

MESA LABORATORIES INC /CO  
Form 10QSB  
November 14, 2005

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**U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission**

**Washington, D.C. 20549**

**Form 10-QSB**

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

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2005

OR

**.. TRANSITION REPORT UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15 (d) OF THE EXCHANGE ACT**

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission File Number 0-11740

**MESA LABORATORIES, INC.**

(Exact Name of Small Business Issuer as Specified in its Charter)

**COLORADO**  
(State or other Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation or Organization)

**84-0872291**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**12100 WEST SIXTH AVENUE, LAKEWOOD, COLORADO**  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

**80228**  
(Zip Code)

Issuer's telephone number, including area code: **(303) 987-8000**

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Check whether the Issuer (1) filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15 (d) of the Exchange Act, during the past 12 months and (2) has been subject to the filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes  No .

State the number of shares outstanding of each of the Issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date:

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

There were 2,942,279 shares of the Issuer's common stock, no par value, outstanding as of September 30, 2005.

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**ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****MESA LABORATORIES, INC.****BALANCE SHEETS**

(UNAUDITED)

|  | <b>SEPT 30,</b>      | <b>MARCH 31,</b>     |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|
|  | <b>2005</b>          | <b>2005</b>          |
| <b>ASSETS</b>  |                      |                      |
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>  |                      |                      |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents  | \$ 4,317,000         | \$ 4,978,000         |
| Short-term Investments   | 1,798,000            | 1,904,000            |
| Accounts Receivable, Net   | 2,122,000            | 1,992,000            |
| Inventories  | 2,262,000            | 1,941,000            |
| Prepaid Expenses and Other   | 230,000              | 308,000              |
| <b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>  | <b>10,729,000</b>    | <b>11,123,000</b>    |
| <b>PROPERTY, PLANT &amp; EQUIPMENT, NET</b>  | <b>1,280,000</b>     | <b>1,265,000</b>     |
| <b>OTHER ASSETS</b>  |                      |                      |
| Goodwill and Other   | 4,208,000            | 4,208,000            |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>  | <b>\$ 16,217,000</b> | <b>\$ 16,596,000</b> |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>   |                      |                      |
| <b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>   |                      |                      |
| Accounts Payable   | \$ 358,000           | \$ 262,000           |
| Accrued Salaries & Payroll Taxes   | 437,000              | 558,000              |
| Other Accrued Expenses   | 77,000               | 90,000               |
| Taxes Payable  | 45,000               | 72,000               |
| <b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>   | <b>917,000</b>       | <b>982,000</b>       |
| <b>LONG TERM LIABILITIES</b>   |                      |                      |
| Deferred Income Taxes Payable  | 235,000              | 235,000              |
| <b>STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>   |                      |                      |
| Preferred Stock, No Par Value  |                      |                      |
| Common Stock, No Par Value; authorized 8,000,000 shares; issued and outstanding, 2,942,279 shares (9/30/05) and 3,038,822 shares (3/31/05) | 1,230,000            | 1,335,000            |
| Retained Earnings  | 13,835,000           | 14,044,000           |
| <b>TOTAL STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>   | <b>15,065,000</b>    | <b>15,379,000</b>    |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>   | <b>\$ 16,217,000</b> | <b>\$ 16,596,000</b> |

**ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)****MESA LABORATORIES, INC.****STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**

