

UNITED NATURAL FOODS INC (UNFI)

10-Q

Quarterly report pursuant to sections 13 or 15(d)

Filed on 12/09/2010

Filed Period 10/30/2010

THOMSON REUTERS ACCELUS™



THOMSON REUTERS

**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 October 30, 2010

OR



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

Commission File Number: 000-21531

UNITED NATURAL FOODS, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware

(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation or Organization)

05-0376157

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

313 Iron Horse Way, Providence, RI

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

02908

(Zip Code)

Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code: **(401) 528-8634**

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days: Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definition of "accelerated filer," "large accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer ☒

Accelerated filer ☐

Non-accelerated filer ☐

Smaller reporting company ☐

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

As of November 29, 2010 there were 48,191,041 shares of the Registrant's Common Stock, \$0.01 par value per share, outstanding.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | | |
|------------------------|---|----|
| <u>Part I.</u> | <u>Financial Information</u> | |
| <u>Item 1.</u> | <u>Financial Statements</u> | |
| | <u>Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (unaudited)</u> | 3 |
| | <u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income (unaudited)</u> | 4 |
| | <u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity (unaudited)</u> | 5 |
| | <u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (unaudited)</u> | 6 |
| | <u>Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)</u> | 7 |
| <u>Item 2.</u> | <u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u> | 13 |
| <u>Item 3.</u> | <u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u> | 22 |
| <u>Item 4.</u> | <u>Controls and Procedures</u> | 22 |
| <u>Part II.</u> | <u>Other Information</u> | |
| <u>Item 1.</u> | <u>Legal Proceedings</u> | 23 |
| <u>Item 1A.</u> | <u>Risk Factors</u> | 23 |
| <u>Item 2.</u> | <u>Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u> | 23 |
| <u>Item 3.</u> | <u>Defaults upon Senior Securities</u> | 23 |
| <u>Item 4.</u> | <u>(Removed and Reserved)</u> | 23 |
| <u>Item 5.</u> | <u>Other Information</u> | 23 |
| <u>Item 6.</u> | <u>Exhibits</u> | 24 |
| | <u>Signatures</u> | 25 |

[Table of Contents](#)

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements

UNITED NATURAL FOODS, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Unaudited)
(In thousands, except per share amounts)

| | October 30, 2010 | July 31, 2010 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 10,706 | \$ 13,802 |
| Accounts receivable, net of allowance of \$5,902 and \$6,253, respectively | 253,305 | 217,097 |
| Notes receivable, trade, net of allowance of \$75 and \$135, respectively | 3,451 | 3,111 |
| Inventories | 536,671 | 439,702 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 18,398 | 21,793 |
| Deferred income taxes | 20,560 | 20,560 |
| Total current assets | 843,091 | 716,065 |
| Property & equipment, net | 280,926 | 279,255 |
| Other assets: | | |
| Goodwill | 188,810 | 186,925 |
| Intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization of \$6,454 and \$5,569, respectively | 61,264 | 50,201 |
| Notes receivable, trade, net of allowance of \$1,193 and \$1,304, respectively | 1,196 | 235 |
| Other assets | 18,375 | 18,118 |
| Total assets | <u>\$ 1,393,662</u> | <u>\$ 1,250,799</u> |
| LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Notes payable | \$ 146,145 | \$ 242,570 |
| Accounts payable | 261,276 | 192,331 |
| Accrued expenses and other current liabilities | 93,989 | 81,941 |
| Current portion of long-term debt | 5,036 | 5,033 |
| Total current liabilities | 506,446 | 521,875 |
| Long-term debt, excluding current portion | 47,173 | 48,433 |
| Deferred income taxes | 20,891 | 20,598 |
| Other long-term liabilities | 29,357 | 29,446 |
| Total liabilities | 603,867 | 620,352 |
| Commitments and contingencies | | |
| Stockholders' equity: | | |
| Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value, authorized 5,000 shares; none issued or outstanding | — | — |
| Common stock, \$0.01 par value, authorized 100,000 shares; 48,202 issued and 48,175 outstanding shares at October 30, 2010; 43,558 issued and 43,531 outstanding shares at July 31, 2010 | 482 | 435 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 329,887 | 188,727 |
| Treasury stock | (708) | (708) |
| Unallocated shares of Employee Stock Ownership Plan | (673) | (713) |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (458) | (1,155) |
| Retained earnings | 461,265 | 443,861 |
| Total stockholders' equity | 789,795 | 630,447 |
| Total liabilities and stockholders' equity | <u>\$ 1,393,662</u> | <u>\$ 1,250,799</u> |

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

[Table of Contents](#)

UNITED NATURAL FOODS, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (Unaudited)
(In thousands, except per share data amounts)

| | Three months ended | |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | October 30, 2010 | October 31, 2009 |
| Net sales | \$ 1,052,967 | \$ 884,768 |
| Cost of sales | 860,635 | 720,167 |
| Gross profit | <u>192,332</u> | <u>164,601</u> |
| Operating expenses | 162,676 | 137,409 |
| Total operating expenses | <u>162,676</u> | <u>137,409</u> |
| Operating income | <u>29,656</u> | <u>27,192</u> |
| Other expense (income): | | |
| Interest expense | 1,386 | 1,381 |
| Interest income | (208) | (69) |
| Other, net | <u>(53)</u> | <u>(8)</u> |
| Total other expense | <u>1,125</u> | <u>1,304</u> |
| Income before income taxes | 28,531 | 25,888 |
| Provision for income taxes | 11,127 | 10,355 |
| Net income | <u>\$ 17,404</u> | <u>\$ 15,533</u> |
| Basic per share data: | | |
| Net income | <u>\$ 0.39</u> | <u>\$ 0.36</u> |
| Weighted average of basic shares of common stock outstanding | <u>44,771</u> | <u>42,982</u> |
| Diluted per share data: | | |
| Net income | <u>\$ 0.39</u> | <u>\$ 0.36</u> |
| Weighted average of diluted shares of common stock outstanding | <u>45,101</u> | <u>43,211</u> |

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

[Table of Contents](#)

UNITED NATURAL FOODS, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (Unaudited)
(In thousands)

| (In thousands) | Common Stock | | Treasury Stock | | Additional Paid in Capital | Unallocated Shares of ESOP | Accumulated Other Comprehensive (Loss) Income | Retained Earnings | Total Stockholders' Equity |
|---|--------------|--------|----------------|----------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| | Shares | Amount | Shares | Amount | | | | | |
| Balances at July 31, 2010 | 43,558 | \$ 435 | 27 | \$ (708) | \$ 188,727 | \$ (713) | \$ (1,155) | \$ 443,861 | \$ 630,447 |
| Allocation of shares to ESOP | | | | | | 40 | | | 40 |
| Issuance of common stock pursuant to secondary offering, net of direct offering costs | 4,428 | 44 | | | 138,261 | | | | 138,305 |
| Stock option exercises and restricted stock vestings, net | 216 | 3 | | | (59) | | | | (56) |
| Share-based compensation | | | | | 2,657 | | | | 2,657 |
| Tax benefit associated with stock plans | | | | | 301 | | | | 301 |
| Fair value of swap agreements, net of tax | | | | | | | 134 | | 134 |
| Foreign currency translation | | | | | | | 563 | | 563 |
| Net income | | | | | | | | 17,404 | 17,404 |
| Total comprehensive income | | | | | | | | | 18,101 |
| Balances at October 30, 2010 | 48,202 | \$ 482 | 27 | \$ (708) | \$ 329,887 | \$ (673) | \$ (458) | \$ 461,265 | \$ 789,795 |

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

[Table of Contents](#)

UNITED NATURAL FOODS, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Unaudited)
(In thousands)

| | Three months ended | |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | October 30, 2010 | October 31, 2009 |
| CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Net income | \$ 17,404 | \$ 15,533 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash (used in) provided by operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 8,355 | 6,650 |
| Share-based compensation | 2,657 | 2,120 |
| Gain on disposals of property and equipment | (20) | (13) |
| Excess tax benefits from share-based payment arrangements | (301) | (3) |
| Provision for doubtful accounts | 216 | 496 |
| Changes in assets and liabilities, net of acquired businesses: | | |
| Accounts receivable | (36,802) | (19,066) |
| Inventories | (90,060) | (45,989) |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets | 3,240 | 5,144 |
| Notes receivable, trade | (1,131) | (301) |
| Accounts payable | 50,598 | 36,962 |
| Accrued expenses and other liabilities | 12,940 | 15,950 |
| Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities | (32,904) | 17,483 |
| CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Capital expenditures | (7,549) | (9,700) |
| Purchases of acquired businesses, net of cash acquired | (21,842) | — |
| Proceeds from disposals of property and equipment | 20 | 21 |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (29,371) | (9,679) |
| CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Net repayments under notes payable | (96,425) | (15,000) |
| Repayments of long-term debt | (1,257) | (1,254) |
| Net proceeds from common stock issuance | 138,305 | — |
| Increase in bank overdraft | 18,326 | 13,583 |
| Proceeds from exercise of stock options | 1,910 | 14 |
| Payment of employee restricted stock tax withholdings | (1,966) | (558) |
| Excess tax benefits from share-based payment arrangements | 301 | 3 |
| Capitalized debt issuance costs | — | (7) |
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities | 59,194 | (3,219) |
| EFFECT OF EXCHANGE RATE CHANGES ON CASH | (15) | — |
| NET (DECREASE) INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS | (3,096) | 4,585 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period | 13,802 | 10,269 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period | <u>\$ 10,706</u> | <u>\$ 14,854</u> |
| <i>Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:</i> | | |
| Interest paid, net of amounts capitalized | \$ 1,259 | \$ 1,200 |
| Federal and state income taxes paid, net of refunds | <u>\$ 2,516</u> | <u>\$ 1,525</u> |

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

[Table of Contents](#)

UNITED NATURAL FOODS, INC. NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS October 30, 2010 (Unaudited)

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of Presentation

United Natural Foods, Inc. (the "Company") is a leading national distributor and retailer of natural, organic and specialty products. The Company sells its products primarily throughout the United States and Canada.

