

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

**FORM 10-Q**

(Mark One)

☒ **QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**  
For the quarterly period ended March 30, 2008

or

☐ **TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**  
For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission File Number 0-14864

**LINEAR TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**DELAWARE**

(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

**94-2778785**

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

**1630 McCarthy Boulevard, Milpitas, California**

(Address of principal executive offices)

**95035**

(Zip Code)

**(408) 432-1900**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

**N/A**

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes ☒ No ☐

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

Large accelerated filer ☒

Accelerated filer ☐

Non-accelerated filer ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes ☐ No ☒

Shares outstanding of the Registrant's common stock:

Class

Common Stock, \$0.001 par value per share

Outstanding at April 25, 2008

221,863,484 shares

**LINEAR TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION**  
**FORM 10-Q**  
**THREE AND NINE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 30, 2008**

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# PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## Item 1. Financial Statements

### LINEAR TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (In thousands, except per share amounts) (unaudited)

|  | Three Months Ended |                  | Nine Months Ended |                  |
|--|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
|  | March 30,<br>2008  | April 1,<br>2007 | March 30,<br>2008 | April 1,<br>2007 |
| Revenues   | \$ 297,865         | \$ 254,992       | \$ 868,073        | \$ 814,962       |
| Cost of sales <sup>(1)</sup>                                 | 66,939             | 56,535           | 197,212           | 180,175          |
| Gross profit   | 230,926            | 198,457          | 670,861           | 634,787          |
| Expenses:  |                    |                  |                   |                  |
| Research and development <sup>(1)</sup>                      | 49,613             | 45,364           | 145,192           | 136,844          |
| Selling, general and administrative <sup>(1)</sup>           | 35,423             | 32,807           | 101,761           | 100,829          |
|  | 85,036             | 78,171           | 246,953           | 237,673          |
| Operating income   | 145,890            | 120,286          | 423,908           | 397,114          |
| Interest expense   | (14,435)           | (422)            | (43,371)          | (1,298)          |
| Interest income  | 7,334              | 17,011           | 21,026            | 49,791           |
| Income before income taxes                                   | 138,789            | 136,875          | 401,563           | 445,607          |
| Provision for income taxes                                   | 39,555             | 38,325           | 117,099           | 129,656          |
| Net income   | \$ 99,234          | \$ 98,550        | \$ 284,464        | \$ 315,951       |
| Basic earnings per share                                     | \$ 0.45            | \$ 0.33          | \$ 1.28           | \$ 1.05          |
| Shares used in the calculation of basic earnings per share   | 222,046            | 299,455          | 221,979           | 300,212          |
| Diluted earnings per share                                   | \$ 0.44            | \$ 0.32          | \$ 1.26           | \$ 1.03          |
| Shares used in the calculation of diluted earnings per share | 224,489            | 304,640          | 225,842           | 305,677          |
| Cash dividends per share                                     | \$ 0.21            | \$ 0.18          | \$ 0.57           | \$ 0.48          |

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes stock-based compensation charges as follows:

|                                     |          |          |          |          |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Cost of sales                       | \$ 1,996 | \$ 2,933 | \$ 5,865 | \$ 8,535 |
| Research and development            | 8,360    | 9,563    | 24,289   | 27,746   |
| Selling, general and administrative | 4,675    | 5,839    | 13,503   | 16,901   |

See accompanying notes

LINEAR TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION  
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS  
(In thousands, except par value)

|  | March 30,<br>2008<br>(unaudited) | July 1,<br>2007<br>(1) |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Assets   |                                  |                        |
| Current assets:  |                                  |                        |
| Cash and cash equivalents  | \$ 119,177                       | \$ 156,494             |
| Short-term investments   | 788,762                          | 476,813                |
| Accounts receivable, net of allowance for<br>doubtful accounts of \$1,759 (\$1,775 at July 1, 2007)  | 150,233                          | 130,546                |
| Inventories:   |                                  |                        |
| Raw materials  | 4,777                            | 4,318                  |
| Work-in-process  | 38,919                           | 35,002                 |
| Finished goods   | 10,679                           | 11,755                 |
| Total inventories  | 54,375                           | 51,075                 |
| Deferred tax assets  | 32,442                           | 35,038                 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets  | 16,443                           | 11,138                 |
| Total current assets   | 1,161,432                        | 861,104                |
| Property, plant and equipment, at cost:  |                                  |                        |
| Land, buildings and improvements   | 205,225                          | 201,547                |
| Manufacturing and test equipment   | 461,016                          | 449,175                |
| Office furniture and equipment   | 3,400                            | 3,332                  |
|  | 669,641                          | 654,054                |
| Accumulated depreciation and amortization  | (418,154)                        | (387,454)              |
| Property, plant and equipment, net   | 251,487                          | 266,600                |
| Other non current assets   | 90,738                           | 91,153                 |
| Total assets   | \$ 1,503,657                     | \$ 1,218,857           |
| Liabilities and stockholders' deficit  |                                  |                        |
| Current liabilities:   |                                  |                        |
| Accounts payable   | \$ 12,616                        | \$ 11,161              |
| Accrued payroll and related benefits   | 46,458                           | 54,470                 |
| Deferred income on shipments to distributors   | 37,672                           | 39,946                 |
| Income taxes payable   | 20,205                           | 45,327                 |
| Other accrued liabilities  | 40,609                           | 28,965                 |
| Total current liabilities  | 157,560                          | 179,869                |
| Deferred tax liabilities   | 35,343                           | 12,917                 |
| Convertible senior notes   | 1,700,000                        | 1,700,000              |
| Other long-term liabilities  | 98,326                           | 34,036                 |
| Total liabilities  | 1,991,229                        | 1,926,822              |
| Commitments and contingencies  |                                  |                        |
| Stockholders' equity:  |                                  |                        |
| Preferred stock, \$0.001 par value, 2,000 shares authorized,<br>none issued or outstanding   | -                                | -                      |
| Common stock, \$0.001 par value, 2,000,000 shares authorized,<br>221,138 shares issued and outstanding at March 30, 2008<br>(229,655 shares at July 1, 2007) | 221                              | 229                    |
| Additional paid-in capital   | 1,006,818                        | 901,906                |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income, net of tax   | 4,357                            | (647)                  |
| Accumulated deficit  | (1,498,968)                      | (1,609,453)            |
| Total stockholders' deficit  | (487,572)                        | (707,965)              |
| Total liabilities and stockholders' deficit  | \$ 1,503,657                     | \$ 1,218,857           |

(1) Derived from audited financial statements at July 1, 2007  
See accompanying notes

LINEAR TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS  
(In thousands)  
(unaudited)

|   | Nine Months Ended |                   |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
|   | March 30,<br>2008 | April 1,<br>2007  |
| Cash flow from operating activities:  |                   |                   |
| Net income  | \$ 284,464        | \$ 315,951        |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to<br>net cash provided by operating activities:      |                   |                   |
| Depreciation and amortization   | 36,352            | 38,279            |
| Tax benefit received on the exercise of<br>stock-based awards                             | 7,206             | 4,595             |
| Stock-based compensation  | 43,657            | 53,182            |
| Change in operating assets and liabilities:   |                   |                   |
| (Increase) decrease in accounts receivable  | (19,687)          | 12,052            |
| Increase in inventories   | (3,300)           | (11,712)          |
| Increase in prepaid expenses, other<br>current assets and deferred tax assets             | (3,260)           | (6,312)           |
| Increase in long-term assets  | (1,084)           | (5,492)           |
| Increase (decrease) in accounts payable,<br>accrued payroll and other accrued liabilities | 566               | (39,639)          |
| Decrease in deferred income on<br>shipments to distributors                               | (2,274)           | (5,711)           |
| Increase (decrease) in income taxes payable   | 56,098            | (18,618)          |
| Increase in long term liabilities   | 1,033             | -                 |
| Cash provided by operating activities   | <u>399,771</u>    | <u>336,575</u>    |
| Cash flow from investing activities:  |                   |                   |
| Purchase of long-term investment  | (980)             | -                 |
| Purchase of short-term investments  | (858,459)         | (1,078,932)       |
| Proceeds from sales and maturities of<br>short-term investments                           | 554,451           | 876,323           |
| Purchase of property, plant and equipment   | <u>(15,722)</u>   | <u>(49,090)</u>   |
| Cash used in investing activities   | <u>(320,710)</u>  | <u>(251,699)</u>  |
| Cash flow from financing activities:  |                   |                   |
| Excess tax benefit received on exercise of<br>stock-based awards                          | 10,686            | 7,721             |
| Issuance of common stock under employee<br>stock plans                                    | 52,683            | 42,641            |
| Purchase of common stock  | (50,704)          | (209,963)         |
| Payment of cash dividends   | <u>(129,043)</u>  | <u>(146,062)</u>  |
| Cash used in financing activities   | <u>(116,378)</u>  | <u>(305,663)</u>  |
| Decrease in cash and cash equivalents   | <u>(37,317)</u>   | <u>(220,787)</u>  |
| Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period  | <u>156,494</u>    | <u>541,060</u>    |
| Cash and cash equivalents, end of period  | <u>\$ 119,177</u> | <u>\$ 320,273</u> |

See accompanying notes

LINEAR TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION  
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(Unaudited)

1. Basis of Presentation

Interim financial statements and information are unaudited; however, in the opinion of management, all adjustments necessary for a fair and accurate presentation of the interim results have been made. All such adjustments were of a normal recurring nature. The results for the three and nine month periods ended March 30, 2008 are not necessarily an indication of results to be expected for the entire fiscal year. All information reported in this Form 10-Q should be read in conjunction with the Company's annual consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended July 1, 2007 included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K. The accompanying balance sheet at July 1, 2007 has been derived from audited financial statements as of that date. Because the Company is viewed as a single operating segment for management purposes, no segment information has been disclosed.

*Revenue Recognition*

The Company recognizes revenues when the earnings process is complete, when persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, the product has been delivered, the price is fixed and determinable and collection is reasonably assured. The Company recognizes approximately 16% of net revenues from North American ("domestic") distributors that are recognized under agreements which provide for certain sales price rebates and limited product return privileges. Given the uncertainties associated with the levels of pricing rebates, the ultimate sales price on domestic distributor sales transactions is not fixed or determinable until domestic distributors sell the merchandise to the end-user. Domestic distributor agreements permit the following: price protection on certain domestic distribution inventory if the Company lowers the prices of its products; exchanges up to 3% of certain purchases on a quarterly basis; and Ship and Debit transactions. Ship and Debit transactions are transactions in which during the course of securing business, domestic distributors request the Company to reduce its selling price on a specific quantity of product in order to complete a particular sales transaction. When the Company agrees, it rebates to the requesting distributor, through the acceptance of the distributor's debit memo, the amount of the price reduction so negotiated.

At the time of shipment to domestic distributors, the Company records a trade receivable and deferred revenue at the distributor purchasing price since there is a legally enforceable obligation from the distributor to pay for the products delivered. The Company relieves inventory as title has passed to the distributor and recognizes deferred cost of sales in the same amount. "Deferred income on shipments to distributors" represents the difference between deferred revenue and deferred costs of sales and is recognized as a current liability until such time as the distributor confirms a final sale to its end customer. "Deferred income on shipments to distributors" effectively represents the deferred gross margin on the sale to the distributor, however, the actual amount of gross margin the Company ultimately recognizes in future periods may be less than the originally recorded amount as a result of price protection, negotiated price rebates and exchanges as mentioned above. The wide range and variability of negotiated price rebates granted to distributors does not allow the Company to accurately estimate the portion of the balance in the "Deferred income on shipments to distributors" that will be remitted back to the distributors. These price rebates that have been remitted back to distributors have ranged from \$1.5 million to \$3.1 million per quarter. The Company does not reduce deferred income by anticipated future price rebates. Instead, price rebates are recorded against "Deferred income on shipments to distributors" when incurred, which is generally at the time the distributor sells the product.