(UNAUDITED)

|   | <b>Three Months<br/>Ended<br/>Sept. 30, 2005</b> | <b>Three Months<br/>Ended<br/>Sept. 30, 2004</b> |
|---|--|--|
| Sales                                       | \$ 2,961,000                                     | \$ 2,337,000                                     |
| Cost of Goods Sold                          | 999,000  | 886,000  |
| Selling, General & Administrative           | 716,000  | 556,000  |
| Research and Development                    | 75,000   | 76,000   |
| Other (Income) and Expenses                 | (48,000)   | (22,000)   |
|   | <u>1,742,000</u>                                 | <u>1,496,000</u>                                 |
| Earnings Before Income Taxes                | 1,219,000  | 841,000  |
| Income Taxes                                | 418,000  | 293,000  |
| Net Income                                  | <u>\$ 801,000</u>                                | <u>\$ 548,000</u>                                |
| Net Income Per Share (Basic)                | <u>\$ .27</u>                                    | <u>\$ .18</u>                                    |
| Net Income Per Share (Diluted)              | <u>\$ .26</u>                                    | <u>\$ .17</u>                                    |
| Average Common Shares Outstanding (Basic)   | <u>3,015,000</u>                                 | <u>3,072,000</u>                                 |
| Average Common Shares Outstanding (Diluted) | <u>3,101,000</u>                                 | <u>3,176,000</u>                                 |

**ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)****MESA LABORATORIES, INC.****STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**

(UNAUDITED)

|   | <b>Six Months<br/>Ended<br/>Sept. 30, 2005</b> | <b>Six Months<br/>Ended<br/>Sept. 30, 2004</b> |
|---|--|--|
| Sales                                       | \$ 5,401,000                                   | \$ 4,876,000                                   |
| Cost of Goods Sold                          | 1,901,000                                      | 1,822,000                                      |
| Selling, General & Administrative           | 1,376,000                                      | 1,118,000                                      |
| Research and Development                    | 164,000  | 170,000  |
| Other (Income) and Expenses                 | (87,000)                                       | (37,000)                                       |
|   | <u>3,354,000</u>                               | <u>3,073,000</u>                               |
| Earnings Before Income Taxes                | 2,047,000                                      | 1,803,000                                      |
| Income Taxes                                | 706,000  | 629,000  |
| Net Income                                  | <u>\$ 1,341,000</u>                            | <u>\$ 1,174,000</u>                            |
| Net Income Per Share (Basic)                | <u>\$ .44</u>                                  | <u>\$ .38</u>                                  |
| Net Income Per Share (Diluted)              | <u>\$ .43</u>                                  | <u>\$ .37</u>                                  |
| Average Common Shares Outstanding (Basic)   | <u>3,026,000</u>                               | <u>3,072,000</u>                               |
| Average Common Shares Outstanding (Diluted) | <u>3,113,000</u>                               | <u>3,167,000</u>                               |

**ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)****MESA LABORATORIES, INC.****STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

(UNAUDITED)

|   | <b>Six Months<br/>Ended<br/>Sept. 30, 2005</b> | <b>Six Months<br/>Ended<br/>Sept. 30, 2004</b> |
|---|--|--|
| <b>Cash Flows From Operating Activities:</b>            |  |  |
| Net Income  | \$ 1,341,000                                   | \$ 1,174,000                                   |
| Depreciation and Amortization                           | 46,000   | 47,000   |
| <b>Change in Assets and Liabilities-</b>                |  |  |
| (Increase) Decrease in Accounts Receivable              | (130,000)                                      | 73,000   |
| (Increase) Decrease in Inventories                      | (321,000)                                      | 56,000   |
| (Increase) Decrease in Prepaid Expenses                 | 78,000   | (33,000)                                       |
| Increase (Decrease) in Accounts Payable                 | 96,000   | 10,000   |
| Increase (Decrease) in Accrued Liabilities              | (161,000)                                      | (78,000)                                       |
| <b>Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities</b>        | <b>949,000</b>                                 | <b>1,249,000</b>                               |
| <b>Cash Flows From Investing Activities:</b>            |  |  |
| (Increase) Decrease in Short-term Investments           | 106,000  | 111,000  |
| Capital Expenditures, Net of Retirements                | (62,000)                                       | (5,000)  |
| <b>Net Cash (Used) Provided by Investing Activities</b> | <b>44,000</b>                                  | <b>106,000</b>                                 |
| <b>Cash Flows From Financing Activities:</b>            |  |  |
| Dividends Paid  | (365,000)                                      | (308,000)                                      |
| Treasury Stock Purchases                                | (1,317,000)                                    | (252,000)                                      |
| Proceeds From Stock Options Exercised                   | 28,000   | 69,000   |
| <b>Net Cash (Used) Provided by Financing Activities</b> | <b>(1,654,000)</b>                             | <b>(491,000)</b>                               |
| <b>Net Increase (Decrease) In Cash and Equivalents</b>  | <b>(661,000)</b>                               | <b>864,000</b>                                 |
| <b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period</b> | <b>4,978,000</b>                               | <b>4,670,000</b>                               |
| <b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period</b>       | <b>\$ 4,317,000</b>                            | <b>\$ 5,534,000</b>                            |

**ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

MESA LABORATORIES, INC.

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2005 AND 2004

**NOTE A. SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The summary of the Issuer's significant accounting policies are incorporated by reference to the Company's annual report on Form 10KSB, at March 31, 2005.

The accompanying unaudited condensed financial statements reflect all adjustments which, in the opinion of management, are necessary for a fair presentation of the results of operations, financial position and cash flows. The results of the interim period are not necessarily indicative of the results for the full year.

**NOTE B. STOCK BASED COMPENSATION**

The Company has stock based compensation plans, which are described more fully in Note 7 of the Company's annual report on Form 10KSB, at March 31, 2005. The Company has adopted the disclosure-only provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation. Accordingly, no compensation cost has been recognized for the stock option plans. Had compensation cost for the Company's stock option plans been determined based on the fair value at the grant date for awards in fiscal 2006 and 2005 consistent with the provisions of SFAS No. 123, the Company's net earnings and earnings per share for the fiscal second quarter and year-to-date would have been reduced to the pro forma amounts indicated below:

|   | Three Months Ended<br>September 30, |            | Six Months Ended<br>September 30, |              |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
|   | 2005                                | 2004       | 2005                              | 2004         |
| Net income as reported  | \$ 801,000                          | \$ 548,000 | \$ 1,341,000                      | \$ 1,174,000 |
| Add: Stock based employee compensation expense included in net income, net of related tax effects   |                                     |            |                                   |              |
| Less: Total stock based employee compensation expense determined under fair value based method for all awards, Net of related tax effects | 2,000                               | 68,000     | 109,000                           | 68,000       |
| Net income pro forma  | \$ 799,000                          | \$ 480,000 | \$ 1,232,000                      | \$ 1,106,000 |
| Income per basic share as reported  | \$ .27                              | \$ .18     | \$ .44                            | \$ .38       |
| Income per basic share pro forma  | \$ .27                              | \$ .16     | \$ .41                            | \$ .36       |
| Income per diluted share as reported  | \$ .26                              | \$ .17     | \$ .43                            | \$ .37       |
| Income per diluted share pro forma  | \$ .26                              | \$ .15     | \$ .40                            | \$ .35       |

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The fair value of each option grant is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model with the following weighted-average assumptions used for grants: dividend yield of 3.47% to 3.55%(2006) and 3.59%(2005); expected volatility of approximately 36% (2006) and 19% (2005); discount rate of 3.73% to 4.24% (2006)and 3.74% to 4.62%(2005); and expected lives of 5 to 10 years.



NOTE C. NET INCOME PER COMMON SHARE

Basic net income per common share is computed by dividing net income by the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period. Diluted net income per common share is computed using the treasury stock method to compute the weighted average common stock outstanding assuming the conversion of potential dilutive common shares.

