

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

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

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

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2011

or

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number: 000-24786

ASPEN TECHNOLOGY, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

04-2739697

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

200 Wheeler Road

Burlington, Massachusetts

(Address of principal executive offices)

01803

(Zip Code)

(781) 221-6400

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Smaller reporting company

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

As of October 24, 2011, there were 93,909,310 shares of the registrant's common stock (par value \$0.10 per share) outstanding.

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Our registered trademarks include aspenONE, ASPEN PLUS, ASPENTECH, the AspenTech logo, DMCPLUS, HTFS, HYSYS and INFOPLUS.21.

PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION**Item 1. Financial Statements.***Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)*

ASPEN TECHNOLOGY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
(Unaudited and in thousands, except per share data)

	Three Months Ended	
	September 30,	
	2011	2010
Revenue:		
Subscription and software	\$ 31,910	\$ 18,967
Services and other	19,315	24,133
Total revenue	<u>51,225</u>	<u>43,100</u>
Cost of revenue:		
Subscription and software	2,724	2,122
Services and other	11,097	11,126
Total cost of revenue	<u>13,821</u>	<u>13,248</u>
Gross profit	<u>37,404</u>	<u>29,852</u>
Operating expenses:		
Selling and marketing	23,446	20,351
Research and development	13,769	12,575
General and administrative	15,887	16,557
Restructuring charges	(73)	77
Total operating expenses	<u>53,029</u>	<u>49,560</u>
Loss from operations	(15,625)	(19,708)
Interest income	2,231	3,702
Interest expense	(1,092)	(1,244)
Other (expense) income, net	(2,032)	2,664
Loss before income taxes	<u>(16,518)</u>	<u>(14,586)</u>
(Benefit from) provision for income taxes	(4,782)	882
Net loss	<u>\$ (11,736)</u>	<u>\$ (15,468)</u>
Loss per common share:		
Basic	\$ (0.12)	\$ (0.17)
Diluted	\$ (0.12)	\$ (0.17)
Weighted average shares outstanding:		
Basic	94,065	92,689
Diluted	94,065	92,689

See accompanying notes to these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

ASPEN TECHNOLOGY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(Unaudited and in thousands, except share data)

ASSETS	September 30, 2011	June 30, 2011
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 145,356	\$ 149,985
Accounts receivable, net	21,998	27,866
Current portion of installments receivable, net	38,199	38,703
Current portion of collateralized receivables, net	16,165	15,748
Unbilled services	1,716	2,319
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	9,259	10,819
Prepaid income taxes	1,155	1,151
Deferred income taxes- current	7,271	7,272
Total current assets	<u>241,119</u>	<u>253,863</u>
Non-current installments receivable, net	40,566	47,773
Non-current collateralized receivables, net	7,604	9,291
Property, equipment and leasehold improvements, net	6,205	6,730
Computer software development costs, net	2,489	2,813
Goodwill	17,791	18,624
Deferred income taxes- non-current	74,426	69,242
Other non-current assets	3,857	3,639
Total assets	<u>\$ 394,057</u>	<u>\$ 411,975</u>
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Current portion of secured borrowings	\$ 16,615	\$ 15,756
Accounts payable	4,789	2,099
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	54,886	64,467
Income taxes payable	483	672
Deferred revenue	97,036	90,681
Total current liabilities	<u>173,809</u>	<u>173,675</u>
Long-term secured borrowings	8,194	9,157
Long-term deferred revenue	38,783	38,262
Other non-current liabilities	31,816	33,078
Commitments and contingencies (Note 11)		
Series D redeemable convertible preferred stock, \$0.10 par value—		
Authorized— 3,636 shares at September 30, 2011 and June 30, 2011		
Issued and outstanding— none at September 30, 2011 and June 30, 2011	-	-
Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock, \$0.10 par value— Authorized—210,000,000 shares		
Issued— 95,356,577 shares at September 30, 2011 and 94,939,400 shares at June 30, 2011		
Outstanding— 94,068,547 shares at September 30, 2011 and 94,238,370 shares at June 30, 2011	9,536	9,494
Additional paid-in capital	535,707	530,996
Accumulated deficit	(393,007)	(381,271)
Accumulated other comprehensive income	8,922	9,115
Treasury stock, at cost—1,288,030 shares of common stock at September 30, 2011 and 701,030 at June 30, 2011	(19,703)	(10,531)
Total stockholders' equity	<u>141,455</u>	<u>157,803</u>
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	<u>\$ 394,057</u>	<u>\$ 411,975</u>

See accompanying notes to these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

ASPEN TECHNOLOGY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(Unaudited and in thousands)

	Three Months Ended	
	September 30,	
	2011	2010
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net loss	\$ (11,736)	\$ (15,468)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	1,412	1,361
Net foreign currency loss (gain)	1,275	(2,179)
Stock-based compensation	3,708	2,697
Deferred income taxes	(5,354)	46
Provision for bad debts	150	717
Other non-cash activities	13	-
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	5,594	5,241
Unbilled services	611	(287)
Prepaid expenses, prepaid income taxes, and other assets	1,187	4,791
Installments and collateralized receivables	8,329	11,901
Accounts payable, accrued expenses, and other liabilities	(6,898)	(16,438)
Deferred revenue	6,982	14,006
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>5,273</u>	<u>6,388</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchase of property, equipment and leasehold improvements	(386)	(588)
Capitalized computer software development costs	(200)	(176)
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(586)</u>	<u>(764)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Exercise of stock options and warrants	2,232	137
Proceeds from secured borrowings	1,408	1,924
Repayments of secured borrowings	(2,232)	(9,341)
Repurchases of common stock	(9,172)	-
Payment of tax withholding obligations related to restricted stock	(1,187)	(796)
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>(8,951)</u>	<u>(8,076)</u>
Effects of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	(365)	668
Decrease in cash and cash equivalents	<u>(4,629)</u>	<u>(1,784)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	149,985	124,945
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	<u><u>\$ 145,356</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 123,161</u></u>
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:		
Interest paid	\$ 1,092	\$ 1,581
Income tax paid (refunded), net	631	(6,496)

See accompanying notes to these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

ASPEN TECHNOLOGY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Interim Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

The accompanying interim unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements (Interim Financial Statements) of Aspen Technology, Inc. and its subsidiaries have been prepared on the same basis as our annual consolidated financial statements. We condensed or omitted certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in our annual consolidated financial statements. Such Interim Financial Statements have been prepared in conformity with U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), as defined in the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 270, *Interim Reporting*, for interim financial information and with the instructions to Rule 10-01 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. It is suggested that these Interim Financial Statements be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2011, which are contained in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, as previously filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). In the opinion of management, all adjustments, consisting of normal and recurring adjustments, considered necessary for a fair presentation of the financial position, results of operations, and cash flows at the dates and for the periods presented have been included and all intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. The results of operations for the three months ended September 30, 2011 are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for subsequent quarters or for the full fiscal year.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions. These estimates and assumptions 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 revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Unless the context requires otherwise, references to we, our and us refer to Aspen Technology, Inc. and our subsidiaries.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

Overview of Licensing Model Changes

Transition to the aspenONE Subscription Offering

Prior to fiscal 2010, we offered term or perpetual licenses to specific products or specifically defined sets of products, which we refer to as point products. The majority of our license revenue was recognized under an “upfront revenue model,” in which the net present value of the aggregate license fees was recognized as revenue upon shipment of the point products. Customers typically received one year of post-contract support, or SMS, with their license agreements and then could elect to renew SMS annually. Revenue from SMS was recognized ratably over the period which the SMS was delivered.

In fiscal 2010 we began offering our aspenONE software as a subscription model, which allows our customers access to all products within a licensed suite (aspenONE Engineering or aspenONE Manufacturing and Supply Chain). SMS is included for the entire arrangement and customers are entitled to any software products or updates introduced into the licensed suite. Revenue is recognized over the term of a license agreement on a subscription, or ratable basis. We also continued to offer customers the ability to license point products, but since fiscal 2010, have included SMS for the term of the agreement. In fiscal 2010 and 2011, revenue from point product arrangements was generally recognized on the due date of each annual installment, provided all other revenue recognition requirements were met.

Introduction of our Enhanced SMS Offering

In July 2011, we introduced an enhanced SMS offering to provide more value to our customers. As part of this offering, customers receive 24x7 support, faster response times, dedicated technical advocates and access to web-based training modules. The enhanced SMS offering is being provided to new and existing customers of both our aspenONE subscription offering and customers who have licensed point products with SMS included for the term of the arrangement. Our legacy annually renewable SMS offering continues to be available to customers with term or perpetual license agreements signed prior to fiscal 2010.

