

LIFELINE SYSTEMS INC
Form 10-Q
November 12, 2003

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 quarter ended September 30, 2003

Commission File Number 0-13617

LIFELINE SYSTEMS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

MASSACHUSETTS
**(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)**

04-2537528
**(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)**

111 Lawrence Street
Framingham, Massachusetts
(Address of principal executive offices)

01702-8156
(Zip Code)

(508) 988-1000

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act: NONE

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

Common stock \$0.02 par value

(Title of Class)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (i) 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 (ii) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes x No "

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an accelerated filer Yes x No "

Number of shares outstanding of the issuer's class of common stock as of October 31, 2003: 6,677,423

LIFELINE SYSTEMS, INC.

INDEX

	PAGE
<hr/>	
PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION	
ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
<u>Consolidated Balance Sheets September 30, 2003 (unaudited) and December 31, 2002</u>	3
<u>Consolidated Statements of Income and Comprehensive Income (unaudited) Three and nine months ended September 30, 2003 and 2002</u>	4
<u>Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (unaudited) Nine months ended September 30, 2003 and 2002</u>	5
<u>Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	6-12
<u>ITEM 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Results of Operations and Financial Condition</u>	13-20
<u>ITEM 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk</u>	20
<u>ITEM 4. Controls and Procedures</u>	21
PART II. OTHER INFORMATION	
<u>ITEM 6. Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K</u>	21
<u>SIGNATURES</u>	22
<u>EXHIBITS</u>	23

LIFELINE SYSTEMS, INC.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(Dollars in thousands)

	September 30,	December 31,
	2003	2002
	(Unaudited)	
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 19,317	\$ 11,065
Accounts receivable, net	9,979	10,416
Inventories	6,334	5,457
Net investment in sales-type leases	2,199	2,220
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	2,447	2,323
Deferred income taxes	1,789	1,602
Total current assets	42,065	33,083
Property and equipment, net	33,059	31,418
Goodwill, net	7,226	7,226
Other intangible assets, net	8,951	7,365
Net investment in sales-type leases	4,501	4,434
Other assets	336	134
Total assets	\$ 96,138	\$ 83,660
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 3,072	\$ 2,341
Accrued expenses	5,428	3,332
Accrued payroll and payroll taxes	4,861	4,409
Accrued income taxes	2,055	1,691
Deferred revenues	1,139	877
Current portion of capital lease obligation, product warranty and other current liabilities	279	575
Accrued other non-recurring charge		310
Total current liabilities	16,834	13,535
Deferred income taxes	7,058	7,251
Long term portion of capital lease obligation and other non-current liabilities	203	81
Total liabilities	24,095	20,867
Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock, \$0.02 par value, 20,000,000 shares authorized, 7,270,844 shares issued at September 30, 2003 and 7,101,227 shares issued at December 31, 2002	145	142
Additional paid-in capital	26,136	23,869
Retained earnings	50,720	43,576
Less: Treasury stock at cost, 621,089 shares at September 30, 2003 and December 31, 2002	(4,556)	(4,556)
Unearned compensation expense	(660)	
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) cumulative translation adjustment	258	(238)
Total stockholders' equity	72,043	62,793

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Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 96,138	\$ 83,660
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

- 3 -

LIFELINE SYSTEMS, INC.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

(In thousands except for per share data)

(Unaudited)

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
Revenues				
Services	\$ 23,258	\$ 19,841	\$ 66,910	\$ 57,479
Net product sales	5,856	6,167	16,929	19,200
Finance and rental income	310	338	956	987
Total revenues	29,424	26,346	84,795	77,666
Costs and expenses				
Cost of services	12,186	11,115	36,003	32,727
Cost of sales	2,019	1,746	5,518	5,978
Selling, general, and administrative	10,268	9,548	30,837	28,463
Research and development	456	387	1,431	1,298
Other non-recurring item (Note 5)			(700)	
Total costs and expenses	24,929	22,796	73,089	68,466
Income from operations	4,495	3,550	11,706	9,200
Other income (expense)				
Interest income	56	23	152	73
Interest expense	(11)	(1)	(33)	(142)
Other income (expense)	(15)		81	32
Total other income (expense), net	30	22	200	(37)
Income before income taxes	4,525	3,572	11,906	9,163
Provision for income taxes	1,809	1,429	4,762	3,666
Net income	2,716	2,143	7,144	5,497
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax				
Foreign currency translation adjustments		(115)	298	(2)
Comprehensive income	\$ 2,716	\$ 2,028	\$ 7,442	\$ 5,495
Net income per weighted average share:				
Basic	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.33	\$ 1.09	\$ 0.86
Diluted	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.32	\$ 1.05	\$ 0.82

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Weighted average shares:				
Basic	6,637	6,458	6,541	6,407
Diluted	7,016	6,728	6,831	6,730

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

LIFELINE SYSTEMS, INC.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(Dollars in thousands)

(Unaudited)