The following table presents a reconciliation of the denominators used in the computation of net income per common share basic and net income per common share diluted for the three and six month periods ended September 30, 2005, and 2004:

|  | Three Months Ended<br>September 30, |            | Six Months Ended<br>September 30, |              |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
|  | 2005                                | 2004       | 2005                              | 2004         |
| Net income available for shareholders            | \$ 801,000                          | \$ 548,000 | \$ 1,341,000                      | \$ 1,174,000 |
| Weighted avg. outstanding shares of common stock | 3,015,000                           | 3,072,000  | 3,026,000                         | 3,072,000    |
| Dilutive effect of stock options                 | 86,000                              | 104,000    | 87,000                            | 95,000       |
| Common stock and equivalents                     | 3,101,000                           | 3,176,000  | 3,113,000                         | 3,167,000    |
| Earnings per share:                              |                                     |            |                                   |              |
| Basic  | \$ .27                              | \$ .18     | \$ .44                            | \$ .38       |
| Diluted  | \$ .26                              | \$ .17     | \$ .43                            | \$ .37       |

For the three months and six months ended September 30, 2004 and 2005, no shares and 6,000 shares, respectively, attributable to outstanding stock options were excluded from the calculation of diluted earnings per share because the exercise prices of the stock options were greater than or equal to the average price of the common shares, and therefore their inclusion would have been anti-dilutive.

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

## Overview

Mesa Laboratories, Inc. manufactures and distributes electronic measurement systems for various niche applications, including renal treatment, food processing, medical sterilization, pharmaceutical processing and other industrial applications. Our Company follows a philosophy of manufacturing a high quality product and providing a high level of on-going service for those products. In order to optimize the performance of our Company and to build the value of the Company for its shareholders, we continually follow the trend of various key financial indicators. A sample of some of the most important of these indicators is presented in the following table.

## Key Financial Indicators

For The Six Month Ended September 30,

|                                 | 2005         | 2004          | 2003         | 2002         |
|---------------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| Cash and Investments            | \$ 6,115,000 | \$ 7,521,000  | \$ 6,020,000 | \$ 4,684,000 |
| Trade Receivables               | \$ 2,182,000 | \$ 1,553,000  | \$ 1,686,000 | \$ 2,043,000 |
| Days Sales Outstanding          | 63           | 58            | 62           | 72           |
| Inventory                       | \$ 2,262,000 | \$ 2,043,000  | \$ 2,208,000 | \$ 2,487,000 |
| Inventory Turns                 | 1.8          | 1.8           | 1.6          | 1.4          |
| Working Capital                 | \$ 9,812,000 | \$ 10,804,000 | \$ 9,607,000 | \$ 9,017,000 |
| Current Ratio                   | 12:1         | 19:1          | 20:1         | 16:1         |
| Average Return On:              |              |               |              |              |
| Stockholder Investment (1)      | 17.6%        | 14.9%         | 14.2%        | 15.1%        |
| Assets                          | 16.3%        | 14.2%         | 13.7%        | 14.3%        |
| Invested Capital (2)            | 29.9%        | 26.8%         | 22.2%        | 21.1%        |
| Net Sales                       | \$ 5,401,000 | \$ 4,876,000  | \$ 4,529,000 | \$ 4,484,000 |
| Gross Profit                    | \$ 3,500,000 | \$ 3,055,000  | \$ 2,821,000 | \$ 2,794,000 |
| Gross Margin                    | 65%          | 63%           | 62%          | 62%          |
| Operating Income                | \$ 1,960,000 | \$ 1,766,000  | \$ 1,607,000 | \$ 1,590,000 |
| Operating Margin                | 36%          | 36%           | 36%          | 36%          |
| Net Profit                      | \$ 1,341,000 | \$ 1,174,000  | \$ 1,052,000 | \$ 1,081,000 |
| Net Profit Margin               | 25%          | 24%           | 23%          | 24%          |
| Earnings Per Diluted Share      | \$ .43       | \$ .37        | \$ .33       | \$ .32       |
| Capital Expenditures(Net)       | \$ 62,000    | \$ 5,000      | \$ 16,000    | \$ 56,000    |
| Head Count                      | 51.5         | 47.5          | 47.5         | 46.5         |
| Sales Per Employee (Annualized) | \$ 210,000   | \$ 205,000    | \$ 191,000   | \$ 193,000   |

- (1) Average return on stockholder investment is calculated by dividing total net income by the average of end of period and beginning of year total stockholder's equity.
- (2) Average return on invested capital (invested capital = total assets - current liabilities - cash and short-term investments) is calculated by dividing total net income by the average of end of period and beginning of year invested capital.