The introduction of our enhanced SMS offering has resulted in a change to the revenue recognition of point product arrangements that include SMS for the term of the arrangement. Beginning in fiscal 2012, the revenue associated with point product arrangements that include the enhanced SMS offering is being recognized on a ratable basis, whereas prior to fiscal 2012, revenue was recognized under the residual method, as payments became due. The introduction of our enhanced SMS offering did not change the revenue recognition for our aspenONE subscription arrangements.

Impact of Licensing Model Changes

The principal accounting implications of our licensing model changes are as follows:

- The majority of our license revenue is no longer recognized on an upfront basis. Since the upfront model resulted in the net present value of multiple years of future installments being recognized at the time of shipment, we do not expect to recognize levels of revenue comparable to our pre-transition levels until a significant majority of license agreements executed under our upfront revenue model (i) reach the end of their original terms and (ii) are renewed. Accordingly, our product-related revenue for fiscal 2010, 2011 and the three months ended September 30, 2011 was significantly less than the level achieved in the fiscal years preceding our licensing model change.
- Because the timing of our incurrence of operating costs has not changed, the lower levels of revenue expected over the next few years may result in operating losses.
- Over the next several years, we expect substantially all of our customers to transition to term arrangements which include SMS for the contract term. During this transition period, we may continue to have arrangements where the software element will be recognized upfront, including perpetual licenses and amendments to existing legacy term arrangements. However, we do not expect revenue related to these sources to be significant in relation to our total revenue.

Revenue Recognition

We generate revenue from the following sources: (1) licensing software products; (2) providing SMS and training; and (3) providing professional services. We sell our software products to end users under fixed-term and perpetual licenses. As a standard business practice, we offer extended payment term options for our fixed-term license arrangements, which are generally payable on an annual basis. Certain of our fixed-term license agreements include product mixing rights that allow customers the flexibility to change or alternate the use of multiple products included in the license arrangement after those products are delivered to the customer. We refer to these arrangements as token arrangements. Tokens are fixed units of measure. The amount of software usage is limited by the number of tokens purchased by the customer.

Four basic criteria must be satisfied before software license revenue can be recognized: persuasive evidence of an arrangement between us and an end user; delivery of our product has occurred; the fee for the product is fixed or determinable; and collection of the fee is probable.

Persuasive evidence of an arrangement—We use a contract signed by the customer as evidence of an arrangement for software licenses and SMS. For professional services we use a signed contract and a statement of work to evidence an arrangement. In cases where both a signed contract and a purchase order are required by the customer, we consider both taken together as evidence of the arrangement.

Delivery of our product—Software and the corresponding access keys are generally delivered to customers via disk media with standard shipping terms of Free Carrier, Aspen Technology's warehouse (i.e., FCA, named place). Our software license agreements do not contain conditions for acceptance.

Fee is fixed or determinable—We assess whether a fee is fixed or determinable at the outset of the arrangement. Significant judgment is involved in making this assessment.

Under our upfront revenue model, we are able to demonstrate that the fees are fixed or determinable for all arrangements, including those for our term licenses that contain extended payment terms. We have an established history of collecting under the terms of these contracts without providing concessions to customers. In addition, we also assess whether contract modifications to an existing term arrangement constitute a concession. In making this assessment, significant analysis is performed to ensure that no concessions are given. Our software license agreements do not include right of return or exchange. For license arrangements executed under the upfront revenue model, we recognize license revenue upon delivery of the software product, provided all other revenue recognition requirements are met.

With the introduction of our aspenONE subscription offering and the changes to the licensing terms of our point products arrangements sold on a fixed-term basis, we cannot assert that the fees in these new arrangements are fixed or determinable because the rights provided to customers and the economics of the arrangements are not comparable to our historical transactions with other customers under the upfront revenue model. As a result, the amount of revenue recognized for these arrangements is limited by the amount of customer payments that become due. For our term arrangements sold with SMS included for the term of the arrangement, this generally results in the fees being recognized ratably over the contract term.

Collection of fee is probable—We assess the probability of collecting from each customer at the outset of the arrangement based on a number of factors, including the customer’s payment history, its current creditworthiness, economic conditions in the customer’s industry and geographic location, and general economic conditions. If in our judgment collection of a fee is not probable, revenue is recognized as cash is collected, provided all other conditions for revenue recognition have been met.

Vendor-Specific Objective Evidence of Fair Value

We have established vendor-specific objective evidence of fair value, or VSOE, for certain SMS offerings and for professional services, but not for our software products or our new enhanced SMS offering. We assess VSOE of fair value for SMS and professional services based on an analysis of standalone sales of SMS and professional services, using the bell-shaped curve approach. We do not have a history of selling our enhanced SMS offering to customers on a stand-alone basis, and as a result are unable to establish VSOE of fair value for this new deliverable.

We allocate the arrangement consideration among the elements included in our multi-element arrangements using the residual method. Under the residual method, the VSOE of the undelivered elements is deferred and the remaining portion of the arrangement fee for perpetual and term licenses is recognized as revenue upon delivery of the software, assuming all other revenue recognition criteria are met. If VSOE does not exist for an undelivered element in an arrangement, revenue is deferred until such evidence does exist for the undelivered elements, or until all elements are delivered, whichever is earlier. Under the upfront revenue model, the residual license fee is recognized upfront upon delivery of the software provided all other revenue recognition criteria were met. Arrangements that qualify for upfront recognition include sales of perpetual licenses and amendments to existing legacy term arrangements.

Subscription and Software Revenue

Subscription and software revenue consists of product and related revenue from the following sources:

- (i) aspenONE subscription arrangements;
- (ii) fixed-term arrangements for point product licenses with our enhanced SMS offering included for the contract term (referred to as point product arrangements with enhanced SMS);
- (iii) upfront amendments to legacy term arrangements (referred to as upfront legacy amendments) and legacy arrangements that are being recognized over time as a result of not previously meeting one or more of the requirements for recognition under the upfront revenue model (referred to as legacy arrangements); and,
- (iv) perpetual arrangements.

When a customer elects to license our products under our aspenONE subscription offering, our enhanced SMS offering is included for the entire term of the arrangement and the customer receives, for the term of the arrangement, the right to any new unspecified future software products and updates that may be introduced into the licensed aspenONE software suite. These agreements combine the right to use all software products within a given product suite with SMS for the term of the arrangement. Due to our obligation to provide unspecified future software products and updates, we are required to recognize the total revenue ratably over the term of the license, once the four revenue recognition criteria noted above are met.

Our point product arrangements with enhanced SMS also include SMS for the term of the arrangement. Since we do not have VSOE for our enhanced SMS offering, the SMS element of our point product arrangements is not separable. As a result, the total revenue is also recognized ratably over the term of the arrangement, once the four revenue recognition criteria are met.

Perpetual license, legacy arrangements and upfront legacy amendments do not include the same rights as those provided to customers under the subscription-based licensing model. We continue to have VSOE for the legacy SMS offering provided in support for these license arrangements and can therefore separate the undelivered elements. Accordingly, the license fees for perpetual licenses, legacy amendments, and upfront legacy arrangements continue to be recognized upon delivery of the software products using the residual method, provided all other revenue recognition requirements are met.

Results of Operations Classification - Subscription and Software Revenue

Prior to fiscal 2012, subscription and software revenue were each classified separately on our statements of operations, because each type of revenue had different revenue recognition characteristics, and the amount of revenue attributable to each was material in relation to our total revenues. Additionally, we were able to separate the residual amount of software revenue related to the software component of our point product arrangements which included SMS for the contract term, based on the VSOE of fair value for the SMS element.

As a result of the introduction of our enhanced SMS offering in fiscal 2012, the majority of our product-related revenue is now recognized on a ratable basis, over the term of the arrangement. Additionally, we do not expect residual revenue from upfront legacy amendments, legacy arrangements and perpetual arrangements to represent a material portion of our revenue during fiscal 2012 and beyond. Since the distinction between subscription and point product ratable revenue does not represent a meaningful difference from either a line of business or revenue recognition perspective, we have combined our subscription and software revenue into a single line item on our statements of operations beginning in the first quarter of fiscal 2012.

The following table summarizes the changes to our revenue classifications and the timing of revenue recognition of subscription and software revenue for fiscal 2012 compared to fiscal 2011 and fiscal 2010. Ratable revenue refers to product revenue that is recognized evenly over the term of the related agreement, beginning when the first payment becomes due. The residual method refers to the recognition of the difference between the total arrangement fee and the undiscounted VSOE of fair value for the undelivered element, assuming all other revenue recognition requirements have been met.