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly owned subsidiaries. All significant intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in consolidation. Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission for interim financial information, including the instructions to Form 10-Q and Rule 10-01 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, certain information and footnote disclosures normally required in complete financial statements prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America have been condensed or omitted. In the Company's opinion, these financial statements include all adjustments necessary for a fair presentation of the financial position, results of operations and cash flows for the interim periods presented. The results of operations for interim periods, however, may not be indicative of the results that may be expected for a full year. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and footnotes thereto included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended July 31, 2010.

Net sales consists primarily of sales of natural, organic and specialty products to retailers, adjusted for customer volume discounts, returns and allowances. Net sales also includes amounts charged by the Company to customers for shipping and handling, and fuel surcharges. The principal components of cost of sales include the amount paid to manufacturers and growers for product sold, plus the cost of transportation necessary to bring the product to the Company's distribution facilities. Cost of sales also includes amounts incurred by the Company's manufacturing subsidiary, United Natural Trading Co., which does business as Woodstock Farms Manufacturing, for inbound transportation costs and depreciation for manufacturing equipment offset by consideration received from suppliers in connection with the purchase or promotion of the suppliers' products. Operating expenses include salaries and wages, employee benefits (including payments under the Company's Employee Stock Ownership Plan), warehousing and delivery, selling, occupancy, insurance, administrative, share-based compensation and amortization expense. Operating expenses also include depreciation expense related to the wholesale and retail divisions. Other expense (income) includes interest on outstanding indebtedness, interest income and miscellaneous income and expenses.

(b) Shipping and Handling Fees and Costs

The Company includes shipping and handling fees billed to customers in net sales. Shipping and handling costs associated with inbound freight are generally recorded in cost of sales, whereas shipping and handling costs for selecting, quality assurance, and outbound transportation are recorded in operating expenses. Outbound shipping and handling costs, which exclude employee benefit expenses which are not allocated, totaled \$58.7 million and \$52.8 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009, respectively.

2. ACQUISITIONS

During the three months ended October 30, 2010, the Company, within its wholesale segment, completed its acquisition of the Rocky Mountain and Southwest distribution business of Whole Foods Market Distribution, Inc. ("Whole Foods Distribution"), a wholly owned subsidiary of Whole Foods Market, Inc. ("Whole Foods Market"), whereby the Company (i) acquired inventory at Whole Foods Distribution's Aurora, Colorado and Austin, Texas distribution facilities; (ii) acquired substantially all of Whole Foods Distribution's assets, other than the inventory, at the Aurora, Colorado distribution facility; (iii) assumed Whole Foods Distribution's obligations under the existing lease agreement related to the Aurora, Colorado distribution facility; and (iv) hired substantially all of Whole Foods Distribution's employees working at the Aurora, Colorado distribution facility. In connection therewith, on October 11, 2010, the Company amended the existing Agreement for the Distribution of Products, dated as of September 26, 2006 between the Company and Whole Foods Market as subsequently amended on June 2, 2010, pursuant to which the Company became Whole Foods Market's primary distributor in its Rocky Mountain Region, which includes Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Utah, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming, and its Southwest Region, which includes Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and

[Table of Contents](#)

Arkansas. The Company expects to generate incremental annual revenues of approximately \$160 million from Whole Foods Market as a result of this transaction. For the quarter ended October 30, 2010, it is impracticable for the Company to provide complete financial results for this acquisition since the acquisition was absorbed by the operations of our wholesale division. Net sales resulting from the acquisition totalled approximately \$14.7 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010. We do not record the expenses for this business separately from the division, and no separate financial statements are produced.

During the three months ended October 30, 2010 the Company recorded certain adjustments to the amounts recorded during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010 related to the acquisition of certain Canadian food distribution assets of the SunOpta Distribution Group business of SunOpta Inc. ("SunOpta") (the "SDG assets") acquired by the Company's Canadian subsidiary on June 11, 2010. These adjustments included an unfavorable lease liability of \$0.6 million recorded within intangible assets based on updated valuation information, and an adjustment of \$0.3 million to reduce the amount receivable related to the working capital adjustment, which increased goodwill by a total of \$0.9 million. While the valuation report and our final purchase accounting are not yet complete, as of October 30, 2010, the Company does not expect any further material changes to the amounts recorded in the financial statements. Net sales resulting from the acquisition totaled \$44.7 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010 and net income was not significant compared to the Company's consolidated net income. Total assets of UNFI Canada were approximately \$79.8 million as of October 30, 2010.

During the three months ended October 30, 2010, the Company recorded an adjustment to a liability related to certain restructuring activities at Distribution Holdings, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiary Millbrook Distribution Services, Inc. ("DHI"), which the Company acquired on November 2, 2007. These restructuring activities, which included reductions in staffing and the planned elimination of a facility, were charged to the cost of the acquisition of DHI and a corresponding liability of \$7.6 million was included in other long-term liabilities for the fiscal year ended August 1, 2009. This liability was reduced in fiscal 2010 by \$1.7 million (\$1.0 million net of tax) due to an adjustment in the timeline of certain of the planned restructuring activities. This liability was further reduced during the three months ended October 30, 2010 by \$0.5 million (\$0.3 million net of tax) due to another adjustment in the timeline of certain of the planned restructuring activities.

During the three months ended October 30, 2010, the Company recorded an increase of less than \$0.1 million to its intangible assets in recognition of ongoing contingent consideration payments in the form of royalties ranging between 2-4% of net sales (as defined in the applicable purchase agreement) related to two of its branded product company acquisitions. A third branded product company acquisition requires ongoing contingent consideration payments in the form of earn-outs over a period of five years from the acquisition date. These earn-outs are based on tiers of net sales for the trailing twelve months. No amounts were earned or paid during the three months ended October 30, 2010.

During the three months ended October 31, 2009, the Company did not make any acquisitions or contingent consideration payments.

[Table of Contents](#)

3. EARNINGS PER SHARE

Following is a reconciliation of the basic and diluted number of shares used in computing earnings per share:

| (In thousands) | Three months ended | |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| | October 30, 2010 | October 31, 2009 |
| Basic weighted average shares outstanding | 44,771 | 42,982 |
| Net effect of dilutive stock awards based upon the treasury stock method | 330 | 229 |
| Diluted weighted average shares outstanding | 45,101 | 43,211 |

There were 303,847 and 1,049,029 anti-dilutive share-based payment awards outstanding for the three months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009, respectively. These anti-dilutive share-based payment awards were excluded from the calculation of diluted earnings per share.

4. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

As of August 2, 2009, the Company fully adopted FASB ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures* ("ASC 820"), for financial assets and liabilities and for non-financial assets and liabilities that are recognized or disclosed at fair value on at least an annual basis. ASC 820 defines fair value as the price that would be received from selling an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. When determining the fair value measurements for assets and liabilities required or permitted to be recorded at fair value, the Company considers the principal or most advantageous market in which it would transact and considers assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, such as inherent risk, transfer restrictions, and risk of nonperformance. ASC 820 establishes a fair value hierarchy that requires an entity to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. ASC 820 establishes three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value:

- Level 1 Inputs - Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2 Inputs - Inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are either directly or indirectly observable through correlation with market data. These include quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets; quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active; and inputs to valuation models or other pricing methodologies that do not require significant judgment because the inputs used in the model, such as interest rates and volatility, can be corroborated by readily observable market data.
- Level 3 Inputs - One or more significant inputs that are unobservable and supported by little or no market activity, and that reflect the use of significant management judgment. Level 3 assets and liabilities include those whose fair value measurements are determined using pricing models, discounted cash flow methodologies or similar valuation techniques, and significant management judgment or estimation.

Interest Rate Swap Agreement

On August 1, 2005, the Company entered into an interest rate swap agreement effective July 29, 2005. The agreement provides for the Company to pay interest for a seven-year period at a fixed rate of 4.70% on an initial amortizing notional principal amount of \$50.0 million while receiving interest for the same period at the one-month London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR") on the same notional principal amount. The swap has been entered into as a hedge against LIBOR movements on current variable rate indebtedness at one-month LIBOR plus 1.00%, thereby fixing its effective rate on the notional amount at 5.70%. The swap agreement qualifies as an "effective" hedge under FASB ASC 815, *Derivatives and Hedging* ("ASC 815"). LIBOR was 0.25% and 0.24% as of October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009, respectively.

Interest rate swap agreements are entered into for periods consistent with related underlying exposures and do not constitute positions independent of those exposures. The Company's interest rate swap agreement is designated as a

[Table of Contents](#)

cash flow hedge at October 30, 2010 and is reflected at fair value in the Company's consolidated balance sheet as a component of other long-term liabilities. The related gains or losses on this contract are generally deferred in stockholders' equity as a component of other comprehensive income. However, to the extent that the swap agreement is not considered to be effective in offsetting the change in the value of the item being hedged, any change in fair value relating to the ineffective portion of the swap agreement is immediately recognized in income. For the periods presented, the Company did not have any ineffectiveness requiring current income recognition.