While we continually try to optimize the overall performance and trends, the table above does highlight various exceptions. These exceptions are usually influenced by a more important need. A review of the table above shows an increase in Trade Receivables which were due to the increase in sales in the most recent quarter and a small increase in the Days Sales Outstanding average. The Current Ratio at the end of the most recent period, while remaining at a very healthy level, also declined due to a decrease in cash assets. The decrease in cash assets was due to increased common stock buy backs during the most recent quarter.

## Results of Operations

### Net Sales

Net sales for the second quarter of fiscal 2006 increased 27 percent from fiscal 2005. In real dollars, net sales of \$2,961,000 in fiscal 2006 increased \$624,000 from \$2,337,000 in 2005.

Net sales for the first six months of fiscal 2006 increased 11 percent from fiscal 2005. In real dollars, net sales of \$5,401,000 in fiscal 2006 increased \$525,000 from \$4,876,000 in 2005.

Our revenues come from two main sources, which include product revenues and parts and service revenues. Parts and service revenues are derived from on-going repair and recalibration or certification of our products. The certification or recalibration of product is usually a key component of the customer's own quality system and many of our customers operate in regulated industries, such as food processing or medical and pharmaceutical processing. For this reason, these revenues tend to be fairly stable and grow slowly over time. During the six months of fiscal years 2006 and 2005 our Company had parts and service revenue of \$1,496,000 and \$1,414,000. As a percentage of total revenue, parts and service revenues were 28% in 2006 and 29% in 2005.

The performance of new product sales is dependent on several factors, including general economic conditions in the United States and abroad, capital spending trends and the introduction of new products. Over the past two fiscal years, general economic conditions have been improving and capital spending has also been rising. New products released to the market over the past two fiscal years include the Datatrace Micropack III temperature loggers during the middle of fiscal 2003 and the Datatrace Micropack III humidity and pressure loggers at the end of fiscal 2004. All three loggers, temperature, humidity and pressure, utilize a common PC Interface system and operating software. For this reason, we believe that some customer purchasing decisions were probably delayed into fiscal 2005, as those customers awaited introduction of the humidity and

pressure loggers. For the first six months of fiscal years 2006 and 2005 product sales for our company were \$3,905,000 and \$3,462,000.

Over the fiscal second quarter and six month periods, our medical revenues increased 16 percent and 10 percent compared to the prior periods. This increase was due to higher sales of meters, solutions and service. Currently, research and development efforts are in process to further enhance this line of products.

During the fiscal second quarter and six month periods, sales of the Datatrace brand of products increased 44 percent for the quarter and increased 15 percent during the first six months compared to the prior year. At the end of fiscal 2004, we released our latest version of user software and shipped initial units of the Micropack III humidity and pressure loggers to customers. These new products allow customers who measure more than one parameter in their process to program and retrieve data from the same PC Interface device.

During the fiscal second quarter and six month periods, sales of the Nusonics line of ultrasonic fluid measurement systems decreased by eight percent and by nine percent compared to the prior year periods. At this time, Nusonics products still contribute less than 10 percent of our total sales.

#### Cost of Sales

Cost of sales as a percent of net sales during the second fiscal quarter decreased 4.2 percent from fiscal 2005 to 33.7 percent. For the first six months of the fiscal year, cost of sales as a percent of net sales decreased 2.2 percent to 35.2 percent of sales. Most of our products enjoy gross margins in excess of 55%. Due to the fact that the dialysis products have sales concentrations to several companies that maintain large chains of treatment centers, the products that are sold to the renal market tend to be slightly more price sensitive than the data logging products. Therefore, shifts in product mix toward higher sales of Datatrace logging products will tend to produce lower cost of goods sold expense and higher gross margins while shifts toward higher sales of medical products will normally produce the opposite effect on cost of goods sold expense and gross margins.