	Revenue Classification in Income Statement		Revenue Recognition Methodology	
	Fiscal 2012	Fiscal 2011 and 2010	Fiscal 2012	Fiscal 2011 and 2010
Type of Revenue:				
aspenONE subscription	Subscription and software	Subscription	Ratable	Ratable
Point products				
- Software	Subscription and software	Software	Ratable	Residual method
- Bundled SMS	Subscription and software	Services and other	Ratable	Ratable
Other				
- Upfront legacy amendments and legacy arrangements	Subscription and software	Software	Residual method	Residual method
- Perpetual arrangements	Subscription and software	Software	Residual method	Residual method

The following table reconciles the amount of revenue recognized for the first quarter of fiscal 2012 and 2011, based on the revenue recognition methodology. As illustrated below, the introduction of our enhanced SMS offering in fiscal 2012 has resulted in a substantial majority of our subscription and software revenue being recognized on a ratable basis in fiscal 2012.

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
	(Dollars in thousands)		% of Total	
Subscription and software revenue:				
Ratable (1)	\$ 28,455	\$ 9,656	89.2%	50.9%
Residual method (2)	3,455	9,311	10.8	49.1
Total subscription and software revenue	\$ 31,910	\$ 18,967	100.0%	100.0%

(1) In the first quarter of fiscal 2011, the fair value of the SMS element of point product arrangements totaled \$0.4 million and was presented in the statements of operations as services and other revenue. For fiscal 2012, the fee attributable to the SMS in point product arrangements is no longer separable, because we are unable to establish VSOE of fair value, and as a result, is included within ratable revenue.

(2) Residual method revenue detail	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010
	(Dollars in thousands)	
Residual method revenue:		
Point products - Software	*	\$ 5,611
Upfront legacy amendments and legacy arrangements	3,115	2,831
Perpetual arrangements	340	869
Total residual method revenue	\$ 3,455	\$ 9,311

* In fiscal 2012, the total combined arrangement fee (which includes the fee attributable to SMS) for point product arrangements with enhanced SMS is recognized on a ratable basis.

Services and Other

SMS Revenue

SMS revenue includes the maintenance revenue recognized from arrangements for which we continue to have VSOE for the undelivered SMS offering. For arrangements sold with our legacy SMS offering, SMS renewals are at the option of the customer, and the fair value of SMS is deferred and subsequently amortized into services and other revenue in the consolidated statement of operations over the contractual term of the SMS arrangement.

For arrangements executed under the aspenONE subscription offering and for point product arrangements with enhanced SMS, we have not established VSOE for the SMS deliverable. As a result, the revenue related to the SMS element of these transactions is reported in subscription and software revenue in the consolidated statements of operations.

Professional Services

Professional services are provided to customers on a time-and-materials (T&M) or fixed-price basis. We allocate the fair value of our professional services that are bundled with non-aspenONE subscription arrangements, and generally recognize the related revenue as the services are performed, assuming all other revenue recognition criteria have been met. We recognize professional services fees for our T&M contracts based upon hours worked and contractually agreed-upon hourly rates. Revenue from fixed-price engagements is recognized using the proportional performance method based on the ratio of costs incurred, to the total estimated project costs. Professional services revenue is recognized within services and other revenue in the statement of operations. Project costs are based on standard rates, which vary by the consultant's professional level, plus all direct expenses incurred to complete the engagement that are not reimbursed by the client. Project costs are typically expensed as incurred. The use of the proportional performance method is dependent upon our ability to reliably estimate the costs to complete a project. We use historical experience as a basis for future estimates to complete current projects. Additionally, we believe that costs are the best available measure of performance. Out-of-pocket expenses which have been reimbursed by customers are recorded as revenue.

If the costs to complete a project are not estimable or the completion is uncertain, the revenue is recognized upon completion of the services. In those circumstances in which committed professional services arrangements are sold as a single arrangement with, or in contemplation of, a new license agreement, revenue is deferred and recognized on a ratable basis over the longer of the period the services are performed or the license term. We have occasionally been required to commit unanticipated additional resources to complete projects, which resulted in lower than anticipated income or losses on those contracts. Provisions for estimated losses on contracts are made during the period in which such losses become probable and can be reasonably estimated.

Occasionally, we provide professional services considered essential to the functionality of the software. We recognize the combined revenue from the sale of the software and related services using the percentage-of-completion method. When these professional services are combined with, and essential to, the functionality of an aspenONE subscription transaction, the amount of combined revenue will be recognized over the longer of the subscription term or the period the professional services are provided.

Deferred Revenue

Under the upfront revenue model, a portion of the arrangement fee is generally recorded as deferred revenue due to the inclusion of an undelivered element, typically our legacy SMS offering. The amount of revenue allocated to undelivered elements is based on the VSOE of fair value for those elements using the residual method and is earned and recognized as revenue as each element is delivered. Deferred revenue related to these transactions generally consists of SMS and represents payments received in advance of services rendered as of the balance sheet dates.

For arrangements under the aspenONE subscription offering and for point product arrangements with enhanced SMS, VSOE of fair value does not exist for the undelivered elements, and as a result, we are required to recognize the arrangement fees ratably (i.e., on a subscription basis) over the term of the license. Therefore, deferred revenue is recorded as each payment comes due and revenue is recognized ratably over the associated license period.

Installments Receivable

Installments receivable resulting from product sales under the upfront revenue model are discounted to present value at prevailing market rates (generally 8% to 9%) at the date the contract is signed, based on the customers' credit rating. Finance fees are recognized using the effective interest method over the relevant license term and are classified as interest income. Installments receivable are split between current and non-current in our condensed consolidated balance sheets based on the maturity date of the related installment. Non-current installments receivable consist of receivables with a due date greater than one year from the period-end date. Current installments receivable consist of invoices with a due date of less than one year but greater than 45 days from the period-end date. Once an installments receivable invoice becomes due within 45 days, it is reclassified as a trade accounts receivable on our condensed consolidated balance sheet. As a result, we did not have any past due installments receivable as of September 30, 2011.

Our non-current installments receivable are within the scope of Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2010-20, *Receivables (Topic 310): Disclosures about the Credit Quality of Financing Receivables and the Allowance for Credit Losses*. As our portfolio of financing receivables arise from the sale of our software licenses, the methodology for determining our allowance for doubtful accounts is based on the collective population and is not stratified by class or portfolio segment. We consider factors such as existing economic conditions, country risk, and customers' past payment history in determining our allowance for doubtful accounts. We reserve against our installments receivable when the related trade accounts receivable have been past due for over a year, or when there is a specific risk of uncollectability. Our specific reserve reflects the full value of the related installments receivable for which collection has been deemed uncertain. Our specific reserve represented 93% and 92% of our total installments receivable allowance for doubtful accounts at September 30, 2011 and June 30, 2011, respectively. In instances when an installment receivable that is reserved against ages into trade accounts receivable, the related reserve is transferred to our trade accounts receivable allowance.

We write-off receivables when they have been deemed uncollectable, based on our judgment. In instances when we write-off specific customers' trade accounts receivable, we also write-off any related current and non-current installments receivable balances. Any incremental interest income for installments receivable that has been reserved against is offset by an additional provision to the allowance for doubtful accounts.

The following table summarizes our net current and non-current installments receivable, net of related unamortized discount and allowance for doubtful accounts balances at September 30, 2011 and June 30, 2011 (dollars in thousands) :

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Non-current</u>	<u>Total</u>
September 30, 2011			
Installments receivable, gross	\$ 40,523	\$ 46,533	\$ 87,056
Less: Unamortized discount	(1,664)	(5,896)	(7,560)
Less: Allowance for doubtful accounts	(660)	(71)	(731)
Installments receivable, net	<u>\$ 38,199</u>	<u>\$ 40,566</u>	<u>\$ 78,765</u>
June 30, 2011			
Installments receivable, gross	\$ 41,407	\$ 55,277	\$ 96,684
Less: Unamortized discount	(1,937)	(7,383)	(9,320)
Less: Allowance for doubtful accounts	(767)	(121)	(888)
Installments receivable, net	<u>\$ 38,703</u>	<u>\$ 47,773</u>	<u>\$ 86,476</u>

The following table shows a rollforward of our current and non-current allowance for doubtful accounts for the installments receivable balances during the periods ending September 30, 2011 and 2010, respectively (dollars in thousands):

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Non-current</u>	<u>Total</u>
September 30, 2011			
Balance at June 30, 2011	\$ 767	\$ 121	\$ 888
Transfers to trade accounts receivable	(41)	-	(41)
Transfers from non-current to current	-	-	-
Write-offs	(19)	(21)	(40)
Recoveries of previous write-offs	-	-	-
Provision for bad debts	(47)	(29)	(76)
Balance at September 30, 2011	<u>\$ 660</u>	<u>\$ 71</u>	<u>\$ 731</u>
September 30, 2010			
Balance at June 30, 2010	\$ 1,119	\$ 1,196	\$ 2,315
Transfers to trade accounts receivable	(70)	-	(70)
Transfers from non-current to current	26	(26)	-
Write-offs	-	-	-
Recoveries of previous write-offs	-	-	-
Provision for bad debts	91	26	117
Balance at September 30, 2010	<u>\$ 1,166</u>	<u>\$ 1,196</u>	<u>\$ 2,362</u>

Our installments receivable balance will continue to decrease over time, as licensing agreements previously executed under our upfront revenue model reach the end of their terms and are renewed under our new licensing model. Under the aspenONE subscription offering and for point product arrangements with enhanced SMS, payment amounts under extended payment term arrangements are not presented in the condensed consolidated balance sheets as the related arrangement fees are not fixed or determinable. Accordingly, future installments under our new licensing model are not considered financing receivables.