Fuel Supply Agreements

The Company is a party to several fixed price fuel supply agreements. During the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010, the Company entered into several agreements which require it to purchase a portion of its diesel fuel each month at fixed prices through July 2011. These fixed price fuel agreements qualify for the "normal purchase" exception under ASC 815 as physical deliveries will occur rather than net settlements, therefore the fuel purchases under these contracts are expensed as incurred and included within operating expenses. During the three months ended October 31, 2009, the Company was a party to several similar agreements which required it to purchase a portion of its diesel fuel each month at fixed prices through July 2010. These fixed price fuel agreements also qualified for the "normal purchase" exception under ASC 815, therefore the fuel purchases under these contracts were expensed as incurred and included within operating expenses.

The following table provides the fair values hierarchy for financial assets and liabilities measured on a recurring basis:

| (In thousands) | Fair Value at October 30, 2010 | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|----------|---------|
| | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 |
| <u>Liabilities:</u> | | | |
| Interest Rate Swap | — | \$ 2,280 | — |
| Total | — | \$ 2,280 | — |

| (In thousands) | Fair Value at July 31, 2010 | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|----------|---------|
| | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 |
| <u>Liabilities:</u> | | | |
| Interest Rate Swap | — | \$ 2,493 | — |
| Total | — | \$ 2,493 | — |

The Company's determination of the fair value of its interest rate swap is calculated using a discounted cash flow analysis based on the terms of the swap contract and the observable interest rate curve. The Company does not enter into derivative agreements for trading purposes.

The fair value of the Company's other financial instruments including cash, accounts receivable, notes receivable, accounts payable and accrued expenses approximate carrying amounts due to the short-term nature of these instruments. The fair value of notes payable approximate carrying amounts as they are variable rate instruments.

The following estimated fair value amounts have been determined by the Company using available market information and appropriate valuation methodologies taking into account the instruments' interest rate, terms, maturity date and collateral, if any, in comparison to the Company's incremental borrowing rate for similar financial instruments. However, considerable judgment is required in interpreting market data to develop the estimates of fair value. Accordingly, the estimates presented herein are not necessarily indicative of the amounts that the Company could realize in a current market exchange.

| (In thousands) | October 30, 2010 | |
|---|------------------|------------|
| | Carrying Value | Fair Value |
| <u>Liabilities:</u> | | |
| Long term debt, including current portion | \$ 52,209 | \$ 52,211 |

| (In thousands) | July 31, 2010 | |
|---|----------------|------------|
| | Carrying Value | Fair Value |
| <u>Liabilities:</u> | | |
| Long term debt, including current portion | \$ 53,466 | \$ 53,456 |

[Table of Contents](#)

5. BUSINESS SEGMENTS

The Company has several operating divisions aggregated under the wholesale segment, which is the Company's only reportable segment. These operating divisions have similar products and services, customer channels, distribution methods and historical margins. The wholesale segment is engaged in national distribution of natural, organic and specialty foods, produce and related products in the United States and Canada. The Company has additional operating divisions that do not meet the quantitative thresholds for reportable segments and are therefore aggregated under the caption of "Other". "Other" includes a retail division, which engages in the sale of natural foods and related products to the general public through retail storefronts on the east coast of the United States, a manufacturing division, which engages in importing, roasting and packaging of nuts, seeds, dried fruit, trail mixes, granola, natural and organic snack items, confections and the Company's branded product lines. "Other" also includes certain corporate operating expenses that are not allocated to operating divisions, which consist of depreciation, salaries, retainers, and other related expenses of officers, directors, corporate finance (including professional services), information technology, governance, legal, human resources and internal audit that are necessary to operate the Company's headquarters located in Providence, Rhode Island. As the Company continues to expand its business and serve its customers through a national platform, these corporate expense amounts have increased, which is the primary driver behind the increasing operating losses within the "Other" category below. Non-operating expenses that are not allocated to the operating divisions are under the caption of "Unallocated Expenses". The Company does not record its revenues for financial reporting purposes by product group, and it is therefore impracticable for the Company to report them accordingly.

Following reflects business segment information for the periods indicated (in thousands):

| | Wholesale | Other | Eliminations | Unallocated | Consolidated |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Three months ended October 30, 2010: | | | | | |
| Net sales | \$ 1,039,775 | \$ 44,373 | \$ (31,181) | | \$ 1,052,967 |
| Operating income (loss) | 38,842 | (8,472) | (714) | | 29,656 |
| Interest expense | | | | \$ 1,386 | 1,386 |
| Interest income | | | | (208) | (208) |
| Other, net | | | | (53) | (53) |
| Income before income taxes | | | | | 28,531 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 7,642 | 713 | | | 8,355 |
| Capital expenditures | 7,245 | 304 | | | 7,549 |
| Goodwill | 171,479 | 17,331 | | | 188,810 |
| Total assets | 1,267,577 | 137,882 | (11,797) | | 1,393,662 |
| Three months ended October 31, 2009: | | | | | |
| Net sales | \$ 869,020 | \$ 40,068 | \$ (24,320) | | \$ 884,768 |
| Operating income (loss) | 35,198 | (8,130) | 124 | | 27,192 |
| Interest expense | | | | \$ 1,381 | 1,381 |
| Interest income | | | | (69) | (69) |
| Other, net | | | | (8) | (8) |
| Income before income taxes | | | | | 25,888 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 5,571 | 1,079 | | | 6,650 |
| Capital expenditures | 7,119 | 2,581 | | | 9,700 |
| Goodwill | 146,970 | 17,363 | | | 164,333 |
| Total assets | 1,012,784 | 123,302 | (10,145) | | 1,125,941 |

6. SECONDARY COMMON STOCK OFFERING

During the three months ended October 30, 2010, the Company announced and completed a secondary common stock offering. This offering resulted in an issuance of 4,427,500 shares of common stock, including shares issued to cover the underwriters' overallotment option, at a price of \$33.00 per share. The net proceeds of approximately \$138.3 million were used to repay a portion of our outstanding borrowings under our revolving credit facility, which had increased during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010 as we financed our purchase of the SDG assets with borrowings under our revolving credit facility. We utilized the additional borrowing capacity under our revolving credit facility resulting from the common stock offering to fund our transaction with Whole Foods Distribution, which included our acquisition of certain distribution assets.

[Table of Contents](#)

including inventory and leasehold improvements in connection with our agreement to serve as the primary distributor in Whole Foods Market's Southwest and Rocky Mountain regions.

[Table of Contents](#)

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

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q contains 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, that involve substantial risks and uncertainties. In some cases you can identify these statements by forward-looking words such as "anticipate," "believe," "could," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "may," "plans," "goal," "seek," "should," "will," and "would," or similar words. You should read statements that contain these words carefully because they discuss future expectations, contain projections of future results of operations or of financial positions or state other "forward-looking" information. The risks and uncertainties which could impact these forward looking statements and cause our results to differ materially from these expectations are described under "Part I. Item 1A. Risk Factors" of our Annual Report on Form 10-K, and include, but are not limited to the Company's ability to successfully deploy its operational initiatives in the Canadian market; the Company's dependence on principal customers; the Company's sensitivity to general economic conditions, including the current economic environment, changes in disposable income levels and consumer spending trends; the Company's ability to timely and successfully deploy its new warehouse management system throughout its distribution facilities, including its Lancaster, Texas distribution facility; increased fuel costs; the Company's sensitivity to inflationary pressures; the relatively low margins and economic sensitivity of the Company's business; the ability to identify and successfully complete acquisitions of other natural, organic and specialty food and related product distributors; and management's allocation of capital and the timing of capital expenditures. You should be aware that the occurrence of the events described under "Risk Factors" of our Annual Report on Form 10-K and elsewhere in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q could have an adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Any forward-looking statements in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q are not guarantees of future performance, and actual results, developments and business decisions may differ from those envisaged by such forward-looking statements, possibly materially. We do not undertake to update any information in the foregoing reports until the effective date of our future reports required by applicable laws. Any projections of future results of operations should not be construed in any manner as a guarantee that such results will in fact occur. These projections are subject to change and could differ materially from final reported results. We may from time to time update these publicly announced projections, but we are not obligated to do so.

Overview

We believe we are the leading national distributor of natural, organic and specialty foods and non-food products in the United States and Canada. We carry more than 60,000 high-quality natural, organic and specialty foods and non-food products, consisting of national brands, regional brands, private label and master distribution products, in six product categories: grocery and general merchandise, produce, perishables and frozen foods, nutritional supplements and sports nutrition, bulk and food service products and personal care items. We serve more than 23,000 customer locations primarily located across the United States and Canada, the majority of which can be classified into one of the following categories: independently owned natural products retailers, which include buying clubs; supernatural chains, which consist solely of Whole Foods Market; conventional supermarkets, which include mass market chains; and other which includes foodservice and international.

Our operations are comprised of three principal operating divisions. These operating divisions are:

- our wholesale division, which includes our broadline natural and organic distribution business, UNFI Specialty, which is our specialty distribution business, Albert's, which is a leading distributor of organically grown produce and perishable items, and Select Nutrition, which distributes vitamins, minerals and supplements;
- our retail division, consisting of the Natural Retail Group, which operates our 12 natural products retail stores within the United States; and
- our manufacturing division, consisting of Woodstock Farms Manufacturing, which specializes in the importation, roasting, packaging and distribution of nuts, dried fruit, seeds, trail mixes, granola, natural and organic snack items, and confections, and our Blue Marble Brands product lines.

In recent years, our sales to existing and new customers have increased through the continued growth of the natural and organic products industry in general; increased market share through our high quality service and a broader product selection, including specialty products, and the acquisition of, or merger with, natural and specialty products distributors; the expansion of our existing distribution centers; the construction of new distribution centers; and the

[Table of Contents](#)

development of our own line of natural and organic branded products. Through these efforts, we believe that we have been able to broaden our geographic penetration, expand our customer base, enhance and diversify our product selections and increase our market share. Since 2009, our strategic plan has focused on increasing market share, particularly in our conventional supermarket channel. This channel typically generates lower gross margins than our independent retailer channel but also typically has lower operating expenses. Our strategic plan also includes the rollout of a national warehouse management and procurement system upgrade, which has been implemented in our Lancaster, Texas facility which began shipping products in the first quarter of fiscal 2011. These steps and others are intended to promote operational efficiencies and further reduce our operating expenses to offset the lower gross margins we expect to generate by increased sales to the conventional supermarket and supernatural channels.

