

NITCHES INC
Form 10-Q
April 15, 2002

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

Form 10-Q

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

For the quarterly period ended: February 28, 2002

Commission File Number 0-13851

NITCHES, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

California
(State of Incorporation)

95-2848021
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

10280 Camino Santa Fe, San Diego, California 92121
(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number: (858) 625-2633

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, no par value	NASDAQ SmallCap Market

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 [X] No []

As of February 28, 2002 the Registrant had 1,064,680 shares of common stock outstanding.

PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements

**NITCHES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets**

ASSETS

February 28, 2002	August 31, 2001
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(Unaudited)	

Current assets:

ASSETS

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	February 28, 2002	August 31, 2001
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 95,000	\$ 192,000
Receivables:		
Trade accounts, less allowances	3,318,000	3,143,000
Due from affiliates and employees	34,000	36,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total receivables	3,352,000	3,179,000
Refundable income taxes	113,000	75,000
Inventories	3,533,000	5,408,000
Deferred income taxes	180,000	180,000
Other current assets	215,000	123,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total current assets	7,488,000	9,157,000
Furniture, fixtures and equipment, net	108,000	77,000
Deferred income taxes	38,000	38,000
Other assets	17,000	17,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$7,651,000	\$9,289,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$1,248,000	\$2,430,000
Accrued expenses	117,000	254,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total current liabilities	1,365,000	2,684,000
Shareholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, no par value; 25,000,000 shares authorized, no shares issued or outstanding		
Common stock, no par value; 50,000,000 shares authorized; 1,064,680 shares issued and outstanding	805,000	805,000
Retained earnings	5,481,000	5,800,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total shareholders' equity	6,286,000	6,605,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$7,651,000	\$9,289,000
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

NITCHES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
Consolidated Statements of Income
(Unaudited)

Three Months Ended February 28,		Six Months Ended February 28,	
2002	2001	2002	2001
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	<u>Three Months Ended February 28,</u>		<u>Six Months Ended February 28,</u>	
Net sales	\$ 5,734,000	\$7,073,000	\$ 15,629,000	\$ 18,066,000
Cost of goods sold	4,385,000	5,132,000	12,169,000	13,254,000
Gross profit	1,349,000	1,941,000	3,460,000	4,812,000
Selling, general and administrative expenses	1,580,000	1,774,000	3,393,000	3,735,000
Income from operations	(231,000)	167,000	67,000	1,077,000
Interest and other income/(expense), net	(28,000)	22,000	(65,000)	(31,000)
Income/(loss) before income taxes	(259,000)	189,000	2,000	1,046,000
Provision/(benefit) for income taxes	(101,000)	70,000	1,000	408,000
Net income/(loss)	\$ (158,000)	\$ 119,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 638,000
Earnings per share (basic and diluted)	\$ (0.15)	\$ 0.11	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.60
Shares outstanding (basic and diluted)	1,064,680	1,064,680	1,064,680	1,064,680

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

3

NITCHES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

(Unaudited)

	<u>Six Months Ended February 28,</u>	
	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 253,000	\$ 660,000
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Capital expenditures	(31,000)	(2,000)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Dividends paid	(319,000)	(798,000)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(97,000)	(140,000)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	192,000	314,000

(Unaudited)

3

	Six Months Ended February 28,	
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 95,000	\$ 174,000
Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:		
Cash paid during the period:		
Interest	\$ 65,000	\$ 108,000
Income taxes	40,000	300,000

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

4

NITCHES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

1. *Description of Business*

Nitches, Inc. (the "Company") is a wholesale importer and distributor primarily of women's clothing manufactured to its specifications and distributed in the United States under Company brand labels and private retailer labels.

2. *Condensed Financial Statements:*

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the instructions to Form 10-Q. They do not include all information and footnotes necessary for a fair presentation of financial position and results of operations and cash flows in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. These consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and related notes contained in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended August 31, 2001. In the opinion of Management, all adjustments considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included in the interim period. Operating results for the six months ended February 28, 2002 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending August 31, 2002.

3. *Earnings Per share:*

At February 28, 2002, there were no stock options or similar instruments outstanding and therefore no dilutive effect to the weighted average number of shares outstanding.