Loss Contingencies

We accrue estimated liabilities for loss contingencies arising from claims, assessments, litigation and other sources when it is probable that a liability has been incurred and the amount of the claim assessment or damages can be reasonably estimated. We believe that we have sufficient accruals to cover any obligations resulting from claims, assessments or litigation that have met these criteria.

Other

For further information with regard to our "Significant Accounting Policies," please refer to Note 2 of our Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes thereto included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011.

3. Goodwill

The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill by reporting unit for the three months ended September 30, 2011 were as follows (dollars in thousands):

Asset Class	Reporting Unit			
	License	Professional Services	Maintenance and Training	Total
Balance as of June 30, 2011				
Goodwill	\$ 68,049	\$ 5,102	\$ 16,144	\$ 89,295
Accumulated impairment losses	(65,569)	(5,102)	-	(70,671)
	\$ 2,480	\$ -	\$ 16,144	\$ 18,624
Effect of changes in currency translation	(7)	-	(826)	(833)
Balance as of September 30, 2011				
Goodwill	\$ 68,042	\$ 5,102	\$ 15,318	\$ 88,462
Accumulated impairment losses	(65,569)	(5,102)	-	(70,671)
	\$ 2,473	\$ -	\$ 15,318	\$ 17,791

We test goodwill for impairment annually (or more often if impairment indicators arise), at the reporting unit level using a fair value-based approach in accordance with the provisions of ASC 350, *Intangibles—Goodwill and Other*. We have elected December 31st as the annual impairment assessment date and perform additional impairment tests if triggering events occur. The initial step requires us to determine the fair value of each reporting unit and compare it to the carrying value, including goodwill, of such reporting unit. If the fair value exceeds the carrying value, no impairment loss is recognized. However, if the carrying value of the reporting unit exceeds its fair value, the goodwill of the unit may be impaired. The amount of impairment, if any, is measured based upon the implied fair value of goodwill at the valuation date.

Fair value of a reporting unit is determined using a combined weighted average of a market-based (utilizing fair value multiples of comparable publicly traded companies) and an income-based approach (utilizing discounted projected cash flows). In applying the income-based approach, we make assumptions about the amount and timing of future expected cash flows, growth rates and appropriate discount rates. The amount and timing of future cash flows are based on our most recent long-term financial projections. The discount rate is determined using estimates of market participant risk-adjusted weighted-average costs of capital and reflects the risks associated with achieving future cash flows.

We performed our annual impairment test for each reporting unit as of December 31, 2010 and determined that their estimated fair values substantially exceeded the carrying values. As such, no impairment losses were recognized as a result of the analysis. If an event occurs or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of a reporting unit below its carrying value, goodwill will be evaluated for impairment between annual tests. No triggering events indicating goodwill impairment occurred during the three months ended September 30, 2011.

4. Income Taxes

Deferred income taxes are recognized based on temporary differences between the financial statement and tax bases of assets and liabilities. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using the statutory tax rates and laws expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which the temporary differences are expected to reverse.

Valuation allowances are provided against net deferred tax assets if, based upon the available evidence, it is more likely than not that some or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. The ultimate realization of deferred tax assets is dependent upon the future generation of future taxable income, the ability to utilize tax credits, and the timing of the temporary differences becoming deductible. Management considers, among other available information, scheduled reversals of deferred tax liabilities, projected future taxable income, limitations of availability of net operating loss carry-forwards, and other matters in making this assessment.

Based on our evaluation of the realizability of our deferred tax assets in future years, a significant portion of the U.S. valuation allowance was reversed during the year ended June 30, 2011 due to our projection of future taxable income. A valuation allowance has been retained in the U.S. for certain R&D credits that are anticipated to expire unused and for a deferred tax asset on unrealized capital losses. A valuation allowance has also been retained on certain foreign subsidiary net operating loss ("NOL") carryforwards because it is more likely than not that a benefit will not be realized. At September 30, 2011 and June 30, 2011, our total valuation allowance was \$8.3 million and \$8.0 million, respectively.

We do not provide deferred taxes on unremitted earnings of foreign subsidiaries since we intend to indefinitely reinvest such earnings either currently or sometime in the foreseeable future. The unrecognized provision for taxes on undistributed earnings of foreign subsidiaries which are considered indefinitely reinvested are not material to our consolidated financial position or results of operations.

We are continuously subject to examination by the IRS, as well as various state and foreign jurisdictions. The IRS and other taxing authorities may challenge certain deductions and credits reported by us on our income tax returns. We account for uncertain tax positions pursuant to FIN 48, *Accounting for Uncertain Tax Positions*, (currently included as provisions of ASC Topic 740, *Income Taxes*), which clarifies the criteria for recognition and measurement of benefits from uncertain tax positions. Under this guidance, an entity should recognize a tax benefit when it is more-likely-than-not, based on the technical merits, that the position would be sustained upon examination by a taxing authority. The amount to be recognized, if the more-likely-than-not threshold is passed, should be measured as the largest amount of tax benefit that is greater than 50 percent likely to be realized upon the ultimate settlement with a taxing authority that has full knowledge of all relevant information. Furthermore, any change in the recognition, de-recognition or measurement of a tax position should be recorded in the period in which the change occurs. We account for interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions as part of the provision for income taxes.

5. Fair Value Measurements

We determine fair value utilizing a fair value hierarchy that ranks the quality and reliability of the information used in its determination. Fair values determined using Level 1 inputs utilize unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that we have the ability to access. Fair values determined using Level 2 inputs utilize data points that are observable such as quoted prices, interest rates and yield curves for similar assets and liabilities.

Cash equivalents of \$128.0 million and \$139.0 million as of September 30, 2011, and June 30, 2011, respectively, are reported at fair value utilizing quoted market prices in identical markets, or Level 1 inputs. Our cash equivalents consist of short-term, highly liquid investments with remaining maturities of three months or less when purchased.

Financial instruments not measured or recorded at fair value in the accompanying financial statements consist of accounts receivable, installments receivable, collateralized receivables, accounts payable and secured borrowings. The estimated fair value of accounts receivable, installments receivable, collateralized receivables and accounts payable approximates their carrying value. The estimated fair value of secured borrowings exceeds the carrying value by \$0.7 million and \$1.1 million as of September 30, 2011 and June 30, 2011, respectively. The fair value of secured borrowings was calculated using the market approach, utilizing interest rates that were indirectly observable in markets for similar liabilities, or Level 2 inputs.

6. Supplementary Balance Sheet Information

The following table summarizes our accounts receivable and collateralized receivables balances, net of the related allowance for doubtful accounts and unamortized discount, as of September 30, 2011 and June 30, 2011 (dollars in thousands). Refer to Note 2 for a summary of our installments receivable balances. Collateralized receivables are presented on the consolidated balance sheet and in the table below, net of discounts for future interest established at inception of the installment arrangement and carry terms of up to five years.

	<u>Gross</u>	<u>Unamortized Discounts</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Net</u>
September 30, 2011				
Accounts Receivable	\$ 23,855	\$ -	\$ 1,857	\$ 21,998
Collateralized Receivable				
Current	16,627	462	-	16,165
Non-current	8,340	736	-	7,604
	<u>\$ 24,967</u>	<u>\$ 1,198</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 23,769</u>
June 30, 2011				
Accounts Receivable	\$ 29,750	\$ -	\$ 1,884	\$ 27,866
Collateralized Receivable				
Current	16,371	623	-	15,748
Non-current	10,320	1,029	-	9,291
	<u>\$ 26,691</u>	<u>\$ 1,652</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 25,039</u>

Accrued expenses and other current liabilities in the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated balance sheets consist of the following (dollars in thousands):

	September 30, 2011	June 30, 2011
Royalties and outside commissions	\$ 2,859	\$ 3,158
Payroll and payroll-related	10,843	20,510
Restructuring accruals	3,217	3,259
Amounts due to financing institutions	25,297	26,038
Other	12,670	11,502
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	<u>\$ 54,886</u>	<u>\$ 64,467</u>

Current liabilities for amounts due to financing institutions totaled \$25.3 million at September 30, 2011 and \$26.0 million at June 30, 2011. The balance is primarily attributable to amounts due to a financing institution for a large previously financed arrangement, which was superseded by the customer in fiscal 2011. The arrangement has not yet been repaid or replaced to the financing institution.