Over the current fiscal quarter, our Company experienced a higher growth rate in its Datatrace sales, while sales of Nusonics products declined, which led to a large decrease in cost of goods sold expense as a percent of sales compared to the prior year period.

#### Selling, General and Administrative

General and administrative expenses tend to be fairly fixed and stable from year-to-year. To the greatest extent possible, we work at containing and minimizing these costs. Total administrative costs were \$231,000 for the fiscal second quarter and \$239,000 in the prior year quarter, which represents a \$8,000 or three percent decrease from fiscal 2005 to fiscal 2006. Higher bonus and commission costs were off-set by lower auditor's fees during the quarter. For the first six months of the fiscal year, administrative costs were \$475,000 and \$483,000 in the prior year period, which represents an \$8,000 or two percent decrease from fiscal 2005 to fiscal 2006. This decrease was incurred during the current quarter.

Our selling and marketing costs tend to be far more variable in relation to sales, although there are various exceptions. Some of these exceptions include the introduction of new products and the mix of international sales to domestic sales. For a product line experiencing introduction of a new product, costs will tend to be higher as a percent of sales due to higher advertising costs and sales training programs. Our Company's international sales are usually discounted and recorded at the net discounted price, so that a change in mix between international and domestic sales may influence sales and marketing costs. One other major influence on sales and marketing costs is the mix of domestic medical sales to all other domestic sales. Domestic medical sales are made by direct telemarketing representatives, which gives us a lower cost structure, when compared to the sales channels utilized by our other products.

During the first quarter of fiscal 2006 the company began the process of converting the domestic distribution of its Datatrace products from independent manufacturers representatives to our own direct sales force. This change is expected to give us increased sales effort and better control of the selling effort. To execute this strategy, we added two new direct sales representatives to our staff and converted a sales management position to a field sales representative position. These new hires, along with initial training was executed during June. For this reason, sales and marketing costs for the first six months of fiscal 2006 increased significantly. As the year progresses, we expect to see a decrease in outside commissions which will partially off-set the costs of our new sales personnel. We would also expect to benefit from higher sales levels as the year progresses due to the increased sales effort provided by our new sales staff.

In dollars, selling costs were \$485,000 in the second fiscal quarter and \$317,000 in the same prior year quarter. As a percent of sales, selling cost were 16.4% in the current quarter and 13.6% in the prior year quarter. In dollars, selling costs were \$901,000 in the first six months of the current fiscal year and \$635,000 in the same prior year period. As a percent of sales, selling cost were 16.7% in the current period and 13.0% in the prior year period. During the current fiscal quarter and six month period, most of the increase in selling expense was due to increased costs associated with the Datatrace logging products and is specifically associated with increased compensation and travel costs for those products. These increases in costs of Datatrace product marketing and sales are due to our conversion to direct sales of these products along with the hiring of a new Vice President of Sales and Marketing position in October of 2005.

#### Research and Development

Company sponsored research and development cost was \$75,000 during the second fiscal quarter and \$76,000 during the previous year period. For the first six months of the current fiscal year costs were \$164,000 during the current period and compared to \$170,000 during the prior year period. We are currently trying to execute a strategy of increasing the flow of internally developed products. This strategy has led to the introduction of two new Datatrace logging products in fiscal 2004 and a third Datatrace logging product early in fiscal 2005. Introduction of a new meter product to the dialysis market is expected during the second half of this fiscal year. We have recently initiated programs to develop at least two new sensors in the Datatrace line.

## Net Income

Net income increased 46 percent to \$801,000 or \$.26 per share on a diluted basis during the second quarter from \$548,000 or \$.17 per share on a diluted basis in the previous year period. Net income increased 14 percent to \$1,341,000 or \$.43 per share on a diluted basis for the current six month period from \$1,174,000 or \$.37 per share on a diluted basis in the previous year period. Net income growth was due primarily to the increase in revenues.

