

WHIRLPOOL CORP /DE/
Form 10-Q
October 28, 2008
Table of Contents

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

FORM 10-Q

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

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2008

OR

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

Commission file number 1-3932

WHIRLPOOL CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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Delaware
(State of incorporation)

38-1490038
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

2000 M-63

49022-2692

Benton Harbor, Michigan
(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (269) 923-5000

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 the filing requirements for at least the past 90 days. Yes No

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

Large Accelerated Filer

Accelerated Filer

Non-Accelerated Filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

Number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date:

Class of common stock
Common stock, par value \$1 per share

Shares outstanding at October 27, 2008
73,502,666

Table of Contents

QUARTERLY REPORT ON FORM 10-Q

WHIRLPOOL CORPORATION

Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2008

INDEX OF INFORMATION INCLUDED IN REPORT

	Page
PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION	
Item 1. Financial Statements	
<u>Consolidated Condensed Statements of Income</u>	3
<u>Consolidated Condensed Balance Sheets</u>	4
<u>Consolidated Condensed Statements of Cash Flows</u>	5
<u>Notes to the Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements</u>	6
Item 2. <u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	15
Item 3. <u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	21
Item 4. <u>Controls and Procedures</u>	21
PART II - OTHER INFORMATION	
Item 1. <u>Legal Proceedings</u>	22
Item 1A. <u>Risk Factors</u>	22
Item 2. <u>Unregistered Sale of Securities, Use of Proceeds and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities</u>	22
Item 3. <u>Defaults Upon Senior Securities</u>	22
Item 4. <u>Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders</u>	23
Item 5. <u>Other Information</u>	23
Item 6. <u>Exhibits</u>	23
<u>Signatures</u>	24

Table of Contents

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides a safe harbor for forward-looking statements made by us or on our behalf. Certain statements contained in this quarterly report, including those within the forward-looking perspective section within this Management's Discussion and Analysis, and other written and oral statements made from time to time by us or on our behalf do not relate strictly to historical or current facts and may contain forward-looking statements that reflect our current views with respect to future events and financial performance. As such, they are considered forward-looking statements which provide current expectations or forecasts of future events. Such statements can be identified by the use of terminology such as anticipate, believe, estimate, expect, intend, may, could, possible, will, forecast, and similar words or expressions. Our forward-looking statements generally relate to our growth strategies, financial results, product development, and sales efforts. These forward-looking statements should be considered with the understanding that such statements involve a variety of risks and uncertainties, known and unknown, and may be affected by inaccurate assumptions. Consequently, no forward-looking statement can be guaranteed and actual results may vary materially.

Forward-looking statements in this document include, but are not limited to, statements regarding expected earnings per share, cash flow, productivity and material and oil-related prices. Many risks, contingencies and uncertainties could cause actual results to differ materially from Whirlpool Corporation's forward-looking statements. Among these factors are: (1) intense competition in the home appliance industry reflecting the impact of both new and established global competitors, including Asian and European manufacturers; (2) Whirlpool's ability to continue its relationship with significant trade customers, including Sears Holding Corporation in North America (accounting for approximately 12% of Whirlpool's 2007 consolidated net sales of \$19.4 billion) and the ability of these trade customers to maintain or increase market share; (3) changes in economic conditions, including the strength of the U.S. building industry and the level of interest rates; (4) the ability of Whirlpool to achieve its business plans, productivity improvements, cost control, leveraging of its global operating platform, and acceleration of the rate of innovation; (5) fluctuations in the cost of key materials (including steel, oil, plastic, resins, copper and aluminum) and components and the ability of Whirlpool to offset cost increases; (6) the ability of suppliers of critical parts, components and manufacturing equipment to deliver sufficient quantities to Whirlpool in a timely and cost-effective manner; (7) our ability to attract, develop and retain executives and other qualified employees; (8) health care cost trends and regulatory changes that could increase future funding obligations for pension and post retirement benefit plans; (9) the cost of compliance with environmental and health and safety regulations; (10) litigation including product liability and product defect claims; (11) the impact of labor relations; (12) Whirlpool's ability to obtain and protect intellectual property rights; (13) the ability of Whirlpool to manage foreign currency fluctuations; and (14) global, political and/or economic uncertainty and disruptions, especially in Whirlpool's significant geographic regions, including uncertainty and disruptions arising from natural disasters or terrorist attacks.

We undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statement, and investors are advised to review disclosures in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. It is not possible to foresee or identify all factors that could cause actual results to differ from expected or historic results. Therefore, investors should not consider the foregoing factors to be an exhaustive statement of all risks, uncertainties, or factors that could potentially cause actual results to differ from forward-looking statements. Additional information concerning these and other factors can be found in Risk Factors in Item 1A of this report.

Unless otherwise indicated, the terms Whirlpool, we, us, and our refer to Whirlpool Corporation and its subsidiaries.

Table of Contents**PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION****Item 1. Financial Statements****WHIRLPOOL CORPORATION****CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (UNAUDITED)****FOR THE PERIOD ENDED SEPTEMBER 30**

(Millions of dollars, except per share data)

	Three Months Ended 2008	2007	Nine Months Ended 2008	2007
Net sales	\$ 4,902	\$ 4,840	\$ 14,592	\$ 14,083
Expenses				
Cost of products sold	4,217	4,148	12,541	12,030
Selling, general and administrative (exclusive of intangible amortization)	477	414	1,419	1,252
Intangible amortization	7	7	21	24
Restructuring costs	24	13	72	46
Operating profit	177	258	539	731
Other income (expense)				
Interest and sundry income (expense)	(3)	(17)	(34)	(20)
Interest expense	(52)	(52)	(150)	(151)
Gain on sale of investment		7		7
Earnings from continuing operations before income taxes and other items	122	196	355	567
Income tax (benefit) expense	(46)	8	(41)	78
Earnings from continuing operations before equity earnings and minority interests	168	188	396	489
Equity in income (loss) of affiliated companies		(6)		(10)
Minority interests	(5)	(7)	(22)	(19)
Earnings from continuing operations	163	175	374	460
Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax of \$0 and \$3 for the period ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively				(7)
Net earnings available to common stockholders	\$ 163	\$ 175	\$ 374	\$ 453
Per share of common stock				
Basic earnings from continuing operations	\$ 2.18	\$ 2.24	\$ 4.96	\$ 5.83
Discontinued operations, net of tax				(0.09)
Basic net earnings	\$ 2.18	\$ 2.24	\$ 4.96	\$ 5.74

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Diluted earnings from continuing operations	\$ 2.15	\$ 2.20	\$ 4.89	\$ 5.72
Discontinued operations, net of tax				(0.09)
Diluted net earnings	\$ 2.15	\$ 2.20	\$ 4.89	\$ 5.63
Dividends	\$ 0.43	\$ 0.43	\$ 1.29	\$ 1.29
Weighted-average shares outstanding (in millions)				
Basic	74.6	78.3	75.4	78.9
Diluted	75.5	79.8	76.4	80.4

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements

Table of Contents

WHIRLPOOL CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED BALANCE SHEETS

(Millions of dollars, except per share data)