Other non-current liabilities in the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated balance sheets consist of the following (dollars in thousands):

	September 30, 2011	June 30, 2011
Restructuring accruals	\$ 106	\$ 942
Deferred rent	2,070	2,139
Royalties and outside commissions	454	603
Other *	29,186	29,394
Total other non-current liabilities	\$ 31,816	\$ 33,078

* Other is comprised primarily of our reserve for uncertain tax liabilities (including accrued interest and penalties) of \$28.1 million and \$28.3 million as of September 30, 2011 and June 30, 2011, respectively.

7. Stock-Based Compensation

General Award Terms

We issue stock options and restricted stock units to our employees and outside directors, pursuant to stockholder approved stock option plans. Option awards are generally granted with an exercise price equal to the market price of our stock at the date of grant; those options generally vest over four years and have 7 or 10-year contractual terms. Restricted stock units (RSUs) generally vest over four years. Historically, our practice has been to settle stock option exercises and restricted stock vesting through newly- issued shares.

Stock-Based Compensation Accounting

Our stock based compensation is principally accounted for as awards of equity instruments. Our policy is to issue new shares upon the exercise of stock awards. We adopted the simplified method related to accounting for the tax effects of share- based payment awards to employees under ASC Topic 718, *Compensation—Stock Compensation* (ASC 718). We use the “with-and-without” approach for determining if excess tax benefits are realized under ASC 718.

We utilize the Black-Scholes option valuation model for estimating the fair value of options granted. The Black-Scholes option valuation model incorporates assumptions regarding expected stock price volatility, the expected life of the option, the risk-free interest rate, dividend yield and the market value of our common stock. The expected stock price volatility is determined based on our stock’s historic prices over a period commensurate with the expected life of the award. The expected life of an option represents the period for which options are expected to be outstanding as determined by historic option exercises and cancellations. The risk- free interest rate is based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve for notes with terms approximating the expected life of the options granted. The expected dividend yield is zero, based on our history and expectation of not paying dividends on common shares. We recognize compensation costs on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period for time-vested awards.

The weighted average estimated fair value of awards granted during the three months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 was \$6.46 and \$4.83, respectively. We utilized the Black-Scholes option valuation model with the following weighted average assumptions:

	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010
Risk-free interest rate	1.2%	1.4%
Expected dividend yield	0.0%	0.0%
Expected life (in years)	4.6	4.5
Expected volatility factor	49.6%	52.9%

The stock-based compensation expense and its classification (dollars in thousands) in the condensed consolidated statements of operations for the three months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 were as follows:

	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010
Recorded as expense:		
Cost of service and other	\$ 303	\$ 253
Selling and marketing	1,170	896
Research and development	348	289
General and administrative	1,887	1,259
Total stock-based compensation	<u>\$ 3,708</u>	<u>\$ 2,697</u>

A summary of stock option and RSU activity under all equity plans for the three months ended September 30, 2011 is as follows:

	Stock Options				Restricted Stock Units	
	Shares	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term	Aggregate Intrinsic Value (in 000's)	Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Outstanding at June 30, 2011	4,724,305	\$ 7.64		\$ 45,058	1,338,376	\$ 10.19
Granted	751,072	15.50			893,107	15.50
Settled(RSUs)	-	-			(248,703)	11.78
Exercised	(243,024)	9.17			-	
Cancelled/Forfeited	(24,309)	10.28			(37,552)	10.73
Outstanding at September 30, 2011	<u>5,208,044</u>	\$ 8.69	5.5	\$ 34,434	<u>1,945,228</u>	\$ 12.41
Exercisable at September 30, 2011	3,872,167	\$ 7.07	4.2	\$ 31,775	-	-
Vested and expected to vest as of September 30, 2011	5,035,652	\$ 8.53	5.3	\$ 34,091	1,684,334	\$ 12.42

The weighted average grant-date fair value of RSUs granted during the three months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 was \$15.50 and \$10.93, respectively. During the three months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010, the total fair value of shares vested from RSU grants was \$3.8 million and \$2.4 million, respectively.

At September 30, 2011, the total future unrecognized compensation cost related to stock options and RSUs was \$6.7 million and \$20.9 million, respectively, and is expected to be recorded over a weighted average period of 3.3 years and 3.0 years, respectively.

The total intrinsic value of options exercised during the three months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 was \$1.8 million and \$0.1 million, respectively. We received \$2.2 million and \$0.1 million in cash proceeds from option exercises during the three months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010, respectively. We paid \$1.2 million and \$0.8 million for withholding taxes on vested RSUs during the three months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

At September 30, 2011, common stock reserved for future issuance or settlement under equity compensation plans was 13.1 million shares.

8. Common Stock

On October 29, 2010, our Board of Directors approved a stock repurchase program for up to \$40 million worth of our common stock. The timing and amount of any shares repurchased are determined based on management's evaluation of market conditions and other factors. All share repurchases of our common stock have been recorded as treasury stock under the cost method. We repurchased 587,000 shares of our common stock for \$9.2 million during the three months ended September 30, 2011. As of September 30, 2011, the remaining dollar value under the stock repurchase program approved by our Board of Directors on October 29, 2010 was \$20.3 million.

9. Net Loss per Common Share

Basic loss per share is determined by dividing the loss by the weighted average common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted loss per share is determined by dividing the loss by diluted weighted average shares outstanding during the period. Diluted weighted average shares reflect the dilutive effect, if any, of potential common shares. To the extent their effect is dilutive, employee equity awards and other commitments to be settled in common stock are included in the calculation of diluted earnings (or income) per share based on the treasury stock method.

For the three months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010, all potential common shares were anti-dilutive due to the net loss. The calculations of basic and diluted loss per share and basic and diluted weighted average shares outstanding are as follows (dollars and shares in thousands, except per share data):

	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010
Net loss	\$ (11,736)	\$ (15,468)
Weighted average shares outstanding	94,065	92,689
Dilutive impact from:		
Share-based payment awards	-	-
Warrants	-	-
Dilutive weighted average shares outstanding	94,065	92,689
Loss per share		
Basic	\$ (0.12)	\$ (0.17)
Dilutive	\$ (0.12)	\$ (0.17)

Historically, we issued warrants to purchase 7,267,286 shares of common stock in connection with various financing activities. These warrants provided for net equity settlement and were accounted for in equity. Prior to fiscal 2011, 6,636,646 warrants were exercised in a cashless exercise resulting in the issuance of 4,869,539 shares of common stock. During fiscal 2011, the remaining 630,640 warrants were exercised in a cashless exercise resulting in the issuance of 424,753 shares of common stock. There were no warrants outstanding at September 30, 2011 or June 30, 2011.

The following potential common shares were excluded from the calculation of diluted weighted average shares outstanding because their inclusion would be anti-dilutive at the balance sheet date due to the net loss (shares in thousands):

	Three Months Ended	
	September 30,	
	2011	2010
Employee equity awards	7,013	8,246

10. Comprehensive Loss

Comprehensive loss is defined as the change in equity of a business enterprise during a period from transactions and other events and circumstances from non-owner sources. The components of comprehensive loss for the three months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 were as follows (dollars in thousands):

	Three Months Ended	
	September 30,	
	2011	2010
Net loss	\$ (11,736)	\$ (15,468)
Foreign currency translation adjustments	(193)	429
Total comprehensive loss	\$ (11,929)	\$ (15,039)

11. Commitments and Contingencies

(a) ATME arbitration

Prior to October 6, 2009, we had an exclusive reseller relationship covering certain countries in the Middle East with AspenTech Middle East W.L.L., a Kuwaiti corporation (now known as Advanced Technology Middle East W.L.L.) that we refer to below as ATME. Under the reseller agreement, we had the right to terminate for a material breach in the event of ATME's willful misconduct or fraud. Effective October 6, 2009, we terminated the reseller relationship for material breach by ATME based on certain actions of ATME.

On November 2, 2009, ATME commenced an action in the Queen's Bench Division (Commercial Court) of the High Court of Justice (England & Wales) captioned In The Matter Of An Intended Arbitration Between AspenTech Middle East W.L.L. and Aspen Technology, Inc., 2009 Folio 1436, seeking preliminary injunctive relief restraining us from taking any steps to impede ATME from serving as our exclusive reseller in the countries covered by the reseller agreement with ATME. We filed evidence in opposition to that request for relief on November 12, 2009. At a hearing on November 13, 2009, the court dismissed ATME's application for preliminary injunctive relief. The court sealed an Order to this effect on November 23, 2009, and further ordered that ATME pay our costs of claim.