## Liquidity and Capital Resources

On September 30, 2005, we had cash and short term investments of \$6,115,000. In addition, we had other current assets totaling \$4,614,000 and total current assets of \$10,729,000. Current liabilities of our Company were \$917,000 which resulted in a current ratio of 12:1.

Our Company has made capital acquisitions of \$62,000 during the first six months of the current fiscal year. We have instituted a program to repurchase up to 300,000 shares of our outstanding common stock. Under the plan, the shares may be purchased from time to time in the open market at prevailing prices or in negotiated transactions off the market. Shares purchased will be canceled and repurchases will be made with existing cash reserves. We do not maintain a set policy or schedule for our buyback program. Most of our stock buybacks have occurred during periods when the price to earnings multiple has been near historically low points, or during times when selling activity in the stock is out of balance with buying demand. During the first six months of the current fiscal year we have repurchased 106,397 common shares at an approximate cost of \$1,317,000 with 100,024 of those common shares being repurchased at an approximate cost of \$1,237,000 in the most recent quarter.

On November 12, 2003 our Board of Directors instituted a policy of paying regular quarterly dividends. On June 15, 2005 and September 15, 2005, quarterly dividends of \$.06 per common share were paid to shareholders of record on June 1, 2005 and September 1, 2005.

Our Company invests its surplus capital in various interest bearing instruments, including money market funds, short-term treasuries and municipal bonds. All investments are fixed dollar investments with variable rates in order to minimize the risk of principal loss. In some cases, additional guarantees of the investment principal are provided in the form of bank letters of credit.

The Company does not currently maintain a line of credit or any other form of debt. Nor does the Company guarantee the debt of any other entity. The Company has maintained a long history of surplus cash flow from operations. This surplus cash flow has been used in the past to fund acquisitions and stock buybacks and is currently being partially utilized to fund our on-going dividend. If interesting candidates come to our attention, we may choose to pursue new acquisitions.

#### Contractual Obligations

At September 30, 2005 our only contractual obligations were open purchase orders for routine purchases of supplies and inventory, which would be payable in less than one year.

#### Forward Looking Statements

All statements other than statements of historical fact included in this annual report regarding our Company's financial position and operating and strategic initiatives and addressing industry developments are forward-looking statements. Where, in any forward-looking statement, the Company, or its management, expresses an expectation or belief as to future results, such expectation or belief is expressed in good faith and believed to have a reasonable basis, but there can be no assurance that the statement of expectation or belief will result or be achieved or accomplished. Factors which could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated, include but are not limited to general economic, financial and business conditions; competition in the data logging market; competition in the kidney dialysis market; competition in the fluid measurement market; the discontinuance of the practice of dialyzer reuse; the business abilities and judgment of personnel; the impacts of unusual items resulting from ongoing evaluations of business strategies; and changes in business strategy. We do not intend to update these forward looking statements. You are advised to review the Additional Cautionary Statements provided in our Company's most recent Form 10-KSB filing with the SEC for more information about risks that could affect the financial results of Mesa Laboratories, Inc.

#### Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The preparation of our financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in our financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ materially from those estimates.

We believe that there are several accounting policies that are critical to understanding the Company's historical and future performance, as these policies affect the reported amounts of revenue and the more significant areas involving management's judgments and estimates. These significant accounting policies relate to revenue recognition, research and development costs, valuation of inventory, and valuation of long-lived assets. These policies, and the Company's procedures related to these policies, are described in detail below.

#### Revenue Recognition

We sell our products directly through our sales force and through distributors. Revenue from direct sales of our product is recognized upon shipment to the customer. Revenue from ongoing product service and repair is fully recognized upon completion and shipment of serviced product.