	(Unaudited) September 30, 2008	December 31, 2007
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and equivalents	\$ 425	\$ 201
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for uncollectible accounts of \$79 and \$83 at September 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007, respectively	2,603	2,604
Inventories	3,053	2,665
Deferred income taxes	340	324
Other current assets	746	761
Total current assets	7,167	6,555
Other assets		
Goodwill, net	1,743	1,760
Other intangibles, net of accumulated amortization of \$90 and \$64 at September 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007, respectively	1,838	1,854
Other assets	633	628
Total other assets	4,214	4,242
Property, plant and equipment		
Land	76	84
Buildings	1,224	1,226
Machinery and equipment	7,884	7,861
Accumulated depreciation	(6,095)	(5,959)
Total property, plant and equipment	3,089	3,212
Total assets	\$ 14,470	\$ 14,009
Liabilities and stockholders equity		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 3,282	\$ 3,260
Accrued expenses	588	633
Accrued advertising and promotions	427	497
Employee compensation	419	444
Notes payable	853	298
Current maturities of long-term debt	203	127
Other current liabilities	629	634
Total current liabilities	6,401	5,893
Noncurrent liabilities		
Long-term debt	1,964	1,668
Postretirement benefits	832	1,061
Pension benefits	607	725

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Other liabilities	605	682
Total noncurrent liabilities	4,008	4,136
Commitments and contingencies		
Minority interests	89	69
Stockholders' equity		
Common stock, \$1 par value, 250 million shares authorized, 104 million and 103 million shares issued at September 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007, respectively, 73 million and 76 million shares outstanding at September 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007, respectively	104	103
Additional paid-in capital	2,029	1,993
Retained earnings	3,979	3,703
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(275)	(270)
Treasury stock, 31 million shares and 27 million shares at September 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007, respectively	(1,865)	(1,618)
Total stockholders' equity	3,972	3,911
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 14,470	\$ 14,009

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements

Table of Contents**WHIRLPOOL CORPORATION****CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (UNAUDITED)****NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30****(Millions of dollars)**

	2008	2007
Operating activities of continuing operations		
Net earnings	\$ 374	\$ 453
Loss from discontinued operations		7
Earnings from continuing operations	374	460
Adjustments to reconcile earnings from continuing operations to cash (used in) provided by operating activities from continuing operations:		
Depreciation and amortization	467	435
Gain on disposition of assets	(16)	(46)
Gain on sale of investment		(7)
Equity in losses of affiliated companies, less dividends received		10
Changes in assets and liabilities, net of business acquisitions:		
Accounts receivable	(67)	(14)
Inventories	(459)	(491)
Accounts payable	68	114
Restructuring charges, net of cash paid		(68)
Taxes deferred and payable, net	(116)	19
Accrued pension	(96)	(45)
Employee compensation	1	(22)
Other	(162)	(217)
Cash (used in) provided by continuing operating activities	(6)	128
Investing activities of continuing operations		
Capital expenditures	(378)	(310)
Proceeds from sale of assets	35	99
Proceeds from sale of Maytag adjacent businesses		100
Cash used in investing activities of continuing operations	(343)	(111)
Financing activities of continuing operations		
Net proceeds from short-term borrowings	561	242
Proceeds from borrowings of long-term debt	502	4
Purchase of treasury stock	(247)	(251)
Repayments of long-term debt	(131)	(9)
Dividends paid	(98)	(101)
Common stock issued	21	63
Other	(1)	1
Cash provided by (used in) financing activities of continuing operations	607	(51)
Cash provided by discontinued operations - operating activities		6

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Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and equivalents	(34)	24
Increase in cash and equivalents	224	(4)
Cash and equivalents at beginning of period	201	262
Cash and equivalents at end of period	\$ 425	\$ 258

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements

Table of Contents

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(UNAUDITED)

(1) BASIS OF PRESENTATION

General Information

The accompanying unaudited Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) for interim financial information, the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all information or footnotes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. As a result, this Form 10-Q should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and accompanying Notes in the Financial Supplement of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007.

We have eliminated all material intercompany transactions in our Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements. We do not consolidate the financial statements of any company in which we have an ownership interest of 50% or less unless we control that company. We did not control any company in which we had an ownership interest of 50% or less for any period presented in our Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements.

Management believes that the accompanying Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements reflect all adjustments, including normal recurring items, considered necessary for a fair presentation of the interim periods.

New Accounting Standards

In March 2008, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 161, Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities, an Amendment of FASB No. 133, (SFAS 161). SFAS 161 is intended to improve transparency in financial reporting by requiring enhanced disclosures of an entity s derivative instruments and hedging activities and their effects on the entity s financial position, financial performance, and cash flows. SFAS 161 applies to all derivative instruments within the scope of SFAS No. 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities, (SFAS 133). SFAS 161 also applies to non-derivative hedging instruments and all hedged items designated and qualifying under SFAS 133. SFAS 161 is effective prospectively for financial statements issued for fiscal years and interim periods beginning after November 15, 2008, with early application encouraged. SFAS 161 encourages, but does not require, comparative disclosures for periods prior to its initial adoption. We will adopt SFAS 161 on January 1, 2009 and are currently evaluating the potential impact on our financial statements when implemented.

In February 2008, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position (FSP) 157-2, Effective Date of FASB Statement No. 157 (FSP 157-2). FSP 157-2 delays the effective date of SFAS No. 157 for all non-financial assets and non-financial liabilities, except for items that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in the financial statements on a recurring basis (at least annually), until the beginning of the first quarter of fiscal 2009. We adopted SFAS 157 for financial assets and liabilities on January 1, 2008.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 141(R), Business Combinations, (SFAS 141(R)). SFAS 141(R) requires us to continue to follow the guidance in SFAS 141 for certain aspects of business combinations, with additional guidance provided defining the acquirer, recognizing and measuring the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, and any noncontrolling interest in the acquiree, assets and liabilities arising from contingencies, defining a bargain purchase and recognizing and measuring goodwill or a gain from a bargain purchase. In addition, under SFAS 141(R), adjustments associated with changes in tax contingencies that occur after the measurement period, not to exceed one year, are recorded as adjustments to income. This statement is effective for all business combinations for which the acquisition date is on or after the beginning of an entity s first fiscal year that begins after December 15, 2008; however, the guidance in this standard regarding the treatment of income tax contingencies is retrospective to business combinations completed prior to January 1, 2009. We will adopt SFAS 141(R) for any business combinations occurring at or subsequent to January 1, 2009.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 160, Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements, an Amendment of ARB No. 51, Consolidated Financial Statements, (SFAS 160). SFAS 160 establishes accounting and reporting standards for the noncontrolling interest in a subsidiary and for the deconsolidation of a subsidiary. It clarifies that a noncontrolling interest in a subsidiary is an ownership interest in the consolidated entity that should be reported as equity in the consolidated financial statements. This statement is effective as of the beginning of an entity s first fiscal year that begins after December 15, 2008 with retrospective application. We will adopt SFAS 160 beginning January 1, 2009 and are currently evaluating the potential impact on our financial statements when implemented.

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In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, Fair Value Measurements, (SFAS 157), which defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in GAAP and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. The expanded disclosures in this statement about the use of fair value to measure assets and liabilities should provide users of financial statements with better information about the extent to which fair value is used to measure recognized assets and liabilities, the inputs used to develop the measurements, and the effect of certain of the measurements on earnings (or changes in net assets) for the period. We adopted SFAS 157 for financial assets and liabilities on January 1, 2008. For additional information regarding SFAS 157, see Note 6.

Table of Contents**(2) INVENTORIES**

Millions of Dollars	September 30, 2008	December 31, 2007
Finished products	\$ 2,456	\$ 2,232
Raw materials and work in process	741	577
	3,197	2,809
Less excess of FIFO cost over LIFO cost	(144)	(144)
Total Inventories	\$ 3,053	\$ 2,665

The increase in inventories, when compared to December 31, 2007, is driven by our seasonal inventory build and higher material costs.