	Nine months ended September 30,	
	2003	2002
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income	\$ 7,144	\$ 5,497
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	8,561	7,484
Amortization of unearned compensation	94	
Deferred income tax provision (benefit)	(380)	350
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	550	1,517
Inventories	(877)	(2,116)
Net investment in sales-type leases	(46)	612
Prepaid expenses, other current assets and other assets	(195)	(290)
Accrued payroll and payroll taxes	340	(862)
Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other liabilities	3,133	3,135
Accrued other non-recurring charge	(310)	(699)
Net cash provided by operating activities	18,014	14,628
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Additions to property and equipment	(8,018)	(5,821)
Business purchases and other	(3,332)	(2,133)
Net cash used in investing activities	(11,350)	(7,954)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Principal payments under long term obligations	(74)	(7,056)
Proceeds from issuance of common stock	1,516	1,614
Repayment of notes by officer		550
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	1,442	(4,892)
Effect of foreign exchange on cash	146	(13)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	8,252	1,769
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	11,065	5,742
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 19,317	\$ 7,511
Non-cash activity:		
Deferred compensation		(5)

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

- 5 -

LIFELINE SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Unaudited)

1. The information furnished has been prepared from the accounts without audit. In the opinion of the Company, the accompanying consolidated financial statements contain all adjustments necessary, consisting only of those of a normal recurring nature, to present fairly its consolidated financial position as of September 30, 2003 and the consolidated statements of income and cash flows for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2003 and 2002.

While the Company believes that the disclosures presented are adequate to make the information not misleading, these statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and the related notes included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, commonly referred to as the SEC, on March 27, 2003, for the year ended December 31, 2002.

The results of operations for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2003 are not necessarily indicative of the results expected for the full year.

2. Details of certain balance sheet captions are as follows (in thousands):

	September 30, 2003	December 31, 2002
Inventories:		
Purchased parts and assemblies	\$ 1,862	\$ 1,971
Work-in-process	150	132
Finished goods	4,322	3,354
	<u>\$ 6,334</u>	<u>\$ 5,457</u>
Property and equipment:		
Equipment	\$ 30,277	\$ 31,979
Furniture and fixtures	3,840	2,986
Equipment provided to customers	20,939	17,477
Equipment under capital leases	258	322
Leasehold improvements	8,149	5,982
Construction in progress	865	1,708
	<u>64,328</u>	<u>60,454</u>
Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization	<u>(31,269)</u>	<u>(29,036)</u>
Total property and equipment, net	<u>\$ 33,059</u>	<u>\$ 31,418</u>

During the nine months ended September 30, 2003 and for the year ended December 31, 2002, the Company removed from its books approximately \$4.9 million and \$3.0 million, respectively, of fully depreciated property and equipment and the related accumulated depreciation, which is no longer in use.

- 6 -

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (continued)**3. STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY**

At December 31, 2002, the Company adopted the disclosure requirements of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 148 (SFAS 148), Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation Transition and Disclosure. SFAS 148 amends Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (SFAS 123), Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation, to provide alternative methods of transition for a voluntary change to the fair value based method of accounting for stock-based compensation and also amends the disclosure requirements of SFAS 123 to require prominent disclosures in both annual and interim financial statements about the methods of accounting for stock-based employee compensation and the effect of the method used on reported results. As permitted by SFAS 148 and SFAS 123, the Company continues to apply the accounting provisions of Accounting Principles Board Opinion (APB) No. 25, Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees, and related interpretations, with respect to the measurement of compensation cost for options granted under the Company's stock-based employee compensation plans. No employee compensation expense has been recorded as all options granted had an exercise price equal to the fair market value of the underlying common stock on the date of grant. The following table illustrates the effect on net income and earnings per share for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2003 and 2002 as if the fair value based method had been applied to all outstanding and unvested awards in each period.

	For the three months ended September 30,		For the nine months ended September 30,	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
<i>(Dollars in thousands, except per share amounts)</i>				
Net income, as reported	\$ 2,716	\$ 2,143	\$ 7,144	\$ 5,497
Deduct: total stock-based compensation expense determined under the fair value method for all awards, net of tax	(367)	(302)	(1,102)	(925)
Pro forma net income	\$ 2,349	\$ 1,841	\$ 6,042	\$ 4,572
Earnings per share				
Basic - as reported	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.33	\$ 1.09	\$ 0.86
Basic - pro forma	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.92	\$ 0.71
Diluted - as reported	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.32	\$ 1.05	\$ 0.82
Diluted - pro forma	\$ 0.33	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.88	\$ 0.68

For the three months ended September 30, 2003 and 2002, there were no options excluded from the computation of diluted net income per share. For the nine months ended September 30, 2003 and 2002, options to purchase 47,700 shares and 51,550 shares, respectively, at an average exercise price of \$26.02 per share and \$26.05 per share, respectively, were not included in the computation of diluted net income per share as their effect would have been anti-dilutive.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (continued)**3. STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (continued)***Restricted Stock*

In accordance with the terms of a new employment agreement between the Company and its Chief Executive Officer, the Company issued 36,000 shares of restricted stock to its Chief Executive Officer, effective February 13, 2003, in consideration of future services. The shares are subject to vesting at the rate of one-third of such shares at the end of the 36th month following the date of grant, one third at the end of the 48th month following the date of grant, and one-third at the end of the 60th month following the date of grant. The fair market value of these shares was recorded as unearned compensation expense within Stockholders' Equity and is being expensed as part of selling, general and administrative expenses from the date of issuance over the vesting period.

