce is a key focus of our strategy, and we will continue to devote significant human and financial resources to achieving high sales growth on the Web. The Internet is a quicker and more economical way to reach a vast consumer base and it gives us the best opportunity to realize our vision and become a much larger and more profitable company.

Growth

This record year was the result of a unique business model and a great strategy, well executed. Powerful brand. Proprietary products. Direct-marketing know-how. Multi-channel synergy. Effective, aggressive multimedia advertising to attract new customers. Innovative use of online technologies. Superior merchandising and marketing. Solid operational infrastructure. We demonstrated our ability to achieve excellent results, consistently. This strategy will continue to be our focus in the next fiscal year and beyond. I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to our entire team of associates. They worked very hard all year and have enjoyed, with me, the satisfaction of achieving our goals. On behalf of all of us, I thank you for your confidence and support.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Richard Thalheimer
Chairman, Founder and
Chief Executive Officer



The CD Shower Companion™ was created by Sharper Image Design™ and is the world's first and only stereo CD player made for use in the shower.





Ionic Hair Wand™ Pro



Lightscape™ Relaxation System

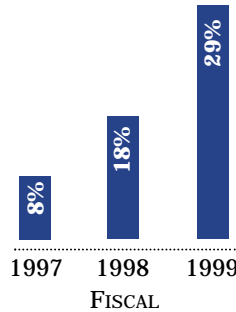


Personal Cooling System™ 2.0

SHARPER IMAGE DESIGN™

Sharper Image Design™ products are conceived, designed, engineered, packaged, contract manufactured and marketed solely by the Company. Led by founder and CEO Richard Thalheimer, and Sharper Image senior vice president, Charles Taylor, our development team creates a wide range of

PROPRIETARY PRODUCTS (PERCENTAGE OF SALES)



innovative, high quality items – from interactive toy robots to silent air purifiers. Our “Invented Here” assortment is diverse, fresh, exciting, attractive and highly marketable to a broad

of our own brand allow us to broaden our customer reach through increased multimedia advertising – in our catalog and special single product mailers; in print media; on television, radio,

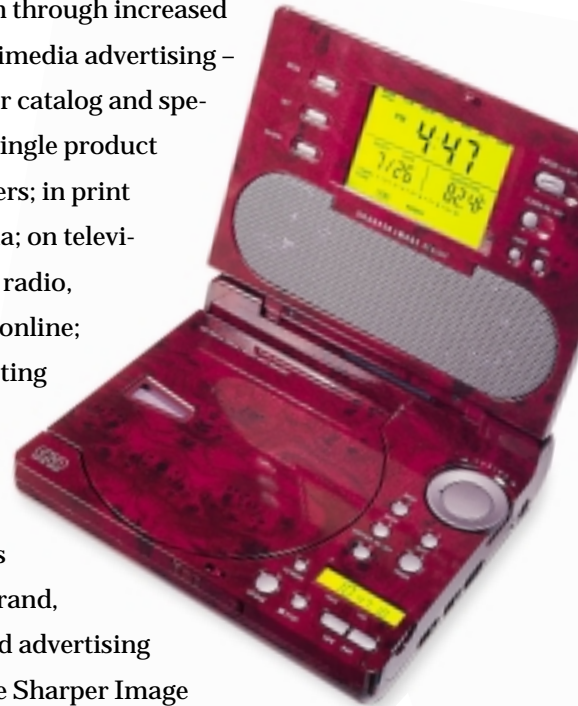
infomercials and online; with email marketing programs; and in business-to-business trade publications. This combination of brand,

product and advertising drove Sharper Image

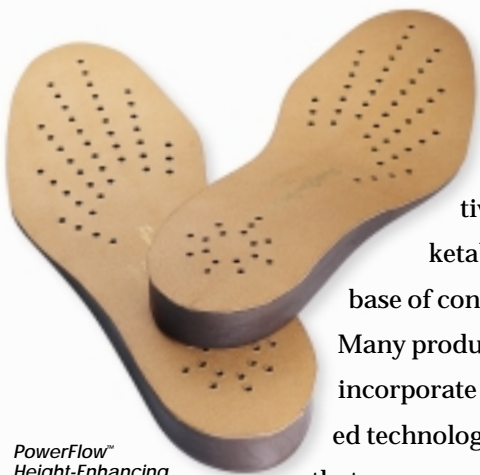
Design™ items to the top of our selling charts, accounting for

29 percent of sales to consumers. With more extraordinary products to be launched in 2000, Sharper Image Design™ will continue to increase as a percentage of our growing sales.

Power Tower™ 100 Motorized CD Rack



CD Radio/Alarm Clock with Sound Soother®



PowerFlow™ Height-Enhancing Insoles

base of consumers. Many products incorporate patented technologies that are unavailable elsewhere. Such items have no equal in the marketplace, cannot be price shopped, and yet they represent clear value to customers because of their imaginative, problem-solving usefulness. The higher margins



Sharper Image for Everyone

Nearly a quarter century of visionary merchandising and imaginative marketing has made Sharper Image one of the most widely recognized and respected brands – an enduring American icon that conveys genuine enthusiasm for well designed, technologically innovative products that make life easier and more enjoyable. We aim to build on our brand's strengths to reach a larger base of consumers with proprietary Sharper Image Design™ products that are unique yet broadly appealing, fun yet useful, sophisticated yet affordable. Our aggressive multimedia advertising programs are designed to support the initiative to build a larger customer base.

The Internet has fundamentally altered the business model for retailers. Many companies are threatened. But established sellers with a clearly positioned brand, exclusive products, multi-channel capability and direct-marketing know-how

are capitalizing on this change in the competitive arena. The Sharper Image is among a select group of premier specialty retailers that, because of the Internet, is poised to seize this extraordinary opportunity for significant, profitable growth.



Sharper Image Stores

The mortar in our “click and mortar” formula finished fiscal 1999, during the highest volume months, with five straight months of double-digit comparable stores sales growth. For the year, comparable store sales increased 12 percent – a clear signal that shopping in a store is still a vital and fun experience. Synergistic use of multimedia advertising – increased catalog circulation, new radio and TV campaigns, expanded newspaper coverage – helped our 89 stores to set an enviable record sales pace. In 2000, a new POS system will be installed in our stores to further enhance customer service capabilities. We're pleased with the updated look of our new format for stores. This year we plan to remodel up to eight stores and to open four to six new stores.



Sharper Image's store in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., showcases our new design format.

Colorful, distinctive packaging is key to the visual merchandising and marketing of our *Sharper Image Design™* brand in our stores.





File Edit Object Type Filter View Window Help

sharperimage.com

HOME SHOPPING BASKET WHAT'S HOT

What's Hot

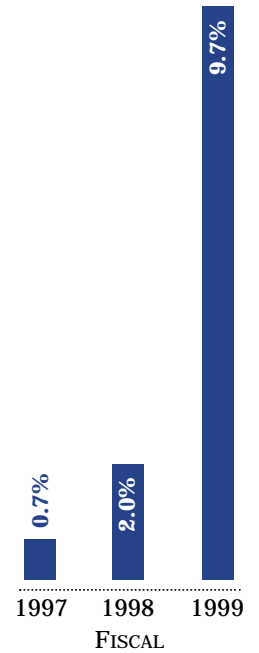
Personal Cooling System



INTERNET REVENUES
(\$ MILLIONS)



INTERNET PERCENTAGE OF REVENUES



Internet

Our e-commerce site, *sharperimage.com*, is widely recognized as a great place to visit, shop and buy. We're continuously improving our site's usability and entertainment value. In 1999, we added 3D interactivity and sound to dozens of product presentations using state-of-the-art 3D technology; rich media technology to show off the fun of the Q Ball's™ sound effects; express shopping enhancements to free customers from redundant keying of information; multiple ship-to addresses; virtual electronic gift certificates for "Last-Second Shopping!™"; online gift registry; email promotions; gift guides; and a \$2 incentive for catalog recipients to place orders online. Sales surged nearly six-fold in 1999. Early in 2000, *Forbes.com* honored us as one of only 33 *Forbes Favorite* Web sites – picking us as the best online store for "perfect gifts." We also launched our own auction site for Sharper Image merchandise and it was immensely popular right from the start. Our goals for fiscal 2000 are to maintain a very high rate of growth, fueled by Sharper Image Design™ products, increased advertising and dramatic site enhancements. Our sales goal for fiscal 2000 is to at least double 1999's record Internet revenues.