(3) GOODWILL

The following table summarizes the net carrying amount of goodwill:

Reporting unit - Millions of dollars	September 30, 2008	December 31, 2007
North America	\$ 1,738	\$ 1,755
Embraco	5	5
Total	\$ 1,743	\$ 1,760

During the nine months ended September 30, 2008, we reduced the value of goodwill by a net \$17 million related to adjustments to certain Maytag exit, relocation and employee termination reserves and pre-acquisition uncertain tax positions. See Notes 8 and 9 for additional information about restructuring charges and income taxes.

(4) FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS**Debt**

On February 1, 2008 our 9.1% debentures became due and we repaid the remaining balance of \$125 million.

On February 28, 2008 we completed the issuance of \$500 million 5.50% Notes due March 1, 2013 (Notes). The Notes were issued under an existing shelf registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. We pay interest semiannually on March 1 and September 1. The Notes contain a provision which requires Whirlpool to make an offer to purchase the Notes at a purchase price equal to 101% of the principal amount plus any accrued and unpaid interest if certain change of control events occur. The Notes are also subject to customary non-financial covenants.

We are in compliance with debt covenant requirements at September 30, 2008.

Notes Payable

Notes payable consist of the following:

Millions of dollars

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	September 30, 2008	December 31, 2007
Payable to banks	\$ 143	\$ 164
Commercial paper	710	134
Total notes payable	\$ 853	\$ 298

Notes payable consist of short term borrowings payable to banks and commercial paper used to fund working capital requirements. The increase in notes payable is due to higher working capital requirements and overall lower operating profit.

Table of Contents**(5) COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES****Guarantees**

We have guarantee arrangements in a Brazilian subsidiary. As a standard business practice in Brazil, the subsidiary guarantees customer lines of credit at commercial banks to support purchases following its normal credit policies. If a customer were to default on its line of credit with the bank, our subsidiary would be required to satisfy the obligation with the bank, and the receivable would revert back to the subsidiary. At September 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007, the guaranteed amounts totaled \$257 million and \$331 million, respectively. Our only recourse with respect to these arrangements would be legal or administrative collection efforts directed against the customer.

We provide guarantees of indebtedness and lines of credit for various consolidated subsidiaries. The maximum amount of credit facilities available under these lines for consolidated subsidiaries totaled \$1.3 billion and \$1.5 billion at September 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007, respectively. Our total outstanding bank indebtedness under guarantees totaled \$94 million and \$115 million at September 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007, respectively.

As of May 16, 2008, we guaranteed a \$50 million five year revolving credit facility between certain financial institutions and a not-for-profit entity in connection with a community and economic development project (Harbor Shores). The fair value of the guarantee is nominal. The purpose of Harbor Shores is to stimulate employment and growth in the areas of Benton Harbor and St. Joseph, Michigan. In the event of default, we must satisfy the guarantee of the credit facility up to the amount borrowed at the date of default. For additional information about Harbor Shores see our 2008 Proxy Statement for the annual meeting of shareholders filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 3, 2008.

Warranty Reserves

Product warranty reserves are established in the same period that revenue from the sale of the related products is recognized. The amounts of those reserves are based on established terms and our best estimate of the amounts necessary to settle future and existing claims on products sold as of the balance sheet date.

The following represents a reconciliation of the changes in product warranty reserves:

Millions of dollars	2008
Balance at January 1	\$ 226
Warranties issued during the period	296
Settlements made during the period	(321)
Other changes	(5)
Balance at September 30	\$ 196
Current portion	\$ 145
Non-current portion	51
Total	\$ 196

Legal Contingencies

The Brazilian Constitution provides a general basis for recognizing tax credits on the purchase of raw materials used in production (IPI tax credit). Certain raw materials that are exempt or have a zero tax basis in the production process qualify for these IPI tax credits. Based on legal precedent, we recognized tax credits in an aggregate amount of \$33 million in 2003 and 2004. No credits were recognized from January 1, 2005 through September 30, 2008. The Brazilian tax authority has challenged the recording of IPI tax credits. The Brazilian Supreme Court, which rules on a case by case basis, ruled adversely against another taxpayer in an IPI tax credit case, but the decision is not yet final. Our case is being defended at an administrative level. Our potential exposure ranges from zero to \$76 million comprised of \$33 million in taxes, \$22 million in interest and \$21 million in penalties. It is not possible to determine the outcome of these legal proceedings with certainty and as such, we have not accrued a liability for this exposure at September 30, 2008.

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In 1989, a Brazilian affiliate (now a subsidiary) brought an action against a financial institution in Brazil seeking a Declaration of Non-Enforceability of Obligations relating to loan documentation entered into without authority by a senior officer of the affiliate. In September 2000, an adverse decision in the declaratory action became final. In 2001, the financial institution began a collection action and we responded with a counterclaim. The lower court dismissed the counterclaim in 2002 and the Superior Court confirmed the lower court decision in December 2005. The Superior Court dismissed our counterclaim in 2007. A ruling is expected in 2008 to determine the factors to be used in calculating recovery. The collection action remains pending. We have accrued for our estimated exposure for this litigation.

Table of Contents

We are currently defending a number of class action suits in federal and state courts alleging breach of warranty, fraud and violation of state consumer protection acts. There are no allegations of any personal injury or property damage. However, unspecified compensatory damages are being sought. We believe these suits are without merit. We intend to vigorously defend these actions.

We are involved in various other legal actions arising in the normal course of business. Management, after taking into consideration legal counsel's evaluation of such actions, is of the opinion that the outcome of these matters will not have a material adverse effect on our Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements.

Product Recalls

We regularly engage in investigations of potential quality and safety issues as part of our ongoing effort to deliver quality products to customers. We are currently investigating a limited number of potential quality and safety issues. As necessary, we undertake to effect repair or replacement of appliances in the event that an investigation leads to the conclusion that such action is warranted.

On February 1, 2007, Maytag Corporation announced a voluntary recall of approximately 2.3 million *Maytag* and *Jenn-Air* brand dishwashers. We originally estimated the cost of the recall to be \$82 million, which we recorded as an assumed liability in our purchase price allocation related to the acquisition of Maytag, with a corresponding increase to recorded goodwill. As of September 30, 2008, we have revised this estimate to \$102 million due to an anticipated increase in the response rate. The incremental increase of \$20 million was charged to cost of products sold in our Consolidated Condensed Statements of Income during the nine-month period ended September 30, 2008. Of this \$102 million accrual, we have approximately \$10 million remaining at September 30, 2008.

On March 21, 2007, we announced a voluntary recall related to approximately 250,000 *Maytag* brand front-load washing machines. The cost of this recall will be paid by the OEM supplier.

(6) FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

As described in Note 1, we adopted SFAS 157 on January 1, 2008. SFAS 157, among other things, defines fair value, establishes a consistent framework for measuring fair value and expands disclosure for each major asset and liability category measured at fair value on either a recurring or nonrecurring basis. We have no financial assets or liabilities that were measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis. SFAS 157 clarifies that fair value is an exit price, representing the amount that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants. As such, fair value is a market-based measurement that should be determined based on assumptions that market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability. As a basis for considering such assumptions, SFAS 157 establishes a three-tier fair value hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs used in measuring fair value as follows: (Level 1) observable inputs such as quoted prices in active markets; (Level 2) inputs, other than the quoted prices in active markets, that are observable either directly or indirectly; and (Level 3) unobservable inputs in which there is little or no market data, which require the reporting entity to develop its own assumptions.