4. *Inventories:*

	February 28, 2002	August 31, 2001
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Fabric and trim	\$ 78,000	\$ 117,000
Finished goods	3,455,000	5,291,000
	<u>\$3,533,000</u>	<u>\$5,408,000</u>

5. *Trade accounts receivable:*

Pursuant to the terms of an agreement between Nitches and a factor, Nitches sells a majority of its trade accounts receivable to the factor on a pre-approved, non-recourse basis. The Company may request advances in anticipation of customer collections and open letters of credit through the factor, all of which are collateralized by all of the Company's assets. Outstanding advances are charged interest at the factor's prime rate less one half percent. Advances and contingent liabilities for irrevocable letters of credit outstanding are as follows:

5

NITCHES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statement (continued)

5. Trade accounts receivable (continued):

	February 28, 2002	August 31, 2001
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Receivables assigned to factor:		
Non-recourse	\$ 4,354,000	\$ 3,828,000
Recourse	268,000	191,000
Advances from factor	(1,080,000)	(915,000)
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Due from factor	3,542,000	3,104,000
Non-factored accounts receivable	80,000	235,000
Allowance for customer credits and doubtful accounts	(304,000)	(196,000)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 3,318,000	\$ 3,143,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Contingent liabilities for irrevocable letters of credit	\$ 2,104,000	\$ 4,695,000
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The factoring agreement allows the Company to borrow up to \$15,000,000 limited by certain percentages of outstanding accounts receivable and finished goods inventory owned by the Company. The Company's Chairman has provided a \$1,000,000 personal guarantee in connection with the factoring arrangement.

6. Special dividends:

On February 8, 2002, the Company paid a dividend of \$.15 (fifteen cents) per share for a total of approximately \$159,000 to the shareholders of record as of January 25, 2002. Additionally, on December 7, 2001 the Company paid a dividend of \$.15 (fifteen cents) per share for a total of approximately \$159,000 to the shareholders of record as of November 23, 2001. During fiscal 2001, the Company declared and paid dividends of \$1.35 per share.

7. Significant Customers:

Sales to three separate customers (Mervyn's, Kohl's and Sears) accounted for 55.1%, 9.1% and 9.0%, respectively, of the Company's net sales in the three months ended February 28, 2002. The same three customers accounted for 30.6%, 14.5% and 24.7% of the Company's net sales in the three months ended February 28, 2001. Two customers (Mervyn's and Kohl's) accounted for 50.3% and 20.6% of the Company's net sales for the six months ended February 28, 2002.

Two customers (Mervyn's and Sears) accounted for 69.5% and 11.2% respectively, of the Company's trade receivable balance at February 28, 2002. Three customers accounted for 28.5%, 30.3% and 11.7% of the Company's trade receivable balance at February 28, 2001.

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

Results of Operations

Six Months Ended February 28, 2002 Compared to the Six Months Ended February 28, 2001

Net sales for the six months ended February 28, 2002 decreased approximately \$2.4 million (13.5%) as compared to the six months ended February 28, 2001. This decline was attributable to a decrease in unit sales in the Company's sleepwear and western wear product lines, due primarily to the general economic slowdown in the U.S.

Cost of sales as a percent of net sales increased 4.5%, generating a lower gross profit margin of 22.1% for the six months ended February 28, 2002 as compared to 26.6% for the year earlier period. The decrease came as the result of the proportionally larger decline in sales of higher margin western wear product. The Company's product mix constantly changes to reflect customer mix, fashion trends and changing seasons. Consequently, gross margin is likely to vary on a quarter-to-quarter basis and in comparison to gross margins generated in the same period of prior fiscal years.

Selling, general and administrative expenses for the first half of fiscal 2002 declined \$342,000 as compared to a year ago, due primarily to a decrease in sales commissions in line with the reduced sales volume noted above. Expenses increased as a percent of net sales to 21.7% from 20.7% in the year earlier period, due to the decrease in net sales from the earlier period.

Three Months Ended February 28, 2002 Compared to the Three Months Ended February 28, 2001

Net sales for the three months ended February 28, 2002 decreased approximately \$1.3 million (18.7%) as compared to the three months ended February 28, 2001. This decline was attributable to a decrease in unit sales in the Company's sleepwear and western wear product lines, due primarily to the general economic slowdown in the U.S.

Cost of sales as a percent of net sales increased 3.9%, generating a lower gross profit margin of 23.5% for the three months ended February 28, 2002 as compared to 27.4% for the year earlier period. The decrease came as the result of the proportionally larger decline in sales of higher margin western wear product. The Company's product mix constantly changes to reflect customer mix, fashion trends and changing seasons. Consequently, gross margin is likely to vary on a quarter-to-quarter basis and in comparison to gross margins generated in the same period of prior fiscal years.

Selling, general and administrative expenses for the second quarter of fiscal 2002 declined \$194,000 as compared to a year ago, due primarily to a decrease in sales commissions in line with the reduced sales volume noted above. Expenses increased as a percent of net sales to 27.6% from 25.1% in the year earlier period, due to the decrease in net sales from the earlier period.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Working capital declined to \$6.1 million at February 28, 2002 from \$6.5 million at August 31, 2001. However, the current ratio increased to 5.49:1 at February 28, 2002 from 3.41:1 at August 31, 2001.

The Company paid a dividend of \$.15 (fifteen cents) per share on February 8, 2002, for a total of approximately \$159,000. The Company also paid a dividend of \$.15 (fifteen cents) per share on December 7, 2001, for a total of approximately \$159,000.