#### Research & Development Costs

Research and development activities consist primarily of new product development and continuing engineering on existing products. Costs related to research and development efforts on existing or potential products are expensed as incurred.

#### Valuation of Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market, using the first-in, first-out method (FIFO) to determine cost. The Company's policy is to periodically evaluate the market value of the inventory and the stage of product life cycle, and record a reserve for any inventory considered slow moving or obsolete.

#### Valuation of Long-Lived Assets and Goodwill

The Company assesses the realizable value of long-lived assets and goodwill for potential impairment at least annually or when events and circumstances warrant such a review. The carrying value of a long-lived asset is considered impaired when the anticipated fair value is less than its carrying value. In assessing the recoverability of our long-lived assets and goodwill, we must make assumptions regarding estimated future cash flows and other factors to determine the fair value of the respective assets. In addition, we must make assumptions regarding the useful lives of these assets.

The above listing is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all of our accounting policies. In many cases, the accounting treatment of a particular transaction is specifically dictated by accounting principles, generally accepted in the United States of America, with no need for management's judgment in their application. There are also areas in which management's judgment in selecting any viable alternative would not produce a materially different result. See our audited financial statements and notes thereto which begin at Item 7. Financial Statements of this Annual Report on Form 10-KSB which contain accounting policies and other disclosures required by accounting principles, generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **ITEM 4. Controls and Procedures**

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported, within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. Our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-QSB. Based on that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the end of such period.



There have been no changes in the Company's internal controls over financial reporting during the quarter ended September 30, 2005 identified in connection with the Company's evaluation that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal controls over financial reporting.

Management currently believes that once it has completed its review of internal controls, as mandated by Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that certain control weaknesses will be identified, including the inability of management to properly segment accounting duties due to the limited size of its accounting staff. Due to the constraints of the Company's size, management may discover other similar areas of potential control weaknesses as its review and documentation of internal controls proceeds.

## **PART II-OTHER INFORMATION**

### **ITEM 2. Changes in securities, use of proceeds and issuer purchases of equity Securities**

We made the following repurchases of our common stock, by month, within the second quarter of the fiscal year covered by this report:

|                          | <u>Shares<br/>Purchased</u> | <u>Avg. Price<br/>Paid</u> | <u>Total Share Purchased<br/>as Part of Publicly<br/>Announced Plan</u> | <u>Remaining Shares<br/>to Purchase<br/>Under Plan</u> |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---|--|
| July 1 - 31, 2005        | 6,844                       | \$ 13.16                   | 166,053   | 133,947  |
| Aug. 1 - 31, 2005        | 2,322                       | \$ 12.23                   | 168,375   | 131,625  |
| Sept. 1 - 30, 2005       | 90,858                      | \$ 12.31                   | 259,233   | 40,767   |
| <b>Total Second Qtr.</b> | <b>100,024</b>              | <b>\$ 12.37</b>            |   |  |

On June 19, 2003, the Board of Directors of Mesa Laboratories, Inc. adopted a share repurchase plan which allows for the repurchase of up to 300,000 of the company's common shares. This plan will continue until the maximum is reached or the plan is terminated by further action of the Board.

### **ITEM 6. Exhibits and reports on Form 8-K**

a) Exhibits:

- 31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 32.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 32.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

b) Reports on Form 8-K:

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On August 9, 2005, the Registrant filed a Report on Form 8-K, under Item 2.02, reporting the issuance of a press release reporting revenues and earnings for the quarter ended June 30, 2005.

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MESA LABORATORIES, INC.

SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

SIGNATURES

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

MESA LABORATORIES, INC.

(Issuer)

DATED: November 14, 2005

BY: /s/ Luke R. Schmieder  
Luke R. Schmieder  
President, Chief Executive Officer,  
Treasurer and Director

DATED: November 14, 2005

BY: /s/ Steven W. Peterson  
Steven W. Peterson  
Vice President-Finance, Chief  
Financial and Accounting Officer and  
Secretary