Assets and liabilities measured at fair value are based on one or more of three valuation techniques noted in SFAS 157. The three valuation techniques are identified in the table below and are as follows:

- (a) Market approach - prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions involving identical or comparable assets or liabilities
- (b) Cost approach - amount that would be required to replace the service capacity of an asset (replacement cost)
- (c) Income approach - techniques to convert future amounts to a single present amount based on market expectations (including present value techniques, option-pricing and excess earnings models)

Table of Contents

Assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis are as follows:

Millions of dollars	September 30, 2008	Quoted Prices In Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Valuation Technique
Available for sale investments	\$ 23	\$ 23	\$	(a)
Net derivative contracts	(52)		(52)	(a)

There were no changes in our valuation techniques used to measure fair values on a recurring basis as a result of adopting SFAS 157.

(7) STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY**Share Repurchase Program**

In June 2004, our Board of Directors authorized a share repurchase program of up to \$500 million. During 2007, we repurchased 3.8 million shares at an aggregate purchase price of \$368 million and during the three months ended March 31, 2008, we repurchased 1.1 million shares at an aggregate purchase price of \$97 million under this program. At March 31, 2008, there were no remaining funds authorized under this program.

On April 23, 2008, our Board of Directors authorized a new share repurchase program of up to \$500 million. Share repurchases are made from time to time on the open market as conditions warrant. During the nine months ended September 30, 2008, we repurchased 1.9 million shares at an aggregate purchase price of \$150 million under this program. At September 30, 2008, there were \$350 million remaining funds authorized under this program.

Comprehensive Income

Comprehensive income primarily includes (1) our reported net earnings, (2) foreign currency translation, (3) changes in the effective portion of our open derivative contracts designated as cash flow hedges, (4) changes in our unrecognized pension and other postretirement benefits (post adoption of SFAS 158) and (5) changes in fair value of our available for sale securities. The following table summarizes our comprehensive income for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2008 and September 30, 2007:

Millions of dollars	Three months ended September 30		Nine months ended September 30	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
Net earnings as reported	\$ 163	\$ 175	\$ 374	\$ 453
Currency translation adjustments net	(354)	122	(124)	245
Cash flow hedges net	(91)	(9)	(21)	(48)
SFAS 158 adjustments	150	84	153	99
Available for sale securities	(1)		(13)	
Comprehensive (loss) income	\$ (133)	\$ 372	\$ 369	\$ 749

Net Earnings per Share

Basic and diluted net earnings per share from continuing operations were calculated as follows:

	Three months ended September 30	Nine months ended September 30
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Millions of dollars and shares	2008	2007	2008	2007
Numerator for basic and diluted earnings per share - earnings from continuing operations	\$ 163	\$ 175	\$ 374	\$ 460
Denominator for basic earnings per share - weighted-average shares	74.6	78.3	75.4	78.9
Effect of dilutive securities - stock-based compensation	0.9	1.5	1.0	1.5
Denominator for diluted earnings per share - adjusted weighted-average shares	75.5	79.8	76.4	80.4

Table of Contents

Diluted net earnings per share of common stock include the dilutive effect of stock options and stock-based compensation. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008, approximately 2,669,218 and 2,669,718 stock options, respectively, were excluded from the calculation of diluted earnings per share because their exercise prices rendered them anti-dilutive. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007, there were 1,200 stock options excluded from the calculation of diluted earnings per share as their exercise prices rendered them anti-dilutive.

Preferred Stock Purchase Rights

Rights to repurchase preferred stock under the Rights Agreement dated April 12, 1998 expired on May 22, 2008 pursuant to the terms of the Rights Agreement.

(8) RESTRUCTURING CHARGES

Under our ongoing global operating platform initiatives, we implemented certain restructuring initiatives to strengthen our leadership position in the global appliance industry. We plan to continue a comprehensive worldwide effort to optimize our regional manufacturing facilities, supply base, product platforms, technology resources and supplier infrastructure to support our global brands and customers.

We incurred restructuring charges of \$24 million and \$13 million during the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively. During the nine months ended September 30, 2008 and September 30, 2007, we incurred restructuring charges of \$72 million and \$46 million, respectively. These charges are included in restructuring costs in our Consolidated Condensed Statements of Income and primarily consist of charges related to shift refrigeration capacity within North America and laundry capacity to North America, the reorganization of certain portions of the salaried workforce in Europe, and the restructuring of portions of our global operating platform. For additional information about restructuring charges by business segment, see Note 11.

Maytag integration restructuring accruals resulted from the closing of the Newton, Iowa, Herrin, Illinois and Searcy, Arkansas laundry manufacturing plants as well as the former headquarters and other administrative offices. The costs were recorded in other current liabilities on our Consolidated Condensed Balance Sheets with a corresponding initial amount recorded to goodwill. As of March 31, 2008, we revised our estimate and reduced certain Maytag exit, relocation and employee termination accruals which resulted in a corresponding decrease to goodwill. No additional revisions were made for the nine months ended September 30, 2008. A summary of the changes to our restructuring liability balance for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 is as follows:

Millions of dollars	January 1, Balance	Charge to Earnings	Cash Paid	Non-Cash	Revision of Estimate	Translation	September 30, Balance
Termination costs	\$ 56	\$ 61	\$ (53)	\$	\$ (11)	\$ (1)	\$ 52
Non-employee exit costs	44	11	(13)	(6)	(1)		35
Total	\$ 100	\$ 72	\$ (66)	\$ (6)	\$ (12)	\$ (1)	\$ 87

On October 27, 2008, management committed to a workforce reduction plan whereby we will reduce our employee base worldwide from the fourth quarter of 2008 through the end of 2009. We expect to incur approximately \$118 million in employee termination costs, \$19 million in asset impairment costs and \$1 million in other associated costs for a total of \$138 million that will be incurred as a result of this workforce reduction. Approximately \$70 million of these costs are expected to be recognized in the fourth quarter of 2008. Of the \$138 million in total charges, approximately \$115 million of these costs will result in future cash expenditures.

Our prior 2008 restructuring initiatives, together with the workforce reduction plan discussed above, will reduce our overall workforce by approximately 5,000 employees and contractors worldwide over the course of 2008 and 2009.

We expect to incur approximately \$97 million in total restructuring costs during the fourth quarter of 2008.

(9) INCOME TAXES

The effective income tax rate for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008 was (37.8) % and (11.6) % compared to 4.2% and 13.8% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007. The decrease from prior periods is primarily due to a decline in expected 2008 profitability in the U.S. during the quarter ended September 30, 2008, the impact of a shift in earnings dispersion to our international locations

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and discrete items primarily associated with strategic tax planning and an agreement with foreign tax authorities.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2008 we recognized a net income tax benefit of \$19 million as a result of an agreement with foreign tax authorities. Over the next twelve months it is reasonably possible that we will settle unrecognized tax benefits totaling approximately \$35 million associated with certain tax examinations and other events.

Table of Contents

At the end of each interim period, we make our best estimate of the effective tax rate expected to be applicable for the full fiscal year and the impact of discrete items, if any, and adjust the quarterly rate, as necessary.

On October 3, 2008, The Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (the Act) was signed into law. The Act includes a wide-range of energy efficient provisions that will ensure that conservation and efficiency are a central component to the United States energy strategy. Among the many provisions of this legislation are manufacturers' tax credits for the accelerated U.S. production of super-efficient clothes washers, refrigerators and dishwashers that meet or exceed Energy Star thresholds for energy and water conservation levels as set by the U.S. Department of Energy (Energy Credit). The tax credits apply to eligible production during the 2008 to 2010 calendar years provided the production of qualifying product in any individual year exceeds a rolling two year baseline of production. We have historically, and will continue to, invest over 2% of our annual sales in research and development to provide innovative and energy efficient products that meet these standards for our customers. As a result, during the fourth quarter of 2008 and in future periods through 2010 we expect to record a tax credit benefit under the provisions of the Act related to the production of qualifying appliances. Including the Energy Credit, we anticipate total general business tax credits recorded during 2008 will reduce our effective tax rate by approximately 27%.