4. SEGMENT INFORMATION

The Company operates in one industry segment. Its operations consist of providing personal response services associated with its products. The Company maintains sales, marketing and monitoring operations in both the United States and Canada.

Geographic Segment Data

Net revenues from customers are based on the location of the customer. Geographic information related to the results of operations for the periods ended September 30, 2003 and 2002 and the financial position as of September 30, 2003 and December 31, 2002 is presented as follows (in thousands):

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
Net Sales:				
United States	\$ 26,493	\$ 24,213	\$ 76,551	\$ 71,481
Canada	2,931	2,133	8,244	6,185
	<u>\$ 29,424</u>	<u>\$ 26,346</u>	<u>\$ 84,795</u>	<u>\$ 77,666</u>
Net Income:				
United States	\$ 2,390	\$ 1,969	\$ 6,404	\$ 4,939
Canada	326	174	740	558
	<u>\$ 2,716</u>	<u>\$ 2,143</u>	<u>\$ 7,144</u>	<u>\$ 5,497</u>

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	September 30, 2003	December 31, 2002
Total Assets:		
United States	\$ 88,288	\$ 77,317
Canada	7,850	6,343
	\$ 96,138	\$ 83,660

- 8 -

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (continued)

5. NON RECURRING CHARGE

In September 2000, the Company recorded a pre-tax non-recurring charge of approximately \$2.7 million for costs it expected to incur to address erroneous low-battery signals in some of its personal help buttons. Included in the non-recurring charge were material and mailing costs for exchanging buttons, providing hospital programs with higher inventory levels for the planned swap, and the cost of installer visits to subscriber homes to replace the buttons.

On May 1, 2003, the Company reached an agreement with one of its former vendors related to the Company's aforementioned erroneous low battery signal. The vendor paid the Company \$0.7 million in exchange for a mutual release of claims and the Company recorded this settlement as an other non-recurring item. The payment reimburses the Company for some of the costs it incurred in addressing this matter.

The Company utilized the remaining accrued non-recurring charge during the first half of 2003.

6. LONG TERM DEBT

In August 2002, the Company entered into a \$15.0 million revolving credit agreement. The agreement has two components, the first of which is the ability to obtain a revolving credit loan with an interest rate based on the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR). The second component is the ability to obtain a revolving credit loan with an interest rate based on the lender's prime interest rate. The Company has the option to elect to convert any outstanding revolving credit loan to a revolving credit loan of the other type. The agreement contains several covenants, including the Company maintaining certain levels of financial performance. These financial covenants include a requirement for a current ratio of at least 1.5 to 1.0 and an operating cash flow to total debt service ratio of no less than 1.75 to 1.0.

In addition, there are certain negative covenants that include restrictions on the disposition of the Company's assets, restrictions on the Company's capacity to obtain additional debt financing, and restrictions on its investment portfolio. The agreement also requires the Company to pay a commitment fee of one quarter of one percent (1/4%) per annum on the unused amount of the credit facility.

This revolving credit agreement matures in August 2005. As of September 30, 2003 the Company did not have any debt outstanding under this line.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (continued)**7. GOODWILL AND INTANGIBLES**

In July 2003, the Company completed the acquisition of the assets of the Emergency Response Systems business unit of March Networks Corporation, a privately held developer of broadband IP applications and delivery platforms. The acquisition includes the Emergency Response Systems and Outreach Personal Emergency Response Services of March Networks. The terms of the all cash acquisition include an earn-out provision. The Company does not expect this acquisition to have a material impact on its results of operations for the year ended December 31, 2003.

During the first nine months of 2003, the Company recorded intangible assets related to provider agreements whereby it agrees to provide monitoring and/or business support services to the customer under a LMS or BMS program in accordance with the terms of the agreement. The Company amortizes the acquisition costs associated with LMS programs over the life of the agreements, which is typically five years.

The Company has obtained the guidance of an independent valuation expert in the determination of assessing the appropriate values of the assets identified in the aforementioned BMS program acquisitions and provider agreements. One of the assets identified was referral sources, which is estimated to have a useful life between five and fifteen years.

Intangible Assets

At September 30, 2003 and December 31, 2002, the majority of the acquired intangible assets were related to provider agreements entered into with customers for conversion to services provided by the Company:

(Dollars in thousands)

	September 30, 2003	December 31, 2002
Gross carrying amount	\$ 17,272	\$ 13,774
Less: accumulated amortization	(8,321)	(6,409)
Net book value	\$ 8,951	\$ 7,365

All of the Company's acquired intangible assets, other than goodwill, are subject to amortization. Amortization expense for acquired intangible assets, which is included in both cost of services and selling, general and administrative expenses, for the nine months ended September 30, 2003 and 2002 was approximately \$1,818,000 and \$1,553,000 respectively.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (continued)**7. GOODWILL AND INTANGIBLES (continued)**

Estimated amortization expense for the current fiscal year and the succeeding four years is as follows:

Fiscal Year Ended December 31,	Amount
2003	\$ 2,442
2004	2,270
2005	1,348
2006	843
2007	682

8. NEWLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

In July 2002, the FASB issued SFAS No. 146 Accounting for Costs Associated with Exit or Disposal Activities. SFAS 146 replaces Emerging Issues Task Force Issue No. 94-3 Liability Recognition for Certain Employee Termination Benefits and Other Costs to Exit an Activity. SFAS 146 requires the recognition of costs associated with exit or disposal activities when they are incurred rather than at the date of a commitment to an exit or disposal plan. SFAS 146 is to be applied prospectively to exit or disposal activities initiated after December 31, 2002. The Company does not believe that the adoption of SFAS 146 will have a significant impact on its financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

On November 25, 2002, the FASB issued FASB Interpretation No. 45 (FIN 45), Guarantor's Accounting and Disclosure for Guarantees, Including Indirect Guarantees of Indebtedness of Others, an interpretation of FASB Statements No. 5, 57, and 107 and Rescission of FASB Interpretation No. 34. FIN 45 clarifies the requirements of FASB Statement No. 5, Accounting for Contingencies (FAS 5), relating to the guarantor's accounting for, and disclosure of, the issuance of certain types of guarantees. FIN 45 requires that, upon issuance of a guarantee, the guarantor must recognize a liability for the fair value of the obligation. FIN 45 is applicable to guarantees that encompass guarantees based on changes in an underlying asset, such as the Company's product warranty, liability or equity security, guarantees that are made on behalf of another entity's performance, certain indemnification agreements and indirect guarantees of the indebtedness of others. The recognition and measurement provisions of FIN 45 are effective prospectively for guarantees issued or modified after December 31, 2002. The disclosure requirements are effective for reporting periods ending after December 15, 2002. The Company is in the process of assessing the impact of FIN 45 recognition and measurement provisions on its consolidated financial statements. The Company does not believe that the adoption of FIN 45 will have a significant impact on its financial statements.

In December 2002, the FASB issued SFAS No. 148, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation Transition and Disclosure. SFAS 148 amends SFAS 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation, to provide alternative methods of transition for a voluntary change to the fair value

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (continued)

8. NEWLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS (continued)

method of accounting for stock-based employee compensation. In addition, this Statement amends the disclosure requirements of SFAS 123 to require prominent disclosures about the method of accounting for stock-based employee compensation and the effect of the method used on reported financial results. SFAS 148 amends APB Opinion No. 28, Interim Financial Reporting, to require these disclosures in interim financial information. The Company continues to account for their stock-based employee compensation under APB Opinion 25, but has adopted the new disclosure requirements of SFAS 148.

On January 17, 2003, the FASB issued FASB Interpretation No. 46 (FIN 46), Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities, an Interpretation of ARB No. 51. The primary objective of the Interpretation is to provide guidance on the identification of, and financial reporting for, entities over which control is achieved through means other than voting rights; such entities are known as variable-interest entities (VIEs). The Company has assessed the impact of FIN 46 and does not believe FIN 46 will impact the consolidated financial statements of the Company at this time.

9. SUBSEQUENT EVENT

On October 13, 2003, the Company's Board of Directors approved a two-for-one split of Lifeline Systems common stock in the form of a stock dividend. The two-for-one stock split is subject to the approval by shareholders of an increase in the number of shares the Company is authorized to issue.

A special shareholder meeting to approve an increase in the Company's authorized common stock to 50,000,000 shares, \$0.02 par value, from 20,000,000 shares is scheduled for December 3, 2003 for stockholders of record at the close of business on October 23, 2003. If the Company receives the requisite votes, the stock dividend will be payable on or about December 17, 2003 to stockholders of record on December 3, 2003. Upon completion of the stock split, approximately 13,300,000 shares of Lifeline common stock will be outstanding.

ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF RESULTS OF OPERATIONS AND FINANCIAL CONDITION

This and other reports, proxy statements, and other communications to stockholders, as well as oral statements by the Company's officers or its agents, may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, with respect to, among other things, the Company's future revenues, operating income, or earnings per share. Without limiting the foregoing, the words believes, anticipates, plans, expects, and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. There are a number of factors of which the Company is aware that may cause the Company's actual results to vary materially from those forecast or projected in any such forward-looking statement. These factors include, without limitation, those set forth below under the caption "Certain Factors That May Affect Future Results." The Company's failure to successfully address any of these factors could have a material adverse effect on the Company's future results of operations.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Total revenues for the three months ended September 30, 2003 increased approximately 12% to \$29.4 million from \$26.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2002. For the nine months ended September 30, 2003, total revenues were \$84.8 million, a 9% increase from \$77.7 million for the same period in 2002.

Service revenues, a key metric of the Company's performance, grew 17% to \$23.3 million for the third quarter of 2003 from \$19.8 million for the third quarter of 2002. For the nine months ended September 30, 2003, service revenues grew 16% to \$66.9 million from \$57.5 million for the same period in 2002 and represented approximately 79% of the Company's year-to-date total revenues as compared to 74% for the first nine months of 2002. The increase in the Company's recurring service revenues is a result of its effective pricing strategies, the organic growth it experienced in its monitored subscriber base and the conversion of hospital programs to the Company's higher service revenue offerings such as its Business Management Services (BMS) program. Overall, the Company achieved a 6% increase in its monitored subscriber base to 384,000 subscribers as of September 30, 2003 from 362,000 as of September 30, 2002. The Company's ability to sustain the current level of service revenue growth depends on its ability to continue with enhancements in service delivery, retain subscribers for longer periods of time, develop strategies to capture larger monthly revenues per subscriber, expand the market for its personal response services and convert community hospital programs to services provided by the Company. In addition, the Company is developing new subscriber growth opportunities that are intended to increase market penetration and build more awareness of the service the Company provides, thereby facilitating growth in subscribers. The Company believes that the high quality of its services and its commitment to providing caring and rapid response to the at-risk elderly will be factors in meeting its growth objective.