Since the second half of fiscal 2010, we have experienced a strong improvement in our sales growth and a reduction in the volatility of our sales. Prior to the second half of fiscal 2010, we had experienced a slow down in our year over year sales growth which began in October 2008, and coincided with the macro-economic recession. During that time, consumers' desire to purchase typically higher-cost natural and organic products weakened while we continued to experience elevated levels of inflation in our product costs. Our specialty business was affected most by these factors. However, the majority of our consumers purchase natural and organic products because of their commitment to a healthy lifestyle and environmental sustainability, and those purchasers continue to seek out products that, although higher priced, are reflective of this commitment. Despite experiencing slower sales growth during that time, we were able to manage our operating expenses in order to generate higher levels of operating income. While inflation remains lower than average historical levels, it has been steadily increasing over the past three quarters. We believe our current trend of sales growth and moderate inflation will continue as the macro-economy stabilizes.

We have been the primary distributor to Whole Foods Market for more than 12 years. In 2007, our relationship with Whole Foods Market was expanded to cover the former Wild Oats Markets stores retained by Whole Foods Market following Whole Foods Market's merger with Wild Oats Markets. We had served as the primary distributor of natural and organic foods and non-food products to Wild Oats Markets prior to the merger. Effective June 2, 2010, we amended our distribution agreement with Whole Foods Market to extend the term of the agreement for an additional seven years. Under the terms of the amended agreement, we will continue to serve as the primary wholesale natural grocery distributor to Whole Foods Market in its United States regions where we were serving as the primary distributor at the time of the amendment. The amendment extended the expiration date of the agreement from September 25, 2013 to September 25, 2020. On July 28, 2010, we announced that we had entered into an asset purchase agreement under which we agreed to acquire certain distribution and related assets of Whole Foods Distribution previously used in their self distribution of non-perishables in their Rocky Mountain and Southwest regions, and have undertaken to become the primary distributor in these regions. We closed this transaction in late September 2010 in the case of the Southwest region and early October 2010 in the case of the Rocky Mountain region. We now serve as the primary distributor to Whole Foods Market in all of its regions in the United States, and have amended our distribution agreement with Whole Foods Market effective October 11, 2010 to include these regions. Whole Foods Market accounted for approximately 35% and 33% of our net sales for the three months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009, respectively.

On November 2, 2007, we acquired DHI, which we now refer to as UNFI Specialty. UNFI Specialty operates distribution centers located in Massachusetts and Arkansas, with customers throughout the United States. Through UNFI Specialty's two distribution centers, which provide approximately 1.4 million square feet of warehouse space, as well as our broadline distribution centers where we have integrated specialty products, we distribute specialty food items (including ethnic, kosher, gourmet, organic and natural foods), health and beauty care items and other non-food items. We believe that the acquisition of DHI accomplished certain of our strategic objectives, including accelerating our expansion into a number of high-growth business segments and establishing immediate market share in the fast-growing specialty foods market. Due to our expansion into specialty foods, we gained new business with a number of conventional supermarkets during fiscal 2010. We believe that UNFI Specialty's customer base enhances our conventional supermarket business channel and that our complementary product lines continue to present opportunities for cross-selling.

On June 11, 2010, we acquired the SDG assets of SunOpta through our wholly-owned subsidiary, UNFI Canada, for cash consideration of \$65.8 million. With the acquisition, we became the largest distributor of natural, organic and specialty foods, including kosher foods, in Canada. This was a strategic acquisition as UNFI Canada provides us with an immediate platform for growth in the Canadian market.

In order to maintain our market leadership and improve our operating efficiencies, we seek to continually:

- expand our marketing and customer service programs across regions;

Table of Contents

- expand our national purchasing opportunities;
- offer a broader product selection;
- offer operational excellence with high service levels and a higher percentage of on-time deliveries;
- centralize general and administrative functions to reduce expenses;
- consolidate systems applications among physical locations and regions;
- increase our investment in people, facilities, equipment and technology;
- integrate administrative and accounting functions; and
- reduce the geographic overlap between regions.

Our continued growth has allowed us to expand our existing facilities and open new facilities to achieve increasing operating efficiencies. We have made significant capital expenditures and incurred considerable expenses in connection with the opening and expansion of our facilities. We have increased our distribution capacity to approximately 7.7 million square feet. Our leased, 675,000 square foot distribution center in York, Pennsylvania, commenced operations in January 2009, and replaces our New Oxford, Pennsylvania facility serving customers in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Ohio, Virginia, and West Virginia. In April 2009, we successfully relocated our UNFI Specialty distribution facility in East Brunswick, New Jersey to the York, Pennsylvania distribution center, creating our first fully integrated facility offering a full assortment of natural, organic, and specialty foods. In late September 2010, we began shipping products from our new facility in Lancaster, Texas, which serves customers throughout the Southwestern United States, including Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arkansas and Louisiana. Finally, in October 2010, in connection with the transaction with Whole Foods Distribution, we took over the operations, including the assumption of an operating lease, at a facility in Aurora, Colorado, which augments our existing Aurora, Colorado facility which was at capacity, in serving customers in Colorado, Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico.

Our net sales consist primarily of sales of natural, organic and specialty products to retailers, adjusted for customer volume discounts, returns and allowances. Net sales also consist of amounts charged by us to customers for shipping and handling and fuel surcharges. The principal components of our cost of sales include the amounts paid to manufacturers and growers for product sold, plus the cost of transportation necessary to bring the product to our distribution facilities. Cost of sales also includes amounts incurred by us at our manufacturing subsidiary, Woodstock Farms Manufacturing, for inbound transportation costs and depreciation for manufacturing equipment, offset by consideration received from suppliers in connection with the purchase or promotion of the suppliers' products. Our gross margin may not be comparable to other similar companies within our industry that may include all costs related to their distribution network in their costs of sales rather than as operating expenses. We include purchasing and outbound transportation expenses within our operating expenses rather than in our cost of sales. Total operating expenses include salaries and wages, employee benefits (including payments under our Employee Stock Ownership Plan), warehousing and delivery, selling, occupancy, insurance, administrative, share-based compensation, depreciation and amortization expense. Other expenses (income) include interest on our outstanding indebtedness, interest income and miscellaneous income and expenses.

Critical Accounting Policies

The preparation of our consolidated financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. The Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") has defined critical accounting policies as those that are both most important to the portrayal of our financial condition and results of operations and require our most difficult, complex or subjective judgments or estimates. Based on this definition and as further described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, we believe our critical accounting policies include the following: (i) determining our allowance for doubtful accounts, (ii) determining our reserves for the self-insured portions of our workers' compensation and automobile liabilities and (iii) valuing goodwill and intangible assets. For all financial statement periods presented, there have been no material modifications to the application of these critical accounting policies or estimates since our most recently filed Annual Report on Form 10-K.

[Table of Contents](#)

Results of Operations

The following table presents, for the periods indicated, certain income and expense items expressed as a percentage of net sales:

| | Three months ended | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | October 30, 2010 | October 31, 2009 |
| Net sales | 100.0% | 100.0% |
| Cost of sales | 81.7% | 81.4% |
| Gross profit | 18.3% | 18.6% |
| Operating expenses | 15.5% | 15.5% |
| Total operating expenses | 15.5% | 15.5% |
| Operating income | 2.8% | 3.1% |
| Other expense (income): | | |
| Interest expense | 0.1% | 0.2% |
| Interest income | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Other, net | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Total other expense | 0.1% | 0.1%* |
| Income before income taxes | 2.7% | 2.9%* |
| Provision for income taxes | 1.1% | 1.2% |
| Net income | 1.7%* | 1.8%* |

* Total reflects rounding

Three Months Ended October 30, 2010 Compared To Three Months Ended October 31, 2009

Net Sales

Our net sales for the three months ended October 30, 2010 increased approximately 19.0%, or \$168.2 million, to \$1,053.0 million from \$884.8 million for the three months ended October 31, 2009. This increase was primarily due to organic growth (sales growth excluding the impact of acquisitions) in our wholesale division from our supernatural chain customer as well as previously announced new customer wins in the conventional supermarket category. Our organic growth is due to the continued growth of the natural products industry in general, increased market share as a result of our focus on service and value added services, and the opening of new, and expansion of existing, distribution centers, which allow us to carry a broader selection of products. We believe that the integration of our specialty business in certain of our markets has allowed us to attract customers that we would not have been able to attract without that business as many customers seek a single source for their natural, organic and specialty products. In addition to net sales growth attributable to our organic growth, we also benefited from the inclusion of \$44.7 million in sales from UNFI Canada, which includes the SDG assets acquired during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010 and approximately \$14.7 million in incremental sales to Whole Foods Market due to the acquisition of Whole Foods Market's Southwest and Rocky Mountain distribution business and our expanded distribution agreement.