Relatedly, on November 11, 2009, we filed a request for arbitration against ATME in the International Court of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce, captioned Aspen Technology, Inc. v. AspenTech Middle East W.L.L., Case No. 16732/VRO. Our request for arbitration asserted claims against ATME seeking a declaration that ATME committed a material breach of our agreement and that our termination of our agreement was lawful, and seeking damages for ATME's willful misconduct in connection with the reseller relationship. On November 18, 2009, ATME filed its answer to that request for arbitration and asserted counterclaims against us seeking a declaratory judgment that we unlawfully terminated our agreement with ATME and seeking damages for breach of contract by reason of our purported unlawful termination of our agreement. Our reply to those counterclaims was filed on December 18, 2009. Pursuant to a procedural order issued by the arbitral tribunal, a hearing was conducted between January 24, 2011 and February 2, 2011, and a supplemental hearing took place in June 2011.

We expect a determination to be made in the first half of fiscal 2012 with respect to the pending arbitration. However, we can provide no assurance as to the actual timing or outcome of the arbitration. In general, there is no provision for either party to appeal the determination reached. The reseller agreement with ATME contained a provision whereby we could be liable for a termination fee if the agreement were terminated other than for material breach. This fee is to be calculated based on a formula contained in the reseller agreement that we believe was originally developed based on certain assumptions about the future financial performance of ATME, as well as ATME's actual financial performance. Based on the formula and the financial information provided to us by ATME, which we have not verified independently, a calculation based on the formula would result in a termination fee of between \$60 million and \$77 million. Under the terminated reseller agreement, no termination fee is owed on termination for material breach. If we are found to have breached the terms of our agreement with ATME, we could be liable for damages including the termination fee, the amount of which may be greater or less than the number indicated above.

On March 11, 2010, a Kuwaiti entity (known as ATME Group and affiliated with ATME) filed a lawsuit in a Kuwaiti court naming as defendants ATME, us and a reseller newly appointed by us in Kuwait. In this lawsuit, ATME Group claims that it was an exclusive reseller for ATME in Kuwait and, as such, is entitled to damages resulting from purported customer contracts in Kuwait. We intend to defend this action vigorously.

(b) Class action and opt-out claims

In March 2006, we settled class action litigation, including related derivative claims, arising out of our originally filed consolidated financial statements for fiscal 2000 through 2004, the accounting for which we restated in March 2005. Certain members of the class (representing 1,457,969 shares of common stock (or less than 1% of the shares putatively purchased during the class action period)) opted out of the settlement and had the right to bring their own state or federal law claims against us, referred to as “opt-out” claims. Opt-out claims were filed on behalf of the holders of approximately 1.1 million of such shares. All but one of these actions were settled and/or dismissed. The remaining action is discussed below.

380544 Canada, Inc., et al. v. Aspen Technology, Inc., was filed on February 15, 2007 in the federal district court for the Southern District of New York and docketed as Civ. A. No. 1:07-cv-01204-JFK in that court. The claims in this action include claims against us and one or more of our former officers alleging securities and common law fraud, breach of contract, deceptive practices and/or rescissory damages liability, based on the restated results of one or more fiscal periods included in our restated consolidated financial statements referenced in the class action. This action was brought by persons who purchased 566,665 shares of our common stock in a private placement. Certain motions to dismiss filed by other defendants were resolved on May 5, 2009. On July 26, 2010, the plaintiff moved for leave to file a second amended complaint, and the motion was denied on September 14, 2011. Fact discovery is scheduled to close on February 24, 2012. The claims in the 380544 Canada action are for damages totaling at least \$4.0 million, not including claims for attorneys’ fees. We plan to defend the 380544 Canada action vigorously.

(c) Other

In the ordinary course of business, we are also from time to time involved in lawsuits, claims, investigations, proceedings, and threats of litigation, including proceedings we have instituted to enforce our intellectual property rights, and other intellectual property, commercial and miscellaneous matters. These matters include an April 2004 claim by a customer for approximately \$5.0 million that certain of our software products and implementation services failed to meet the customer’s expectations.

The results of litigation and claims cannot be predicted with certainty, and unfavorable resolutions are possible and could materially affect our results of operations, cash flows or financial position. In addition, regardless of the outcome, litigation could have an adverse impact on us because of litigation fees and costs, diversion of management resources and other factors.

While the outcome of the proceedings and claims identified above cannot be predicted with certainty, there are no other such matters, as of September 30, 2011, that, in the opinion of management, might have a material adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

12. Segment and Geographic Information

Operating segments are defined as components of an enterprise about which separate financial information is available that is evaluated regularly by the chief operating decision maker, or decision making group, in deciding how to allocate resources and in assessing performance. Our chief operating decision maker is our Chief Executive Officer.

We have three operating segments: license, maintenance and training, and professional services. The chief operating decision maker assesses financial performance and allocates resources based upon the three lines of business.

The license line of business is engaged in the development and licensing of software. The maintenance and training line of business provides customers with a wide range of support services that include on-site support, telephone support, software updates and various forms of training on how to use our products. The professional services line of business offers implementation, advanced process control, real-time optimization and other professional services in order to provide its customers with complete solutions.

The accounting policies of the operating segments are the same as those described in the summary of significant accounting policies (refer to Note 2). We do not track assets or capital expenditures by operating segments. Consequently, it is not practical to show assets, capital expenditures, depreciation or amortization by operating segments.

The following table presents a summary of operating segments (dollars in thousands):

	<u>License</u>	<u>Maintenance, Training and Other</u>	<u>Professional Services</u>	<u>Total</u>
Three Months Ended September 30, 2011				
Segment revenue	\$ 31,910	\$ 14,167	\$ 5,148	\$ 51,225
Segment expenses	16,552	2,692	6,398	25,642
Segment operating profit (1)	<u>\$ 15,358</u>	<u>\$ 11,475</u>	<u>\$ (1,250)</u>	<u>\$ 25,583</u>
Three Months Ended September 30, 2010				
Segment revenue	\$ 18,967	\$ 17,470	\$ 6,663	\$ 43,100
Segment expenses	14,393	3,137	5,940	23,470
Segment operating profit (1)	<u>\$ 4,574</u>	<u>\$ 14,333</u>	<u>\$ 723</u>	<u>\$ 19,630</u>

(1) The Segment operating profits reported reflect only the direct expenses of the operating segment and do not contain an allocation for selling and marketing, general and administrative, development, restructuring and other corporate expenses incurred in support of the segments.

Reconciliation to Loss Before Provision for Taxes

The following table presents a reconciliation of total segment operating profit to loss before income taxes for the three months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 (dollars in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010
Total segment operating profit for reportable segments	\$ 25,583	\$ 19,630
Cost of license	(2,724)	(2,122)
Selling and marketing	(3,868)	(3,237)
Research and development	(11,573)	(10,349)
General and administrative and overhead	(19,408)	(20,856)
Stock-based compensation	(3,708)	(2,697)
Restructuring charges	73	(77)
Other (expense) income, net	(2,032)	2,664
Interest income (net)	1,139	2,458
Loss before income taxes	<u>\$ (16,518)</u>	<u>\$ (14,586)</u>

13. Subsequent Events

We evaluated events occurring between September 30, 2011 and the date the financial statements were issued. There were no subsequent events to be disclosed based on this evaluation.

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

You should read the following discussion in conjunction with our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and related notes beginning on page 3. In addition to historical information, this discussion contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. You should read "Item 1A. Risk Factors," for a discussion of important factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from our expectations.

Our fiscal year ends on June 30, and references in this Quarterly Report to a specific fiscal year are the twelve months ended June 30 of such year (for example, "fiscal 2012" refers to the year ending June 30, 2012).

Business Overview

We are a leading global provider of mission-critical process optimization software solutions, which are designed to manage and optimize plant and process design, operational performance, and supply chain planning. Our aspenONE software and related services have been developed for companies in the process industries. Customers use our solutions to improve their competitiveness and profitability by increasing throughput and productivity, reducing operating costs, enhancing capital efficiency, and decreasing working capital requirements.

We have more than 1,500 customers globally. Our customers include manufacturers and firms in process industries such as energy, chemicals, engineering and construction, and pharmaceuticals, as well as consumer packaged goods, power, metals and mining, pulp and paper, and biofuels. As of June 30, 2011, our installed base included 19 of the 20 largest petroleum companies, all of the 20 largest chemical companies, and 15 of the 20 largest pharmaceutical companies.

Transition to the aspenONE Subscription Offering

In fiscal 2010 we began offering our aspenONE software as a subscription model, which allows our customers access to all products within a licensed suite (aspenONE Engineering or aspenONE Manufacturing and Supply Chain). During the license term, a customer is entitled to receive post-contract support, which we refer to as SMS, and is entitled to any software products introduced into the licensed suite. Revenue is recognized over the term of a license agreement on a subscription, or ratable basis. We typically issue invoices annually and record each invoiced payment as deferred revenue. We then recognize revenue from the invoice due date over the applicable period. We also offer our customers the ability to license specifically defined sets of aspenONE products, referred to as point products, which in July 2009, we began licensing with SMS included for the entire term. In fiscal 2010 and 2011, revenue from point product arrangements was generally recognized on the due date of each annual installment, provided all other revenue recognition requirements were met.