(10) PENSION AND POSTRETIREMENT MEDICAL BENEFITS PLANS

The components of net periodic pension cost and the cost of other postretirement benefits for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007 are as follows:

Millions of dollars	Three months ended September 30,					
	U.S. Pension Benefits		Foreign Pension Benefits		Other Postretirement Benefits	
	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007
Service costs	\$ 3.4	\$ 6.1	\$ 1.7	\$ 1.8	\$ 5.3	\$ 4.7
Interest cost	52.7	53.7	5.5	5.0	15.8	18.0
Expected return on plan assets	(60.0)	(62.8)	(2.6)	(2.6)		
Amortization of transition obligation						
Amortization of prior service (credit) cost	(0.1)	1.2	0.1	0.1	(7.2)	(4.1)
Amortization of net loss	3.0	3.9	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.2
Settlement and curtailment loss			(6.0)		0.1	
Net periodic cost	\$ (1.0)	\$ 2.1	\$ (0.9)	\$ 4.8	\$ 14.2	\$ 18.8

Millions of dollars	Nine months ended September 30,					
	U.S. Pension Benefits		Foreign Pension Benefits		Other Postretirement Benefits	
	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007
Service costs	\$ 10.2	\$ 19.3	\$ 5.4	\$ 5.2	\$ 16.2	\$ 17.1
Interest cost	158.1	161.1	17.1	14.6	50.6	55.5
Expected return on plan assets	(179.9)	(192.1)	(8.0)	(7.4)		
Amortization of transition obligation			(0.1)		0.1	
Amortization of prior service (credit) cost	(0.3)	3.9	0.4	0.3	(15.4)	(8.6)
Amortization of net loss	9.2	12.1	1.3	1.5	1.0	3.8
Settlement and curtailment loss	2.3	13.6	(6.0)		0.1	
Net periodic cost	\$ (0.4)	\$ 17.9	\$ 10.1	\$ 14.2	\$ 52.6	\$ 67.8

On August 1, 2008, certain retiree medical benefits for the retirees and remaining active participants associated with our Newton, Iowa manufacturing facility were amended (Newton Amendment), effective January 1, 2009, to be consistent with those benefits provided by the Whirlpool Corporation Group Benefit Plan. The result of this amendment was a reduction in the postretirement benefit obligation of \$229 million with a corresponding increase to other comprehensive income, net of tax, within equity of our Consolidated Condensed Balance Sheet at September 30, 2008.

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In conjunction with the Newton Amendment, we initiated legal proceedings with certain retirees and the United Automobile, Aerospace, and Agricultural Implement Workers of America to seek a declaratory judgment that Whirlpool has the right to change retiree medical benefits after July 31, 2008, the expiration date of the collective bargaining agreement. In response, a similar group of retirees has initiated legal proceedings against Whirlpool asserting the above benefits are vested. We believe the outcome of the legal proceedings against Whirlpool will not have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

For the nine months ended September 30, 2008, we contributed \$72.5 million to our qualified U.S. pension plans. We expect to contribute \$12.5 million to qualified U.S. pension plans during the remainder of 2008.

(11) BUSINESS SEGMENT INFORMATION

Operating segments are defined as components of an enterprise about which separate financial information is available that is evaluated on a regular basis by the chief operating decision maker, or decision making group, in deciding how to allocate resources to an individual segment and in assessing performance.

We identify such segments based upon geographical regions of operations because each operating segment manufactures home appliances and related components, but serves strategically different markets. The chief operating decision maker evaluates performance based upon each segment's operating income, which is defined as income before interest and sundry income (expense), interest expense, income taxes, minority interests and restructuring costs. Total assets by segment are those assets directly associated with the respective operating activities. The Other/Eliminations column primarily includes corporate expenses, assets and eliminations as well as restructuring and discontinued operations. Intersegment sales are eliminated within each region with the exception of compressor sales out of Latin America, which are included in Other/Eliminations.

As described above, our chief operating decision maker reviews each operating segment's performance based upon operating income which excludes restructuring costs. These restructuring costs are included in operating profit on a consolidated basis and included in the Other/Eliminations column in the tables below. For the three months ended September 30, 2008, the operating segments recorded total restructuring costs (See Note 8) as follows: North America - \$10 million, Europe - \$13 million, Latin America - \$1 million, for a total of \$24 million. For the three months ended September 30, 2007, the operating segments recorded total restructuring charges as follows: North America - \$3 million, Europe - \$8 million, and Latin America - \$2 million, for a total of \$13 million. For the nine months ended September 30, 2008, the operating segments recorded total restructuring costs as follows: North America - \$44 million, Europe - \$22 million, Latin America - \$4 million, and Asia - \$2 million, for a total of \$72 million. For the nine months ended September 30, 2007, the operating segments recorded total restructuring charges as follows: North America - \$10 million, Europe - \$18 million, and Latin America - \$18 million, for a total of \$46 million.

Table of Contents

Three Months Ended September 30 - Millions of dollars	GEOGRAPHIC SEGMENTS						Total Whirlpool
	North America	Europe	Latin America	Asia	Other/ Eliminations		
Net sales							
2008	\$ 2,741	\$ 1,087	\$ 989	\$ 137	\$ (52)	\$	4,902
2007	2,947	998	813	123	(41)		4,840
Intersegment sales							
2008	\$ 53	\$ 96	\$ 80	\$ 65	\$ (294)	\$	
2007	42	122	42	68	(274)		
Depreciation and amortization							
2008	\$ 77	\$ 35	\$ 26	\$ 5	\$ 14	\$	157
2007	86	29	23	6			144
Operating profit (loss)							
2008	\$ 74	\$ 52	\$ 116	\$	\$ (65)	\$	177
2007	132	84	103	(5)	(56)		258
Total assets							
September 30, 2008	\$ 8,346	\$ 3,444	\$ 2,634	\$ 685	\$ (639)	\$	14,470
December 31, 2007	8,107	3,394	2,615	689	(796)		14,009
Capital expenditures							
2008	\$ 62	\$ 40	\$ 31	\$ 3	\$ 11	\$	147
2007	56	20	27	5			108

Nine Months Ended September 30 - Millions of dollars	GEOGRAPHIC SEGMENTS						Total Whirlpool
	North America	Europe	Latin America	Asia	Other/ Eliminations		
Net sales							
2008	\$ 8,282	\$ 3,077	\$ 2,927	\$ 453	\$ (147)	\$	14,592
2007	8,690	2,727	2,389	402	(125)		14,083
Intersegment sales							
2008	\$ 148	\$ 336	\$ 219	\$ 161	\$ (864)	\$	
2007	133	386	125	171	(815)		
Depreciation and amortization							
2008	\$ 249	\$ 101	\$ 76	\$ 17	\$ 24	\$	467
2007	260	84	61	16	14		435
Operating profit (loss)							
2008	\$ 219	\$ 147	\$ 368	\$ 7	\$ (202)	\$	539
2007	471	173	282	(3)	(192)		731
Total assets							
September 30, 2008	\$ 8,346	\$ 3,444	\$ 2,634	\$ 685	\$ (639)	\$	14,470
December 31, 2007	8,107	3,394	2,615	689	(796)		14,009
Capital expenditures							
2008	\$ 182	\$ 97	\$ 66	\$ 14	\$ 19	\$	378
2007	175	48	68	12	7		310

Table of Contents**ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS****EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW**

Whirlpool Corporation is the world's leading manufacturer of major home appliances and a leading producer of major home appliances in North America, Latin America and Europe and has a significant presence in markets throughout India and China. We have received worldwide recognition for accomplishments in a variety of business and social efforts, including leadership, diversity, innovative product design, business ethics, social responsibility and community involvement. We conduct our business through four reportable segments, which we define based on geography. For additional information about our segments, see Note 11 of the Notes to the Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements.