Catalog & Direct Marketing

The Internet has revitalized the world of direct marketing – an arena where Sharper Image is one of the most recognized and prestigious brands. The industry’s trade magazine, *Catalog Age*, last year named us as one of “The 10 Best Catalog Concepts Ever” – noting that The Sharper Image was “seminal in creating and influencing the catalog business” by being the first direct marketer “to make it cool for well-to-do, educated guys to buy by mail.”

The Company has obviously grown and changed in 23 years; research shows that two-thirds of our catalog buyers this holiday were women. What’s more, our unique product assortment is now driven by best-sellers that clean air, remove carpet stains, address personal grooming needs and, in general, provide the kinds of innovative solutions that consumers have always sought from direct merchants.

In 1999, we tested a single-product “solo mailer” and enjoyed tremendous success with several campaigns. These targeted solo mailers

introduced our Ionic Breeze™ Silent Air Purifier – and The Sharper Image – to an entire new universe of consumers. This exceptionally profitable new program is expanding this year, with additional products and greatly increased circulation.

To millions of loyal customers, our colorful monthly catalog *is* The Sharper Image – the medium that built the brand. It remains our principle advertising vehicle and, in 1999, we increased circulation 15 percent

to its highest level ever – 47.6 million catalogs. This year, boosted by the surging popularity of our Sharper Image Design™ exclusive products and of online ordering, we plan to continue to increase catalog circulation and other direct marketing activities to attract new customers. The Company intends to continue the strategy of growing its customer base through aggressive multimedia advertising

programs with the objective of achieving an appropriate return on investment.



Business-to-Business

Sharper Image Corporate Incentives & Rewards have soared in popularity as sales-driven companies compete to keep their increasingly valuable human resources. The Sharper Image brand is widely recognized as one of the most effective motivators in this thriving marketplace – few can match the prized “trophy value” of a product award from The Sharper Image. What’s more, our programs are regarded as among the most innovative in the business. Recently, the editors and online readers of *Incentive* magazine honored *sharperimage.com* as one of the incentive industry’s best Web sites. New online programs include custom Web sites with major corporate customers, targeted emails as motivational tools, and e-Awards™ for tiered, points-based online Sharper Image catalogs.



The Sharper Image is a leader in the incentives and rewards industry.

As part of our strategy to leverage our strong brand and exclusive products, this area of business-to-business sales is targeted for continued high growth in 2000.

Sharper Image Wholesale enhances our market presence and helps to establish The Sharper Image as a premier source of innovative merchandise to a

larger universe of consumers. Taking advantage of our Company's vertical integration, the wholesale sales force targets select department and specialty stores, catalogs and Web sites with appropriate selections of Sharper Image Design™ products. In 2000, this portion of our business is planned to selectively increase its international presence.

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

Sharper Image Corporation

Results of Operations Percentage of Total Revenues

	Fiscal Year Ended Jan. 31,		
	2000 (Fiscal 1999)	1999 (Fiscal 1998)	1998 (Fiscal 1997)
Revenues:			
Net store sales	64.0%	66.8%	69.9%
Net catalog sales	22.3	29.1	27.1
Net Internet sales	9.7	2.0	0.7
Net wholesale sales	3.5	1.4	1.5
List rental	0.4	0.5	0.5
Licensing	0.1	0.2	0.3
Total Revenues	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Costs and Expenses:			
Cost of products	48.8	50.6	53.3
Buying and occupancy	9.5	10.8	11.0
Advertising and promotion	12.9	11.2	10.5
General, selling, and administrative	23.7	24.3	24.5
Operating Income	5.1	3.1	0.7
Other Income (Expense)	0.2	0.1	(0.2)
Earnings Before Income Tax	5.3	3.2	0.5
Income Tax	2.1	1.3	0.2
Net Earnings	3.2%	1.9%	0.3%

Revenues

	Fiscal Year Ended Jan. 31,		
	2000 (Fiscal 1999)	1999 (Fiscal 1998)	1998 (Fiscal 1997)
Dollars in thousands			
Net store sales	\$ 188,416	\$ 162,371	\$ 151,589
Net catalog sales	65,617	70,750*	58,772*
Net Internet sales	28,495	4,922	1,633
Net wholesale sales	10,483	3,464	3,199
Total Net Sales	293,011	241,507	215,193
List rental	1,129	1,088	982
Licensing	225	519	640
Total Revenues	\$ 294,365	\$ 243,114	\$ 216,815

* Includes net sales from the Home Collection Catalog of \$12,016,000 and \$9,647,000 for fiscal 1998 and 1997, respectively. The test mailings of the Home Collection Catalog were terminated in late fiscal 1998 and accordingly those sales are not recurring in net catalog sales for fiscal 1999.

Net sales for fiscal 1999 increased \$51,504,000, or 21.3%, from the prior fiscal year. Returns and allowances were 11.0% of sales for fiscal 1999, as compared with 11.4% for fiscal 1998. The increase in fiscal 1999 Company net sales compared to fiscal 1998 was attributable to increases in net sales from Sharper Image stores of \$26,045,000; increases in net sales from the Sharper Image catalog (excluding Home Collection) of \$6,883,000; and increases in net sales from Internet operations of \$23,573,000. The total Company increase in net sales was partially offset by the decrease in net sales attributable to the discontinuance of the test mailings of the Sharper Image Home Collection catalog in fiscal 1998. Excluding the net sales of the Sharper Image Home Collection catalog for fiscal 1998 for comparative purposes, Company net sales increased \$63,520,000, or 27.7%, respectively.

There were three key factors that contributed to the revenue growth. The first was the continued popularity of Sharper Image Design proprietary products, as well as private label products. The continuing development and introduction of these new and popular products is an important factor in the Company's future success. Sharper Image Design proprietary products increased from 18% of net sales to consumers in fiscal 1998 to 29% in fiscal 1999. Private label products increased from 11% of net sales to consumers in fiscal 1998 to 21% in fiscal 1999. Secondly, management believes the effectiveness of its increased multimedia advertising initiatives in fiscal 1999 was also a significant contributing factor in achieving record revenue levels and attracting new customers and will be an important factor in future revenue growth, although there can be no assurances of the continued success of these and future advertising initiatives. Rounding out the factors, the surge in the popularity of online shopping, and the Company's determined push to have a robust e-commerce site, also contributed to the higher level of revenue growth.

For fiscal 1999, net store sales increased \$26,045,000, or 16.0%, and comparable store sales increased by 12.3%. The increase in net store sales for fiscal 1999 reflects a 12.8% increase in total store transactions, with a 3.0% increase in average revenue per transaction. Partially contributing to the increased transactions is that several key stores were remodeled in 1998. Although during the remodeling only a portion of the remodeled stores were open for business, the appealing new store format increased store traffic in subse-

Management's Discussion and Analysis (continued)

Sharper Image Corporation

Revenues (continued)

quent months by reaching an expanded customer base with broad appeal products, and enhanced visibility through additional advertising. The increase in net store sales in fiscal 1999 is also attributable to the fiscal 1999 opening of five new stores and annualized sales of four new stores opened in fiscal 1998 partially offset by three stores that closed at their lease maturity in fiscal 1999. Net sales per average square foot increased to \$546 for fiscal 1999, compared to \$484 in fiscal 1998 and \$465 in fiscal 1997. The Company's store productivity continues to improve as sales per square foot increases and compares favorably to the industry.

Net catalog sales for fiscal year 1999 decreased \$5,133,000 or 7.3% from fiscal 1998, which includes the decrease in the Sharper Image Home Collection Catalog sales, due to the discontinuation of the test mailings of that catalog in late fiscal 1998. Excluding the sales of the Home Collection Catalog in fiscal 1998, net catalog sales increased \$6,883,000, or 11.7% in fiscal 1999. Excluding Home Collection Catalog operations, the fiscal 1999 increase in Sharper Image Catalog net sales reflects an increase of 9.0% in transactions and a 2.5% increase in average revenue per transaction, compared to the prior year. Management believes the increase in Sharper Image catalog sales is partially attributable to a 13.5% increase in Sharper Image Catalog pages circulated in fiscal 1999 as compared to fiscal 1998, as well as the continued popularity of Sharper Image Design proprietary and private label products. Management is continually reviewing the number of catalogs and the pages circulated in its efforts to optimize the revenues from catalog advertising and is currently planning an increase in pages circulated for fiscal 2000. The Company intends to continue the strategy of growing its customer base through aggressive multimedia advertising programs, as well as marketing to these newly acquired customers.