Our net sales by customer type for the three months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009 were as follows (in millions):

| Customer Type | Net Sales for the Three Months Ended | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| | October 30, 2010 | % of Net Sales | October 31, 2009 | % of Net Sales |
| Independently owned natural products | | | | |
| retailers | \$ 403 | 38% | \$ 365 | 42% |
| Supernatural chain | 368 | 35% | 296 | 33% |
| Conventional supermarkets | 233 | 22% | 178 | 20% |
| Other | 49 | 5% | 46 | 5% |
| Total | \$ 1,053 | 100% | \$ 885 | 100% |

[Table of Contents](#)

Net sales to Whole Foods Market for the three months ended October 30, 2010 increased by approximately \$72 million or 24% as compared to the prior fiscal year's comparable quarter, and accounted for approximately 35% and 33% of our total net sales for the three months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009, respectively. Whole Foods Market is our only supernatural chain customer following its acquisition of Wild Oats Markets in August 2007. We continue to sell to the Henry's and Sun Harvest locations that were divested by Whole Foods Market when it acquired Wild Oats Markets, and these sales are classified in the conventional supermarket channel. The increase in sales to Whole Foods Market is due to increases in same-store sales, as well as expanded distribution to Whole Foods Market's Southwest region which began in late September, when our Lancaster, Texas facility began shipping products, and incremental shipments to Whole Foods Market's Rocky Mountain region which began mid-October 2010.

Net sales to conventional supermarkets for the three months ended October 30, 2010 increased by approximately \$55 million, or 31% from the three months ended October 31, 2009, and represented approximately 22% of total net sales in the three months ended October 30, 2010 compared to 20% in the three months ended October 31, 2009. The increase in net sales to conventional supermarkets is primarily due to several large new customers that we began servicing during late fiscal 2010 based on our consolidated market strategy of natural, organic and specialty from one supplier, as well as approximately \$21 million of net sales to conventional supermarkets by UNFI Canada.

Net sales to our independent retailer channel increased by approximately \$38 million, or 11% during the three months ended October 30, 2010 compared to the three months ended October 31, 2009. While net sales in this channel have increased, they have grown at a slower rate than net sales in our supernatural and conventional supermarket channels, and therefore represent a lower percentage of our total net sales. Approximately 46%, or \$18 million, of the increase in independent retailer channel sales was generated by our acquisition of UNFI Canada.

Other net sales, which include sales to foodservice and international customers, as well as sales through our retail division, manufacturing division, and the Company's branded product lines, increased by approximately \$3 million, or 6% during the three months ended October 30, 2010 and accounted for approximately 5% of total net sales for the three months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009.

During the second half of fiscal 2010 we began to see steady improvement in our net sales and a reduction in the volatility of net sales, as compared to what we experienced throughout our 2009 fiscal year. As we continue to aggressively pursue new customers and as economic conditions continue to stabilize, we expect net sales for fiscal 2011 to improve over fiscal 2010 in both our organic line and our specialty line. We believe that this projected sales growth will come from both sales to new customers and an increase in the number of products that we sell to existing customers. We expect that most of this growth will occur in our lower gross margin supernatural and conventional supermarket channels, including the impact of becoming Whole Foods Market's primary distributor in its Southwest and Rocky Mountain regions. Although sales to these customers typically generate lower gross margins than sales to customers within our independent retailer channel, they also carry a lower average cost to serve than sales to our independent customers. We believe that the integration of our specialty business in certain of our markets has allowed us to attract customers that we would not have been able to attract without that business as many customers seek a single source for their natural, organic and specialty products. We also believe that our further integration of the specialty business in our markets will continue to allow us to pursue a broader array of customers.

Gross Profit

Our gross profit increased approximately 16.8%, or \$27.7 million, to \$192.3 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010, from \$164.6 million for the three months ended October 31, 2009. Our gross profit as a percentage of net sales was 18.3% for the three months ended October 30, 2010 and 18.6% for the three months ended October 31, 2009. The reduction in gross profit as a percentage of net sales is primarily due to the change in the mix of net sales by channel that began during the second fiscal quarter of 2010 and start up costs related to inventory issues and incremental freight and service costs in connection with the initial period of operations of our new Lancaster, Texas distribution facility.

Our gross profits are generally higher on net sales to independently owned retailers and lower on net sales in the conventional supermarket and the supernatural channels. For the three months ended October 30, 2010 approximately \$127 million of our \$168 million total net sales growth was from increased net sales in the conventional supermarket and supernatural channels, while net sales growth from the independent and other channels was approximately \$41 million. As a result, approximately 57% of our total net sales in the three months ended October 30, 2010 were to the conventional supermarket and supernatural channels compared to approximately 54% in three months ended October 31, 2009. This change in sales mix resulted in lower gross profits as a percentage of sales during the three months ended October 30, 2010.

[Table of Contents](#)

Operating Expenses

Our total operating expenses increased approximately 18.4%, or \$25.3 million, to \$162.7 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010, from \$137.4 million for the three months ended October 31, 2009. The increase in total operating expenses for the three months ended October 30, 2010 was primarily due to higher sales volume including UNFI Canada, as well as \$1.9 million of labor and other duplicate expenses associated with the September 2010 opening of our Lancaster, Texas facility and \$0.6 million for severance payments for former executives and \$0.2 million in intangible impairment charges. These increases were partially offset by compensation related expenses, which includes share-based compensation and incentive compensation, which grew by only 9.0% during the three months ended October 30, 2010 compared to the three months ended October 31, 2009, despite our net sales growth of 19.0% during the same period, principally as a result of lower incentive-based compensation expense.

Total operating expenses for the three months ended October 30, 2010 include share-based compensation expense of \$2.7 million, compared to \$2.1 million in the three months ended October 31, 2009.

As a percentage of net sales, total operating expenses decreased to approximately 15.4% for the three months ended October 30, 2010, from approximately 15.5% for the three months ended October 31, 2009. The decrease in total operating expenses as a percentage of net sales was primarily attributable to the growth in the supernatural and conventional supermarket channels which in general have lower operating expenses, as well as expense control programs across all of our divisions. We were able to manage our fuel costs despite rising prices by locking in the price of a portion of our expected fuel usage, updating and revising existing routes to reduce miles traveled, reducing idle times and other similar measures. Our expansion into Lancaster, Texas, where our new leased facility began servicing customers in late September 2010, will further reduce our fuel costs as a percentage of net sales when it overcomes the initial operational challenges we experienced in the first quarter of fiscal 2011 as we will be able to further reduce the number of miles traveled to serve our customers in Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arkansas and Louisiana who were primarily served from our facility in Denver, Colorado. We also expect that we will be able to continue to reduce our operating expenses as we continue the roll out of our supply chain initiatives including improving the effectiveness of the national warehouse management and procurement system we launched in our new Lancaster, Texas facility in the first quarter of fiscal 2011, and thereafter implementing the system in all of our distribution centers by the end of calendar 2012.

Operating Income

Operating income increased approximately 9.1%, or \$2.5 million, to \$29.7 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010, from \$27.2 million for the three months ended October 31, 2009. As a percentage of net sales, operating income was 2.8% for the three months ended October 30, 2010 compared to 3.1% for the three months ended October 31, 2009. The decrease in operating income is primarily attributable to the decrease in gross profit as a percentage of net sales, which was not fully offset by lower operating expenses as our efficiencies were counteracted in part by certain non-recurring charges as discussed above including those related to challenges we experienced when we began shipping products from our new distribution facility in Lancaster, Texas and executive severance and impairment charges.

We anticipate net sales growth in the conventional supermarket and supernatural channels will continue to outpace growth in the independent and other channels. We expect that our expansion with Whole Foods Market, both as a result of organic growth and as a result of becoming their primary distributor in their Rocky Mountain and Southwest regions, and our opportunities in the conventional supermarket channel will continue to generate lower gross profit percentages than our historical rates. We will seek to fully offset these reductions in gross profit percentages by reducing our operating expenses as a percent of net sales primarily through improved efficiencies in our supply chain and improvements to our IT infrastructure. While the costs we incurred in the first quarter of fiscal 2011 related to the difficulties we experienced in beginning to ship products from our Lancaster, Texas distribution facility negatively affected our ability to reduce operating expenses in order to offset the lower gross profit percentages associated with servicing these additional Whole Foods Market regions, we believe this is a short-term exception and still expect significant long-term benefits from a single supply chain solution.

Other Expense (Income)

Other expense (income) decreased \$0.2 million to \$1.1 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010, from \$1.3 million for the three months ended October 31, 2009. Interest expense was \$1.4 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009. Our secondary equity offering, which was completed in October 2010, allowed us to pay down debt levels which had increased during the fourth fiscal quarter of 2010 as we financed our purchase of the SDG assets with borrowings under our revolving credit facility. We utilized the additional borrowing capacity under our revolving credit facility resulting from the common stock offering to fund

[Table of Contents](#)

our transaction with Whole Foods Distribution, which included our acquisition of certain distribution assets including inventory and leasehold improvements in connection with our agreement to serve as the primary distributor in Whole Foods Market's Southwest and Rocky Mountain regions. Interest income for the three months ended October 30, 2010 increased to \$0.2 million from \$0.1 million in the three months ended October 31, 2009 due to higher cash and cash equivalents compared to the comparable prior year quarter.

Provision for Income Taxes

Our effective income tax rate was 39.0% and 40.0% for the three months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009, respectively. The effective income tax rate of 39.0% for the first quarter of fiscal 2011 is comparable to our full year fiscal 2010 rate of 39.0%. The decrease in the effective income tax rate for the three months ended October 30, 2010 is primarily due to foreign tax rate differences related to our new business in Canada. Our effective income tax rate in both fiscal periods was also affected by share-based compensation for incentive stock options and the timing of disqualifying dispositions of certain share-based compensation awards. Certain incentive stock option expenses are not deductible for tax purposes unless a disqualifying disposition occurs. A disqualifying disposition occurs when the option holder sells shares within one year of exercising an incentive stock option or within two years of original grant. We receive a tax benefit in the period that the disqualifying disposition occurs. Our effective income tax rate will continue to be affected by the tax impact related to incentive stock options and the timing of tax benefits related to disqualifying dispositions.