The Company's sales to international distributors are made under agreements which permit limited stock return privileges but not sales price rebates. The agreements generally permit distributors to exchange up to 5% of purchases on a semi-annual basis. Revenue on international distributor sales is recognized upon shipment at which time title passes. The Company estimates international distributor returns based on historical data and current business expectations and defers a portion of international distributor sales and costs based on these estimated returns.

2. The Company operates on a 52/53-week year, ending on the Sunday nearest June 30. Fiscal years 2008 and 2007 are 52-week years.
3. Basic earnings per share is calculated using the weighted average shares of common stock outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings per share is calculated using the weighted average shares of common stock outstanding, plus the dilutive effect of stock options and restricted stock calculated using the treasury stock method. The following table sets forth the reconciliation of weighted average common shares outstanding used in the computation of basic and diluted earnings per share:

| <i>In thousands, except per share amounts</i>                                     | Three Months Ended |                  | Nine Months Ended |                  |
|---|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
|   | March 30,<br>2008  | April 1,<br>2007 | March 30,<br>2008 | April 1,<br>2007 |
| Numerator - Net income  | \$ 99,234          | \$ 98,550        | \$ 284,464        | \$ 315,951       |
| Denominator for basic earnings<br>per share- weighted<br>average shares           | 222,046            | 299,455          | 221,979           | 300,212          |
| Effect of dilutive securities –<br>employee stock options and<br>restricted stock | 2,443              | 5,185            | 3,863             | 5,465            |
| Denominator for diluted earnings<br>per share                                     | 224,489            | 304,640          | 225,842           | 305,677          |
| Basic earnings per share  | \$ 0.45            | \$ 0.33          | \$ 1.28           | \$ 1.05          |
| Diluted earnings per share  | \$ 0.44            | \$ 0.32          | \$ 1.26           | \$ 1.03          |

#### 4. Stock-Based Compensation

##### ***Equity Incentive Plans***

The Company has two equity incentive plans under which the Company may grant incentive stock options, nonstatutory stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, restricted stock units, performance shares and performance units. Under the plans (the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan and the 2001 Nonstatutory Stock Option Plan), the Company may grant awards to employees, executive officers, directors and consultants who provide services to the Company. To date, the Company has only granted nonstatutory stock options, restricted stock and restricted stock units from these plans. At March 30, 2008, 15.2 million shares were available for grant under the plans. Options generally become exercisable over a five-year period (generally 10% every six months). Options granted prior to January 11, 2005 expire ten years after the date of grant; options granted after January 11, 2005 expire seven years after the date of the grant. The Company's restricted stock awards generally vest annually over a five year period (20% per year) based upon continued employment with the Company.

In addition, the Company has an Employee Stock Purchase Plan ("ESPP") that is currently available to employees only. The ESPP permits eligible employees to purchase common stock through payroll deductions at 85% of the fair market value of the common stock at the end of each six-month offering period. The offering periods commence on approximately May 1 and November 1 of each year. At March 30, 2008, 0.5 million shares were available for issuance under the ESPP.

##### ***Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation***

The Company accounts for stock-based compensation arrangements in accordance with the provisions of Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement (FASB) No. 123(R) (SFAS 123R), "Share-Based Payment." Under SFAS 123R, compensation cost is calculated on the date of grant using the fair value of stock options as determined using the Black-Scholes valuation model. The Company amortizes the compensation cost straight-line over the vesting period, which is generally five years. The Black-Scholes valuation model requires the Company to estimate key assumptions such as expected term, volatility and forfeiture rates to determine the fair value of a stock option. The estimate of these key assumptions is based on historical information and judgment regarding market factors and trends.

As of March 30, 2008, there was approximately \$161.7 million of total unrecognized stock-based compensation cost related to share-based payments granted under the Company's stock-based compensation plans that will be recognized over a period of approximately five years. Future grants will add to this total, whereas quarterly amortization and the vesting of the existing grants will reduce this total.

The table below outlines the effects of total stock-based compensation for the three and nine months ended March 30, 2008 and April 1, 2007:

*In thousands, except per share amounts*

|  | Three Months Ended       |                          | Nine Months Ended        |                          |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
|  | March 30,<br>2008        | April 1,<br>2007         | March 30,<br>2008        | April 1,<br>2007         |
| Stock-based compensation               | \$ 15,031 <sup>(1)</sup> | \$ 18,335 <sup>(1)</sup> | \$ 43,657 <sup>(1)</sup> | \$ 53,182 <sup>(1)</sup> |
| Tax effect of stock-based compensation | (4,284)                  | (5,134)                  | (12,731)                 | (15,474)                 |
| Net effect on net income               | <u>\$ 10,747</u>         | <u>\$ 13,201</u>         | <u>\$ 30,926</u>         | <u>\$ 37,708</u>         |
| Effect on earnings per share           |                          |                          |                          |                          |
| Basic                                  | <u>\$ 0.05</u>           | <u>\$ 0.04</u>           | <u>\$ 0.14</u>           | <u>\$ 0.13</u>           |
| Diluted                                | <u>\$ 0.05</u>           | <u>\$ 0.04</u>           | <u>\$ 0.14</u>           | <u>\$ 0.12</u>           |
| Shares used in basic EPS               | <u>222,046</u>           | <u>299,455</u>           | <u>221,979</u>           | <u>300,212</u>           |
| Shares used in diluted EPS             | <u>224,489</u>           | <u>304,640</u>           | <u>225,842</u>           | <u>305,677</u>           |

<sup>(1)</sup> Stock-based compensation includes the effects of stock options, restricted stock, restricted stock units and the ESPP.

The Company issues new shares of common stock upon exercise of stock options. For the three and nine months ended March 30, 2008, 0.8 million and 3.2 million stock options, respectively, were exercised for a gain (aggregate intrinsic value) of \$10.9 million and \$52.8 million, respectively, determined as of the date of option exercise.

### ***Stock Options***

The following table summarizes stock option activity and related information under all stock option plans:

|  | Stock<br>Options<br>Outstanding | Weighted-<br>Average<br>Exercise<br>Price |
|--|---------------------------------|---|
| Outstanding options, July 1, 2007                | 30,207,097                      | \$33.87                                   |
| Granted  | 65,000                          | 35.84                                     |
| Forfeited and expired                            | (527,780)                       | 41.46                                     |
| Exercised  | <u>(3,225,608)</u>              | 15.33                                     |
| Outstanding options, March 30, 2008              | <u>26,518,709</u>               | \$35.97                                   |
| Vested and expected to vest as of March 30, 2008 | <u>25,855,459</u>               | \$35.96                                   |
| Options vested and exercisable at:               |                                 |   |
| March 30, 2008                                   | 23,957,914                      | \$35.93                                   |

### ***Restricted Stock***

The following table summarizes the Company's restricted stock and restricted stock unit activity under all equity award plans:

|                             | Restricted<br>Awards<br>Outstanding | Weighted-<br>Average<br>Grant-Date<br>Fair Value |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Nonvested at July 1, 2007   | 4,182,321                           | \$34.45  |
| Granted                     | 1,726,618                           | 34.11  |
| Vested                      | (877,576)                           | 34.92  |
| Forfeited                   | <u>(133,353)</u>                    | 34.44  |
| Nonvested at March 30, 2008 | <u>4,898,010</u>                    | \$34.25  |



## 5. Comprehensive Income

Accumulated other comprehensive income consists of unrealized gains or losses on available-for-sale securities. The components of comprehensive income were as follows:

| <i>In thousands</i>   | Three Months Ended |                  | Nine Months Ended |                   |
|---|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|   | March 30,<br>2008  | April 1,<br>2007 | March 30,<br>2008 | April 1,<br>2007  |
| Net income  | \$ 99,234          | \$ 98,550        | \$ 284,464        | \$ 315,951        |
| Changes in unrealized gains or losses<br>on available-for-sale securities | 2,389              | 877              | 5,004             | 4,409             |
| Total comprehensive income  | <u>\$ 101,623</u>  | <u>\$ 99,427</u> | <u>\$ 289,468</u> | <u>\$ 320,360</u> |

## 6. Convertible Senior Notes

During the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2007, the Company issued \$1.0 billion aggregate principal amount of its 3.00% Convertible Senior Notes due May 1, 2027 (the “2027A notes”) and \$700 million aggregate principal amount of its 3.125% Convertible Senior Notes due May 1, 2027 (the “2027B notes” and, together with the 2027A notes, the “Notes”) to qualified institutional buyers pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933. The Notes are the Company’s unsubordinated, unsecured obligations and rank equal in right of payment with all of the Company’s other existing and future unsubordinated, unsecured obligations; the Notes rank junior in right of payment to any of the Company’s secured obligations to the extent of the value of the collateral securing such obligations; and the Notes are effectively subordinated in right of payment to all existing and future indebtedness and liabilities of our subsidiaries. There is not a sinking fund in connection with the Notes. The Company received net proceeds from the issuance of the Notes of \$1,678.0 million after the deduction of issuance costs of \$22.0 million. The Company used the entire net proceeds of the offering to fund a portion of its repurchase of \$3.0 billion of its common stock pursuant to an accelerated stock repurchase transaction it entered into with an affiliate of the initial purchaser of the Notes simultaneously with the offering of the Notes. The debt issuance costs are recorded in other non-current assets and are being amortized to interest expense on a straight-line basis over the earliest redemption date of November 1, 2010 (3.5 years for the 2027B notes) and May 1, 2014 (7 years for the 2027A notes). Interest is payable semiannually in arrears on May 1 and November 1, beginning on November 1, 2007.

Upon conversion of the Notes, the Company will pay the holder cash equal to the lesser of the aggregate principal amount and the conversion value of the Notes being converted. If the conversion value exceeds \$1,000, the Company must also deliver cash or common stock or a combination of cash and common stock, at the Company’s option, for the conversion value in excess of \$1,000 (“conversion spread”). The conversion value of the Notes is determined based on a daily conversion value calculated on a proportionate basis for each trading day in a 20 trading day conversion reference period. For purposes of calculating earnings per share, there would be no adjustment to the shares in the earnings per share calculation for the cash settled portion of the Notes, as that portion of the debt instrument will always be settled in cash. The conversion spread will be included in the shares for the calculation of diluted earnings per share to the extent the conversion price is dilutive under the treasury stock method. At March 30, 2008, no shares related to the Notes were included in the computation of diluted earnings per share. As of the date hereof, the conversion rate of the 2027A notes is 20.3133 shares of common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of the 2027A notes, subject to adjustment upon the occurrence of certain events as described in the Indenture for the 2027A notes (including the payment of dividends). As of the date hereof, the conversion rate of the 2027B notes is 20.1242 shares of common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of the 2027B notes, subject to adjustment upon the occurrence of certain events as described in the Indenture for the 2027B notes (including the payment of dividends). The payment of the dividend approved by the Company’s Board of Directors in April 2008 will cause a further minor adjustment in the conversion rate of the Notes. The Notes will bear contingent interest equal to 0.25% commencing May 1, 2014 for the 2027A notes and November 1, 2010 for the 2027B notes under certain circumstances. The Company may redeem the 2027A notes for cash at any time on or after May 1, 2014, and holders may require the Company to repurchase the 2027A notes for cash on specified dates or upon a fundamental change. The Company may redeem the 2027B notes for cash at any time on or after November 1, 2010, and holders may require the Company to repurchase the 2027B notes for cash on specified dates or upon a fundamental change.