The Company's fiscal 1999 Internet sales from *sharperimage.com*, which includes the Sharper Image auction site, increased \$23,573,000, or 478.9%, from fiscal 1998. The fiscal 1999 increase in Internet net sales reflects an increase of 736.4% in transactions. The Company's e-commerce site, *sharperimage.com*, was enhanced with several new feature improvements from ease-of-use and technology perspectives. 3D interactivity and sound technology was introduced along with other rich media technologies to present products in fun and entertaining ways. New features include express shopping settings, one time registration in a secure

environment, gift guides, virtual gift certificates, email marketing promotions, multiple addresses stored securely for customer's gift lists, and \$2 off ordering incentives for Internet purchases. The increase in transactions was partially offset by a 30.8% decrease in average revenue per transaction, compared to the prior year. The decrease in average revenue per transaction is primarily attributable to the Internet auction activity, which began in the Company's first quarter ended April 30, 1999. The auction site was launched to further the Company's strategy of increasing its Internet business and broadening its customer base, and has significantly increased total visits and page views on the Company's Web site. The auction site not only offers consumers the fun of bidding on and winning products at less than retail prices, it also allows the Company the opportunity to effectively manage its closeout products.

Net wholesale sales for fiscal year 1999 increased \$7,019,000, or 202.6%, compared to fiscal 1998, primarily due to new customers acquired prior to the 1999 holiday season. Certain of these customers were part of a test concept program and may not generate repeat sales in fiscal 2000.

Net sales of \$241,507,000 for fiscal 1998 increased \$26,314,000, or 12.2%, from the prior fiscal year. Returns and allowances as a percentage of sales were 11.4% for fiscal 1998, compared to 12.2% for fiscal 1997. Net store sales increased \$10,782,000, or 7.1%, comparable store sales increased 5.3%, net catalog sales increased \$11,978,000, or 20.4%, net Internet sales increased \$3,289,000, or 201.5%, and net wholesale sales increased \$265,000, or 8.3%, as compared to fiscal 1997.

The increase in net store sales for fiscal 1998 was primarily attributable to an 8.7% increase in total store transactions, partially offset by a 1.3% decrease in average revenue per transaction. Also contributing to the increase was the fiscal 1998 opening of four new stores and annualized sales of six stores opened in fiscal 1997, partially offset by the 1998 closing of two stores at the maturity of the store leases.

Net catalog sales for fiscal 1998 were positively impacted by an increase of 34.7% in total catalog orders partially offset by a 10.6% decrease in average revenue per order. The increase in catalog orders was partially attributable to advertising campaigns in major consumer magazines and newspapers. The Company believes that the 8.0% increase in the number of catalogs circulated for

Management's Discussion and Analysis (continued)

Sharper Image Corporation

Revenues (continued)

the Sharper Image catalog during fiscal 1998 also contributed to increases in net store sales and comparable store sales.

The Company's Internet sales increased to \$4.9 million in fiscal 1998 from \$1.6 million in fiscal 1997. Fiscal 1998 experienced a 139.1% increase in Internet orders and a 26.1% increase in average revenue per transaction from fiscal 1997. The threefold increase in sales reflects the increase in the number of online shoppers and the Company's commitment to grow its e-commerce.

Net wholesale sales increased \$264,000, or 8.3%, primarily due to increased sales of the Company's Sharper Image Design proprietary products.

For the purpose of determining comparable store sales, comparable stores are defined as those which were open during the entire comparable month of the previous year and are compared monthly for purposes of this analysis. Inflationary effects are not considered significant to the growth of sales.

Cost of Products

Cost of products for fiscal 1999 increased \$20,551,000, or 16.7%, from fiscal 1998. The increase in cost of products is due to the higher sales volume compared to the prior year, partially offset by the reduced sales of The Sharper Image Home Catalog Collection, which carried products with higher costs. The gross margin rate for fiscal 1999 was 51.0%, which was 2.0 percentage points better than the comparable prior year period. The higher gross margin rate reflects an increase in sales of Sharper Image Design proprietary and private label products, which generally carry higher margins than branded products. The Sharper Image Design proprietary products percentage of net sales, exclusive of wholesale, increased to 29% from 18%, in fiscal 1999 compared to fiscal 1998. The private label products increased to 21% from 11% in fiscal 1999, compared to the prior year.

Cost of products increased \$7,596,000, or 6.6%, in fiscal 1998 from fiscal 1997. The increase was primarily related to increases in net sales. The increase in cost of sales was lower than the increase in sales, reflecting the beneficial impact of the higher gross margin rate produced during fiscal 1998. The gross margin rate for fiscal 1998 was 49.0%, compared to 46.3% for fiscal 1997. The higher gross margin rate reflected an increase in sales of Sharper Image Design proprietary

products to 18% of total sales to consumers from 8% for the prior fiscal year.

The Company's gross margin rate fluctuates with the changes in its merchandise mix, which is affected by new items available in various categories. The variation in merchandise mix from category to category from year to year reflects the characteristic that the Company is driven by individual products, as opposed to general lines of merchandise. Additionally, the Company's expanding auction site and other promotional activities will tend to in part offset the rate of increase in our gross margin performance. It is impossible to predict future gross margin rates, although the Company's goal is to continue to increase sales of Sharper Image Design proprietary products and other exclusive private label products, as these products generally carry higher margins than branded products. The popularity of these proprietary products contributed to the 2.0 percentage point increase in the gross margin rate for fiscal 1999, and should continue to have a positive impact on the Company's gross margin rate.

Buying and Occupancy

Buying and occupancy costs for fiscal 1999 increased \$1,689,000, or 6.5%, from fiscal 1998. The increase primarily reflects a full year of occupancy costs for four new stores opened in fiscal 1998 and the costs associated with the five new stores opened in fiscal 1999, partially offset by the three stores that closed at their lease maturity during fiscal 1999. Buying and occupancy costs as a percentage of net sales decreased from 10.8% in fiscal 1998 to 9.5% in fiscal 1999.

Buying and occupancy expenses increased \$2,249,000, or 9.4%, in fiscal 1998 from fiscal 1997. The increase primarily reflects a full year of occupancy cost of six new stores opened during fiscal 1997 and the cost of four new stores opened in fiscal 1998, partially offset by the 1998 closure of two stores at their lease maturity. Buying and occupancy costs as a percentage of net sales decreased from 11.1% in fiscal 1997 to 10.8% in fiscal 1998.

Advertising and Promotion

Advertising and promotion expenses for fiscal 1999 increased \$10,596,000, or 38.7%, from fiscal 1998. The increase in advertising and promotion expenses was partially attributable to a 13.5% increase in Sharper Image catalog pages circulated in fiscal 1999 and a seven percent increase in paper costs instituted in the fourth quarter of

Management's Discussion and Analysis (continued)

Sharper Image Corporation

Advertising and Promotion (continued)

fiscal 1999. Although the Company does not anticipate significant paper cost increases in fiscal 2000, if significant increases materialized, the Company's circulation plans and/or advertising and promotion costs could be significantly impacted. The increased cost related to circulation increases was partially offset by the reduction in costs attributable to the discontinuance of The Sharper Image Home Collection Catalog in fiscal 1998. In addition, the Company deployed several advertising initiatives to broaden its customer base, including radio advertising, television commercials, infomercials, direct response or single product mailers, among others. These increased advertising initiatives were launched to realize the Company's goal of acquiring new customers, which the Company believes will produce additional sales in the stores, catalog and Internet channels, and business to business sales in future periods. Advertising and promotion expenses as a percentage of net sales increased from 11.3% in fiscal 1998 to 13.0% in fiscal 1999.