The Company sells substantially all of its trade receivables to a factor (Tyco Capital, previously CIT) on a pre-approved, non-recourse basis. The Company attempts to make any recourse shipments on a COD basis or ensure that the customers' payments are backed by a commercial or standby letter of credit issued by the customers' bank. The amount of the Company's receivables that were recourse and were not made on a COD basis or supported by commercial or standby letters of credit at February 28, 2002 was approximately \$348,000 of which approximately \$44,000 had been collected through March 31, 2002.

Payment for non-recourse factored receivables is made at the time customers make payment to Tyco Capital or, if a customer is financially unable to make payment, within approximately 180 days of the invoice due date. Under the Discount Factoring Agreement, the Company can request advances in anticipation of customer collections at Tyco Capital's prime rate (currently 4.75%) less one-half percent, and open letters of credit through Tyco Capital. The amount of borrowings by the Company, including a portion of outstanding letters of credit, are limited to certain percentages of outstanding accounts receivable and finished goods inventory owned by the Company. Borrowings are collateralized by all of the assets of the Company as well as a \$1 million guaranty of the Company's Chairman. At February 28, 2002, the Company had outstanding letters of credit of approximately \$2.1 million for the purchase of finished goods, which had been opened through Tyco Capital. The Discount Factoring Agreement can be terminated by Tyco Capital on 60-days written notice.

The Company believes the Discount Factoring Agreement with Tyco Capital, along with expected cash flow from operating activities and current levels of working capital, are adequate to fulfill the Company's liquidity needs for the foreseeable future.

Inventory

In its ordinary course of operations, the Company generally makes some sales below its normal selling prices or below cost. Based on prior experience, management believes this will be true for some inventory held on or acquired after February 28, 2002. The amount of such sales depends on several factors, including general economic conditions, market conditions within the apparel industry, the desirability of the styles held in inventory and competitive pressures from other garment suppliers.

The Company's inventory decreased from \$5.4 million at August 31, 2001 to \$3.5 million at February 28, 2002. The Company has established an inventory markdown reserve as of February 28, 2002, which management believes will be sufficient for current inventory that is expected to sell below cost in the future. There can be no assurance that the Company will realize its expected selling prices, or that the inventory markdown reserve will be adequate, for items in inventory as of February 28, 2002 for which customer sales orders have not yet been received. The inventory markdown reserve is calculated based on specific identification of aged goods and styles that are slow-moving or selling off-price.

Backlog

The Company had unfilled customer orders of \$10.1 million at February 28, 2002 compared to \$13.6 million at February 28, 2001, with such orders generally scheduled for delivery by August 2002 and August 2001, respectively. Reduced orders in both the sleepwear and western wear product lines contributed to the decrease in backlog of \$3.5 million. These amounts include both confirmed and unconfirmed orders that the Company believes, based on industry practice and past experience, will be confirmed. While cancellations, rejections and returns have generally not been material in the past, there can be no assurance that cancellations, rejections and returns will not reduce the amount of sales realized from the backlog of orders at February 28, 2002. Because of the Company's reliance upon a few major accounts, any adverse impact of the current economic downturn on one or more of these customers could lead to the cancellation of existing orders and/or an inability to secure future orders, which would have a material adverse financial effect on the Company.

Impact of Exchange Rates

While the Company purchases over 90% of its products from foreign manufacturers, all of its purchases are denominated in United States dollars. Because the Company's products are sold primarily in the United States, in dollar denominated transactions, the Company does not engage in hedging or other arbitrage to reduce currency risk. An increase in the value of the dollar versus foreign currencies could enhance the Company's purchasing power for new purchase orders and reduce its cost of goods sold. Conversely, a decrease in the value of the dollar relative to foreign currencies could result in an increase in the Company's cost of manufacturing for new purchase orders and costs of goods sold.

Impact of Inflation and Deflation

Management does not believe that inflation has had any material impact upon the Company's revenues or income from operations to date. However, continued deflation in women's clothing prices may put pressure on gross margins for the balance of fiscal 2002. The strong resistance on the part of the consumer to increases in price and increasing fabric and labor costs lead to an increased cost of goods on a percentage basis.

Cautionary Statement Under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995

Statements in the quarterly report on Form 10-Q under the caption "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations", as well as oral statements that may be made by the Company or by officers, directors or employees of the Company acting on the Company's behalf, that are not historical fact constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties that may cause the Company's actual results in future periods to differ materially from forecasted results. Those risks include a softening of retailer or consumer acceptance of the Company's products, pricing pressures and other competitive forces, or unanticipated loss of a major customer. In addition, the Company's business, operations and financial condition are subject to reports and statements filed from time to time with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

There were no material legal proceedings to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries was a party in the six months ended February 28, 2002.

Item 6. Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K

There were no reports on Form 8-K during the quarter ended February 28, 2002.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirement 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.

NITCHES, INC.

Registrant

April 15, 2002

By: /s/ Steven P. Wyandt

Steven P. Wyandt
As Principal Financial Officer and on
behalf of the Registrant