Our global branded consumer products strategy over the past several years has been to introduce innovative new products, increase brand customer loyalty, expand our presence in foreign markets, enhance our trade management platform, improve total cost and quality by expanding and leveraging our global operating platform and where appropriate, make strategic acquisitions and investments.

We monitor country-specific economic factors such as gross domestic product, consumer confidence, retail trends, housing starts and completions, sales of existing homes and mortgage interest rates as key indicators of industry demand. In addition to profitability, we also focus on country, brand, product and channel sales when assessing and forecasting financial results.

We continue to experience significant macroeconomic challenges including the recent instability in the financial markets. These challenges have impacted the global economy, the capital markets, our operating costs and global demand for our products. The results of these challenges include continued higher material and oil-related costs, liquidity strain on our suppliers, decreased consumer confidence and reduced consumer discretionary spending. We expect these conditions to continue in the foreseeable future. See Update: Forward Looking Perspective for revised estimates of our 2008 outlook and other forward looking statements.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Our results reflect strong performance within our Latin America operations. These results were more than offset by declines in gross margin and operating profit in North America and Europe, caused by the combination of material and oil-related cost increases and lower demand.

Consolidated Net Sales

Consolidated net sales increased 1.3% for the September quarter and 3.6% year to date compared to the same periods in 2007. These increases are due mainly to increases in the average unit selling price, primarily due to favorable impacts of foreign currency, partially offset by lower units sold. Excluding the impact of foreign currency, consolidated net sales decreased 2.3% for the quarter and 2.0% year to date compared to the same periods in 2007. We define the average unit selling price as the amount that results from dividing consolidated net sales by units sold.

The table below summarizes consolidated net sales by region:

Millions of dollars	Three Months Ended September 30,			Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2008	2007	Change	2008	2007	Change
North America	\$ 2,741	\$ 2,947	(7.0)%	\$ 8,282	\$ 8,690	(4.7)%
Europe	1,087	998	8.9	3,077	2,727	12.9
Latin America	989	813	21.7	2,927	2,389	22.5
Asia	137	123	11.3	453	402	12.7
Other/eliminations	(52)	(41)	(26.8)	(147)	(125)	(17.6)
Consolidated	\$ 4,902	\$ 4,840	1.3 %	\$ 14,592	\$ 14,083	3.6 %

Table of Contents

Significant regional trends were as follows:

North America net sales decreased 7.0% for the three months ended September 30, 2008 compared to the same period in 2007, primarily due to a 10.9% decrease in units sold. The decline in units sold is primarily due to decreased industry demand resulting from a continued weak U.S. economy in 2008. Partially offsetting the decrease in units sold is a 4.4% increase in the average unit selling price primarily due to better product price/mix, new product introductions and product innovation in 2008 compared to 2007. For the nine month period, net sales decreased 4.7% compared to the same period in 2007, primarily due to a 6.9% decrease in units sold. Partially offsetting the decrease in units sold is a 2.3% increase in the average unit selling price due to the same factors affecting the three month comparison.

Europe net sales increased 8.9% for the three months ended September 30, 2008 compared to the same period in 2007. The increase in sales is primarily due to a higher average unit selling price in 2008, which increased 11.0% due primarily to the impact of favorable foreign currency as well as better product price/mix, partially offset by a lower number of units sold due to decreased demand in Europe. For the nine month period, net sales increased 12.9% compared to the same period in 2007. Sales increases for the nine month period were due primarily to a 13.4% higher average unit selling price resulting from favorable foreign currency and better product price/mix compared to 2007. Excluding the impact of foreign currency, Europe net sales decreased 0.4% and 1.6% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008, respectively, compared to the same periods in 2007.

Latin America net sales increased 21.7% for the three months ended September 30, 2008 compared to the same period in 2007, primarily due to a 6.8% increase in average unit selling price and a 14.0% increase in units sold. The increase in sales due to a higher average unit selling price is the result of the favorable impact of foreign currency, new product introductions and product innovation and improved product price/mix. The increase in volume is due to continued strong growth in the appliance industry, increased market share and favorable economic conditions throughout the region. For the nine month period, net sales increased 22.5% as a result of an increase in volume of 11.6% and an increase in the average unit selling price of 9.7%, due primarily to the impact of foreign currency and the other factors affecting the three month comparison. Contributing to higher sales in both the three and nine month period, compared to 2007, is an increase in BEFIEX credits monetized in 2008 as a result of higher volume. During the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, we monetized \$43 million and \$25 million of BEFIEX credits, respectively. During the nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, we monetized \$131 million and \$82 million of BEFIEX credits, respectively. We expect to continue recognizing credits as they are monetized. As of September 30, 2008, \$790 million of BEFIEX credits remain. Excluding the impact of foreign currency, Latin America net sales increased 11.2% and 8.5% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008, respectively, compared to the same periods in 2007.

Asia net sales increased 11.3% for the three months ended September 30, 2008 compared to the same period in 2007, primarily due to a 13.1% increase in units sold as a result of strong growth in China and continued strong growth in India. For the nine month period, net sales increased 12.7% compared to the same period in 2007, primarily due to a 7.6% increase in units sold. The increase in volume for the nine month period is due to continued strong growth in the appliance industry, increased market share and favorable economic conditions throughout the region during the first nine months of the year. Also contributing to higher sales is a 4.7% increase in the average unit selling price. Factors affecting a higher average unit selling price include the impact of favorable foreign currency, successful new product introductions and improved product price/mix. Excluding the impact of foreign currency, Asia net sales increased 16.2% and 10.7% from the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008, respectively, compared to the same periods in 2007.

Table of Contents**Gross Margin**

The consolidated gross margin percentage for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2008 decreased as compared to the same periods in 2007 due primarily to higher material and oil-related costs. The decreases were partially offset by productivity improvements and improved product price/mix.

The table below summarizes percentages by region:

	Three Months Ended September 30,			Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2008	2007	Change	2008	2007	Change
North America	10.9%	11.5%	(0.6)pts	10.9%	12.5%	(1.6)pts
Europe	15.5	18.5	(3.0)	15.1	15.9	(0.8)
Latin America	19.7	19.2	0.5	20.8	20.1	0.7
Asia	18.0	13.5	4.5	18.1	15.4	2.7
Consolidated	14.0	14.3	(0.3)	14.1	14.6	(0.5)

Significant regional trends were as follows:

North America gross margin decreased for the three month period ended September 30, 2008 compared to 2007 primarily due to higher material and oil-related costs and lower industry demand. We expect gross margin to continue to be challenged by a continued slowing U.S. economy and a difficult cost environment in the foreseeable future. These decreases were partially offset by productivity improvements and improved product price/mix. For the nine month period ended September 30, 2008, the decline in gross margin was primarily due to higher material and oil-related costs and lower industry demand. These decreases were partially offset by productivity improvements and better product price/mix.

Europe gross margin decreased for both the three and nine month periods in 2008 as compared to 2007 due primarily to lower productivity, industry demand and higher material and oil-related costs, which were partially offset by improved product price/mix. Contributing to lower gross margin in both the three and nine month period compared to 2007 were gains from asset sales of \$9 million compared with \$32 million recognized in 2007. Lower gains in 2008 associated with asset sales were partially offset by higher gains of \$5 million from insurance proceeds that are not in the comparable period in 2007.