Advertising and promotion expenses for fiscal 1998 increased \$4,601,000, or 20.2%, from fiscal 1997. The increase was primarily due to an 8.0% increase in the number of Sharper Image catalogs mailed and an 11.6% increase in the number of pages circulated, as compared with fiscal 1997. Other costs, such as advertising campaigns in major consumer magazines and newspapers; infomercials; and development of Internet marketing also contributed to the increased expenses in fiscal 1998. The increase was partially offset by the 51.3% decrease in mailings of the test concept Sharper Image Home Collection catalog. Advertising and promotion expenses as a percentage of net sales increased from 10.6% in fiscal 1997 to 11.3% in fiscal 1998.

While the Sharper Image catalog serves as the primary source of advertising for its retail stores, mail order and Internet business, the Company continually reevaluates its advertising strategies and catalog circulation plans to maximize the effectiveness of its advertising programs.

General, Selling, and Administrative

General, selling and administrative expenses for fiscal 1999 increased \$10,847,000, or 18.4%, from fiscal 1998. The increase was primarily due to increases in variable expenses from increased net sales, expenses in the Internet and proprietary product areas for improved and expanded operational infrastructure, increased costs associated with attracting and retaining key employees, and overall selling

expenses related to the opening of five new stores. The Company competes for employees in certain highly competitive market segments. As a result, the Company's efforts to attract and retain certain employees are becoming more difficult and therefore more expensive. The Company is continually evaluating its salary, benefits, and stock option programs to remain competitive in the marketplace. General, selling and administrative expenses as a percentage of net sales decreased from 24.4% in fiscal 1998 to 23.8% in fiscal 1999.

General, selling, and administrative expenses for fiscal 1998 increased \$5,932,000, or 11.2%, from fiscal 1997, primarily due to increases in overall selling expenses related to the increase in net sales and related additional administrative support costs. The increase was partially offset by the improvement in net delivery income related to mail order shipments. General, selling and administrative expenses as a percentage of net sales decreased from 24.7% in fiscal 1997 to 24.4% in fiscal 1998.

Other Income (Expense)

Other income, net, for fiscal 1999 increased \$303,000 from fiscal 1998, primarily due to the interest income earned during fiscal 1999 from higher investment balances generated from improved operating results and the proceeds of the secondary offering completed in July 1999.

Other income, net, for fiscal 1998 increased \$761,000 from fiscal 1997, reflecting primarily the gain on the sale of certain equipment.

Income Taxes

The effective tax rate for fiscal 1999, 1998, and 1997 was 40.0%. Income taxes are accounted for using an asset and liability approach that requires the recognition of deferred tax assets and liabilities for the expected future tax consequences of events that have been recognized in the Company's consolidated financial statements or tax returns. In estimating future tax consequences, all expected future events then known to management are considered, other than changes in the tax law or rates.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

The Company met its short-term liquidity needs and its capital requirements in fiscal 1999 with cash generated from operations, trade credit, and proceeds from the secondary offering. During fiscal 1999, the Company's cash increased by \$47,068,000 to \$55,457,000 primarily due to proceeds

Management's Discussion and Analysis (continued)

Sharper Image Corporation

Liquidity and Capital Resources (continued)

from the secondary offering and the highest annual revenues and earnings in the Company's history.

On July 22, 1999, the Company completed an offering of 3.0 million shares of its common stock, all of which shares were offered by the Company. The proceeds from the offering, net of underwriters discount and offering expenses, totaled \$30.2 million. The Company intends to use the proceeds from this offering for general corporate purposes, including investments in the Company's Internet business, expansion of its distribution and fulfillment capacity, and working capital. At January 31, 2000, the Company had no amounts outstanding on its revolving loan credit facility. The highest amount of direct borrowings under the revolving loan credit facility during fiscal 1999 was \$3,873,000, compared to \$14,288,000 during fiscal 1998. Letter of credit commitments outstanding under the credit facility at January 31, 2000 and 1999 were \$3,192,000 and \$4,108,000, respectively.

The Company has a revolving secured credit facility which expires September 2003. The credit facility has been amended on several occasions and, as of January 31, 2000, the agreement allows Company borrowings and letters of credit up to a maximum of \$31 million for the period from October 1, 2000 through December 31, 2000, and up to \$20 million at other times of the year based on inventory levels. The credit facility is secured by the Company's inventory, accounts receivable, general intangibles and certain other assets. Borrowings under this facility bear interest at either prime plus 0.25% per annum or at LIBOR plus 2.25% per annum determined by financial performance. The credit facility contains certain financial covenants pertaining to interest coverage ratio and net worth and contains limitations on operating leases, other borrowings, dividend payments and stock repurchases. For the period ended January 31, 2000, the Company was in compliance with all covenants.

Subsequent to January 31, 2000, an amendment to the credit facility was completed to set lower interest rates and to extend the expiration date to September 2004. Borrowings under the credit facility will now bear interest at either the prime rate per annum or at LIBOR plus 1.5% per annum determined by financial performance. The credit facility allows seasonal borrowings of up to \$31 million for the period October 1 through December 31, 2000, increasing by \$1 million for this period in each of the two subsequent years, and remaining at \$33 million for this period the following year.

In addition, the credit facility provides for term loans for capital expenditures (Term Loans) up to an aggregate of \$2.5 million. Amounts borrowed under the Term Loans bear interest at a variable rate of either prime plus 0.50% per annum or at LIBOR plus 2.50% per annum determined by financial performance. Each Term Loan is to be repaid in 36 equal monthly principal installments. At January 31, 2000, there were no amounts outstanding on the Term Loan facility.

At January 31, 2000, notes payable included a \$2,513,000 mortgage loan collateralized by the Company's distribution center. This note bears interest at a fixed rate of 8.40%, provides for monthly payments of principal and interest in the amount of \$29,367, and matures in January 2011.

The Company's merchandise inventory at January 31, 2000, was approximately 21.6% higher than the prior fiscal year. The increase in inventory reflected the Company's plan to bring inventory to the optimal level to support sales growth trends currently being experienced by the Company.

The Company leases all of its offices, stores, and seasonal warehouse space. During the fiscal year ended January 31, 2000, the Company opened five stores located in Palm Desert, California; Tampa, Florida; Buford, Georgia; Providence, Rhode Island; and Mission Viejo, California. During fiscal 1999, the Company closed three stores located in Palm Springs, California; San Francisco, California; and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania at the maturity of the leases.

In fiscal 2000, the Company plans include expanding its fulfillment and distribution center capacity; updating the Company's e-commerce Web site for *sharperimage.com*; opening four to six new stores and remodeling approximately eight stores at lease maturity. These initiatives, combined with a recurring level of capital expenditures, will result in significantly higher capital expenditures in fiscal 2000 over fiscal 1999.

The Company is currently planning to open four to six new Sharper Image stores during fiscal 2000. Total capital expenditures estimated for new and existing stores, corporate headquarters and the distribution center for fiscal 2000 are between \$15 million and \$25 million. The Company believes it will be able to fund its cash needs for fiscal 2000 through existing cash balances, internally generated cash, trade credit, and the credit facility.

Management's Discussion and Analysis (continued)

Sharper Image Corporation

Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure About Market Risk

The Company is exposed to market risks, which include changes in interest rates and, to a lesser extent, foreign exchange rates. The Company does not engage in financial transactions for trading or speculative purposes.

The interest payable on the Company's credit facility is based on variable interest rates and therefore affected by changes in market interest rates. If interest rates on existing variable rate debt rose 0.8% (10% from the bank's reference rate) as of January 31, 2000, the Company's results from operations and cash flows would not be materially affected. In addition, the Company has fixed and variable income investments consisting of cash equivalents and short-term investments, which are also affected by changes in market interest rates. The Company does not use derivative financial instruments in its investment portfolio.

The Company enters into a significant amount of purchase obligations outside of the U.S. which are settled in U.S. dollars and, therefore, has only minimal exposure to foreign currency exchange risks. The Company does not hedge against foreign currency risks and believes that foreign currency exchange risk is immaterial.

Seasonality

The Company's business is highly seasonal, reflecting the general pattern associated with the retail industry of peak sales and earnings during the holiday season. The secondary peak period for the Company is June, reflecting gift buying for Father's Day and graduations. A substantial portion of the Company's total revenues and all or most of the Company's net earnings occur in the fourth quarter ending January 31. The Company generally experiences lower revenues and earnings during the other quarters and, as is typical in the retail industry, has incurred and may continue to incur losses in these quarters. The results of operations for these interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the results for the full fiscal year.