## 7. Product Warranty and Indemnification

The Company's warranty policy provides for the replacement of defective parts. In certain large contracts, the Company has agreed to negotiate in good faith a product warranty in the event that an epidemic failure of its parts were to take place. To date there have been no such occurrences. Warranty expense historically has been negligible.

The Company provides a limited indemnification for certain customers against intellectual property infringement claims related to the Company's products. In certain cases, there are limits on and exceptions to the Company's potential liability for indemnification relating to intellectual property infringement claims. To date, the Company has not incurred any significant indemnification expenses relating to intellectual property infringement claims. The Company cannot estimate the amount of potential future payments, if any, that the Company might be required to make as a result of these agreements, and accordingly, the Company has not accrued any amounts for its indemnification obligations.

## 8. Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In August 2007, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") exposed for comment FASB Staff Position ("FSP") APB 14-a; a clarification on the accounting for convertible debt instruments that may be settled in cash (including partial cash settlement) upon conversion. The FASB is considering a requirement to allocate a portion of the debt to the embedded conversion feature, thereby creating an original issue discount on the carrying value of the debt portion of the instrument. This original issue discount would subsequently be amortized as interest expense over the term of the instrument, resulting in an increase to the Company's reported interest expense. If implemented, this non-cash charge could have an impact of roughly \$0.03 per share on the Company's quarterly earnings per share. In March 2008, the FASB voted to ballot FSP APB 14-a, for final issuance. The proposed guidance will become effective for the Company beginning the first quarter of fiscal year 2010.

## 9. Accounting Changes

Effective at the beginning of the first quarter of fiscal year 2008, the Company adopted Emerging Issues Task Force ("EITF") No. 06-2, "Accounting for Sabbatical, Leave and Other Similar Benefits Pursuant to FASB Statement No. 43" ("EITF 06-2"). EITF 06-2 requires companies to accrue the cost of such compensated absences over the requisite service period. The Company's Sabbatical Program provides for six weeks of paid leave for salaried (exempt) employees in the United States upon the completion of five years of service and four weeks of paid leave for nonexempt employees in the United States upon the completion of five years of service. Prior to the adoption of EITF 06-2, the Company accounted for the sabbatical program only after the completion of the five years by the eligible employees because none of the benefits vested or accreted to the employee until completion of the full five years of service. The Company adopted EITF 06-2 through a cumulative-effect adjustment, resulting in an additional long-term liability of \$8.2 million and an increase to accumulated deficit of \$5.2 million net of taxes at the beginning of the first quarter of fiscal year 2008.

The Company also adopted FASB Interpretation No. 48, "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes—an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109" ("FIN 48"), and related guidance in the first quarter of 2008. See "Note 10: Income Taxes" for further discussion.

The implementation of EITF 06-2 and FIN 48 did not have a material impact on results of operations in the current quarter.

## 10. Income Taxes

In June 2006, the FASB issued Interpretation No. 48, "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes—an Interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109" ("FIN 48") to create a single model to address accounting for uncertainty in tax positions. FIN 48 clarifies the accounting for income taxes by describing a minimum recognition threshold a tax position is required to meet before being recognized in the financial statements. Under FIN 48, the Company must recognize the tax benefit from an uncertain tax position only if it is more likely than not that the tax position will be sustained on examination by the taxing authorities, based on the technical merits of the position. The tax benefits recognized in the financial statements from such a position are measured based on the largest benefit that has a greater than fifty percent likelihood of being realized upon ultimate resolution. FIN 48 was adopted by the Company effective July 2, 2007. The cumulative effect of the change in accounting principle as a result of the Company's reassessment of its tax positions in accordance with FIN 48 was recorded as a decrease of \$1.6 million to accumulated deficit and a decrease in income taxes payable of \$1.6 million as of July 2, 2007.

After adoption of FIN 48 at July 2, 2007, the Company had \$57.9 million of unrecognized tax benefits which, if recognized, would favorably impact its effective income tax rate in future periods. As of March 30, 2008, the Company had \$59.6 million of unrecognized tax benefits.

The Company's policy is to recognize interest and/or penalties related to income tax matters in income tax expense. Included in the liability for unrecognized tax benefits is \$8.2 million accrued for interest, net of federal tax benefits, and \$0 accrued for penalties at March 30, 2008.

During the third quarter ended March 30, 2008, the Company filed its US Federal and state income tax returns for fiscal 2007. As a result, the Company recorded in its third quarter a related tax benefit totaling \$2.1 million to adjust for certain estimates included in its fiscal 2007 income tax provision as compared to the amounts actually filed in its fiscal 2007 income tax returns.

During the first quarter ended September 30, 2007, the Company and the California Franchise Tax Board settled certain tax matters, primarily related to the research and development tax credit, related to the examination of fiscal years 2000 through 2004. Upon settlement, the Company recognized a tax benefit during the quarter from the recognition of \$1.6 million of unrecorded tax benefits associated with the research and development credit for those fiscal years.

During the quarter ended September 30, 2007, the Company received a Notice of Deficiency from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) related to export tax benefits the Company claimed as its extraterritorial income (ETI) exclusion under the Internal Revenue Code. The IRS seeks to recover in full the Company's ETI benefit claimed on its tax returns for fiscal years 2002 through 2006 totaling \$56.5 million plus accrued interest. The Company disputes the proposed adjustments and intends to pursue the matter through applicable IRS and judicial procedures as appropriate. It is reasonably possible that this matter may be resolved within the next twelve months and that the related unrecognized tax benefits for this tax position may change from those recorded as liabilities for uncertain tax positions in our financial statements. However, based on the current status of this matter, it is not possible to estimate the effect of such changes, if any, to previously unrecognized tax benefits and there can be no assurance that the resolution of this matter will not have a material effect on the Company's financial position and/or results of operations of future periods.

## 11. Contingencies

### *Litigation*

The Company is subject to various legal proceedings and claims that arise in the ordinary course of business on a wide range of matters, including, among others, patent suits and employment claims. The Company does not believe that any such current suits will have a material impact on its business or financial condition. However, current lawsuits and any future lawsuits will divert resources and could result in the payment of substantial damages.

The Company previously disclosed that the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and the United States Justice Department had initiated informal inquiries into the Company's stock option granting practices. On October 1, 2007, the Company received notice from the SEC that the investigation concerning the Company's historical stock option granting practices had been completed and that no enforcement action was recommended. The Company has not received any further requests from the Department of Justice. The Company also disclosed that on September 5, 2006, it received an Information Document Request from the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") concerning its stock option grants and grant practices. The Company provided the IRS with information in response to that and subsequent requests. The Company was also contacted by the California Franchise Tax Board regarding the IRS's inquiries, but was informed in March 2008 that the Board would not be proceeding with any further actions.

Certain current and former directors and officers of the Company have been named as defendants in two shareholder derivative actions filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, which have been consolidated under the caption *In re Linear Technology Corporation Shareholder Derivative Litigation* (the "Federal Action"), in three consolidated shareholder derivative actions filed in the Superior Court for Santa Clara County, California, also captioned *In re Linear Technology Corporation Shareholder Derivative Litigation* (the "California State Action"), and in a shareholder derivative action filed in Delaware Chancery Court, captioned *Weiss v. Swanson* (the "Delaware Action"). The Company has been named in each of these Actions as a nominal defendant against which no recovery is sought. The Company has engaged outside counsel to represent it in the government inquiries and pending lawsuits.

In the Federal Action, the plaintiffs alleged that the individual defendants breached their fiduciary duties to the Company in connection with the alleged backdating of stock option grants during the period from 1995 through 2002, and asserted derivative claims against the individual defendants based on alleged violations of Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act"), and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder. The plaintiffs sought to recover unspecified money damages, disgorgement of profits and benefits, equitable relief and attorneys' fees and costs. The Company moved to dismiss the Federal Action on the ground that the plaintiffs had not made a pre-litigation demand on the Company's Board of Directors and had not

demonstrated that such a demand would have been futile. The individual defendants joined in that motion, and also moved to dismiss the complaint for failure to state a claim against each of them. On December 7, 2006, the District Court granted the Company's motion; the Court did not address the individual defendants' motion. The plaintiffs filed an amended complaint on January 5, 2007 asserting derivative claims against the individual defendants for alleged violations of Sections 10(b), 14(a), and 20(a) of the Exchange Act, and Rules 10b-5 and 14a-9 promulgated thereunder. Pursuant to the parties' stipulation, on February 14, 2007, the District Court entered an order staying the Federal Action in favor of permitting the California State Action to proceed.

In the California State Action, the plaintiffs initially asserted claims against the individual defendants for breach of fiduciary duty and aiding and abetting one another's alleged breaches of duty in connection with the alleged backdating of stock option grants during the period from 1995 through 2002. The plaintiffs also alleged that certain defendants were unjustly enriched, that defendants wasted corporate assets, and that the officer defendants engaged in insider trading in violation of California law. The plaintiffs sought to recover unspecified money damages, disgorgement of profits and benefits, restitution, rescission of option contracts, imposition of a constructive trust over option contracts, and attorneys' fees and costs. On October 2, 2006, the Company moved to stay the California State Action in favor of the Federal Action. The individual defendants joined in that motion and demurred to the California State Action on the basis that the complaint failed to state a cause of action as to each of them. Following the stay of the Federal Action, the Company withdrew the Motion to Stay Proceedings and demurred to the complaint on the ground that the plaintiffs had not demonstrated that a pre-suit demand would have been futile. The individual defendants joined in that demurrer. Following a hearing on July 13, 2007, the Court sustained the Company's demurrer, and granted the plaintiffs leave to amend the complaint. The Court did not address the individual defendants' demurrer.

On August 13, 2007, the plaintiffs in the California State Action filed an amended complaint, asserting claims against the individual defendants for breach of fiduciary duty and aiding and abetting one another's alleged breaches of duty in connection with the grant of allegedly "spring-loaded" and "bullet-dodged" stock options during the period from 1995 through 2005. The amended complaint also alleged that the individual defendants were unjustly enriched, and engaged in insider trading in violation of the California Corporations Code, and that the director defendants wasted corporate assets. The amended complaint sought recovery from the individual defendants of unspecified damages, disgorgement of profits and benefits, restitution, rescission of option contracts and imposition of a constructive trust over executory option contracts, in addition to attorneys' fees and costs. On September 12, 2007, the Company filed a demurrer to the amended complaint on the ground that the plaintiffs had failed to make a pre-suit demand or to demonstrate that demand would have been futile. The individual defendants filed a demurrer to the amended complaint on the grounds that it failed to state a cause of action as to each of them. The parties stipulated to stay the California State Action pending the outcome of the hearing on the motion to dismiss the Delaware Action. As discussed below, the motion to dismiss the Delaware action was recently denied. Accordingly, on April 21, 2008, the parties established a briefing schedule for a motion by defendants to continue the stay of the California State Action until the conclusion of the Delaware Action.

In the Delaware Action, filed on March 23, 2007, the plaintiff alleges that the defendant directors breached their duty by granting "spring-loaded" and "bullet-dodged" stock options to certain of the Company's officers and directors during the period from 1996 through 2005. The plaintiff also asserts claims for unjust enrichment against those defendants who received the challenged option grants. The plaintiff seeks to recover unspecified money damages, disgorgement of profits and benefits, restitution, rescission of certain defendants' option contracts, imposition of a constructive trust over the option contracts, and attorneys' fees and costs. The defendants moved to dismiss the Delaware Action on May 25, 2007. Rather than respond to the defendants' motions, the plaintiff filed an amended complaint on August 10, 2007, making substantially the same allegations as those in the original complaint. On September 19, 2007, the Company and the individual defendants filed a Motion to Dismiss the amended complaint on the grounds that the plaintiff had failed to make a pre-suit demand on the Board or to plead facts demonstrating that demand would have been futile, and that the amended complaint failed to state a claim against each of the individual defendants. The Court denied the defendants' motion to dismiss the amended complaint on March 7, 2008. Linear answered the amended complaint on April 7, 2008. No trial date has been set.