Latin America gross margin increased for both the three and nine month periods in 2008 compared to 2007 due primarily to productivity improvements, improvements in product price/mix and regional tax incentives associated primarily with BEFIEEX, which combined to more than offset higher material and oil-related costs.

Asia gross margin increased for both the three and nine month periods in 2008 as compared to 2007 due to improvements in product price/mix and productivity, which more than offset higher material and oil related costs.

Selling, General and Administrative

The table below summarizes selling, general and administrative expenses as a percentage of sales by region:

Millions of dollars	Three Months Ended September 30,				Nine Months Ended September 30,			
	2008	As a % of Sales	2007	As a % of Sales	2008	As a % of Sales	2007	As a % of Sales
Selling, general and administrative expenses								
North America	\$ 218	8.0%	\$ 198	6.7%	\$ 662	8.0%	\$ 593	6.8%

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Europe	116	10.7	101	10.1	318	10.3	260	9.5
Latin America	78	7.9	53	6.5	241	8.2	198	8.3
Asia	24	17.5	22	17.9	75	16.6	65	16.2
Corporate/Other	41		40		123		136	
Consolidated	\$ 477	9.7%	\$ 414	8.6%	\$ 1,419	9.7%	\$ 1,252	8.9%

Table of Contents

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008, consolidated selling, general and administrative expenses, as a percent of consolidated net sales, increased as compared to the prior year period, primarily due to higher brand investment and higher infrastructure costs. Additionally, this increase was impacted by a \$12 million operating tax credit recorded by our Latin America region during the third quarter of 2007.

Restructuring

Restructuring initiatives resulted in charges of \$24 million for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and \$72 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2008, reflecting ongoing efforts to optimize our global operating platform. This amount has been identified as a separate component of operating profit and primarily relates to anticipated charges to shift refrigeration capacity within North America and Laundry capacity to North America, reorganize certain portions of the salaried workforce in Europe, and restructure portions of our global operating platform.

On October 27, 2008, management committed to a workforce reduction plan whereby we will reduce our employee base worldwide between the fourth quarter of 2008 and the third quarter of 2009. For additional information about restructuring activities see Note 8 to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

Interest and Sundry Income (Expense)

Interest and sundry expense decreased \$14 million for the three months ended September 30, 2008 when compared to the same period one year ago primarily due to higher interest income. The \$14 million increase in net expense for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 when compared to the same prior year period is primarily due to the impact of foreign currency and legal settlement costs, which were partially offset by the same factors affecting the three month comparison.

Interest Expense

Interest expense was consistent for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008 when compared to the same periods one year ago as higher debt levels were offset by lower interest rates.

Income Taxes

The effective income tax rate for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008 was (37.8) % and (11.6) % compared to 4.2% and 13.8% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007. The decrease from prior periods is primarily due to a decline in the expected 2008 profitability in the U.S. during the quarter ended September 30, 2008, the impact of a shift in earnings dispersion to our international locations and the impact of discrete items primarily associated with strategic tax planning and an agreement with foreign tax authorities. The decrease in the effective tax rate for the three months ended September 30, 2008 resulted in an increase in earnings per share of \$.68 as compared to the prior year. For additional information about Income Taxes see Note 9 to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

Earnings from Continuing Operations

Earnings from continuing operations for the current quarter were \$163 million or \$2.15 per diluted share, versus \$175 million, or \$2.20 per diluted share in the comparable prior period, respectively, due to the factors described above. Earnings from continuing operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 were \$374 million or \$4.89 per diluted share, versus \$460 million, or \$5.72 per diluted share in the comparable prior period, respectively, due to the factors described above.

Net Earnings

Net earnings for the current quarter were \$163 million or \$2.15 per diluted share, versus \$175 million, or \$2.20 per diluted share in the comparable prior period, respectively due to the factors described above. Net earnings for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 were \$374 million or \$4.89 per diluted share, versus \$453 million, or \$5.63 per diluted share in the comparable prior period, respectively, due to the factors described above.

UPDATE: FORWARD-LOOKING PERSPECTIVE

We have continued to experience intensified macroeconomic challenges in North America and are now experiencing similar macroeconomic challenges in the European market. These conditions are primarily related to higher than expected material and oil-related costs and decreased

demand. As a result, we are reducing our full year outlook for diluted earnings per share and free cash flow for 2008. We estimate that our earnings per diluted share will be in the range of \$5.75 to \$6.00 and our free cash flow will be in the range of \$0 to \$50 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. We are also updating our outlook for demand within North America and Europe which we expect to decline 10% and 3 to 4% respectively for 2008, as compared to 2007. We expect these conditions to continue in the foreseeable future. We have continued to pursue actions to mitigate the impact of these challenges including implementing previously announced cost-based price increases, accelerating productivity and implementing cost control initiatives including certain restructuring initiatives discussed in Item 5 Other Information in this Form 10-Q. We continue to invest in our brands to bring new innovative products to consumers around the world.

Table of Contents

The table below reconciles projected 2008 cash provided by continuing operations determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) in the United States to free cash flow, a non-GAAP measure. Management believes that free cash flow provides shareholders with a relevant measure of liquidity and a useful basis for assessing Whirlpool's ability to fund its activities and obligations. There are limitations to using non-GAAP financial measures, including the difficulty associated with comparing companies that use similarly named non-GAAP measures whose calculations may differ from our calculations. We define free cash flow as cash provided by continuing operations after capital expenditures and proceeds from the sale of assets/businesses. The projections shown here are based upon many estimates and are inherently subject to change based on future decisions made by management and the board of directors of Whirlpool, and significant economic, competitive and other uncertainties and contingencies.

Millions of dollars

Cash provided by continuing operating activities	\$ 500 - \$ 525
Capital expenditures	(535) - (550)
Proceeds from sale of assets/businesses	35 - 75
Free cash flow	\$ - \$ 50

Agreements with Trade Customers

We enter into agreements with our trade customers from time to time in the ordinary course of business. Most of our products are not sold through long-term agreements. Most trade customers have the ability to change volume among suppliers.

We regularly negotiate with major trade customers and manufacturers regarding supply arrangements for future periods beyond the current year. Sears is a major trade customer for both our OEM and Whirlpool branded products, which accounted for approximately 12%, 14% and 16% of our consolidated net sales for 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The products and volumes we supply and the revenues we obtain may be significantly different in the future than those which currently exist and there is the potential for such sales to be less than 10% of our consolidated net sales for the full year 2008 and beyond. In the past, when faced with a potential volume reduction from any one particular segment of our trade distribution network, we generally have been able to offset such decline through increased sales to other parts of our distribution network. We are continuing our efforts to grow our distribution channels by strengthening our brands through innovation and execution of our brand-focused value creation strategy.

FINANCIAL CONDITION AND LIQUIDITY

Our objective is to finance our business through operating cash flow and the appropriate mix of long-term and short-term debt. By diversifying the maturity structure, we avoid concentrations of debt, reducing liquidity risk. We have varying needs for short-term working capital financing as a result of the nature of our business. The volume and timing of refrigeration and air conditioning production impacts our cash flows and consists of increased production in the first half of the year to meet increased demand in the summer months. We finance working capital fluctuations primarily through the commercial paper markets in the U.S. and Europe.