Uncertainties and Risk

The foregoing discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with the Company's financial statements and notes thereto included with this report. The foregoing discussion contains certain forward-looking statements that

are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those set forth in such forward-looking statements. Such risks and uncertainties include, without limitation, risks of changing market conditions in the overall economy and the retail industry, consumer demand, the opening of new stores, actual advertising expenditures by the Company, the success of the Company's advertising and merchandising strategy, availability of products, and other factors detailed from time to time in the Company's annual and other reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. The Company undertakes no obligations to revise these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date hereof.

Statements of Operations

Sharper Image Corporation

Dollars in thousands except per share amounts	Fiscal Year Ended January 31,		
	2000 (Fiscal 1999)	1999 (Fiscal 1998)	1998 (Fiscal 1997)
Revenues:			
Sales	\$ 329,384	\$ 272,721	\$ 245,095
Less: returns and allowances	36,373	31,214	29,902
Net Sales	293,011	241,507	215,193
List rental	1,129	1,088	982
Licensing	225	519	640
	294,365	243,114	216,815
Costs and Expenses:			
Cost of products	143,682	123,131	115,535
Buying and occupancy	27,842	26,153	23,904
Advertising and promotion	37,992	27,396	22,795
General, selling, and administrative	69,853	59,006	53,074
	279,369	235,686	215,308
Other Income (Expense):			
Interest income (expense) — net	603	(645)	(564)
Other — net	(58)	887	45
	545	242	(519)
Earnings Before Income Tax	15,541	7,670	988
Income Tax	6,216	3,068	395
Net Earnings	\$ 9,325	\$ 4,602	\$ 593
Net Earnings Per Share – Basic	\$ 0.89	\$ 0.54	\$ 0.07
Net Earnings Per Share – Diluted	\$ 0.82	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.07
Weighted Average Number of Shares – Basic	10,516,358	8,532,588	8,303,425
Weighted Average Number of Shares – Diluted	11,358,004	9,072,832	8,537,032

See Notes to Financial Statements.

Balance Sheets

Sharper Image Corporation

Dollars in thousands except per share amounts	January 31,	
	2000 (Fiscal 1999)	1999 (Fiscal 1998)
Assets		
Current Assets:		
Cash and equivalents	\$ 55,457	\$ 8,389
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$834 and \$804	7,882	6,787
Merchandise inventories	39,652	32,598
Deferred catalog costs	3,079	2,454
Prepaid expenses and other	7,494	5,605
Total Current Assets	113,564	55,833
Property and Equipment, Net	23,961	22,513
Deferred Taxes and Other Assets	4,594	3,699
Total Assets	\$142,119	\$ 82,045
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 20,307	\$ 11,653
Accrued expenses	22,667	16,960
Deferred revenue	8,605	7,268
Income taxes payable	7,194	3,314
Current portion of notes payable	147	635
Total Current Liabilities	58,920	39,830
Notes Payable	2,366	2,513
Other Liabilities	3,710	3,053
Commitments and Contingencies	-	-
Total Liabilities	64,996	45,396
Stockholders' Equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value:		
Authorized, 3,000,000 shares: Issued and outstanding, none	-	-
Common stock, \$0.01 par value:		
Authorized, 25,000,000 shares: Issued and outstanding, 12,016,827 and 8,916,995 shares	120	89
Additional paid-in capital	43,707	12,589
Retained earnings	33,296	23,971
Total Stockholders' Equity	77,123	36,649
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	\$142,119	\$ 82,045

See Notes to Financial Statements.

Statements of Stockholders' Equity

Sharper Image Corporation

Dollars in thousands	Common Shares	Stock Amount	Additional Paid-in Capital	Retained Earnings	Total
Balance at January 31, 1997	8,266,940	\$ 83	\$ 9,590	\$ 18,776	\$ 28,449
Issuance of common stock for stock options exercised, (net of income tax benefit)	124,340	1	237		238
Repurchase of common stock	(35,000)	(1)	(123)		(124)
Net earnings				593	593
Balance at January 31, 1998	8,356,280	83	9,704	19,369	29,156
Issuance of common stock for stock options and warrants exercised (net of income tax benefit)	560,715	6	2,885		2,891
Net earnings				4,602	4,602
Balance at January 31, 1999	8,916,995	89	12,589	23,971	36,649
Issuance of common stock from secondary offering and for stock options exercised (net of income tax benefit)	3,099,832	31	31,118		31,149
Net earnings				9,325	9,325
Balance at January 31, 2000	12,016,827	\$120	\$43,707	\$33,296	\$77,123

See Notes to Financial Statements.

Statements of Cash Flows

Sharper Image Corporation

Dollars in thousands	Fiscal Year Ended January 31,		
	2000 (Fiscal 1999)	1999 (Fiscal 1998)	1998 (Fiscal 1997)
Cash was Provided by (Used for) Operating Activities:			
Net earnings	\$ 9,325	\$ 4,602	\$ 593
Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash provided by (used for) operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	6,480	5,027	4,334
Deferred rent expense	170	78	151
Deferred income taxes	(1,348)	(1,459)	1,614
Gain on sale of equipment	-	(840)	-
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Accounts receivable	(1,095)	1,402	(2,274)
Merchandise inventories	(7,054)	1,936	(7,169)
Deferred catalog costs, prepaid expenses and other	(2,061)	1,298	(1,571)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	14,361	(5,822)	838
Deferred revenue, income taxes and other liabilities	5,704	3,568	1,308
Cash Provided by (Used for) Operating Activities	24,482	9,790	(2,176)
Cash was Provided by (Used for) Investing Activities:			
Property and equipment expenditures	(8,039)	(8,431)	(4,437)
Proceeds from sale of equipment	111	1,736	53
Cash Used for Investing Activities	(7,928)	(6,695)	(4,384)
Cash was Provided by (Used for) Financing Activities:			
Proceeds from issuance of common stock, including warrants and stock options exercised (net of stock repurchases)	31,149	2,891	114
Proceeds from notes payable and revolving credit facility	11,955	46,921	27,761
Principal payments on notes payable and revolving credit facility	(12,590)	(48,019)	(28,687)
Cash Provided by (Used for) Financing Activities	30,514	1,793	(812)
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Equivalents	47,068	4,888	(7,372)
Cash and Equivalents at Beginning of Period	8,389	3,501	10,873
Cash and Equivalents at End of Period	\$ 55,457	\$ 8,389	\$ 3,501
Supplemental Disclosure of Cash Paid for:			
Interest	\$ 403	\$ 813	\$ 771
Income Taxes	\$ 3,839	\$ -	\$ 409

See Notes to Financial Statements.

Notes to Financial Statements

Sharper Image Corporation

Fiscal Years Ended January 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998

Note A — Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Company is a leading specialty retailer that introduces and sells quality, innovative, and entertaining products. These products are sold through its retail stores, catalogs, Internet, and other marketing channels throughout the United States. The Company also has stores and catalog operations internationally through licensees. Additional revenue is derived from rental of the Company's mailing list and from licensing activities relating to the Company's trade name.

Revenue Recognition: The Company recognizes revenue at the point of sale at its retail stores and at the time of shipment to a customer for its mail order sales, including Internet. The Company provides for an allowance for returns based upon historical returns rate. Deferred revenue represents merchandise certificates outstanding and unfilled cash orders at the end of the fiscal period. Mailing list rental revenue is recognized when the list is fulfilled.

Accounting Estimates: The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Fair Value of Financial Instruments: The carrying value of cash, accounts receivable, accounts payable and notes payable approximates the estimated fair value.

Merchandise Inventories: Merchandise inventories are stated at lower of cost (first-in, first-out method) or market.

Cash and Equivalents: Cash and equivalents represent cash and short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

Deferred Catalog and Advertising Costs: Direct costs incurred for the production and distribution of catalogs are capitalized. Capitalized catalog costs are amortized, once the catalog is mailed, over the expected sales period which is generally three months. Other advertising costs are expensed as incurred and amounted to \$15,055,000, \$4,470,000, and \$3,580,000, for the fiscal years ended January 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998.

Start-Up Activities: All start-up and preopening costs are expensed as incurred.

Property and Equipment: Property and equipment are stated at cost. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the various assets which range from three to 10 years for office furniture and equipment, and 40 years for the building. Leasehold improvements are amortized using the straight-line method over the lesser of their estimated useful lives or the term of the applicable lease which ranges from seven to 18 years.