Net Income

Reflecting the factors described in more detail above, net income increased \$1.9 million to \$17.4 million, or \$0.39 per diluted share, for the three months ended October 30, 2010, compared to \$15.5 million, or \$0.36 per diluted share, for the three months ended October 31, 2009.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

We finance our day to day operations and growth primarily with cash flows from operations, borrowings under our credit facility, operating leases, trade payables and bank indebtedness. In addition, from time to time, we may issue equity and debt securities to finance our operations and acquisitions. We feel that our cash on hand and available credit through our current revolving credit facility as discussed below is sufficient for our operations and planned capital expenditures over the next twelve months. We expect to generate an average of \$30 million to \$50 million in cash flow from operations per year for the 2011 and 2012 fiscal years. We intend to continue to utilize this cash generated from operations to pay down our debt levels, and fund working capital and capital expenditure needs. We intend to manage capital expenditures to no more than approximately 1% of net sales for the 2011 and 2012 fiscal years. We plan to assess our existing revolving credit facility and our financing needs once the facility draws closer to its maturity date in November 2012.

On November 2, 2007, we amended our \$250 million secured revolving credit facility with a bank group led by Bank of America Business Capital as the administrative agent, to temporarily increase the maximum borrowing base under the revolving credit facility from \$250 million to \$270 million. We used the funds available to us as a result of this amendment to fund a portion of the purchase price for our acquisition of DHI. On November 27, 2007, we amended this facility to increase the maximum borrowing base under the revolving credit facility from \$270 million to \$400 million, and provide the Company with a one-time option, subject to approval by the lenders under the revolving credit facility, to increase the borrowing base by up to an additional \$50 million. In connection with this amendment, we also entered into a securities pledge agreement pursuant to which we and DHI pledged to the administrative agent all of our or DHI's right, title and interest in and to the equity interests in our subsidiaries, whether then existing or thereafter acquired. Interest accrues on borrowings under the revolving credit facility, at our option, at either the base rate (the applicable prime lending rate of Bank of America Business Capital, as announced from time to time) or at one-month LIBOR plus 0.75%. The \$400 million credit facility matures on November 27, 2012. The revolving credit facility supports our working capital requirements in the ordinary course of business and provides capital to grow our business organically or through acquisitions. Our borrowing base is determined as the lesser of (1) \$400 million or (2) the fixed percentages of our previous fiscal month-end eligible accounts receivable and inventory levels. As of October 30, 2010, our borrowing base, which was calculated based on our eligible accounts receivable and inventory levels, was \$400.0 million. As of October 30, 2010, we had \$146.1 million outstanding under our credit facility, \$20.0 million in letter of credit commitments and \$1.3 million in reserves which generally reduces our available borrowing capacity under our revolving credit facility on a dollar for dollar basis. When our borrowing base as calculated above is equal to \$400 million, reserves do not reduce available borrowing capacity. Therefore, our resulting remaining availability was approximately \$233.9 million as of October 30, 2010.

Table of Contents

In April 2003, we executed a term loan agreement in the principal amount of \$30 million secured by the real property that was released from the lien under our revolving credit facility in accordance with an amendment to the loan and security agreement related to that facility. The term loan is repayable over seven years based on a fifteen-year amortization schedule. Interest on the term loan initially accrued at one-month LIBOR plus 1.50%. In December 2003, we amended this term loan agreement by increasing the principal amount from \$30 million to \$40 million under the existing terms and conditions. On July 29, 2005, we entered into an amended term loan agreement which further increased the principal amount of this term loan from \$40 million to up to \$75 million, decreased the rate at which interest accrues to one-month LIBOR plus 1.00%, and extended the maturity date to July 28, 2012. In connection with the amendments to our revolving credit facility described above, effective November 2, 2007 and November 27, 2007, we amended the term loan agreement to conform certain terms and conditions to the corresponding terms and conditions under our revolving credit facility. As of October 30, 2010, \$50.6 million was outstanding under the term loan agreement.

On June 4, 2008, we further amended our revolving credit facility and our term loan agreement, effective as of May 28, 2008, in order to (i) waive events of default as a result of our noncompliance at April 26, 2008 with the fixed charge coverage ratio covenants under the revolving credit facility and our term loan agreement (the "Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio Covenants"), (ii) increase the interest rate applicable to borrowings under each of our revolving credit facility and our term loan by 0.25% during the period from June 1, 2008 through the date on which we demonstrate compliance with the applicable Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio Covenants, and (iii) exclude non-cash share based compensation expense from the calculation of EBITDA (as defined in the applicable agreement) in connection with the calculation of the fixed charge coverage ratio under the revolving credit facility and the term loan agreement. The revolving credit facility and our term loan agreement, as amended, require us to maintain a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.5 to 1.0 and 1.45 to 1.0, respectively, each calculated at the end of each of our fiscal quarters on a rolling four quarter basis. We were in compliance with the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio Covenants as of October 30, 2010. The principal reason for our earlier noncompliance with the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio Covenants was the high level of capital expenditures we made in the trailing twelve month period ended April 26, 2008. In April 2009, we further amended our revolving credit facility and our term loan agreement, effective as of February 25, 2009, in order to update certain information as a result of our stock purchase acquisitions completed during fiscal year 2009 and provided similar updated information in June 2010 in connection with our acquisition of the SDG assets.

In August 2005, we entered into an interest rate swap agreement effective July 29, 2005. This interest rate swap agreement has an initial notional amount of \$50 million and provides for us to pay interest at a fixed rate of 4.70% while receiving interest for the same period at one-month LIBOR on the same notional principal amount. The interest rate swap agreement has a seven year term with an amortizing notional amount which adjusts down on the dates payments are due on the underlying term loan. The swap has been entered into as a hedge against LIBOR movements on current variable rate indebtedness totaling \$50.6 million at one-month LIBOR plus 1.00%, thereby fixing our effective rate on the notional amount at 5.70%. One-month LIBOR was 0.25% as of October 30, 2010. The swap agreement qualifies as an "effective" hedge under ASC 815, *Derivatives and Hedging*.

In October 2010, we completed a secondary common stock offering. As a result, 4,427,500 shares of common stock, including shares issued to cover the underwriters' overallotment option, were issued at a price of \$33.00 per share. The net proceeds of approximately \$138.3 million were used to repay a portion of our outstanding borrowings under our revolving credit facility.

Our capital expenditures for the three months ending October 30, 2010 were \$7.5 million. We believe that our capital requirements for fiscal 2011 will be between \$42 and \$45 million. We expect to finance these requirements with cash generated from operations and borrowings under our revolving credit facility. Our planned capital projects will provide both expanded facilities and technology that we believe will provide us with increased efficiency and the capacity to continue to support the growth of our customer base. We believe that our future capital requirements will be lower than our anticipated fiscal 2011 requirements, as a percentage of net sales, although we plan to continue to invest in technology and expand our facilities. Future investments and acquisitions will be financed through either equity or long-term debt negotiated at the time of the potential acquisition.

Net cash used in operations was \$32.9 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010, a decrease of \$50.4 million from the \$17.5 million provided by operations for the three months ended October 31, 2009. The primary reasons for the net use of cash from operations for the three months ended October 30, 2010 were an increase in inventories of \$90.1 million due to our sales growth during the year, inventory build-up for the holiday season and our new facility in Lancaster, Texas and an increase in accounts receivable of \$36.8 million, partially offset by an increase in accounts payable of \$50.6 million and net income of \$17.4 million. Net cash provided by operations for the three months ended October 31, 2009 was the result of net income of \$15.5 million, the change in cash collected from customers net of cash paid to vendors and a \$46.0 million investment in inventory. The increase

[Table of Contents](#)

in inventory levels primarily related to our sales growth, increases in anticipation of the holiday season, and realization of incentivized forward-buy opportunities. Days in inventory increased slightly to 51 days at October 30, 2010 compared to 50 days at July 31, 2010. Days sales outstanding worsened slightly to 21 days at October 30, 2010, compared to 20 days at July 31, 2010. Working capital increased by \$142.4 million, or 73.3%, to \$336.6 million at October 30, 2010, compared to working capital of \$194.2 million at July 31, 2010.

Net cash used in investing activities increased \$19.7 million to \$29.4 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010, compared to \$9.7 million for the three months ended October 31, 2009. The increase from the fiscal three months ended October 31, 2009 was primarily due to the agreement with Whole Foods Distribution related to the purchase of the certain distribution related assets in connection with our becoming the primary distributor for Whole Foods Market's Southwest and Rocky Mountain regions described in more detail above.

Net cash provided by financing activities was \$59.2 million for the three months ended October 30, 2010, primarily due to the issuance of common stock of \$138.3 million, offset by repayments on notes payable of \$96.4 million. Net cash used in financing activities was \$3.2 million for the three months ended October 31, 2009, primarily due to repayments on borrowings under notes payable.

On December 1, 2004, our Board of Directors authorized the repurchase of up to \$50 million of common stock from time to time in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions. As part of the stock repurchase program, we purchased 228,800 shares of our common stock for our treasury during the year ended July 29, 2006 at an aggregate cost of approximately \$6.1 million. All shares were purchased at prevailing market prices. No other purchases were made, and the authorization to repurchase has expired. The Company, in an effort to reduce the treasury share balance, determined in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010 to issue treasury shares to satisfy certain share requirements related to exercises of stock options and vesting of restricted stock units and awards under its equity incentive plans. However, no treasury shares were issued during the three months ended October 30, 2010.

We may from time to time enter into commodity swap agreements to reduce price risk associated with our anticipated purchases of diesel fuel. These commodity swap agreements hedge a portion of our expected fuel usage for the periods set forth in the agreements. We monitor the commodity (NYMEX #2 Heating oil) used in our swap agreements to determine that the correlation between the commodity and diesel fuel is deemed to be "highly effective." During the three months ended October 30, 2010 and October 31, 2009, we had no outstanding commodity swap agreements.