The funding markets have been volatile in the recent quarter and we have experienced negative global economic trends. Despite this volatility and disruption, we have continued to have access to the commercial paper market. In the event that global volatility and challenging economic trends prevent us from accessing the commercial paper market, we continue to have available a \$2.2 billion undrawn committed bank line of credit, provided by a syndicate of highly-rated banks. This facility matures in December 2010. Outside the U.S., short-term funding is provided by bank borrowings on uncommitted lines of credit. We believe that our operating cash flow, together with access to sufficient sources of liquidity, will be adequate to meet our ongoing funding requirements. We are in compliance with the financial covenants of debt agreements with lenders for all periods presented. For a description of financing arrangements that had an effect on our liquidity, see Note 4 of the Notes to the Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements.

Defined Benefit Plans

On August 1, 2008, we amended certain retiree medical benefits associated with our Newton, Iowa manufacturing facility to be consistent with those benefits provided by the Whirlpool Corporation Group Benefit Plan, resulting in a reduction in the postretirement benefit obligation \$229 million with a corresponding increase to other comprehensive income, net of tax, within equity of our Consolidated Condensed Balance Sheet at September 30, 2008. For additional information, see Note 10 of the Notes to the Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

Share Repurchase Program

In June 2004, our Board of Directors authorized a share repurchase program of up to \$500 million. During 2007, we repurchased 3.8 million shares at an aggregate purchase price of \$368 million and during the three months ended March 31, 2008, we repurchased 1.1 million shares at an aggregate purchase price of \$97 million under this program. At March 31, 2008, there were no remaining funds authorized under this program.

On April 23, 2008, our Board of Directors authorized a new share repurchase program of up to \$500 million. Share repurchases are made from time to time on the open market as conditions warrant. During the nine months ended September 30, 2008, we repurchased 1.9 million shares at an aggregate purchase price of \$150 million under this program. At September 30, 2008, there were \$350 million remaining funds authorized under this program. Given the challenging macroeconomic conditions and volatility in the funding markets we have suspended our share repurchase program.

Sources and Uses of Cash

We expect to meet our cash needs for 2008 from cash flows from continuing operations, cash and equivalents and financing arrangements. Our cash and equivalents were \$425 million at September 30, 2008, as compared to \$258 million at September 30, 2007.

Cash Flows from Operating Activities of Continuing Operations

Cash used in continuing operating activities in 2008 was \$6 million, a decrease of \$134 million compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2007. Cash used in continuing operations reflects lower earnings primarily from our North America and Europe segments as compared to 2007. Cash used in continuing operations also reflects an increase in accounts receivable due primarily to higher vendor payment terms, higher pension contributions, and lower accounts payable. The above decreases in cash flows were partially offset by lower restructuring spending.

Cash Flows from Investing Activities of Continuing Operations

Cash used in investing activities from continuing operations was an outflow of \$343 million in 2008 compared to an outflow of \$111 million for the same period last year. The increase in cash used in investing activities was primarily due to the prior year receipt of proceeds from the sale of certain Maytag discontinued businesses of \$100 million, higher capital spending, and lower proceeds from the sale of assets in 2008.

Cash Flows from Financing Activities of Continuing Operations

Cash provided by financing activities from continuing operations was \$607 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2008 compared to an outflow of \$51 million for the comparable period in the prior year. Net proceeds of short-term borrowings were \$561 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 compared to \$242 million for the comparable period in the prior year. The current year period also reflects proceeds received related to the issuance of \$500 million of 5.5% notes due March 1, 2013 and the repayment of \$125 million of 9.1% debentures. During 2008, we repurchased stock totaling \$247 million, paid dividends to common stockholders totaling \$98 million and received proceeds from the issuance of common stock related to option exercises of \$21 million. During 2007, we repurchased stock totaling \$251 million, paid dividends to common stockholders totaling \$101 million and received proceeds from the issuance of common stock related to option exercises of \$63 million.

Table of Contents

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

There have been no material changes to our exposures to market risk since December 31, 2007.

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

(a) Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures.

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that are designed to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed in our filings under the Securities Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the periods specified in the rules and forms of the Securities and Exchange Commission and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Prior to filing this report, we completed an evaluation under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures as of September 30, 2008. Based on this evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective at the reasonable assurance level as of September 30, 2008.

(b) Changes in internal control over financial reporting.

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the most recent fiscal quarter that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

Table of Contents**PART II. OTHER INFORMATION****Item 1. Legal Proceedings**

Information with respect to legal proceedings can be found under the heading "Commitments and Contingencies" in Note 5 to the Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements contained in Part 1, Item 1 of this report.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

There have been no material changes in our risk factors from those disclosed in Part I, Item IA to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007, other than changes to the risk factor disclosed below, and changes to this risk factor set forth in Part II Item IA in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter in period ended June 30, 2008. The risk factors disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, as amended by our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the second quarter of fiscal 2008, in addition to the other information set forth in this report, could materially affect our business, financial condition or results. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial also may materially adversely affect our business, financial condition or results.

Changes in economic conditions could adversely affect our business. A number of economic factors, including, but not limited to, gross domestic product, consumer interest rates, consumer confidence and debt levels, retail trends, housing starts, sales of existing homes, the level of mortgage refinancing, and foreign currency exchange rates, generally affect demand for our products. Recessionary economic cycles, higher unemployment rates, higher fuel and other energy costs, and higher tax rates adversely affect demand. A decline in economic activity and conditions in the United States and any other markets in which we operate, which have recently deteriorated significantly, could adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations. There can be no assurances that government responses to disruptions in the financial markets will restore consumer confidence for the foreseeable future.

Item 2. Unregistered Sale of Securities. Use of Proceeds and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

On April 23, 2008, our Board of Directors authorized a new share repurchase program of up to \$500 million. Share repurchases are made from time to time on the open market as conditions warrant. During the nine months ended September 30, 2008, we repurchased 1.9 million shares at an aggregate purchase price of \$150 million under this program. At September 30, 2008, there were \$350 million remaining funds authorized under this program.

The following table summarizes repurchases of Whirlpool's common stock in the quarter ended September 30, 2008:

Fiscal period (Millions of dollars, except number and price per share)	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	Approximate Dollar Value of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plan
July 1, 2008 through July 31, 2008		\$		\$ 446
August 1, 2008 through August 31, 2008	831,000	79.18	831,000	380
September 1, 2008 through September 30, 2008	359,500	83.48	359,500	350
Total	1,190,500	80.48	1,190,500	

During the March 2008 quarter, we purchased approximately 1.1 million shares of Whirlpool common stock under a \$500 million share repurchase program authorized by our Board of Directors on June 15, 2004. At March 31, 2008, there were no remaining funds authorized under this program.

Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

None

Table of Contents

Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

None

Item 5. Other Information

On October 27, 2008, management committed to a workforce reduction plan whereby we will reduce our employee base worldwide from the fourth quarter of 2008 through the end of 2009. We expect to incur approximately \$118 million in employee termination costs, \$19 million in asset impairment costs and \$1 million in other associated costs for a total of \$138 million that will be incurred as a result of this workforce reduction. Approximately \$70 million of these costs are expected to be recognized in the fourth quarter of 2008. Of the \$138 million in total charges, approximately \$115 million of these costs will result in future cash expenditures.

Our prior 2008 restructuring initiatives, together with the workforce reduction plan discussed above, will reduce our overall workforce by approximately 5,000 employees and contractors worldwide over the course of 2008 and 2009.

Item 6. Exhibits

a. The following are included herein:

Exhibit 31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer, Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

Exhibit 31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer, Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

Exhibit 32.1 Certifications Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

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.

WHIRLPOOL CORPORATION
(Registrant)

By /s/ ROY W. TEMPLIN
Name: Roy W. Templin
Title: Executive Vice President

and Chief Financial Officer

(Principal Financial Officer)

October 28, 2008