The Company manufactures its own proprietary products for sale. Costs incurred for tooling, dies and package design are capitalized and amortized over the estimated life of these products, which is generally two years. At January 31, 2000 and 1999, capitalized costs included in property and equipment, net of related amortization, were \$2,631,000 and \$2,239,000, respectively.

The Company reviews its long-lived assets, including identifiable

intangible assets, whenever events or changes indicate the carrying amount of such assets may not be recoverable. The Company's policy is to review the recoverability of all assets, at a minimum, on an annual basis. Based on the Company's review at January 31, 2000, no material adjustment was made to long-lived assets.

Income Taxes: Income taxes are accounted for using an asset and liability approach that requires the recognition of deferred tax assets and liabilities for the expected future tax consequences of events then known to management that have been recognized in the Company's consolidated financial statements or tax returns. In estimating future tax consequences, all expected future events then known to management are considered other than changes in the tax law or rates.

Stock-Based Compensation: The Company accounts for stock-based awards to employees using the intrinsic value method in accordance with APB No. 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees*.

Earnings Per Share: Basic earnings per share is computed as net earnings divided by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during each year of 10,516,358, and 8,532,588, and 8,303,425, for the fiscal years ended January 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998. Diluted earnings per share reflects the potential dilution that could occur from common shares issuable through stock options. Weighted average number of common shares outstanding was adjusted for 841,646, and 540,244, and 233,607 incremental shares assumed issued on the exercise of common stock during the fiscal years ended January 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998.

Options for which the exercise price was greater than the average market price of common stock for the period were not included in the computation of diluted earnings per share. The number of such options for which the exercise price was greater than the average market price of \$11.92, \$6.66 and \$3.56 for the fiscal years ended January 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998, was 9,000, and 14,000 and 97,500, respectively.

Comprehensive Income: In 1998, the Company implemented Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 130, *Reporting Comprehensive Income*. Comprehensive income consists of net earnings or loss for the current period and other comprehensive income (income, expenses, gains, and losses that currently bypass the income statement and are reported directly as a separate component of equity). Comprehensive income does not differ from net earnings for the Company for the years ended January 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998.

New Accounting Standards: In June 1999, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued SFAS No. 137, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments." SFAS 137 extends the effective date of SFAS No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities." SFAS 133 establishes accounting and reporting standards for derivative instruments, including certain derivative instruments embedded in other contracts, and for hedging activities. The statement requires that an entity recognize all derivatives as either assets or liabilities in the statement of financial position and measure those instruments at fair value. As amended by SFAS 137, SFAS 133 is effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2000 and is not to be applied retroactively. Management has not yet determined the potential effects of SFAS No. 133 on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Sharper Image Corporation

Fiscal Years Ended January 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998

Note A — Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Reclassification: Certain reclassifications have been made to prior years' financial statements in order to conform with the classifications of the January 31, 2000, financial statements.

Note B — Property and Equipment

Property and equipment is summarized as follows:

Dollars in thousands	Fiscal Year Ended January 31,	
	2000 (Fiscal 1999)	1999 (Fiscal 1998)
Leasehold improvements	\$ 25,494	\$ 25,419
Office furniture and equipment	42,117	35,482
Land	53	53
Building	<u>2,874</u>	<u>2,874</u>
	70,538	63,828
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	<u>46,577</u>	<u>41,315</u>
	\$ 23,961	\$ 22,513

Note C — Other Assets

The Company has an agreement under which it will advance the premiums on a split-dollar life insurance policy for its Chairman of the Board, Founder, and Chief Executive Officer. The Company has an interest in the insurance benefits equal to the amount of the premiums advanced. The amount receivable for premiums advanced as of January 31, 2000, and 1999 was \$1,120,000 and \$766,000, respectively.

Note D — Revolving Loan and Notes Payable

The Company has a revolving secured credit facility which expires September 2003. The credit facility has been amended on several occasions and, as of January 31, 2000, the agreement allows Company borrowings and letters of credit up to a maximum of \$31 million for the period from October 1, 2000, through December 31, 2000, and up to \$20 million for other times of the year based on inventory levels. The credit facility is secured by the Company's inventory, accounts receivable, general intangibles and certain other assets. Borrowings under this facility bear interest at either the prime rate plus 0.25% or at LIBOR plus 2.25% per annum, but may change determined by financial performance. The credit facility contains certain financial covenants pertaining to interest coverage ratio and net worth and contains limitations on operating leases, other borrowings, dividend payments and stock repurchases. For the period ended January 31, 2000 and 1999, the Company was in compliance with all covenants.

Subsequent to January 31, 2000, an amendment to the credit facility was completed to set lower interest rates and to extend the expiration date to September 2004. Borrowings under the credit facility will now bear interest at either the prime rate per annum or at LIBOR plus 1.5% per annum determined by financial performance. The credit facility allows seasonal borrowings of up to \$31 million

for the period October 1 through December 31, 2000, increasing by \$1 million for this period in each of the two subsequent years, and remaining at \$33 million for this period the following year. At January 31, 2000, and 1999, the Company had no amounts outstanding on its revolving loan credit facility. Letter of credit commitments as of January 31, 2000, and 1999 were \$3,192,000 and \$4,108,000, respectively.

In addition, the credit facility provides for term loans for capital expenditures (Term Loans) up to an aggregate of \$2.5 million. Amounts borrowed under the Term Loans bear interest at a variable rate of either prime plus 0.50% (9.0% at January 31, 2000) per annum or at LIBOR plus 2.50% per annum based on financial performance. Each Term Loan is to be repaid in 36 equal monthly principal installments. At January 31, 1999, the balance of the Term Loan was \$500,000 which was paid off in fiscal 1999.

Notes payable included a mortgage loan collateralized by the Company's distribution center. This note bears interest at a fixed rate of 8.40%, provides for monthly payments of principal and interest in the amount of \$29,367, and matures in January 2011. At January 31, 2000, and 1999, the balance of this note was \$2,513,000 and \$2,648,000, respectively.

Future minimum principal payments on notes payable at January 31, 2000, are as follows:

Dollars in thousands	
Fiscal Year Ending January 31,	
2001	\$ 147
2002	160
2003	173
2004	189
2005	205
Later years	<u>1,639</u>
Total notes payable	<u>\$2,513</u>

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Sharper Image Corporation

Fiscal Years Ended January 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998

Note E — Income Taxes

Dollars in thousands	Fiscal Year Ended January 31,		
	2000 (Fiscal 1999)	1999 (Fiscal 1998)	1998 (Fiscal 1997)
Currently payable (refundable):			
Federal	\$ 6,430	\$ 3,848	\$ (1,036)
State	1,135	679	(183)
	<u>7,565</u>	<u>4,527</u>	<u>(1,219)</u>
Deferred:			
Federal	(1,147)	(1,240)	1,372
State	(202)	(219)	242
	<u>(1,349)</u>	<u>(1,459)</u>	<u>1,614</u>
	<u>\$ 6,216</u>	<u>\$ 3,068</u>	<u>\$ 395</u>

The difference between the effective income tax rate and the United States federal income tax rate is summarized as follows:

	Fiscal Year Ended January 31,		
	2000 (Fiscal 1999)	1999 (Fiscal 1998)	1998 (Fiscal 1997)
Federal tax rate	34.0%	34.0%	34.0%
State income tax, less federal benefit	6.0	6.0	6.0
Effective tax rate	<u>40.0%</u>	<u>40.0%</u>	<u>40.0%</u>

Deferred taxes result from differences in the recognition of expense for income tax and financial reporting purposes. Temporary differences which give rise to deferred tax assets (liabilities) are as follows:

Dollars in thousands	January 31,	
	2000 (Fiscal 1999)	1999 (Fiscal 1998)
Current:		
Nondeductible reserves	\$ 4,966	\$ 4,123
Deferred catalog costs	(1,232)	(981)
State taxes	(332)	(755)
Current — net	<u>3,402</u>	<u>2,387</u>
Noncurrent:		
Deferred rent	1,049	1,198
Depreciation	3,474	2,967
Deductible software costs	(1,168)	(1,127)
Other — net	(157)	(173)
Noncurrent — net	<u>3,198</u>	<u>2,865</u>
Total	<u>\$ 6,600</u>	<u>\$ 5,252</u>

Note F — Leases

The Company leases its offices, retail facilities, and equipment under operating leases for terms expiring at various dates through 2008. Under the terms of certain of the leases, rents are adjusted annually for changes in the consumer price index and increases in property taxes. The aggregate minimum annual lease payments under leases in effect at January 31, 2000, are as follows:

Dollars in thousands	
Fiscal Year Ending January 31,	
2001	\$ 15,775
2002	11,994
2003	11,625
2004	10,871
2005	9,618
Later years	18,658
Total minimum lease commitments	<u>\$78,541</u>

Many of the Company's leases contain predetermined fixed escalations of the minimum rentals during the initial term. For these leases, the Company has recognized the related rental expense on a straight-line basis and has recorded the difference between the expense charged to income and amounts payable under the leases as deferred rent which is included in Other Liabilities.