In addition to the previously discussed interest rate and commodity swap agreements, from time-to-time we enter into fixed price fuel supply agreements. As of October 30, 2010, we had entered into agreements which require us to purchase a total of approximately 2.8 million gallons of diesel fuel for the period August 2010 through July 2011 at prices ranging from \$2.27 to \$2.93 per gallon. As of October 31, 2009, we had entered into agreements which required us to purchase a total of 200,000-242,000 gallons of diesel fuel per month at prices ranging from \$2.20 to \$2.84 per gallon for the period August 2009 through July 2010. These fixed price fuel agreements qualified for the "normal purchase" exception under ASC 815 as physical deliveries will occur rather than net settlements, therefore the fuel purchases under these contracts will be expensed as incurred and included within operating expenses.

Contractual Obligations

There have been no material changes to our contractual obligations and commercial commitments from those disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the three months ended October 30, 2010.

Seasonality

While we have historically seen an increase in our inventory during the first quarter of our fiscal year, generally, we do not experience any material seasonality. However, our sales and operating results may vary significantly from quarter to quarter due to factors such as changes in our operating expenses, management's ability to execute our operating and growth strategies, personnel changes, demand for natural products, supply shortages and general economic conditions.

[Table of Contents](#)

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Our exposure to market risk results primarily from fluctuations in interest rates on our borrowings and price increases in diesel fuel. As more fully described in Note 4 to the condensed consolidated financial statements, we use an interest rate swap agreement to modify variable rate obligations to fixed rate obligations for a portion of our debt. In addition, from time to time we use commodity swap agreements to hedge a portion of our expected diesel fuel usage, or fixed price purchase contracts. There have been no material changes to our exposure to market risks from those disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended July 31, 2010.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

- (a) *Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures.* We carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) as of the end of the period covered by this quarterly report on Form 10-Q (the "Evaluation Date"). Based on this evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that, as of the Evaluation Date, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective.
- (b) *Changes in internal controls.* There has been no change in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the first fiscal quarter of 2011 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

[Table of Contents](#)

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

From time to time we are involved in routine litigation that arises in the ordinary course of our business. In the opinion of management, the outcome of pending litigation is not expected to have a material adverse effect on our results of operations or financial condition.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

There have been no material changes to our risk factors contained in Part I, Item 1A, "Risk Factors," of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended July 31, 2010.

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

There were no shares repurchased by the Company during the three months ended October 30, 2010.

Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

None.

Item 4. (Removed and Reserved)

Item 5. Other Information

None.

[Table of Contents](#)

Item 6. Exhibits

Exhibits

| Exhibit No. | Description |
|-------------|---|
| 2.1(1)* | Merger Agreement, dated October 5, 2007, by and among the Company UNFI Merger Sub, Inc., Distribution Holdings, Inc. and Mill brook Distribution Services Inc. (Pursuant to Item 601(b)(2) of Regulation S-K, the schedules and exhibits have been omitted from this filing.) |
| 10.72 | Employment Separation Agreement and Release between the Registrant and Carl Koch III, dated September 23, 2010 |
| 10.73+ | Amendment to Distribution Agreement between the Registrant and Whole Foods Distribution effective October 11, 2010 |
| 31.1 | Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 – CEO |
| 31.2 | Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 – CFO |
| 32.1 | Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 – CEO |
| 32.2 | Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 – CFO |

* The Registrant is amending the item number under which this exhibit has been filed from Item 10 (which the agreement was mistakenly originally filed under) to Item 2. Otherwise, there is no change with respect to this agreement.

(1) Incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended October 27, 2007.

+ Certain confidential portions of this exhibit were omitted by means of redacting a portion of the text. This exhibit has been filed separately with the Securities and Exchange Commission accompanied by a confidential treatment request pursuant to Rule 24b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

* * *

We would be pleased to furnish a copy of this Form 10-Q to any stockholder who requests it by writing to:

United Natural Foods, Inc.
Investor Relations
313 Iron Horse Way
Providence, RI 02908

[Table of Contents](#)

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.

UNITED NATURAL FOODS, INC.

/s/ Mark E. Shamber

Mark E. Shamber

Chief Financial Officer

(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

Dated: December 9, 2010

EMPLOYMENT SEPARATION AGREEMENT AND RELEASE

United Natural Foods, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company") and Carl Koch ("Mr. Koch") hereby agree as follows:

1. The Company and Mr. Koch hereby agree that, Mr. Koch's service with the Company as (i) an employee and officer of the Company and (ii) an employee, officer or director of any subsidiaries of the Company, shall terminate effective September 17, 2010 (the "Separation Date").
 2. On the later of the Separation Date or the expiration of the Revocation Period (as hereinafter defined), the Company will pay Mr. Koch for any unused vacation time (as reflected in the Company's records) earned by him through the Separation Date. Beginning with the later of the Separation Date or the expiration of the Revocation Period (as hereinafter defined):
 - a. The Company shall continue Mr. Koch's base salary and medical benefits as in effect as of the Separation Date for a period of one (1) year from the Separation Date, subject to applicable withholdings and deductions; provided, however that the Company shall make no base salary payments under this Section 2(a) until six months and one day after the Separation Date, at which point the Company shall pay Mr. Koch 75% of all accrued and unpaid base salary payments (less applicable withholdings and deductions). The remaining 25% of all accrued and unpaid base salary payments will be paid in equal bi-weekly payments (less applicable withholdings and deductions), to end on September 16, 2011 or when the entire remaining 25% (less applicable withholdings and deductions) is fully paid, which ever comes first.
 - b. After the expiration of the above-referenced one-year period, the Company shall respect Mr. Koch's rights (and his dependents' rights), if any, to continued medical coverage at his own expense under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act.
 3.
 - a. As of the Separation Date, Mr. Koch shall no longer be eligible to receive disability benefits, Company paid life insurance or to participate in the Company's 401(k) Plan or any other benefit plan of the Company or any of its subsidiaries. The Company will promptly notify Mr. Koch in writing concerning his options with regard to his 401(k) account.
 - b. Mr. Koch may at any time exercise his rights under the Company's Employee Stock Ownership Plan ("ESOP") to effect the distribution and sale, if he so elects, of shares of the Company's Common Stock allocated to him, in accordance with the provisions of the ESOP.
 4.
 - a. In consideration of the foregoing, which Mr. Koch acknowledges includes compensation, benefits and other rights to which he is not otherwise entitled, Mr. Koch hereby knowingly and voluntarily releases and forever discharges the Company, its present and former directors, officers, employees, agents, subsidiaries, affiliates and shareholders, and its and their successors and assigns (collectively, the "Released Parties"), from any and all liabilities, causes of action, debts, claims and demands (including without limitation claims and demands for monetary payment) both in law and in equity, known or unknown, fixed or contingent, which he may have or claim to have against the Released Parties, including any liabilities, causes of action, debts, claims or demands based upon or in any way related to: (i) his employment (as an officer, director or employee) by or with the Company and any subsidiary thereof, (ii) any rights or entitlements related thereto or (iii) termination of such employment by the Company, and hereby covenants not to file a lawsuit or charge to assert such claims. This includes but is not limited to claims arising under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 1981, all claims
-

of discrimination based on age, as provided under the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, as amended, or the Older Workers'-Benefit-Protection Act, all claims under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), all claims under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), all claims of employment discrimination under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), as well as claims under any other applicable federal, state or local laws concerning Mr. Koch's employment.

b. Mr. Koch understands that various State and Federal laws prohibit employment discrimination based on age, sex, race, color, national origin, religion, handicap or veteran status. These laws are enforced through the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), Department of Labor and State Human Rights Agencies. Mr. Koch acknowledges that he has been advised by the Company to discuss this Agreement with his attorney and has been encouraged to take this Agreement home for up to twenty-one (21) days so that he can thoroughly review it and understand the effect of this Agreement before acting on it.

5. a. Mr. Koch acknowledges and agrees that all payments and benefits payable to him under this Agreement (other than earned wages and payment for accrued and unpaid vacation) are contingent upon: (i) his continued compliance with the provisions of this Agreement and (ii) his agreement to make himself available, upon reasonable notice, for any third party claims, investigations, litigation or similar proceedings to answer any questions relating to his employment or actions as an employee, officer or director of the Company, including without limitation attendance at any deposition or similar proceeding, provided however that the Company will reimburse Mr. Koch for all reasonable out of pocket expenses incurred, including but not limited to travel, lodging, meals, legal representation (with prior approval), and loss of pay, to the extent all such requests for reimbursement are accompanied by payment receipts or other verifiable documentation.

b. Mr. Koch further acknowledges and agrees that the availability of such payments and benefits provided by this Agreement is sufficient consideration for the release set forth in paragraph 4(a) and the amendment to his non-competition and non-solicitation obligations set forth below in paragraph 5(c) and termination of such payments and benefits due to his non-compliance with the terms of this Agreement shall not affect the release set forth in Paragraph 4(a).