The Company has reviewed its historical option-granting practices and option grants with the assistance of outside counsel and an independent forensic accounting firm. The primary scope of the review covered the period from calendar year 1995 through 2006. Based on the findings of the review, the Company concluded that there was no need to restate any previously filed financial statements. The review found no evidence of fraud or misconduct of any kind in the Company's practices in granting of stock options, and as mentioned above, on October 1, 2007, the Company received notice from the SEC that its investigation concerning the Company's historical stock option grant practices had been completed and that no enforcement action was recommended.

## Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

### **Critical Accounting Estimates**

The Company's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, which require it to make estimates and judgments that significantly affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. The Company regularly evaluates these estimates, including those related to stock-based compensation, inventory valuation, revenue recognition and income taxes. These estimates are based on historical experience and on assumptions that are believed by management to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates, which may impact the carrying values of assets and liabilities.

The Company believes the following critical accounting policies affect the more significant judgments and estimates used in the preparation of the Company's consolidated financial statements.

#### *Stock-Based Compensation*

Beginning in fiscal year 2006, the Company accounts for stock-based compensation arrangements in accordance with the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards 123(R) ("SFAS 123R"). Under SFAS 123R, stock option cost is calculated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes valuation model. The compensation cost is then amortized straight-line over the vesting period. The Company uses the Black-Scholes valuation model to determine the fair value of its stock options at the date of grant. The Black-Scholes valuation model requires the Company to estimate key assumptions such as expected term, volatility, dividend yields and risk free interest rates that determine the stock options fair value. If actual results are not consistent with the Company's assumptions and judgments used in estimating the key assumptions, the Company may be required to increase or decrease compensation expense or income tax expense, which could be material to its results of operations. In addition, SFAS 123R requires forfeitures to be estimated at the time of grant. In subsequent periods, if actual forfeitures differ from the estimate, the forfeiture rate may be revised. The Company estimates forfeitures based on its historical activity, as it believes these forfeiture rates to be indicative of its expected forfeiture rate.

#### *Inventory Valuation*

The Company values inventories at the lower of cost or market. The Company records charges to write down inventories for unsalable, excess or obsolete raw materials, work-in-process and finished goods. Newly introduced parts are generally not valued until success in the market place has been determined by a consistent pattern of sales and backlog among other factors. The Company arrives at the estimate for newly released parts by analyzing sales and customer backlog against ending inventory on hand. The Company reviews the assumptions on a quarterly basis and makes decisions with regard to inventory valuation based on the current business climate. In addition to write-downs based on newly introduced parts, judgmental assessments are calculated for the remaining inventory based on salability, obsolescence, historical experience and current business conditions. If actual market conditions are less favorable than those projected by management, additional inventory write-downs may be required that could adversely affect operating results. If actual market conditions are more favorable, the Company may have higher gross margins when products are sold. Sales to date of such products have not had a significant impact on gross margin.

#### *Revenue Recognition*

The Company recognizes revenues when the earnings process is complete, when persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, the product has been delivered, the price is fixed and determinable and collection is reasonably assured. The Company recognizes approximately 16% of net revenues from domestic distributors that are recognized under agreements which provide for certain sales price rebates and limited product return privileges. Given the uncertainties associated with the levels of pricing rebates, the ultimate sales price on domestic distributor sales transactions is not fixed or determinable until domestic distributors sell the merchandise to the end-user. At the time of shipment to domestic distributors, the Company records a trade receivable and deferred revenue at the distributor purchasing price since there is a legally enforceable obligation from the distributor to pay for the products delivered. The Company relieves inventory as title has passed to the distributor and recognizes deferred cost of sales in the same amount. "Deferred income on shipments to distributors" represents the difference between deferred revenue and deferred cost of sales and is recognized as a current liability until such time as the distributor confirms a final sale to its end customer. At March 30, 2008 the Company had approximately \$46.1 million of deferred revenue and \$8.4 million of deferred cost of sales recognized as \$37.7 million of "Deferred income on shipment to distributors". At July 1, 2007 the Company had approximately \$49.0 million of deferred revenue and \$9.1 million of deferred cost of sales recognized as \$39.9 million of "Deferred income on shipment to distributors". To the extent the Company were to have a significant reduction in distributor price or grant significant price rebates, there could be a

material impact on the ultimate revenue and gross profit recognized. These price rebates that have been remitted back to distributors have ranged from \$1.5 million to \$3.1 million per quarter.

The Company's sales to international distributors are made under agreements which permit limited stock return privileges but not sales price rebates. Revenue on these sales is recognized upon shipment at which time title passes. The Company has reserves to cover expected product returns. If product returns for a particular fiscal period exceed or are below expectations, the Company may determine that additional or less sales return allowances are required to properly reflect its estimated exposure for product returns. Generally, changes to sales return allowances have not had a significant impact on operating margin.

### Income Taxes

The Company must make certain estimates and judgments in determining income tax expense for financial statement purposes. These estimates and judgments occur in the calculation of tax credits, tax benefits and deductions and in the calculation of certain tax assets and liabilities, which arise from differences in the timing of recognition of revenue and expense for tax and financial statement purposes. Significant changes to these estimates may result in an increase or decrease to the tax provision in a subsequent period.

The calculation of the Company's tax liabilities involves dealing with uncertainties in the application of complex tax regulations. The Company recognizes liabilities for anticipated tax audit issues in the U.S. and other tax jurisdictions based on its estimate of whether, and the extent to which, additional tax payments are probable. If the Company determines that payment of these amounts is unnecessary, in concert with a review of its total tax liabilities, it may reverse the liability and recognize a tax benefit during the period in which it determines that the liability is no longer necessary. The Company will also record an additional charge to its provision for taxes in the period in which it determines that the recorded tax liability is less than it expects the ultimate assessment to be. For a discussion of current tax matters, see "Note 10. Income Taxes" in Part I, Item 1 of this Form 10-Q.

### Results of Operations

The table below summarizes the income statement items for the three and nine months ended March 30, 2008 and April 1, 2007 as a percentage of total revenue and provides the percentage change in absolute dollars of such items comparing the interim period ended March 30, 2008 to the corresponding period from the prior fiscal year:

|                                     | Three Months Ended |                  |                             | Nine Months Ended |                  |                             |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
|                                     | March 30,<br>2008  | April 1,<br>2007 | Increase/<br>(Decrease<br>) | March 30,<br>2008 | April 1,<br>2007 | Increase/<br>(Decrease<br>) |
| Revenues                            | 100.0%             | 100.0%           | 17%                         | 100.0%            | 100.0%           | 7%                          |
| Cost of sales                       | 22.5               | 22.2             | 18                          | 22.7              | 22.1             | 9                           |
| Gross profit                        | 77.5               | 77.8             | 16                          | 77.3              | 77.9             | 6                           |
| Expenses:                           |                    |                  |                             |                   |                  |                             |
| Research and development            | 16.6               | 17.8             | 9                           | 16.7              | 16.8             | 6                           |
| Selling, general and administrative | 11.9               | 12.8             | 8                           | 11.7              | 12.4             | 1                           |
|                                     | 28.5               | 30.6             | 9                           | 28.4              | 29.2             | 4                           |
| Operating income                    | 49.0               | 47.2             | 21                          | 48.9              | 48.7             | 7                           |
| Interest expense                    | (4.8)              | (0.2)            | 3321                        | (5.0)             | (0.1)            | 3,241                       |
| Interest income                     | 2.5                | 6.7              | (57)                        | 2.4               | 6.1              | (58)                        |
| Income before income taxes          | 46.7%              | 53.7%            | 1                           | 46.3%             | 54.7%            | (10)                        |
| Effective tax rates                 | 28.5%              | 28.0%            |                             | 29.2%             | 29.1%            |                             |

Revenue for the quarter ended March 30, 2008 was \$297.9 million, an increase of \$42.9 million or 17% over revenue of \$255.0 million for the same quarter of the previous fiscal year. The increase in revenue was primarily due to the Company selling more units into the industrial and communication end-markets, partially offset by a reduction in its consumer end-market sales. The average selling price ("ASP") decreased from \$1.67 per unit in the third quarter of fiscal year 2007 to \$1.57 per unit in the third quarter of fiscal year 2008. The decrease in the Company's ASP is primarily due to the change in sales mix and to a lesser extent the Company lowering its selling price on certain products that have reached significant volume levels. Geographically, international revenues were \$209.9 million or 70% of revenues, an increase of \$42.5 million or 25% as compared to international revenues of

\$167.4 million or 66% of revenues for the same quarter of the previous fiscal year. The increase in international revenues as a percentage of revenues is primarily due to certain domestic OEM customers migrating their manufacturing to international subcontractors. Internationally, revenues to Rest of the World ("ROW"), which is primarily Asia excluding Japan, represented \$110.0 million or 37% of revenues, while sales to Europe and Japan were \$58.3 million or 19% of revenues and \$41.6 million or 14% of revenues, respectively. Domestic revenues were \$88.0 million or 30% of revenues in the third quarter of fiscal year 2008, an increase of \$0.4 million, from \$87.6 million or 34% of revenues in the same period in fiscal year 2007.

Revenue for the nine months ended March 30, 2008 was \$868.1 million, an increase of \$53.2 million or 7% over revenue of \$815.0 million for the same period of the previous fiscal year. The increase in revenue for the nine-month period ended March 30, 2008 was due to increases in all end-markets, primarily industrial, automotive and military/space end-markets. The ASP for the first nine months of fiscal year 2008 decreased to \$1.54 per unit from \$1.61 per unit in the same period of fiscal year 2007. The decrease in the Company's ASP is due to similar factors as in the three-month period ended March 30, 2008. Geographically, international revenues were \$611.9 million or 70% of revenues, an increase of \$55.0 million over international revenues of \$556.9 million or 68% of revenues for the same period of the previous fiscal year. The increase in international revenues as a percentage of revenues is primarily due to certain domestic OEM customers migrating their manufacturing to international subcontractors. Internationally, revenues to ROW, represented \$343.0 million or 39% of revenues, while sales to Europe and Japan were \$155.8 million or 18% of revenues and \$113.1 million or 13% of revenues, respectively. Domestic revenues were \$256.2 million or 30% of revenues in the first nine month period of fiscal year 2008, a decrease of \$1.8 million, compared to \$258.0 million or 32% of revenues in the same period in fiscal year 2007.

During the first quarter of fiscal year 2008, the Company had one set of significant stock option grants that became fully vested after five years and one significant set of restricted stock grants that became fully vested after three years. As a result, the Company had lower stock-based compensation charges in cost of sales; research and development; and selling, general and administrative expense when compared to the third quarter and the first nine month period of fiscal year 2007. Future stock grants will add to stock-based compensation charges whereas completion of vesting of previous grants will decrease stock-based compensation charges. Unvested stock option and restricted stock grants generally vest straight-line over a five year period.

Gross profit was \$230.9 million and \$670.9 million for the third quarter and the first nine-month period of fiscal year 2008, an increase of \$32.5 million and \$36.1 million, respectively, from the corresponding periods of fiscal year 2007. Gross profit as a percentage of revenues decreased to 77.5% in third quarter of fiscal year 2008 as compared to 77.8% of revenues for the same period in the previous fiscal year. Gross profit as a percentage of revenue decreased to 77.3% for the first nine months of fiscal year 2008 as compared to 77.9% of revenues for the same period in the previous fiscal year. The decrease in gross profit as a percentage of revenues for the three- and nine-month periods ended March 30, 2008 was primarily due to increases in employee profit sharing as well as a decrease in ASP, both of which were largely offset by improved factory efficiencies on higher sales volume as well as a decrease in costs related to stock-based compensation expense.