Prior to fiscal 2010, we offered term or perpetual licenses to specific products or specifically defined sets of products, which we refer to as point products, without SMS included for the entire term of the arrangement. The majority of our license revenue was recognized under an "upfront revenue model," in which the net present value of the aggregate license fees was recognized as revenue upon shipment of the point products. We typically invoiced customers annually and recorded the net present value of uninvoiced payments as installments receivable. Customers typically received one year of SMS with their license agreements and then could elect to renew SMS annually. Revenue from SMS was recognized ratably over the period which the SMS was delivered.

The principal accounting implications of the change in our licensing model are as follows:

- The majority of our license revenue is no longer recognized on an upfront basis. Since the upfront model resulted in the net present value of multiple years of future installments being recognized at the time of shipment, we do not expect to recognize levels of revenue comparable to our pre-transition levels until a significant majority of license agreements executed under our upfront revenue model (i) reach the end of their original terms and (ii) are renewed. Accordingly, our product-related revenue for fiscal 2010, 2011 and the three months ended September 30, 2011 was significantly less than the level achieved in the fiscal years preceding our licensing model change.
- Because the timing of our incurrence of operating costs has not changed, the lower levels of revenue expected over the next few years may result in operating losses.
- Our aspenONE subscription offering and the inclusion of SMS for the term of our point product arrangements have not changed the method or timing of our customer billings or cash collections and our net cash provided by operating activities has increased since the license model change.

- Our installments receivable balance will continue to decrease over time, as licensing agreements previously executed under our upfront revenue model reach the end of their terms and are renewed under our new licensing model. Under the aspenONE subscription offering and for point product arrangements with enhanced SMS, payment amounts under extended payment term arrangements are not presented in the condensed consolidated balance sheets as the related arrangement fees are not fixed or determinable.
- The amount of our deferred revenue will continue to increase over time, as installments for license transactions executed under our subscription-based licensing model are deferred and recognized on a ratable basis.
- Over the next several years, we expect substantially all of our customers to transition to term arrangements which include SMS for the contract term. During this transition period, we may continue to have arrangements where the software element will be recognized upfront, including perpetual licenses and amendments to existing legacy term arrangements. However, we do not expect revenue related to these sources to be significant in relation to our total revenue.

For additional information about the recognition of revenue under the upfront revenue model and our new licensing models, please refer to “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Revenue” contained in Part II, Item 7 of our Form 10-K for our fiscal year ended June 30, 2011. Because of the accounting implications of our aspenONE subscription offering and the inclusion of enhanced SMS for the entire term of our point product arrangements, we believe that, for the next several years, a number of performance indicators based on U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, or GAAP, will be of limited value in assessing our performance, growth and financial condition. Accordingly, we are focusing on a number of other business metrics, including those described below under “—Key Business Metrics.”

Introduction of our Enhanced SMS Offering

In July 2011, we introduced an enhanced SMS offering to provide more value to our customers. As part of this offering, customers receive 24x7 support, faster response times, dedicated technical advocates and access to web-based training modules. The enhanced SMS offering is being provided to new and existing customers of both our aspenONE subscription offering and customers who have licensed point products with SMS included for the term of the arrangement. Our legacy annually renewable SMS offering continues to be available to customers with term or perpetual license agreements signed prior to fiscal 2010.

The introduction of our enhanced SMS offering has resulted in a change to the revenue recognition of point product arrangements that include SMS for the term of the arrangement. Beginning in fiscal 2012, the revenue associated with point product arrangements that include the enhanced SMS offering is being recognized on a ratable basis, whereas prior to fiscal 2012, revenue was recognized under the residual method, as payments became due. The introduction of our enhanced SMS offering did not change the revenue recognition for our aspenONE subscription arrangements.

Revenue

We generate revenue primarily from the following sources:

- *Software licenses.* We provide integrated process optimization software solutions designed specifically for the process industries. We license our software products, together with SMS, primarily on a term basis, and we offer extended payment options for our term license agreements that generally require annual payments, which we also refer to as installments.
- *SMS and other.* Our SMS business consists primarily of providing customer technical support and access to software fixes and updates. We provide customer technical support services throughout the world from our three global call centers as well as via email and through our support website. Our training business provides customers with a variety of training solutions, including on-site, Internet-based and customized training.

- *Professional services.* We offer professional services that include implementing and integrating our technology with customers' existing systems in order to improve their plant performance and gain better operational data. Customers who use our professional services typically engage us to provide those services over periods of up to 24 months. We charge customers for professional services on a time-and-materials or fixed-price basis.

Key Components of Operations

Revenue

Subscription and Software Revenue. Subscription and software revenue consists of product and related revenue from our (i) aspenONE subscription arrangements; (ii) fixed-term arrangements for point product licenses with our enhanced SMS offering included for the contract term (referred to as point product arrangements with enhanced SMS); (iii) upfront amendments to legacy term arrangements (referred to as upfront legacy amendments) and legacy arrangements that are being recognized over time as a result of not previously meeting one or more of the requirements for recognition under the upfront revenue model (referred to as legacy arrangements); and, (iv) perpetual arrangements.

When a customer elects to license our products under our aspenONE subscription offering, our enhanced SMS offering is included for the entire term of the arrangement and the customer receives, for the term of the arrangement, the right to any new unspecified future software products and updates that may be introduced into the licensed aspenONE software suite. These agreements combine the right to use all software products within a given product suite with SMS for the term of the arrangement. Due to our obligation to provide unspecified future software products and updates, we are required to recognize the total revenue ratably over the term of the license, once the four revenue recognition criteria noted above are met.

Our point product arrangements with enhanced SMS also include SMS for the term of the arrangement. Since we do not have vendor-specific objective evidence of fair value, or VOSE, for our enhanced SMS offering, the SMS element of our point product arrangements is not separable. As a result, the total revenue is also recognized ratably over the term of the arrangement, once the four revenue recognition criteria are met.

Perpetual license, legacy arrangements, and upfront legacy amendments do not include the same rights as those provided to customers under the subscription-based licensing model. We continue to have VSOE for the legacy SMS offering provided in support for these license arrangements and can therefore separate the undelivered elements. Accordingly, the license fees for perpetual licenses, legacy amendments, and upfront legacy amendments continue to be recognized upon delivery of the software products using the residual method, provided all other revenue recognition requirements are met.

Results of Operations Classification - Subscription and Software Revenue

Prior to fiscal 2012, subscription and software revenue were each classified separately on our statements of operations, because each type of revenue had different revenue recognition characteristics, and the amount of revenue attributable to each was material in relation to our total revenues. Additionally, we were able to separate the residual amount of software revenue related to the software component of our point product arrangements which included SMS for the contract term, based on the VSOE of fair value for the SMS element.

As a result of the introduction of our enhanced SMS offering in fiscal 2012, the majority of our product-related revenue is now recognized on a ratable basis, over the term of the arrangement. Additionally, we do not expect residual revenue from upfront legacy amendments, legacy arrangements and perpetual arrangements to represent a material portion of our revenue during fiscal 2012 and beyond. Since the distinction between subscription and point product ratable revenue does not represent a meaningful difference from either a line of business or revenue recognition perspective, we have combined our subscription and software revenue into a single line item on our statements of operations beginning in the first quarter of fiscal 2012.

The following table summarizes the changes to our revenue classifications and the timing of revenue recognition of subscription and software revenue for fiscal 2012 compared to fiscal 2011 and fiscal 2010. Ratable revenue refers to product revenue that is recognized evenly over the term of the related agreement, beginning when the first payment becomes due. The residual method refers to the recognition of the difference between the total arrangement fee and the undiscounted VSOE of fair value for the undelivered element, assuming all other revenue recognition requirements have been met.

	Revenue Classification in Income Statement		Revenue Recognition Methodology	
	Fiscal 2012	Fiscal 2011 and 2010	Fiscal 2012	Fiscal 2011 and 2010
Type of Revenue:				
aspenONE subscription	Subscription and software	Subscription	Ratable	Ratable
Point products				
- Software	Subscription and software	Software	Ratable	Residual method
- Bundled SMS	Subscription and software	Services and other	Ratable	Ratable
Other				
- Upfront legacy amendments and legacy arrangements	Subscription and software	Software	Residual method	Residual method
- Perpetual arrangements	Subscription and software	Software	Residual method	Residual method

Services and Other Revenue. Our services and other revenue consist primarily of revenue related to professional services, standalone renewals of our legacy SMS offering and training. The amount and timing of this revenue depend on a number of factors, including:

- whether the professional services arrangement was sold as a single arrangement with, or in contemplation of, a new aspenONE licensing transaction;
- the number, value and rate per hour of service transactions booked during the current and preceding periods;
- the number and availability of service resources actively engaged on billable projects;
- the timing of milestone acceptance for engagements contractually requiring customer sign-off;
- the timing of negotiating and signing maintenance renewals;
- the timing of collection of cash payments when collectability is uncertain; and
- the size of the installed base of license contracts.