Net product revenues for the third quarter of 2003 decreased 5% to \$5.9 million as compared to \$6.2 million for the third quarter of 2002. For the nine months ended September 30, 2003, net product revenues were \$16.9 million, a decrease of 12% from \$19.2 million for the same period in 2002. The expected decline is a result of a lower volume of home communicator sales by the Company for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2003 reflecting the continuing trend of its healthcare channel to convert to the Company's full service offering as well as capital constraints the

Company's hospital customers are encountering when needing to purchase new home communicators. This decline in volume was mitigated in part by growth the Company experienced with sales to its senior living facility customers. The Company expects that equipment sales for the year ended December 31, 2003 will be lower than the prior year.

Finance and rental income, representing revenue earned from the Company's portfolio of sales-type leases, decreased approximately 8% in the third quarter of 2003 to \$0.31 million, from \$0.34 million for the third quarter of 2002. For the nine months ended September 30, 2003, finance and rental income was \$0.96 million, a decrease of 3% from \$0.99 million for the first nine months of 2002. With the Company's focus on its service offerings it expects finance income to decline in future periods because such income is directly related to product sales.

Cost of services, as a percentage of service revenues, improved 4% to 52% for the quarter ended September 30, 2003 as compared to 56% for the same period in 2002. For the nine months ended September 30, 2003, cost of services was 54% of total service revenues, a 3% improvement from 57% for the nine months ended September 30, 2002. The improvement is mainly attributable to the Company's strategy of making its service offerings more profitable by implementing productivity and process improvements in its call centers, leveraging the capabilities of its CareSystem monitoring platform and effective pricing strategies. On a dollar basis, cost of services increased \$3.3 million to \$36.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2003 from \$32.7 million for the comparable prior period as a result of the following factors. During the first nine months of 2003, the Company incurred expenditures associated with its new back-up U.S. call monitoring facility, such as rent and building operating costs, that it did not incur during the first nine months of 2002. Also, the growth in the number of subscribers serviced under the Company's BMS program resulted in an increase in related expenses such as depreciation of the cost of home communicators provided to BMS subscribers and certain operational costs including data entry, customer service and information technology operations. The Company continues to focus on improving its service margins.

Cost of product sales as a percentage of net product sales, increased 6% to 34% for the three months ended September 30, 2003 as compared to 28% for the three months ended September 30, 2002. For the nine months ended September 30, 2003, cost of product sales increased to 33% from 31% for the same period in 2002. The percentage increases for the quarter and nine months ended September 30, 2003 was due to the increase in sales of emergency call systems to senior living facilities and sales as a result of the Company's July 2003 acquisition of the personal emergency response business unit of March Networks. Those products have higher costs as percentages of product sales than the Company's traditional home communicator healthcare sales. The Company expects that it will experience an increase in cost of product sales, as a percentage of net product sales for the year ended December 31, 2003, as a result of its senior living initiative.

Selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses as a percentage of total revenues decreased 1% for both the third quarter and nine months ended September 30, 2003 to 35% and 36%, respectively, from 36% and 37% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2002, respectively. The slight improvement is attributable primarily as a result of the revenue growth the Company experienced. SG&A expenditures increased approximately \$2.3 million to \$30.8 million for the first nine months of 2003 from \$28.5 million for the same period in 2002, as a result of the following factors. The Company incurred expenditures associated with the first full year of its direct marketing campaigns and other marketing initiatives. It also continues to experience the impact of

increases in insurance and healthcare benefit costs as it did in 2002. During the first nine months of 2003, the Company also incurred increased expenses in support of its senior living initiative as well as operational costs associated with the aforementioned March Networks acquisition. The Company expects that SG&A expenses, as a percentage of total revenues will remain relatively consistent as a percentage of total revenues during the remainder of 2003 as it continues with its business initiatives.

Research and development expenses were approximately 2% of total revenues for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2003 and 2002. Research and development efforts are focused on ongoing product improvements and developments. The Company expects to maintain these expenses, as a percentage of total revenues, at a relatively consistent level for the remainder of 2003.

On May 1, 2003, the Company reached an agreement with one of its former vendors related to the Company's previously mentioned erroneous low battery signal in some of its personal help buttons. The vendor paid the Company \$0.7 million in exchange for a mutual release of claims and the Company recorded this settlement as a restructuring and other non-recurring item. The payment reimburses the Company for some of the costs it incurred in addressing this matter.