Research and development ("R&D") expenses for the quarter ended March 30, 2008 were \$49.6 million, an increase of \$4.2 million or 9% over R&D expenses of \$45.4 million for the same period in the previous fiscal year. The increase in R&D was due to a \$2.9 million increase in compensation costs related to employee headcount and annual salary increases. Since the Company had better operating results as compared to third quarter of fiscal year 2007, R&D employee profit sharing grew \$1.9 million. In addition, the Company had a \$0.6 million increase in other R&D related expenses such as mask costs and small tool charges. Offsetting these increases to R&D was a \$1.2 million decrease in stock-based compensation expense.

R&D expenses for the nine months ended March 30, 2008 were \$145.2 million, an increase of \$8.4 million or 6% over R&D expenses of \$136.8 million for the same period in the previous fiscal year. The increase in R&D was due to an \$8.5 million increase in compensation costs related to employee headcount and annual salary increases. The increase in R&D expense was also due to a \$3.3 million increase in employee profit sharing. Offsetting these increases was a \$3.5 million decrease in stock-based compensation expense.

Selling, general and administrative expenses ("SG&A") for the quarter ended March 30, 2008 were \$35.4 million, an increase of \$2.6 million or 8% over SG&A expense of \$32.8 million for the same period in the previous fiscal year. The increase in SG&A was due to a \$2.4 million increase in compensation costs related to employee headcount and annual salary increases. The increase in SG&A expense was also due to a \$1.4 million increase in employee profit sharing. Offsetting these increases was a \$1.2 million decrease in stock-based compensation expense.

SG&A for the nine months ended March 30, 2008 were \$101.8 million, an increase of \$1.0 million over SG&A expenses of \$100.8 million for the same period in the previous fiscal year. The increase in SG&A was due to a \$4.6 million increase in compensation costs related to employee headcount and annual salary increases. The increase of SG&A expense was also due to a

\$2.5 million increase in employee profit sharing. Offsetting these increases was a \$3.4 million decrease in stock-based compensation expense and a \$2.7 million decrease in other SG&A related expenses, primarily legal costs.

Interest expense was \$14.4 million and \$43.4 million for the third quarter and the first nine-month period of fiscal year 2008, an increase of \$14.0 million and \$42.1 million, respectively, over the corresponding periods of fiscal year 2007. The increase in interest expense was due to the Company's issuance of \$1.7 billion Convertible Senior Notes during the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2007 bearing interest at 3.0% and 3.125%. Interest expense for the third quarter and the first nine month period of fiscal year 2008 is primarily comprised of convertible debt interest, amortization of the convertible debt discount and amortization of issuance costs.

Interest income was \$7.3 million and \$21.0 million for the third quarter and the first nine month period of fiscal year 2008, a decrease of \$9.7 million and \$28.8 million, respectively, from the corresponding periods of fiscal year 2007. Interest income decreased due to the Company's lower average cash and short-term investment balances as the Company used \$1.3 billion of its cash to fund a portion of its \$3.0 billion accelerated share repurchase ("ASR") transaction during the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2007.

The Company's effective tax rate for the third quarter of fiscal year 2008 was 28.5% as compared to 28% in the same quarter of fiscal year 2007. The Company's effective tax rate for the nine months ended March 30, 2008 was 29.2% as compared to 29.1% in the corresponding period of fiscal year 2007. The increase in the effective tax rates for these periods was primarily due to lower R&D tax credits as this tax benefit expired as of December 31, 2007. The Company believes that the R&D tax credit will be restored by legislation retroactive to the beginning of calendar year 2008, but there can be no assurance that this will happen. In addition, the effective tax rate is higher due to lower tax-exempt interest income and the expiration of the ETI export tax benefit. These decreases are partially offset by an increase in foreign earnings in lower tax jurisdictions, higher domestic production tax benefits and the impact of quarterly discrete adjustments.

The Company's effective tax rate is lower than the federal statutory rate of 35% as a result of lower tax rates on the earnings of its wholly-owned foreign subsidiaries, principally in Singapore and Malaysia. The Company has a partial tax holiday through July 2015 in Malaysia and a partial tax holiday in Singapore through August 2011. In addition, the Company receives tax benefits from non-taxable interest income and domestic manufacturing credits.

Net income was \$99.2 million for the third quarter, an increase of \$0.7 million from the same period in the previous fiscal year. Net income was \$284.5 million the first nine month period of fiscal year 2008, a decrease of \$31.5 million from the same period in fiscal year 2007. However, third quarter and year to date diluted earnings per share ("EPS") increased by \$0.12 and \$0.23 per share, respectively, over the corresponding periods of fiscal year 2007. This anomaly occurred due to the Company entering into a \$3.0 billion ASR transaction during the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2007. The ASR transaction was funded by \$1.3 billion of the Company's own cash and \$1.7 billion of convertible debt. As a result, the Company's third quarter and year to date results have both a decrease in interest income and an increase in interest expense when compared to the corresponding periods of the previous fiscal year. However, shares used in the calculation of diluted EPS decreased by 80.2 million or 26%, and by 79.8 million or 26% from the third quarter and the first nine month period of fiscal year 2007 primarily due to the ASR. Consequently, the ASR transaction has been accretive to EPS, as the impact of the reduced shares was greater than the reduction in net income from higher interest expense and lower interest income.

#### Factors Affecting Future Operating Results

Except for historical information contained herein, the matters set forth in this Form 10-Q, including the statements in the following paragraphs, are forward-looking statements that are dependent on certain risks and uncertainties, including such factors, among others, as the timing, volume and pricing of new orders received and shipped during the quarter, the timely introduction of new processes and products, general conditions in the world economy and financial markets and other factors described below, in Item 1A herein and in the Company's Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended July 1, 2007.

Revenues for the three months ended March 30, 2008 grew 3% sequentially over the second quarter of fiscal year 2008 and met the mid-point of the Company's guidance stated at the beginning of the period. This marks the fourth consecutive quarter that the Company has sequentially grown revenues, operating margin and EPS. These improvements have occurred in spite of difficult economic times. This performance is indicative of the success of the Company's strategy of diversification both geographically and by end-market. Looking ahead, given the concerns about economic difficulties particularly in the USA, forecasting future results continues to be a challenge. June should be a growth quarter as we had a positive book-to-bill ratio in the March quarter and we would expect the June quarter to continue to have strength in many of the Company's end-markets. However, the overriding general economic conditions merit concern. Consequently, the Company presently estimates that revenues and income before taxes will grow 1% to 5% sequentially from the March quarter.



Estimates of future performance are uncertain, and past performance of the Company may not be a good indicator of future performance due to factors affecting the Company, its competitors, the semiconductor industry and the overall economy. The semiconductor industry is characterized by rapid technological change, price erosion, cyclical market patterns, periodic oversupply conditions, occasional shortages of materials, capacity constraints, variations in manufacturing efficiencies and significant expenditures for capital equipment and product development. Furthermore, new product introductions and patent protection of existing products, as well as exposure related to patent infringement suits if brought against the Company, are factors that can influence future sales growth and sustained profitability. The Company's headquarters and a portion of its manufacturing facilities and research and development activities and certain other critical business operations are located near major earthquake fault lines in California, consequently, the Company could be adversely affected in the event of a major earthquake.

Although the Company believes that it has the product lines, manufacturing facilities and technical and financial resources for its current operations, sales and profitability could be significantly affected by factors described above and other factors. Additionally, the Company's common stock could be subject to significant price volatility should sales and/or earnings fail to meet expectations of the investment community. Furthermore, stocks of high technology companies are subject to extreme price and volume fluctuations that are often unrelated or disproportionate to the operating performance of these companies.

### **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

At March 30, 2008, cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments totaled \$907.9 million and working capital was \$1,003.9 million. Accounts receivable totaled \$150.2 million at the end of the third quarter of fiscal year 2008, an increase of \$19.7 million from the end of the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2007. The increase is primarily due to higher shipments. Prepaid expenses and other current assets totaled \$16.4 million, an increase of \$5.3 million primarily due to the increase in the Company's interest income receivable balance.

Accrued payroll and related benefits of \$46.5 million at the end of the third quarter of fiscal year 2008 decreased \$8.0 million from the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2007. The decrease is primarily due to the payment of profit sharing. The Company accrues for profit sharing on a quarterly basis while distributing payouts to employees on a semi-annual basis during the first and third quarters. Income taxes payable totaled \$20.2 million at the end of the third quarter of fiscal year 2008, a decrease of \$25.1 million from the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2007 primarily due to the reclassification of \$59.6 million in unrecognized tax benefits to other long-term liabilities as a result of the implementation of FIN 48 during the first quarter of fiscal year 2008. This effect was partially offset by the net of quarterly tax payments and the Company's tax provision. Other accrued liabilities of \$40.6 million increased \$11.6 million over the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2007 primarily due to accrued interest on the Company's convertible senior notes. The Company makes semi-annual interest payments during the second and fourth quarters.

Deferred tax liabilities totaled \$35.3 million, an increase of \$22.4 million primarily due to an increase in deferred taxes related to interest deductions for the Company's convertible senior debt. Other long-term liabilities of \$98.3 million increased \$64.3 million over the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2007 primarily due to the unrecognized tax benefit reclassification of \$59.6 million noted above and due to the implementation of EITF 06-2, which resulted in a \$9.3 million increase for accrued sabbaticals.

During the first nine months of fiscal year 2008, the Company generated \$399.8 million of cash from operating activities, \$52.7 million in proceeds from common stock issued under employee stock plans and \$10.7 million from excess tax benefits received on the exercise of stock options.

During the first nine months of fiscal year 2008, significant cash expenditures included \$304.0 million for net purchases of short-term investments; payments of \$129.0 million for cash dividends to stockholders, representing \$0.57 per share; \$50.7 million for repurchases of the Company's common stock; payments of \$15.7 million for capital assets; and \$1.0 million for a long-term investment in a privately held company. In April 2008, the Company's Board of Directors declared a cash dividend of \$0.21 per share. The \$0.21 per share dividend will be paid on May 28, 2008 to shareholders of record on May 16, 2008. The payment of future dividends will be based on the Company's financial performance.

Historically, the Company has satisfied its liquidity needs through cash generated from operations. Given its financial condition and historical operating performance, the Company believes that current capital resources and cash generated from operating activities will be sufficient to meet its liquidity and capital expenditures requirements for the foreseeable future.

### **Off Balance-Sheet Arrangements**

As of March 30, 2008, the Company had no off-balance sheet financing arrangements.

### **Contractual Obligations**

In April 2007, the Company issued \$1.0 billion principal amount of 3.0% debentures due May 1, 2027 and \$0.7 billion principal amount of 3.125% debentures due May 1, 2027. The Company will pay cash interest at an annual rate of 3.0% and 3.125%, respectively, payable semiannually on November 1 and May 1 of each year, beginning November 1, 2007. See Note 6 to the consolidated financial statements, included in Part 1. "Financial Information," for additional information about the debentures.

### Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

For additional quantitative and qualitative disclosures about market risk affecting the Company, see item 7A of the Company's Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended July 1, 2007. There have been no material changes in the market risk affecting the Company since the filing of the Company's Form 10-K for fiscal year 2007. At March 30, 2008, the Company's cash and cash equivalents consisted primarily of bank deposits, commercial paper and money market funds. The Company's short-term investments consisted of municipal bonds, federal agency bonds, commercial paper, and related securities. The Company did not hold any derivative financial instruments. The Company's interest income is sensitive to changes in the general level of interest rates. In this regard, changes in interest rates can affect the interest earned on cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments.