Some store leases contain renewal options for periods ranging up to five years. Most leases also provide for payment of operating expenses, real estate taxes, and for additional rent based on a percentage of sales.

Net rental expense for all operating leases was as follows:

Dollars in thousands	Fiscal Year Ended January 31,		
	2000 (Fiscal 1999)	1999 (Fiscal 1998)	1998 (Fiscal 1997)
Minimum rentals	\$ 16,146	\$ 15,273	\$ 13,812
Percentage rentals and other charges	6,367	5,914	5,559
	<u>\$ 22,513</u>	<u>\$ 21,187</u>	<u>\$ 19,371</u>

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Sharper Image Corporation

Fiscal Years Ended January 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998

Note G — Stockholders' Equity

On July 22, 1999, the Company completed an offering of 3.0 million shares of its common stock, all of which shares were offered by the Company. The proceeds from the offering, net of underwriters discount and offering expenses, totaled \$30.2 million. The Company intends to use the proceeds from this offering for general corporate purposes, including investments in the Company's Internet business, expansion of its distribution and fulfillment capacity, and working capital.

Under the Company's stock repurchase program, the Company is authorized by its Board of Directors to repurchase up to \$1,600,000 of common stock. Through January 31, 1998, the Company has repurchased a total of 186,100 shares at an average price of \$5.95 per share. No shares were repurchased in fiscal 1999 or 1998.

Under the Company's 1985 Stock Option Plan, as amended, non-qualified options to purchase common stock are granted to officers, key employees and consultants, up to an aggregate 3,155,000 shares. Options generally vest over a four- to six-year period from the date of the grant and are priced at 100% of the fair market value at the date of the grant. The Stock Option Plan limits the maximum number of shares any one individual may be granted per fiscal year, and allows individuals owning more than 25% of the Company's common stock to receive stock options. Non-employee members of the Board are ineligible to receive stock option grants under this plan.

The Company also has the 1994 Non-Employee Directors Stock Option Plan, as amended and approved by stockholders, to allow for stock option grants of common stock to the non-employee members of the Board of Directors, up to an aggregate 250,000 shares. Options will be immediately exercisable, vest over one year of Board service from the date of the grant, and are priced at 100% of the fair market value at the date of the grant. Any shares purchased under the option plan will be subject to repurchase by the Company at the exercise price paid per share, upon the optionee's cessation of Board service prior to vesting.

At January 31, 2000, the Company had reserved 124,785 shares and 187,000 shares, under the 1985 Stock Option Plan and the 1994 Non-Employee Directors Stock Option Plan, respectively, for the granting of additional stock options.

Additional Stock Plan Information

As discussed in Note A, the Company continues to account for its stock-based awards using the intrinsic value method in accordance with Accounting Principles Board No. 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees*, and its related interpretations. Accordingly, no compensation expense has been recognized in the financial statements for employee stock arrangements.

Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*, requires the disclosure of pro forma net earnings (loss) and earnings (loss) per share had the Company adopted the fair value method as of the beginning of fiscal 1995. Under SFAS No. 123, the fair value of stock-based awards to employees is calculated through the use of option pricing models, even though such models were developed to estimate the fair value of freely tradable, fully transferable options without vesting restrictions, which significantly differ from the Company's stock option awards.

These models also require subjective assumptions, including future stock price volatility and expected time to exercise, which greatly affect the calculated values. The Company's calculations were made using the Black-Scholes option pricing model with the following weighted average assumptions: expected life from date of grant, six years in fiscal 1999, and five years in both fiscal 1998 and 1997; stock volatility, 57% in fiscal 1999, and 51% in both fiscal 1998 and 1997; risk-free interest rates, 5.70% in fiscal 1999, 5.12% in fiscal 1998, and 6.10% in fiscal 1997; and no dividends during the expected term.

The Company's calculations are based on a single option valuation approach, and forfeitures are recognized as they occur. If the computed fair values of the fiscal years 1995 through 1999 awards had been amortized to expense over the vesting period of the awards, pro forma net earnings would have been \$8,324,490 (\$0.79 earnings per share – basic and \$0.73 earnings per share – diluted) in fiscal 1999, \$4,338,715 (\$0.51 earnings per share – basic and \$0.48 earnings per share – diluted) in fiscal 1998, and \$383,000 (\$0.05 earnings per share – basic and \$0.04 earnings per share – diluted) in fiscal 1997. However, the impact of outstanding non-vested stock options granted prior to fiscal 1995 has been excluded from the pro forma calculation; accordingly, the fiscal 1999, fiscal 1998 and fiscal 1997 pro forma adjustments are not necessarily indicative of future period pro forma adjustments, when the calculation will apply to all future applicable stock options.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Sharper Image Corporation

Fiscal Years Ended January 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998

Note G — Stockholders' Equity (continued)

The following table reflects the activity under these plans:

	Number of Options	Weighted Average Exercise Price
Balance at January 31, 1997	1,504,500	\$ 3.13
Granted (weighted average fair value of \$1.81)	129,300	3.24
Exercised	(124,340)	1.92
Cancelled	(71,260)	3.83
Balance at January 31, 1998	1,438,200	3.21
Granted (weighted average fair value of \$2.07)	463,000	4.05
Exercised	(410,715)	2.39
Cancelled	(345,380)	3.48
Balance at January 31, 1999	1,145,105	3.76
Granted (weighted average fair value of \$5.41)	1,228,100	9.28
Exercised	(99,832)	4.11
Cancelled	(167,385)	3.78
Balance at January 31, 2000	2,105,988	\$ 6.96
Exercisable at January 31, 1998	591,000	\$ 2.73
Exercisable at January 31, 1999	379,000	\$ 3.58
Exercisable at January 31, 2000	531,391	\$ 4.39

Range of Exercise Prices	Options Outstanding			Options Exercisable	
	Number of Options Outstanding	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life (years)	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Number of Options Exercisable	Weighted Average Exercise Price
\$ 1.16- \$ 1.99	16,015	2.9	\$ 1.88	16,015	\$ 1.88
2.00- 3.99	791,489	7.8	3.70	440,542	3.72
4.00- 7.99	78,384	8.5	4.94	23,384	5.16
8.00- 11.99	1,211,100	10.0	9.22	49,450	10.38
11.99- 17.00	9,000	10.0	15.91	2,000	17.00
\$ 1.16- \$17.00	<u>2,105,988</u>	9.1	\$ 6.96	<u>531,391</u>	\$ 4.39

Note H — 401k Savings Plan

The Company maintains a defined contribution, 401k Savings Plan, covering all employees who have completed one year of service with at least 1,000 hours and who are at least 21 years of age. The Company makes employer matching contributions at its discretion. Company contributions amounted to \$152,000, \$73,000 and \$77,000 for the fiscal years ended January 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998, respectively.

Note I — Commitments and Contingencies

The Company is party to various legal proceedings arising from normal business activities. Management believes that the resolution of these matters will not have an adverse material effect on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Sharper Image Corporation

Fiscal Years Ended January 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998

Note J — Segment Information

The Company classifies its business interests into three reportable segments: retail stores, catalog and Internet. The accounting policies of the segments are the same as those described in the summary of significant accounting policies (Note A). The Company evaluates performance and allocates resources based on operating contribution, which excludes unallocated corporate general and administrative costs and income tax expense or benefit. The Company's reportable segments are strategic business units that

offer the same products and utilize common merchandising, distribution, and marketing functions, as well as common information systems and corporate administration. The Company does not have intersegment sales, but the segments are managed separately because each segment has different channels for selling the products.