The Company's effective tax rate was 40% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2003 and 2002.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

During the nine months ended September 30, 2003, the Company's portfolio of cash and cash equivalents increased approximately \$8.2 million to \$19.3 million from \$11.1 million at December 31, 2002. The majority of the increase is a direct result of cash provided by operating activities of \$18.0 million and included an increase in its accounts payable and accrued expenses of \$3.1 million, primarily as a result of the timing of expenditures related to its senior living initiative and other business and marketing initiatives, including its direct marketing campaigns. Proceeds from stock option exercises of \$1.5 million also contributed to the increase in cash. Offsetting some of the increase was the purchase of property and equipment of approximately \$8.0 million which included purchases for the Company's back-up U.S. call monitoring facility, and approximately \$3.3 million for acquisitions of distributors of the Company's personal response products and services and the acquisition of the assets of the Emergency Response Systems business unit of March Networks Corporation. The Company also experienced a net inventory increase of approximately \$0.9 million but anticipates its inventory balance will begin to decline during 2004 as it completes a full year of manufacturing assembly functions at its corporate location.

In August 2002, the Company entered into a \$15.0 million revolving credit agreement. The agreement has two components, the first of which is the ability to obtain a revolving credit loan with an interest rate based on the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR). The second component is the ability to obtain a revolving credit loan with an interest rate based on the lender's prime interest rate. The Company has the option to elect to convert any outstanding revolving credit loan to a revolving credit loan of the other type. The agreement contains several covenants, including the Company maintaining certain levels of financial performance. These financial covenants include a requirement for a current ratio of at least 1.5 to 1.0 and an operating cash flow to total debt service ratio of no less than 1.75 to 1.0.

In addition, there are certain negative covenants that include restrictions on the disposition of the Company's assets, restrictions on the Company's capacity to obtain additional debt financing, and restrictions on its investment portfolio. The agreement also requires the Company to pay a commitment fee of one quarter of one percent (1/4%) per annum on the unused amount of the credit facility.

This revolving credit agreement matures in August 2005. As of September 30, 2003 the Company did not have any debt outstanding under this line.

The following table summarizes the Company's existing contractual obligations as of September 30, 2003 and the effect such obligations are expected to have on its liquidity and cash flows in future periods:

(Dollars in thousands)

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Thereafter ⁽¹⁾
Contractual Obligations ⁽²⁾ :						
Capital leases	\$ 21	\$ 6				
Operating leases	408	1,680	\$ 1,615	\$ 1,514	\$ 1,447	\$ 8,096
Total Obligations	\$ 429	\$ 1,686	\$ 1,615	\$ 1,514	\$ 1,447	\$ 8,096

(1) The majority of this amount represents contractual obligations on the Company's corporate facility lease through the year 2013 and its second U.S. call center through 2012.

(2) The table does not include the line of credit, for up to \$15 million, which matures in August 2005 and with respect to which no amounts were outstanding at September 30, 2003.

The Company expects that funding requirements for operations and in support of future growth are expected to be met primarily from operating cash flow, existing cash and marketable securities and the availability from time to time under its line of credit. The Company expects these sources will be sufficient to finance the operating cash needs of the Company through the next twelve months. This includes the continued investments in its response center platform and its new back-up U.S. call monitoring facility, the requirements of its internally funded lease financing program and other investments in support of its current business. The Company may from time to time consider potential strategic acquisitions that may not be able to be financed through these sources. In such an event, the Company may consider appropriate alternative financing vehicles.

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations are based upon the Company's consolidated financial statements. The preparation of these consolidated financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting periods. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The Company has identified the following accounting

policies as critical to understanding the preparation of its consolidated financial statements and results of operations.

Allowance for doubtful accounts

The Company maintains an allowance for doubtful accounts for estimated losses resulting from the inability of its customers to make required payments. It estimates the allowance based upon historical collection experience, analysis of accounts receivable by aging categories and customer credit quality. If the financial condition of the Company's customers were to deteriorate, resulting in an impairment of their ability to make payments, additional allowances may be required.

Goodwill and intangible assets

Acquisition accounting requires extensive use of estimates and judgments to allocate the purchase price to the fair market value of the assets and liabilities purchased. The cost of acquired companies is allocated first to their identifiable assets based on estimated fair values at the date of acquisition. Costs are then allocated to identifiable intangible assets and are generally amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets. The excess of the purchase price over the fair value of identifiable assets acquired, net of liabilities assumed, is recorded as goodwill.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2003, the Company had a variety of purchases of distributors of its personal response products and services. The Company used accounting estimates and judgments to determine the fair value of these assets and liabilities. The Company did not record any cost in excess of net asset value (i.e., goodwill) as a result of the acquisition accounting; however, it did record intangible assets related to the associated referral sources and is amortizing these costs over the expected life of the referral source, which ranges from five to fifteen years. Any change in assumptions could either result in a decrease or increase in the estimated life of a referral source. A decrease in estimated life would reduce the Company's net income and an increase in estimated life would increase the Company's net income. Also, a change in assumptions could result in the Company recording non-amortizable goodwill as a result of acquisition accounting. The Company is currently in the process of finalizing the purchase accounting for the acquisition of the assets of the Emergency Response Systems business unit of March Networks Corporation and expects to obtain the guidance of an independent valuation expert in its assessment of the fair value of assets acquired.

The Company assesses the impairment of goodwill and other intangibles on an annual basis or, along with long-lived assets, whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. It uses an estimate of the future undiscounted net cash flows of the related asset or asset grouping over the remaining life in measuring whether assets are recoverable. Based on the Company's expectation of future undiscounted net cash flows, an impairment loss would be recorded by writing down the assets to their estimated realizable values. Any resulting impairment loss could have a material adverse effect on the Company's results of operations.