The Company's revenues outside the United States are transacted in U.S. dollars; accordingly the Company's revenues are not impacted by foreign currency rate changes. To date, fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates have not had a material impact on the results of operations.

### Item 4. Controls and Procedures

#### (a) *Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures.*

The Company's management, with the participation of its Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, evaluated the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. For purposes of this section, the term *disclosure controls and procedures* means controls and other procedures of an issuer that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the issuer in the reports that it files or submits under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a *et seq.*) is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Commission's rules and forms. Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by an issuer in the reports that it files or submits under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is accumulated and communicated to the issuer's management, including its principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

The Company's management evaluated, with the participation of its Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures for the quarter ended March 30, 2008. Based on this evaluation, the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures are effective to ensure that information it is required to disclose in reports that it files or submits under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is accumulated and communicated to the Company's management, including its principal executive and principal financial officers, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure, and that such information is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in Securities and Exchange Commission rules and forms.

#### (b) *Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting.*

No change in the Company's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) occurred during the quarter ended March 30, 2008 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

## PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

### Item 1. Legal Proceedings

The Company is subject to various legal proceedings and claims that arise in the ordinary course of business on a wide range of matters, including, among others, patent suits and employment claims. The Company does not believe that any such current suits will have a material impact on its business or financial condition. However, current lawsuits and any future lawsuits will divert resources and could result in the payment of substantial damages.

The Company previously disclosed that the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and the United States Justice Department had initiated informal inquiries into the Company's stock option granting practices. On October 1, 2007, the

Company received notice from the SEC that the investigation concerning the Company's historical stock option granting practices had been completed and that no enforcement action was recommended. The Company has not received any further requests from the Department of Justice. The Company also disclosed that on September 5, 2006, it received an Information Document Request from the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") concerning its stock option grants and grant practices. The Company provided the IRS with information in response to that and subsequent requests. The Company was also contacted by the California Franchise Tax Board regarding the IRS's inquiries, but was informed in March 2008 that the Board would not be proceeding with any further actions.

Certain current and former directors and officers of the Company have been named as defendants in two shareholder derivative actions filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, which have been consolidated under the caption *In re Linear Technology Corporation Shareholder Derivative Litigation* (the "Federal Action"), in three consolidated shareholder derivative actions filed in the Superior Court for Santa Clara County, California, also captioned *In re Linear Technology Corporation Shareholder Derivative Litigation* (the "California State Action"), and in a shareholder derivative action filed in Delaware Chancery Court, captioned *Weiss v. Swanson* (the "Delaware Action"). The Company has been named in each of these Actions as a nominal defendant against which no recovery is sought. The Company has engaged outside counsel to represent it in the government inquiries and pending lawsuits.

In the Federal Action, the plaintiffs alleged that the individual defendants breached their fiduciary duties to the Company in connection with the alleged backdating of stock option grants during the period from 1995 through 2002, and asserted derivative claims against the individual defendants based on alleged violations of Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act"), and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder. The plaintiffs sought to recover unspecified money damages, disgorgement of profits and benefits, equitable relief and attorneys' fees and costs. The Company moved to dismiss the Federal Action on the ground that the plaintiffs had not made a pre-litigation demand on the Company's Board of Directors and had not demonstrated that such a demand would have been futile. The individual defendants joined in that motion, and also moved to dismiss the complaint for failure to state a claim against each of them. On December 7, 2006, the District Court granted the Company's motion; the Court did not address the individual defendants' motion. The plaintiffs filed an amended complaint on January 5, 2007 asserting derivative claims against the individual defendants for alleged violations of Sections 10(b), 14(a), and 20(a) of the Exchange Act, and Rules 10b-5 and 14a-9 promulgated thereunder. Pursuant to the parties' stipulation, on February 14, 2007, the District Court entered an order staying the Federal Action in favor of permitting the California State Action to proceed.

In the California State Action, the plaintiffs initially asserted claims against the individual defendants for breach of fiduciary duty and aiding and abetting one another's alleged breaches of duty in connection with the alleged backdating of stock option grants during the period from 1995 through 2002. The plaintiffs also alleged that certain defendants were unjustly enriched, that defendants wasted corporate assets, and that the officer defendants engaged in insider trading in violation of California law. The plaintiffs sought to recover unspecified money damages, disgorgement of profits and benefits, restitution, rescission of option contracts, imposition of a constructive trust over option contracts, and attorneys' fees and costs. On October 2, 2006, the Company moved to stay the California State Action in favor of the Federal Action. The individual defendants joined in that motion and demurred to the California State Action on the basis that the complaint failed to state a cause of action as to each of them. Following the stay of the Federal Action, the Company withdrew the Motion to Stay Proceedings and demurred to the complaint on the ground that the plaintiffs had not demonstrated that a pre-suit demand would have been futile. The individual defendants joined in that demurrer. Following a hearing on July 13, 2007, the Court sustained the Company's demurrer, and granted the plaintiffs leave to amend the complaint. The Court did not address the individual defendants' demurrer.

On August 13, 2007, the plaintiffs in the California State Action filed an amended complaint, asserting claims against the individual defendants for breach of fiduciary duty and aiding and abetting one another's alleged breaches of duty in connection with the grant of allegedly "spring-loaded" and "bullet-dodged" stock options during the period from 1995 through 2005. The amended complaint also alleged that the individual defendants were unjustly enriched, and engaged in insider trading in violation of the California Corporations Code, and that the director defendants wasted corporate assets. The amended complaint sought recovery from the individual defendants of unspecified damages, disgorgement of profits and benefits, restitution, rescission of option contracts and imposition of a constructive trust over executory option contracts, in addition to attorneys' fees and costs. On September 12, 2007, the Company filed a demurrer to the amended complaint on the ground that the plaintiffs had failed to make a pre-suit demand or to demonstrate that demand would have been futile. The individual defendants filed a demurrer to the amended complaint on the grounds that it failed to state a cause of action as to each of them. The parties stipulated to stay the California State Action pending the outcome of the hearing on the motion to dismiss the Delaware Action. As discussed below, the motion to dismiss the Delaware action was recently denied. Accordingly, on April 21, 2008, the parties established a briefing schedule for a motion by defendants to continue the stay of the California State Action until the conclusion of the Delaware Action.

In the Delaware Action, filed on March 23, 2007, the plaintiff alleges that the defendant directors breached their duty by granting “spring-loaded” and “bullet-dodged” stock options to certain of the Company’s officers and directors during the period from 1996 through 2005. The plaintiff also asserts claims for unjust enrichment against those defendants who received the challenged option grants. The plaintiff seeks to recover unspecified money damages, disgorgement of profits and benefits, restitution, rescission of certain defendants’ option contracts, imposition of a constructive trust over the option contracts, and attorneys’ fees and costs. The defendants moved to dismiss the Delaware Action on May 25, 2007. Rather than respond to the defendants’ motions, the plaintiff filed an amended complaint on August 10, 2007, making substantially the same allegations as those in the original complaint. On September 19, 2007, the Company and the individual defendants filed a Motion to Dismiss the amended complaint on the grounds that the plaintiff had failed to make a pre-suit demand on the Board or to plead facts demonstrating that demand would have been futile, and that the amended complaint failed to state a claim against each of the individual defendants. The Court denied the defendants’ motion to dismiss the amended complaint on March 7, 2008. Linear answered the amended complaint on April 7, 2008. No trial date has been set.

The Company has reviewed its historical option-granting practices and option grants with the assistance of outside counsel and an independent forensic accounting firm. The primary scope of the review covered the period from calendar year 1995 through 2006. Based on the findings of the review, the Company concluded that there was no need to restate any previously filed financial statements. The review found no evidence of fraud or misconduct of any kind in the Company’s practices in granting of stock options, and as mentioned above, on October 1, 2007, the Company received notice from the SEC that its investigation concerning the Company’s historical stock option grant practices had been completed and that no enforcement action was recommended.

#### Item 1A. Risk Factors

A description of the risk factors associated with the Company’s business is set forth below. In addition to the risk factors discussed below, see “Factors Affecting Future Operating Results” included in “Management’s Discussion and Analysis” for further discussion of other risks and uncertainties that may affect the Company.

##### ***Downturns in the business cycle could adversely affect our revenues and profitability.***

The semiconductor market has historically been cyclical and subject to significant economic downturns at various times. The cyclical nature of the semiconductor industry may cause us to experience substantial period-to-period fluctuations in our results of operations. The growth rate of the global economy is one of the factors affecting demand for semiconductor components. Many factors could adversely affect regional or global economic growth including increased price inflation for goods, services or materials, rising interest rates in the United States and the rest of the world, a significant act of terrorism which disrupts global trade or consumer confidence, geopolitical tensions including war and civil unrest, reduced levels of economic activity, or disruptions of international transportation.

Typically, our ability to meet our revenue goals and projections is dependent to a large extent on the orders we receive from our customers within the period and by our ability to match inventory and current production mix with the product mix required to fulfill orders on hand and orders received within a period for delivery in that period. Because of this complexity in our business, no assurance can be given that we will achieve a match of inventory on hand, production units, and shippable orders sufficient to realize quarterly or annual revenue and net income goals.

##### ***Volatility in customer demand in the semiconductor industry could affect future levels of sales and profitability and limit our ability to predict such levels.***

Historically, we have maintained low lead times, which has enabled customers to place orders close to their true needs for product. In defining our financial goals and projections, we consider inventory on hand, backlog, production cycles and expected order patterns from customers. If our estimates in these areas become inaccurate, we may not be able to meet our revenue goals and projections. In addition, some customers require us to manufacture product and have it available for shipment, even though the customer is unwilling to make a binding commitment to purchase all, or even some, of the product. As a result, in any quarterly fiscal period we are subject to the risk of cancellation of orders leading to a fall-off of sales and backlog. Further, those orders may be for products that meet the customer’s unique requirements so that those cancelled orders would, in addition, result in an inventory of unsaleable products, and thus potential inventory write-offs. We routinely estimate inventory reserves required for such products, but actual results may differ from these reserve estimates.

We generate revenue from thousands of customers worldwide and our revenues are diversified by end-market and geographical region. However, the loss of, or a significant reduction of purchases by a portion of our customer base could adversely affect our results of operations. We can lose a customer due to a change in the customer’s design or purchasing practices. In addition, the timing of customers’ inventory adjustments may adversely affect our results of operations.

***We may be unsuccessful in developing and selling new products required to maintain or expand our business.***

The markets for our products depend on continued demand for our products in the communications, industrial, computer, high-end consumer and automotive end-markets. The semiconductor industry is characterized by rapid technological change, variations in manufacturing efficiencies of new products, and significant expenditures for capital equipment and product development. New product introductions are a critical factor for future sales growth and sustained profitability and can present significant business challenges because product development commitments and expenditures must be made well in advance of the related revenues. The success of a new product depends on a variety of factors including accurate forecasts of long-term market demand and future technological developments, timely and efficient completion of process design and development, timely and efficient implementation of manufacturing and assembly processes, product performance, quality and reliability of the product, and effective marketing, sales and service.

Although we believe that the high performance segment of the linear integrated circuit market is generally less affected by price erosion or by significant expenditures for capital equipment and product development than other semiconductor market sectors, future operating results may reflect substantial period-to-period fluctuations due to these or other factors.