Financial information for the Company's business segments is as follows:

Dollars in thousands	Fiscal Year Ended January 31,		
	2000 (Fiscal 1999)	1999 (Fiscal 1998)	1998 (Fiscal 1997)
Revenues			
Stores	\$ 188,416	\$ 162,371	\$ 151,589
Catalog	65,617	70,750	58,772
Internet	28,495	4,922	1,633
Other	11,837	5,071	4,821
Total Revenues	\$ 294,365	\$ 243,114	\$ 216,815
Operating Contributions			
Stores	\$ 27,947	\$ 19,405	\$ 15,170
Catalog	9,134	9,632	4,090
Internet	3,193	659	160
Unallocated	(24,733)	(22,026)	(18,432)
Earnings Before Income Tax	\$ 15,541	\$ 7,670	\$ 988
Depreciation and Amortization			
Stores	\$ 3,534	\$ 2,812	\$ 2,516
Catalog	-	-	-
Internet	14	1	-
Unallocated	2,932	2,214	1,818
Total Depreciation and Amortization	\$ 6,480	\$ 5,027	\$ 4,334
Capital Asset Expenditures			
Stores	\$ 3,561	\$ 5,988	\$ 2,722
Catalog	-	-	-
Internet	425	38	-
Unallocated	4,053	2,405	1,715
Total Capital Asset Expenditures	\$ 8,039	\$ 8,431	\$ 4,437
Assets			
Stores	\$ 13,590	\$ 13,673	\$ 11,564
Catalog	-	-	-
Internet	448	37	-
Unallocated	128,081	68,335	67,098
Total Assets	\$ 142,119	\$ 82,045	\$ 78,662

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Sharper Image Corporation

Fiscal Years Ended January 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998

Note K — Quarterly Financial Information (Unaudited)

Dollars in thousands except per share amounts

Fiscal Year Ended January 31, 2000	Three Months Ended			
	April 30, 1999	July 31, 1999	October 31, 1999	January 31, 2000
Revenues	\$ 40,859	\$ 57,704	\$ 58,280	\$ 137,522
Expenses				
Cost of products	20,280	28,355	29,384	65,663
Buying and occupancy	6,748	6,887	6,934	7,273
Advertising and promotion	4,234	8,193	6,619	18,946
General, selling and administrative	12,413	14,332	15,286	27,822
Other income (expense)	(36)	(107)	190	498
Earnings (loss) before income tax (benefit)	(2,852)	(170)	247	18,316
Income tax (benefit)	(1,141)	(68)	99	7,326
Net earnings (loss)	\$ (1,711)	\$ (102)	\$ 148	\$ 10,990
Net earnings (loss) per share – Basic ¹	\$ (0.19)	\$ (0.01)*	\$ 0.01*	\$ 0.92*
Diluted ²	\$ (0.19)	\$ (0.01)*	\$ 0.01*	\$ 0.83*

Fiscal Year Ended January 31, 1999	Three Months Ended			
	April 30, 1998	July 31, 1998	October 31, 1998	January 31, 1999
Revenues	\$ 39,751	\$ 49,532	\$ 42,955	\$ 110,876
Expenses				
Cost of products	20,743	25,780	22,404	54,204
Buying and occupancy	6,337	6,261	6,397	7,158
Advertising and promotion	4,512	6,904	4,906	11,074
General, selling and administrative	11,646	12,383	12,285	22,692
Other income (expense)	(163)	(176)	603	(22)
Earnings (loss) before income tax (benefit)	(3,650)	(1,972)	(2,434)	15,726
Income tax (benefit)	(1,460)	(789)	(974)	6,291
Net earnings (loss)	\$ (2,190)	\$ (1,183)	\$ (1,460)	\$ 9,435
Net earnings (loss) per share – Basic ¹	\$ (0.26)	\$ (0.14)	\$ (0.17)	\$ 1.08
Diluted ²	\$ (0.26)	\$ (0.14)	\$ (0.17)	\$ 0.98

*Includes the weighted average impact of 3.0 million shares of common stock issued in connection with the secondary offering dated July 22, 1999.

¹ Basic earnings per share is calculated for interim periods including the effect of stock options exercised in prior interim periods. Basic earnings per share for the fiscal year is calculated using weighted shares outstanding based on the date stock options were exercised. Therefore, basic earnings per share for the cumulative four quarters may not equal fiscal year basic earnings per share.

² Diluted net earnings per share for the fiscal year and for quarters with net earnings are computed based on weighted average common shares outstanding which include common stock equivalents (stock options). Net loss per share for quarters with net losses is computed based solely on weighted average common shares outstanding. Therefore, the net earnings (loss) per share for each quarter do not sum up to the earnings per share for the full fiscal year.

Corporate Data

Sharper Image Corporation

Board of Directors

Richard Thalheimer

Founder
Chairman of the Board
Chief Executive Officer

Alan Thalheimer

Retired Business Executive

Morton David

Retired Chairman, President, and
Chief Executive Officer,
Franklin Electronic Publishers, Inc.

Gerald Napier

Retired President of
I. Magnin and Company

George James

Retired Senior Vice President
and Chief Financial Officer,
Levi Strauss & Co.

Officers

Richard Thalheimer

Founder
Chairman of the Board
Chief Executive Officer

Tracy Wan

President
Chief Operating Officer

Greg Alexander

Senior Vice President
Management Information Systems

Tony Farrell

Senior Vice President
Creative Services

Jeff Forgan

Senior Vice President
Chief Financial Officer
Corporate Secretary

Barry Jacobsen

Senior Vice President
Distribution

Charles Taylor

Senior Vice President
Sharper Image Design

Robert Thompson

Senior Vice President
Merchandising

Joe Williams

Senior Vice President
Loss Prevention

Roger Bensinger

Vice President
Business Development

William Feroe

Vice President
Merchandise Planning
and Allocation

Tom Krysiak

Vice President
Sharper Image Design

Robert Pintane

Vice President
Product Development

Craig Trabeaux

Vice President
Stores

Independent Auditors' Report

Board of Directors
Sharper Image Corporation
San Francisco, California

We have audited the accompanying balance sheets of Sharper Image Corporation as of January 31, 2000, and 1999, and the related statements of operations, stockholders' equity and cash flows for each of the three fiscal years in the period ended January 31, 2000. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts

Corporate Information

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Telephone (415) 445-6000
FAX: (415) 445-1574

Transfer Agent and Registrar

Chase Mellon Shareholder
Services LLC
85 Challenger Road
Overbeck Center
Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660

Corporate Counsel

Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison LLP
One Market
Spear Street Tower
San Francisco, CA 94105

Independent Auditors

Deloitte & Touche LLP
50 Fremont Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

SEC Form 10-K

A copy of the Company's annual report to the Securities and Exchange Commission of Form 10-K (exclusive of exhibits) is available without charge upon written request to:

Investor Relations
The Sharper Image
650 Davis Street
San Francisco, CA 94111

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Sharper Image Corporation will be held on Monday, June 12, 2000, at 10 a.m. at the World Trade Club, Ferry Building, San Francisco, California.

Common Stock Market Prices and Dividend Policy

The common stock of Sharper Image Corporation is traded in the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol SHRP. The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the range of high and low prices reported for the common stock.

The Company has not paid cash dividends to holders of its common stock.

	Fiscal Year 1999		Fiscal Year 1998	
	High	Low	High	Low
First Quarter	17 ³ / ₁₆	9 ³ / ₈	11 ⁵ / ₈	4 ¹ / ₁₆
Second Quarter	12 ¹ / ₂	8	8 ³ / ₈	4 ¹¹ / ₁₆
Third Quarter	14 ³ / ₈	8 ⁷ / ₈	5 ⁵ / ₈	2 ¹ / ₂
Fourth Quarter	23 ¹ / ₂	8 ³ / ₄	25	3 ³ / ₄

and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, such financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Sharper Image Corporation as of January 31, 2000, and 1999, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three fiscal years in the period ended January 31, 2000, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Deloitte & Touche LLP
San Francisco, California
March 24, 2000

Deloitte & Touche




*The Ionic Breeze™ Quadra Air Purifier
uses exclusive, patented electronics
to circulate air in total silence.
This top-seller was created by
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