Inventories

The Company values its inventories at the lower of cost or market, as determined by the first-in, first-out method. It regularly reviews inventory quantities on hand and records a provision for excess or obsolete inventory based upon its estimated forecast of product demand. If actual future demand is less than the projections made by management, then additional provisions may be required. In connection with the termination of the Company's manufacturing outsourcing arrangement in 2002, the Company increased its inventory. The Company believes that substantially all of this additional

- 17 -

inventory will be useable in the ordinary course of business and anticipates its inventory balance will begin to decline during 2004 as it completes a full year of manufacturing assembly functions at its corporate location.

Warranty

The Company's products are generally under warranty against defects in material and workmanship. The Company provides an accrual for estimated warranty costs at the time of sale of the related products based upon historical return rates and repair costs at the time of the sale. A significant increase in product return rates could have a material adverse effect on the Company's results of operations.

NEWLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

In July 2002, the FASB issued SFAS No. 146, *Accounting for Costs Associated with Exit or Disposal Activities*. SFAS 146 replaces Emerging Issues Task Force Issue No. 94-3, *Liability Recognition for Certain Employee Termination Benefits and Other Costs to Exit an Activity*. SFAS 146 requires the recognition of costs associated with exit or disposal activities when they are incurred rather than at the date of a commitment to an exit or disposal plan. SFAS 146 is to be applied prospectively to exit or disposal activities initiated after December 31, 2002. The Company does not believe that the adoption of SFAS 146 will have a significant impact on its financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

On November 25, 2002, the FASB issued FASB Interpretation No. 45 (FIN 45), *Guarantor's Accounting and Disclosure for Guarantees, Including Indirect Guarantees of Indebtedness of Others*, an interpretation of FASB Statements No. 5, 57, and 107 and Rescission of FASB Interpretation No. 34. FIN 45 clarifies the requirements of FASB Statement No. 5, *Accounting for Contingencies* (FAS 5), relating to the guarantor's accounting for, and disclosure of, the issuance of certain types of guarantees. FIN 45 requires that, upon issuance of a guarantee, the guarantor must recognize a liability for the fair value of the obligation. FIN 45 is applicable to guarantees that encompass guarantees based on changes in an underlying asset, such as the Company's product warranty, liability or equity security, guarantees that are made on behalf of another entity's performance, certain indemnification agreements and indirect guarantees of the indebtedness of others. The recognition and measurement provisions of FIN 45 are effective prospectively for guarantees issued or modified after December 31, 2002. The disclosure requirements are effective for reporting periods ending after December 15, 2002. The Company is in the process of assessing the impact of FIN 45 recognition and measurement provisions on its consolidated financial statements and does not believe that its adoption will have a significant impact on the Company's financial statements.

In December 2002, the FASB issued SFAS No. 148, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation: Transition and Disclosure*. SFAS 148 amends SFAS 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*, to provide alternative methods of transition for a voluntary change to the fair value method of accounting for stock-based employee compensation. In addition, this Statement amends the disclosure requirements of SFAS 123 to require prominent disclosures about the method of accounting for stock-based employee compensation and the effect of the method used on reported financial results. SFAS 148 amends APB Opinion No. 28, *Interim Financial Reporting*, to require these disclosures in interim financial information. The Company continues to account for their stock-based employee compensation under APB Opinion 25, but has adopted the new disclosure requirements of SFAS 148.

On January 17, 2003, the FASB issued FASB Interpretation No. 46 (FIN 46), Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities, an Interpretation of ARB No. 51. The primary objective of the Interpretation is to provide guidance on the identification of, and financial reporting for, entities over which control is achieved through means other than voting rights; such entities are known as variable-interest entities (VIEs). The Company has assessed the impact of FIN 46 and does not believe FIN 46 will impact the consolidated financial statements of the Company at this time.

CERTAIN FACTORS THAT MAY AFFECT FUTURE RESULTS

The following important factors, among others, could cause actual results to differ materially from those indicated by forward-looking statements made in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q and presented elsewhere by management from time to time.

The Company has recently launched a number of marketing initiatives intended to increase its market penetration. These initiatives include a direct marketing campaign, which is targeted primarily toward market development, and a campaign to increase the Company's market among senior living facilities. These sales initiatives will require management attention and financial resources, including the incurrence of fixed costs, and the return to the Company from these initiatives could be less than anticipated by the Company.

The Company's Board of Directors recently approved a two-for-one stock split, payable in the form of a 100% stock dividend, subject to the approval of shareholders to increase the number of authorized shares from 20,000,000 to 50,000,000. There can be no assurance, however, that shareholders will approve the increase in the number of authorized shares, thereby not making possible the stock split. This could negatively impact the Company.

The Company's results are partially dependent on its ability to develop services and products that keep pace with continuing technological changes, evolving industry standards, changing subscriber preferences and new service and product introductions by the Company's competitors. There can be no assurance that services, products or technologies developed by others will not render the Company's services or products noncompetitive or obsolete.

The Company's ability to continue to increase service revenue is a key factor in its long-term growth, and there can be no assurance that the Company will be able to do so. The Company's service revenue growth is partially dependent on its ability to increase the number of subscribers served by its monitoring centers by an amount which exceeds the number of subscribers lost. The Company's failure to increase service revenue could have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, financial condition, or results of operations.