***Our manufacturing operations may be interrupted or suffer yield problems.***

We rely on our internal manufacturing facilities located in California and Washington to fabricate most of our wafers, although we depend on outside silicon foundries for a small portion (less than 5%) of our wafer fabrication. We could be adversely affected in the event of a major earthquake, which could cause temporary loss of capacity, loss of raw materials, and damage to manufacturing equipment. Additionally, we rely on our internal and external assembly and testing facilities located in Singapore and Malaysia. We are subject to economic and political risks inherent to international operations, including changes in local governmental policies, currency fluctuations, transportation delays and the imposition of export controls or increased import tariffs. We could be adversely affected if any such changes are applicable to our foreign operations.

Our manufacturing yields are a function of product design and process technology, both of which are developed by us. The manufacture and design of integrated circuits is highly complex. We may experience manufacturing problems in achieving acceptable yields or experience product delivery delays in the future as a result of, among other things, capacity constraints, equipment malfunctioning, construction delays, upgrading or expanding existing facilities or changing our process technologies, any of which could result in a loss of future revenues or increases in fixed costs. To the extent we do not achieve acceptable manufacturing yields or there are delays in wafer fabrication, our results of operations could be adversely affected. In addition, operating expenses related to increases in production capacity may adversely affect our operating results if revenues do not increase proportionately.

***Our dependence on third party foundries and other manufacturing subcontractors may cause delays beyond our control in delivering our products to our customers.***

A portion of our wafers (approximately 20%) are processed offshore by independent assembly subcontractors located in Malaysia and Thailand. These subcontractors separate wafers into individual circuits and assemble them into various finished package types. Reliability problems experienced by our assemblers could cause problems in delivery and quality, resulting in potential product liability to us. We could also be adversely affected by political disorders, labor disruptions, and natural disasters in these locations.

We are dependent on outside silicon foundries for a small portion (less than 5%) of our wafer fabrication. As a result, we cannot directly control delivery schedules for these products, which could lead to product shortages, quality assurance problems and increases in the cost of our products. We may experience delays in delivering our products to our customers. If these foundries are unable or unwilling to produce adequate supplies of processed wafers conforming to our quality standards, our business and relationships with our customers for the limited quantities of products produced by these foundries could be adversely affected. Finding alternate sources of supply or initiating internal wafer processing for these products may not be economically feasible. In addition, the manufacture of our products is a highly complex and precise process, requiring production in a highly controlled environment. Changes in manufacturing processes or the inadvertent use of defective or contaminated materials by a third party foundry could adversely affect the foundry's ability to achieve acceptable manufacturing yields and product reliability.

***We rely on third party suppliers for materials, supplies, and subcontract services that may not have adequate capacity to meet our product delivery requirements.***

The semiconductor industry has experienced a very large expansion of fabrication capacity and production worldwide over time. As a result of increasing demand from semiconductor and other manufacturers, availability of certain basic materials and supplies, such as chemicals, gases, polysilicon, silicon wafers, ultra-pure metals, lead frames and molding compounds, and of subcontract services, like epitaxial growth, ion implantation and assembly of integrated circuits into packages, have from time to time, over the past several years, been in short supply and could come into short supply again if overall industry demand continues to increase in the future. In addition, from time to time natural disasters can lead to a shortage of some of the above materials due to

disruption of the manufacturer's production. We do not have long-term agreements providing for all of these materials, supplies, and services, and shortages could occur as a result of capacity limitations or production constraints on suppliers that could have a materially adverse effect on our ability to achieve our planned production.

A number of our products use components that are purchased from third parties. Supplies of these components may not be sufficient to meet all customer requested delivery dates for products containing the components, which could adversely affect future sales and earnings. Additionally, significant fluctuations in the purchase price for these components could affect gross margins for the products involved. Suppliers could also discontinue the manufacture of such purchased products or could have quality problems that could affect our ability to meet customer commitments. In addition, suppliers of semiconductor manufacturing equipment are sometimes unable to deliver test and/or fabrication equipment to a schedule or equipment performance specification that meets our requirements. Delays in delivery of equipment needed for growth could adversely affect our ability to achieve our manufacturing and revenue plans in the future.

***We are exposed to business, economic, political and other risks through our significant worldwide operations.***

For the nine months ended March 30, 2008, 70% of our revenues were derived from customers in international markets. Also, we have test and assembly facilities outside the United States in Singapore and Malaysia. Accordingly, we are subject to the economic and political risks inherent in international operations and their impact on the United States economy in general, including the risks associated with ongoing uncertainties and political and economic instability in many countries around the world as well as the economic disruption from acts of terrorism, and the response to them by the United States and its allies.

***We are a party to private litigation and governmental investigations related to our historical stock option granting practices, an unfavorable outcome in which could have a material adverse effect on our financial results for a particular period or the trading price for our securities.***

Several lawsuits have been filed against current and former directors and officers relating to our historical stock option practices. We are named as a nominal defendant in those lawsuits. These actions are in the preliminary stages, and their ultimate outcome could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations or cash flows for a particular period or the trading price for our securities. Litigation is time-consuming, expensive and disruptive to our normal business operations, and outcomes are difficult to predict. The defense of these lawsuits has resulted and will continue to result in significant legal expenditures and diversion of our management's time and attention from business operations. In addition, we have entered into indemnification agreements with our current and former directors and officers, under which we are required to indemnify those persons against expenses, including attorneys' fees, judgments, fines and settlements, payable by them in connection with this litigation, subject to applicable law. If we were required to pay any amounts to satisfy a judgment or in settlement of any of these claims, these amounts may not be covered by insurance.

As disclosed previously, we have also been the subject of informal investigations and inquiries by the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Department of Justice and the Internal Revenue Service. The SEC has informed us that its investigation concerning our historical stock option grant practices has been completed and that no enforcement action has been recommended. We have not been subsequently contacted by the DOJ. All agencies could seek additional information or documents from us in the future. We could also in the future become the subject of additional private or government actions regarding these matters.

For a further discussion on legal matters see "Legal Proceedings" in Part 2, Item 1 of this Form 10-Q.

***We may be unable to adequately protect our proprietary rights, which may impact our ability to compete effectively.***

Our success depends in part on our proprietary technology. While we attempt to protect our proprietary technology through patents, copyrights and trade secret protection, we believe that our success also depends on increasing our technological expertise, continuing our development of new products and providing comprehensive support and service to our customers. However, we may be unable to protect our technology in all instances, or our competitors may develop similar or more competitive technology independently. We currently hold a number of United States and foreign patents and pending patent applications. However, other parties may challenge or attempt to invalidate or circumvent any patents the United States or foreign governments issue to us or these governments may fail to issue patents for pending applications. In addition, the rights granted or anticipated under any of these patents or pending patent applications may be narrower than we expect or, in fact provide no competitive advantages. Furthermore, effective patent, trademark, copyright, maskwork and trade secret protection may be unavailable, limited or not applied for in certain foreign countries. We may incur significant legal costs to protect our intellectual property.

We also seek to protect our proprietary technology, including technology that may not be patented or patentable, in part by confidentiality agreements and, if applicable, inventors' rights agreements with our collaborators, advisors, employees and consultants. We cannot assure you that these agreements will always be undertaken or will not be breached or that we will have adequate remedies for any breach.

We have received, and may receive in the future, notices of claims of infringement and misappropriation of other parties' proprietary rights. In the event of an adverse decision in a patent, trademark, copyright, maskwork or trade secret action, we could be required to withdraw the product or products found to be infringing from the market or redesign products offered for sale or under development. Whether or not these infringement claims are successfully asserted, we would likely incur significant costs and diversion of our resources with respect to the defense of these claims. In the event of an adverse outcome in any litigation, we may be required to pay substantial damages, including enhanced damages for willful infringement, and incur significant attorneys' fees, as well as indemnify customers for damages they might suffer if the products they purchase from us infringe intellectual property rights of others. We could also be required to stop our manufacture, use, sale or importation of infringing products, expend significant resources to develop or acquire non-infringing technology, discontinue the use of some processes, or obtain licenses to intellectual property rights covering products and technology that we may, or have been found to, infringe or misappropriate such intellectual property rights.

***Our products may contain defects that could affect our results of operations.***

Our products may contain undetected errors or defects. Such problems may cause delays in product introductions and shipments, result in increased costs and diversion of development resources, cause us to incur increased charges due to obsolete or unusable inventory, require design modifications, or decrease market acceptance or customer satisfaction with these products, which could result in product returns. In addition, we may not find defects or failures in our products until after commencement of commercial shipments, which may result in loss or delay in market acceptance and could significantly harm our operating results. Our current or potential customers also might seek to recover from us any losses resulting from defects or failures in our products; further, such claims might be significantly higher than the revenues and profits we receive from our products involved as we are usually a component supplier with limited value content relative to the value of a complete system or sub-system. Liability claims could require us to spend significant time and money in litigation or to pay significant damages for which we may have insufficient insurance coverage. Any of these claims, whether or not successful, could seriously damage our reputation and business.

***If we fail to attract and retain qualified personnel, our business may be harmed.***

Our performance is substantially dependent on the performance of our executive officers and key employees. The loss of the services of key officers, technical personnel or other key employees could harm the business. Our success depends on our ability to identify, hire, train, develop and retain highly qualified technical and managerial personnel. Failure to attract and retain the necessary technical and managerial personnel could harm us.

***We may not be able to compete successfully in markets within the semiconductor industry in the future.***

We compete in the high performance segment of the linear market. Our competitors include among others, Analog Devices, Inc., Intersil, Maxim Integrated Products, Inc., National Semiconductor Corporation and Texas Instruments, Inc. Competition among manufacturers of linear integrated circuits is intense, and certain of our competitors may have significantly greater financial, technical, manufacturing and marketing resources than us. The principal elements of competition include product performance, functional value, quality and reliability, technical service and support, price, diversity of product line and delivery capabilities. We believe we compete favorably with respect to these factors, although we may be at a disadvantage in comparison to larger companies with broader product lines and greater technical service and support capabilities.

***Environmental liabilities could force us to expend significant capital and incur substantial costs.***

Federal, state and local regulations impose various environmental controls on the storage, use, discharge and disposal of certain chemicals and gases used in semiconductor processing. Our facilities have been designed to comply with these regulations, and we believe that our activities conform to present environmental regulations. Increasing public attention has, however, been focused on the environmental impact of electronics manufacturing operations. While we to date have not experienced any materially adverse business effects from environmental regulations, there can be no assurance that changes in such regulations will not require us to acquire costly remediation equipment or to incur substantial expenses to comply with such regulations. Any failure by us to control the storage, use or disposal of, or adequately restrict the discharge of hazardous substances could subject us to significant liabilities.

***Our financial results may be adversely affected by increased tax rates and exposure to additional tax liabilities.***

As a global company, our effective tax rate is highly dependent upon the geographic composition of worldwide earnings and tax regulations governing each region. We are subject to income taxes in both the United States and various foreign jurisdictions, and significant judgment is required to determine worldwide tax liabilities. Our effective tax rate as well as the actual tax ultimately payable could be adversely affected by changes in the split of earnings between countries with differing statutory tax rates, in the valuation of deferred tax assets, in tax laws or by material audit assessments, which could affect our profitability. In addition, the amount of income taxes we pay is subject to ongoing audits in various jurisdictions, and a material assessment by a governing tax authority could affect our profitability.