c. Mr. Koch further agrees that for a period from the date hereof until the date that is one year following the Separation Date, he shall not, whether directly or indirectly, alone or in conjunction with another party, as an owner, shareholder, officer, employee, manager, consultant, independent contractor, or otherwise: (i) interfere with or harm, or attempt to interfere with or harm, the relationship of the Company or its affiliates with any person who is an employee, customer, vendor, product or services supplier, independent contractor, or business agent or partner of the Company or any of its affiliates; (ii) contact any employee of the Company or its affiliates for the purpose of discussing or suggesting that such employee resign from employment with the Company or its affiliates for the purpose of becoming employed elsewhere or provide information about individual employees of the Company or its affiliates or personnel policies or procedures of the Company or its affiliates to any person or entity, including any individual, agency or company engaged in the business of recruiting employees, executives or officers; (iii) recruit or hire, or attempt to recruit or hire, any person who is an employee of the Company or any of its affiliates, or was an employee of the Company or any of its affiliates within the prior six months; (iv) disclose to or release any Company Trade secrets, proprietary or confidential information or data to any unauthorized person or entity; or (v) own, manage, advise, operate, join, control, be employed by, consult with or participate in the ownership, management,

advisement, operation or control of, or be connected with as a stockholder, partner, officer, manager, employee, or consultant, any Competing or Related Business; provided, however, that "beneficial ownership," either individually or as a member of a "group" as such terms are used in Rule 13d of the General Rules and Regulations under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, of not more than two percent (2%) of the voting stock of any publicly held corporation, shall not be a violation of this Agreement. For purposes of the foregoing, the term "Competing and Related Business" shall mean any business, individual, company, partnership, firm, corporation or other entity that (A) engages in any business engaged in by the Company on the Separation Date, or any date during the term of Mr. Koch's employment with the Company; or (B) is a customer of the Company or any of its affiliates on the Separation Date as well as the twelve (12) months preceding Separation Date, including, but not limited to, the following entities and their affiliates: Kehe Food Distributors, Inc., Royal Wessanen NV, Perkins, Inc., Nature's Best Food Co., Ltd., Steiner Foods, Inc., DPI Specialty Foods Inc., Haddon House Food Products, Inc., Davidson Food Equipment and Supplies Ltd., Whole Foods Market, Inc., National Cooperative Grocers Association, Ahold and Wegmans Food Market, Inc.

6. Mr. Koch shall at no time make any derogatory or disparaging comments regarding the Company, its business, or its present or past directors, officers or employees. The Company shall at no time make any derogatory or disparaging comments regarding Mr. Koch. Mr. Koch hereby waives any and all rights to future employment with the Company. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Company shall be permitted to (a) reasonably defend itself against any public statement or communication made by Mr. Koch that disparages the Company, but only if statements made in such defense are not false statements and (b) provide truthful testimony in any legal proceeding or process.
7. The execution of this Agreement shall not be construed as an admission of a violation of any statute or law or breach of any duty or obligation by either the Company or Mr. Koch.
8. No party to this Agreement shall cause, discuss, cooperate or otherwise aid in the preparation of any press release or other publicity other than filings required by the securities laws, concerning any other party to this Agreement or the Agreement's operation without prior approval of such other party, unless required by law, in which case notice of such requirement shall be given to the other party.
9. The invalidity or unenforceability of any particular provision of this Agreement shall not affect the other provisions hereof, and this Agreement shall be construed in all respects as if such invalid and unenforceable provisions were omitted.
10. This Agreement is personal to Mr. Koch and may not be assigned by him. However, in the event of Mr. Koch's death, all the rights of Mr. Koch set forth in this Agreement shall accrue to his spouse, if she is living; otherwise, to his heirs. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the successors and assigns of the Company.
11. This Agreement is made pursuant to and shall be governed by the laws of the State of Rhode Island, without regard to its rules regarding conflict of laws. The parties agree that the courts of the State of Rhode Island, and the Federal Courts located therein, shall have exclusive jurisdiction over all matters arising from this Agreement. Mr. Koch and the Company hereby agree that service of process by certified mail, return receipt requested, shall be deemed appropriate service of process.
12. Except as otherwise expressly indicated, this Agreement contains the entire understanding

between Mr. Koch and the Company, supersedes all prior agreements, oral or written, regarding the subject matter hereof, and may not be changed orally but only by an agreement in writing signed by the party against whom enforcement of any waiver, change, modification, extension or discharge is sought. Mr. Koch acknowledges that he has not relied upon any representation or statement, written or oral, not set forth in this Agreement.

13. Mr. Koch may revoke this Agreement at any time during the seven-day period following the date of his signature below (the "Revocation Period") by delivering written notice of his revocation to the Company's attention at 313 Iron Horse Way, Providence, Rhode Island 02908; Attention: Tom Dziki. This Agreement shall become effective upon the expiration of the Revocation Period. In the event that Mr. Koch revokes this Agreement prior to the expiration of the Revocation Period, he shall not be entitled to any of the benefits provided in this Agreement, including but not limited to, payment of the amounts set forth in Section 2(b).

[signature lines appear on the next page]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement on the date set forth below.

United Natural Foods, Inc.

By: /s/ Thomas A. Dziki
Thomas A. Dziki

Witness: /s/ Kristie McCann Passalacqua
Print Name: Kristie McCann Passalacqua

Date: September 17, 2010

By: /s/ Carl Koch III
Carl Koch III

Witness: /s/ Meredith A. Koch
Print Name: Meredith A. Koch

Date: September 23, 2010

*A request for confidential treatment has been made with respect to portions of the following document that are marked with [*CONFIDENTIAL*]. The redacted portions have been filed separately with the SEC.*

Second Amendment to the Agreement for Distribution of Products

The Agreement for Distribution of Products dated September 26, 2006 between Whole Foods Market Distribution, Inc., a Delaware corporation and United Natural Foods, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "**Agreement**") is hereby amended effective October 11, 2010 (the "**Amendment Date**").

All terms not defined herein shall have the meaning set forth in the Agreement. The parties agree as follows:

1. Section 3(a) is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

"(a) The pricing terms set forth in this Agreement will remain in effect as long as WFM uses UNFI as its "**Primary Distributor**." WFM is deemed to have used UNFI as its Primary Distributor if the following two conditions are met: (i) each WFM Region (excluding all WFM Stores outside the continental United States) purchases [*CONFIDENTIAL*] in Products per "**WFM Fiscal Year**" (as identified on Exhibit A) as were purchased in [*CONFIDENTIAL*]; and (ii) if [*CONFIDENTIAL*] of the aggregate dollar amount of Product purchases by all WFM Stores (excluding WFM Stores outside the continental United States) from wholesale natural grocery distributors during a WFM Fiscal Year are made from UNFI Parties. Orders submitted to the UNFI Parties for Products that are out of stock ("**OOS**") will be included in the calculation as purchases from UNFI Parties for determining whether both (a)(i) and (a)(ii) have been satisfied. The following purchases by WFM Stores are not considered to be purchases from a wholesale natural grocery distributor and therefore will not be included in determining the dollar amount of WFM Store product purchases for purposes of this Section 3(a)(ii): (A) purchases by WFM Stores from WFM or any of its affiliates or subsidiaries (collectively, the "**WFM Parties**"), including, but not limited to, purchases from a WFM distribution center, (B) purchases by WFM Store from the manufacturer of a product, (C) purchases by WFM Stores from non natural grocery distributors including, but not limited to, broad-line food service distributors, non-food distributors and specialty distributors such as but not limited to cheese, produce, meat, seafood, or alcoholic beverage distributors. If at any time UNFI believes that WFM has not satisfied the conditions set forth in Section 3(a)(i) or 3(a)(ii), UNFI will notify WFM in writing. WFM will have 3 WFM Periods from receipt of such notice to adjust purchases to meet the requirements. If WFM fails to cure the noncompliance in 3 WFM Periods (calculated on a consecutive 13 WFM Period basis) from the receipt of notice, UNFI's sole remedy will be to renegotiate the "**Gross Profit Margin Percent**" identified on Exhibit B."

2. Section 3 is amended to add the following as Section 3(f):

"(f) UNFI shall provide distribution services for the WFM Stores located in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Little Rock, Arkansas and Louisiana out of their Dallas distribution center by the end of February 2011."

3. This Amendment may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which will be deemed an original and all of which together will constitute one and the same instrument. Fax, email and other electronic transmissions are considered originals for all purposes.

4. All other terms of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

[Signature page follows]

The parties have entered into this Second Amendment as of the date set forth in the opening paragraph.

**Whole Foods Market Distribution, Inc.,
a Delaware corporation**

By: /s/ Michael Besancon
Michael Besancon, President

United Natural Food Inc.

By: /s/ Mark E. Shamber
Mark E. Shamber
SVP, CFO & Treasurer

By: _____

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION
302 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, Steven L. Spinner, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this report on Form 10-Q of United Natural Foods, Inc.;
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 quarterly 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 (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) 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.

/s/ Steven L. Spinner

Steven L. Spinner
Chief Executive Officer

December 9, 2010

Note: A signed original of this written statement has been provided to the Company and will be retained by the Company and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION
302 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, Mark E. Shamber, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this report on Form 10-Q of United Natural Foods, Inc.;
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 quarterly 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 (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) 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.

/s/ Mark E. Shamber

Mark E. Shamber
Chief Financial Officer

December 9, 2010

Note: A signed original of this written statement has been provided to the Company and will be retained by the Company and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION
906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

The undersigned, in his capacity as the Chief Executive Officer of United Natural Foods, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), hereby certifies that the Quarterly Report of the Company on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended October 30, 2010, fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and that the information contained in such Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q fairly presents in all material respects the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Steven L. Spinner

Steven L. Spinner
Chief Executive Officer

December 9, 2010

Note: A signed original of this written statement has been provided to the Company and will be retained by the Company and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION
906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

The undersigned, in his capacity as the Chief Financial Officer of United Natural Foods, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), hereby certifies that the Quarterly Report of the Company on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended October 30, 2010, fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and that the information contained in such Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q fairly presents in all material respects the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Mark E. Shamber

Mark E. Shamber
Chief Financial Officer

December 9, 2010

Note: A signed original of this written statement has been provided to the Company and will be retained by the Company and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.