In order to mitigate the negative effect of a disruption of service of its monitoring services (including as a result of system failures, the disruption of service at its monitoring facility, whether due to telephone or electrical failures, earthquakes, fire, weather or other similar events or for any other reason), the Company recently opened a second U.S. call center, which is also located in Framingham, Massachusetts. There can be no assurance, however, that the second call center will not be affected by the same disruption that affects the corporate headquarters facility.

The Company may expand its operations through the acquisition of additional businesses, such as the recent acquisition of the assets of the Emergency Response Systems business unit of March

Networks Corporation, a privately held developer of broadband IP applications and delivery platforms. There can be no assurance that the Company will be able to identify, acquire or profitably manage additional businesses or successfully integrate any acquired businesses into the Company without substantial expenses, delays or other operational or financial problems. In addition, acquisitions may involve a number of special risks, including diversion of management's attention, higher than anticipated integration costs, failure to retain key acquired personnel, unanticipated events, contingent liabilities and amortization of acquired intangible assets. There can be no assurance that the acquired businesses, if any, will achieve anticipated revenues or earnings.

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

The Company has considered the provisions of Financial Reporting Release No. 48 Disclosure of Accounting Policies for Derivative Financial Instruments and Derivative Commodity Instruments, and Disclosure of Quantitative and Qualitative Information about Market Risk Inherent in Derivative Financial Instruments, Other Financial Instruments and Derivative Commodity Instruments. The Company had no holdings of derivative financial or commodity-based instruments or other market risk sensitive instruments entered into for trading purposes at September 30, 2003. As described in the following paragraphs, the Company believes that it currently has no material exposure to interest rate and foreign currency exchange rate risks in its instruments entered into for other than trading purposes.

Interest rates

The Company's balance sheet periodically includes an outstanding balance associated with a revolving credit facility that is subject to interest rate risk. The Company has the ability to obtain revolving credit loans with an interest rate based on the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) or revolving credit loans with an interest rate based on the lender's prime interest rate. As a result of these factors, at any given time, a change in interest rates would result in either an increase or decrease in the Company's interest expense. As of September 30, 2003, the Company did not have any outstanding balances associated with its credit facility and therefore its consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows would not be affected by near-term changes in interest rates.

Foreign currency exchange rates

The Company's earnings are affected by fluctuations in the value of the U.S. Dollar as compared to the Canadian Dollar, as a result of the sale of its products and services in Canada and translation adjustments associated with the conversion of the Company's Canadian subsidiary into the reporting currency (U.S. Dollar). As such, the Company's exposure to changes in Canadian exchange rates would impact the Company's consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows. The Company performed a sensitivity analysis as of September 30, 2003 to assess the potential effect of a 10% increase or decrease in Canadian foreign exchange rates and concluded that short-term changes in Canadian exchange rates would not materially affect the Company's consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows. The Company's sensitivity analysis of the effects of changes in foreign currency exchange rates in such magnitude did not factor in a potential change in sales levels or local prices for its services/products as a result of the currency fluctuations or otherwise.

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

1. *Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures.* Based on their evaluation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) as of the end of the period covered by this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, the Company's chief executive officer and chief financial officer have concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms and are operating in an effective manner.

2. *Changes in internal controls.* During the period covered by this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, there were no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 13a-15(f)) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS AND REPORTS ON FORM 8-K

- (a) Reports on Form 8-K The Company filed a report on Form 8-K on October 14, 2003 reporting under Item 5 thereof, the approval of a stock split by the Company's Board of Directors subject to shareholder approval to increase the number of authorized shares. On October 14, 2003, the Company furnished information on a report on Form 8-K pursuant to Item 12 thereof, relating to the Company's results for the quarter ended September 30, 2003. The Company also filed a report on Form 8-K on October 28, 2003 reporting under Item 5 thereof its filing of a definitive proxy statement relating to its October 14, 2003 announcement of the proposed two-for-one split of Lifeline Systems common stock, in the form of a stock dividend, which is subject to shareholder approval of an increase in the number of the Company's authorized shares to 50,000,000 shares from 20,000,000 shares.
- (b) Exhibits - The Exhibits which are filed with this Report or which are incorporated herein by reference are set forth in the Exhibit Index which appears on page 23 hereof

LIFELINE SYSTEMS, INC.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

November 11, 2003

Date

LIFELINE SYSTEMS, INC.

Registrant

/s/ Ronald Feinstein

Ronald Feinstein

Chief Executive Officer

/s/ Mark G. Beucler

Mark G. Beucler

Vice President Finance, Chief Financial Officer

and Treasurer

EXHIBIT INDEX

The following designated exhibits are, as indicated below, either filed herewith or have heretofore been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Act of 1933 or the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 and are referred to and incorporated herein by reference to such filings.

Exhibit No.	Exhibit	SEC Document Reference
10.1	Asset Purchase Agreement dated July 16, 2003 between the Registrant and March Networks Corporation	
31.1	Certification of Principal Executive Officer required by Rule 13a-15(e) or Rule 15d-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002	
31.2	Certification of Principal Financial Officer required by Rule 13a-15(e) or Rule 15d-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002	
32.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002	