***We are leveraged, and our debt obligations may affect our business, operating results and financial condition.***

In April 2007, we issued \$1.0 billion aggregate principal amount of our 3.00% Convertible Senior Notes due May 1, 2027 and \$700 million aggregate principal amount of our 3.125% Convertible Senior Notes due May 1, 2027 (collectively, the “Notes”). Debt service obligations arising from the Notes could adversely affect us in a number of ways, including by:

- limiting our ability to obtain in the future, if needed, financing for working capital, capital expenditures, debt service requirements or other corporate purposes;
- limiting our flexibility in implementing our business strategy and in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business;
- placing us at a competitive disadvantage relative to any of our competitors who have lower levels of debt;
- decreasing our debt ratings and increasing our cost of borrowed funds;
- making us more vulnerable to a downturn in our business or the economy generally;
- subjecting us to the risk of being forced to refinance at higher interest rates these amounts when due; and
- requiring us to use a substantial portion of our cash to pay principal and interest on our debt instead of contributing those funds to other purposes such as working capital, capital expenditures or other corporate purposes.

***Our stock price may be volatile.***

The trading price of our common stock may be subject to wide fluctuations. Our stock price may fluctuate in response to a number of events and factors, such as quarterly variations in operating results, announcements of technological innovations or new products by us or our competitors, changes in financial estimates and recommendations by securities analysts, the operating and stock price performance of other companies that investors may deem comparable to us, the hedging of our common stock and other derivative transactions by third parties, and new reports relating to trends in our markets or general economic conditions. Additionally, lack of positive performance in our stock price may adversely affect our ability to retain key employees.

The stock market in general, and prices for companies in our industry in particular, has experienced extreme volatility that often has been unrelated to the operating performance of a particular company. These broad market and industry fluctuations may adversely affect the price of our common stock, regardless of our operating performance. As our Notes are convertible into shares of our common stock, volatility or depressed prices of our common stock could have a similar effect on the trading price of our Notes. In addition, to the extent we deliver common stock on conversion of the Notes, the ownership interests of our existing stockholders may be diluted. Sales in the public market of common stock issuable upon such conversion could adversely affect prevailing market prices of our common stock, as could the anticipated conversion of the Notes.

***We may not have the ability to repurchase the Notes or to pay cash upon their conversion if and as required by the indentures governing the Notes.***

Holders of the Notes have the right to require us to repurchase, and we intend to repurchase, the Notes for cash on specified dates or upon the occurrence of a fundamental change. However, we may not have sufficient funds to repurchase the Notes in cash or to make the required repayment at such time or have the ability to arrange necessary financing on acceptable terms. In addition, upon conversion of the Notes we will be required to make cash payments to the holders of the Notes equal to the lesser of the principal amount of the Notes being converted and the conversion value of those Notes. Such payments could be significant, and we may not have sufficient funds to make them at such time.

Our failure to repurchase the Notes or convert the Notes into cash or a combination of cash and shares upon exercise of a holder’s conversion right in accordance with the provisions of the indentures would constitute a default under the applicable indenture. In addition, a default under either indenture could lead to a default under existing and future agreements governing our indebtedness. If, due to a default, the repayment of the related indebtedness were to be accelerated after any applicable notice or grace periods, we may not have sufficient funds to repay such indebtedness and the Notes.

A fundamental change may also constitute an event of default under, or result in the acceleration of the maturity of, our then-existing indebtedness. In addition, our ability to repurchase the Notes in cash or make any other required payments may be limited by law or the terms of other agreements relating to our indebtedness outstanding at the time.

***The terms of the Notes and related provisions in the indentures subject noteholders to risks. Noteholders should be aware of the following risks, in addition to those described for holders of our common stock:***



- We are not restricted from taking actions or incurring additional debt (including secured debt) which may affect our ability to make payments under the Notes;
- The Notes are not secured by any of our assets or those of our subsidiaries and are effectively subordinated to any secured debt we may incur. In any liquidation, dissolution, bankruptcy or other similar proceeding, holders of our secured debt may assert rights against any assets securing such debt in order to receive full payment of their debt before those assets may be used to pay the holders of the Notes. In such an event, we may not have sufficient assets remaining to pay amounts due on any or all of the Notes. In addition, none of our subsidiaries have guaranteed our obligations under, or have any obligation to pay any amounts due on, the Notes. As a result, the Notes are effectively subordinated to all liabilities of our subsidiaries, including trade payables;
- The fundamental change provisions in the Notes and the indentures may not require us to offer to repurchase the Notes in the event of certain transactions. For example, any leveraged recapitalization, refinancing, restructuring, or acquisition initiated by us will generally not constitute a fundamental change requiring us to repurchase the Notes;
- The liquidity of the trading market in the Notes, and the market price quoted for these Notes, may be adversely affected by, among other things, changes in, or other factors affecting, the market prices of our common stock, changes in the overall market for debt securities, and prevailing interest rates;
- The conversion rates of the Notes may not adjust for certain events, such as a third-party tender or exchange offer or an issuance of our common stock for cash. In addition, adjustments in conversion rates may not adequately compensate noteholders for any lost value in the Notes as a result of a particular transaction;
- The Notes may not be rated or may receive a lower rating than anticipated, which may impact the market price of the Notes and our common stock. In addition, the sale of the Notes and the shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of the Notes depends upon the continued maintenance of a registration statement filed with the SEC covering the resale of the Notes, or an exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act and any applicable state securities laws; and,
- Noteholders are not entitled to any rights with respect to our common stock, but if they subsequently convert their Notes and receive common stock upon such conversion, they will be subject to all changes affecting the common stock;

***The accounting method for convertible debt securities with net share settlement features, like the Notes, may be subject to change.***

For the purpose of calculating diluted earnings per share, a convertible debt security providing for net share settlement of the conversion value and meeting specified requirements under Emerging Issues Task Force (“EITF”), Issue No. 00-19, “Accounting for Derivative Financial Instruments Indexed to, and Potentially Settled in, a Company’s Own Stock,” is accounted for interest expense purposes similarly to non-convertible debt, with the stated coupon constituting interest expense and any shares issuable upon conversion of the security being accounted for under the treasury stock method. The effect of the treasury stock method is that the shares potentially issuable upon conversion of the Notes are not included in the calculation of our earnings per share, except to the extent that the conversion value of the Notes exceeds their principal amount, in which event the number of shares of our common stock necessary to settle the conversion are treated as having been issued for earnings per share purposes.

In August 2007, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) exposed for comment FASB Staff Position (“FSP”) APB 14-a, a clarification on the accounting for convertible debt instruments that may be settled in cash (including partial cash settlement) upon conversion. The FASB is considering a requirement to allocate a portion of the debt to the embedded conversion feature, thereby creating an original issue discount on the carrying value of the debt portion of the instrument. This original issue discount would subsequently be amortized as interest expense over the term of the instrument, resulting in an increase to our reported interest expense. This could materially impact our results of operations and earnings per share. In March 2008, the FASB voted to ballot FSP APB 14-a, for final issuance. The proposed guidance will become effective for the Company beginning the first quarter of fiscal year 2010.

***Our certificate of incorporation and by-laws include anti-takeover provisions that may enable our management to resist an unwelcome takeover attempt by a third party.***

Our organizational documents and Delaware law contain provisions that might discourage, delay or prevent a change in control of our company or a change in our management. Our board of directors may also choose to adopt further anti-takeover measures without stockholder approval. The existence and adoption of these provisions could adversely affect the voting power of holders of common stock and limit the price that investors might be willing to pay in the future for shares of our common stock.

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

c) Stock Repurchases

| Period  | Total Number of Shares Purchased | Average Price Paid per Share | Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs | Maximum Number of Shares that May Yet be purchased Under the Plans or Programs <sup>(2)</sup> |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|
| Month #1 (December 31, 2007 – January 27, 2008) | 3,411,645                        | \$35.46 (1)                  | 3,411,645  | 17,088,497  |
| Month #2 (January 28, 2008 – February 24, 2008) | 349,946                          | \$32.16                      | 349,946  | 16,738,551  |
| Month #3 (February 25, 2008 – March 30, 2008)   | -                                | -                            | -  | -   |
| Total   | 3,761,591                        | \$35.15                      | 3,761,591  | 16,738,551  |

(1) On April 17, 2007 the Company’s Board of Directors authorized a \$3.0 billion accelerated stock repurchase transaction (“ASR”). As part of the ASR, the Company entered into two \$1.5 billion confirmations totaling \$3.0 billion during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2007. Under these confirmations, the Company provided a financial institution with an up-front payment totaling \$3.0 billion. The number of shares of common stock that were delivered to the Company for the first confirmation were determined based on the daily volume weighted average price of the Company’s common stock over an approximately three-month period that commenced shortly after the issuance of the Company’s \$1.7 billion Convertible Senior Notes in April 2007. Under the terms of the first \$1.5 billion confirmation, the Company received 33.3 million shares of its common stock during the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2007. The first confirmation ended during the first quarter of fiscal year 2008 and the Company received an additional 7.7 million shares. Accordingly, under the first confirmation the Company received a total of 41.0 million shares at an average purchase price of \$36.57 per share. Under the terms of the second \$1.5 billion confirmation, the Company received 38.9 million shares of its common stock during the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2007. The exact number of shares for the second confirmation was determined by the daily volume weighted average price of the Company’s common stock (subject to a per share floor price and cap price resulting in a purchase by the Company under that part of the ASR of no fewer than approximately 38.9 million shares of common stock and not more than approximately 42.5 million shares of common stock) over the subsequent approximately six-month period. The second confirmation ended during the third quarter of fiscal year 2008 and the Company received an additional 3.4 million shares. Accordingly, under the second confirmation the Company received a total of 42.3 million shares at an average purchase price of \$35.46 per share.

(2) On July 25, 2006 the Company’s Board of Directors authorized the Company to purchase up to 20.0 million shares of its outstanding common stock in the open market over a two year time period of which 16.7 million shares still remain for purchase over the next 3 month period.

Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

N/A

Item 4. Submission of Matter to a Vote of Security Holder

N/A

Item 5. Other Information

N/A

Item 6. Exhibits

| <b>Exhibit<br/>Number</b> | <b>Description</b>   |
|---------------------------|--|
| 31.1                      | Certification of Principal Executive Officer pursuant to Exchange Act Rules 13a-14(a) and 15d-14(a), as adopted pursuant to section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002                                  |
| 31.2                      | Certification of Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer pursuant to Exchange Act Rules 13a-14(a) and 15d-14(a), as adopted pursuant to section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 |
| 32.1                      | Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350 as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002                               |

## 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.

LINEAR TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION

DATE: May 6, 2008

BY /s/Paul Coghlan  
Paul Coghlan  
Vice President, Finance &  
Chief Financial Officer  
(Duly Authorized Officer and  
Principal Financial Officer)

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO EXCHANGE ACT RULES 13a-14(a) AND 15d-14(a), AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 302 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

**Principal Executive Officer**

I, Lothar Maier, certify that:

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

DATE: May 6, 2008

/s/ Lothar Maier  
Lothar Maier  
Chief Executive Officer  
(Principal Executive Officer)

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO EXCHANGE ACT RULES 13a-14(a) AND 15d-14(a), AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

**Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer**

I, Paul Coghlan, certify that:

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

DATE: May 6, 2008

/s/ Paul Coghlan

Paul Coghlan

Vice President of Finance and Chief Financial  
Officer (Principal Financial Officer and Principal  
Accounting Officer)

**CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER  
PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY  
ACT OF 2002**

I, Lothar Maier, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that the Quarterly Report of Linear Technology Corporation on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 30, 2008 fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and that information contained in such Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q fairly presents in all material respects the financial condition and results of operations of Linear Technology Corporation.

DATE: May 6, 2008

By: /s/ Lothar Maier

Name: Lothar Maier

Title: Chief Executive Officer

I, Paul Coghlan, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that the Quarterly Report of Linear Technology Corporation on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 30, 2008 fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and that information contained in such Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q fairly presents in all material respects the financial condition and results of operations of Linear Technology Corporation.

DATE: May 6, 2008

By: /s/ Paul Coghlan

Name: Paul Coghlan

Title: Chief Financial Officer