Cost of Revenue

Cost of Subscription and Software. The cost of subscription and software revenue consists of royalties, amortization of capitalized software costs, distribution fees, the costs of providing SMS on arrangements where the related revenue is recorded as subscription and software revenue, and costs related to delivery of software.

Cost of Services and Other. Our cost of services and other revenue consists primarily of personnel-related and external consultant costs associated with providing professional services, SMS on arrangements for which we have VSOE for the SMS element and training to customers.

Operating Expenses

Selling and Marketing Expense. Selling expenses consist primarily of the personnel and travel expenses related to the effort expended to license our products and services to current and potential customers, as well as for overall management of customer relationships. Marketing expenses include expenses needed to promote our company and our products and to acquire market research and measure customer opinions to help us better understand our customers and their business needs.

Research and Development Expense. Research and development expenses primarily consist of personnel and external consultant expenses related to the creation of new products and to enhancements and engineering changes to existing products.

General and Administrative Expense. General and administrative expenses include the costs of corporate and support functions, such as executive leadership and administration groups, finance, legal, human resources and corporate communications, and other costs such as outside professional and consultant fees and provision for bad debts.

Restructuring Charges. Restructuring charges result from the closure or consolidation of our facilities, or from qualifying reductions in headcount.

Other Income and Expenses

Interest Income. Interest income is recorded for the accretion of interest on the installment payments of our term software license contracts when revenue is recognized upfront at net present value, and to a lesser extent from the investment of cash balances in short-term instruments.

Interest Expense. Interest expense consists of charges primarily related to our secured borrowings. Secured borrowings are derived from our borrowing arrangements with unrelated financial institutions.

Other Income (Expense), Net. Other income (expense), net is comprised primarily of foreign currency exchange gains (losses) generated from the settlement and remeasurement of transactions denominated in currencies other than the functional currency of our operating units. We may enter into foreign currency forward contracts to attempt to minimize the adverse impact related to unfavorable exchange rate movements, although we have not done so since fiscal 2008. Historically, our foreign currency forward contracts have not been designated as hedging instruments and, therefore, do not qualify for fair value or cash flow hedge treatment under the criteria of Accounting Standards Codification, or ASC, Topic 815, *Derivatives and Hedging*. Therefore, any unrealized gains and losses on the foreign currency forward contracts, as well as the underlying transactions we are attempting to shield from exchange rate movements, would be recognized as a component of other income (expense), net.

(Benefit from) provision for Income Taxes. The benefit from, or provision for, income taxes is comprised of the deferred benefit for tax deductions and credits that we expect to utilize in the future taxes. The provision for income taxes relates to any taxes currently payable as a result of domestic and foreign operations. We record interest and penalties related to income tax matters as income tax expense. We expect the amount of income tax expense, if any, to vary each reporting period depending upon fluctuations in our taxable income by jurisdiction.

Key Business Metrics

Background

With the adoption of our subscription-based licensing model, our revenue for fiscal 2010, 2011 and the three months ended September 30, 2011 was significantly less than in the years preceding our model change. Since the upfront model resulted in the net present value of multiple years of future installments being recognized at the time of shipment, we do not expect to recognize levels of revenue comparable to our pre-transition levels until a significant majority of license agreements executed under our upfront revenue model (i) reach the end of their original terms and (ii) are renewed. As a result, we believe that, for the next few years, a number of our performance indicators based on U.S. generally accepted accounting principles or GAAP, including revenue, gross profit, operating income (loss) and net income (loss), will be of limited value in assessing our performance, growth and financial condition. Accordingly, we instead are focusing on certain non-GAAP and other business metrics, including the key metrics set forth below, to track our business performance. None of these metrics should be considered as an alternative to any measure of financial performance calculated in accordance with GAAP.

To supplement our statements of cash flows presented on a GAAP basis, we use the non-GAAP measure of free cash flow to analyze cash flows generated from our operations. Management believes that this financial measure is useful to investors because it permits investors to view our performance using the same tools that management uses to gauge progress in achieving our goals. We believe this measure is also useful to investors because it is an indication of cash flow that may be available to fund investments in future growth initiatives and it is also useful as a basis for comparing our performance with that of our competitors. To supplement our presentation of total cost of revenue and total operating costs presented on a GAAP basis, we use a non-GAAP measure of adjusted total costs, which excludes certain non-cash and non-recurring expenses. Management believes that this financial measure is useful to investors because it demonstrates the cash operating costs of the business. The presentation of these non-GAAP measures is not meant to be considered in isolation or as an alternative to cash flows from operating activities as a measure of liquidity or as an alternative to total cost of revenue and total operating costs as a measure of our total costs.

Total Term Contract Value

Total term contract value, or TCV, is an estimate of the renewal value, as of a specific date, of our active portfolio of term license agreements. TCV is calculated by multiplying the terminal annual payment for each active term license agreement by the original length of the existing license term, and then aggregating this amount for all active term license agreements. Accordingly, TCV represents the full renewal value of all of our current term license agreements under the hypothetical assumption that all of those agreements are simultaneously renewed for the identical license terms and at the same terminal annual payment amounts. TCV includes the value of SMS for any multi-year license agreements for which SMS is committed for the entire license term. TCV does not include any amounts for perpetual licenses, professional services, training or standalone renewal SMS. TCV is calculated using constant currency assumptions for agreements denominated in currencies other than U.S. dollars in order to remove the impact of currency fluctuations between comparison dates.

We also estimate a license-only TCV, which we refer to as TLCV, by removing the SMS portion of TCV using our historic estimated selling price for SMS. Our portfolio of active license agreements currently reflects a mix of (a) license agreements that include SMS for the entire license term and (b) legacy license agreements that do not include SMS. TLCV provides a consistent basis for assessing growth, particularly while customers are continuing to transition to arrangements that include SMS for the term of the arrangement.

We believe TCV and TLCV are useful metrics for analyzing our business performance, particularly while we are transitioning to our aspenONE subscription offering and revenue comparisons between fiscal periods do not reflect the actual growth rate of our business. Comparing TCV and TLCV for different dates provides insight into the growth and retention rate of our business during the period between those dates.

TCV and TLCV increase as the result of:

- new term license agreements with new or existing customers;
- renewals or modifications of existing license agreements that result in higher license fees due to price escalation or an increase in the number of tokens (units of software usage) or products licensed; and
- renewals of existing license agreements that increase the length of the license term.

The renewal of an existing license agreement will not increase TCV and TLCV unless the renewal results in higher license fees or a longer license term. TCV and TLCV are adversely affected by customer non-renewals and by renewals that result in lower license fees or a shorter license term. Our standard license term historically has been between five and six years, and we do not expect this standard term to change in the future. Many of our contracts have escalating annual payments throughout the term of the arrangement. By calculating TCV and TLCV based on the terminal year annual payment, we are typically using the highest annual fee from the existing arrangement to calculate the hypothetical renewal value of our portfolio of term arrangements.

We estimate that TLCV grew by approximately 2.2% to \$1.31 billion in the first quarter of fiscal 2012, from \$1.28 billion at June 30, 2011, principally as the result of an increase in the number of tokens or products licensed. We estimate that TCV grew 2.7% to \$1.46 billion in the first quarter of fiscal 2012, from \$1.42 billion at June 30, 2011.

Future Cash Collections and Billings Backlog

Future cash collections is the sum of billings backlog, accounts receivable, undiscounted installments receivable and undiscounted collateralized receivables. *Billings backlog* represents the aggregate value of uninvoiced bookings from prior and current periods that is not reflected on our consolidated balance sheets.

Prior to fiscal 2010, the majority of bookings was recognized as revenue in the period booked and reflected on our balance sheet as installments receivable, or if sold, as collateralized receivables. Installments receivable and collateralized receivables were discounted to net present value at prevailing market rates at the time of the transaction. Amounts collected for collateralized receivables are applied to pay the related secured borrowings and are not available for any other expenditures.

Under our aspenONE subscription offering and point product arrangements with enhanced SMS, extended contractual payments are not considered fixed or determinable and, as a result, are not included in installments receivable or collateralized receivables. These future payments are included in billings backlog, which is not reflected on our consolidated balance sheets. We believe future cash collections is a useful metric because it provides insight into the cash generation capability of our business. Under the upfront revenue model, we did not previously monitor billings backlog or future cash collections since we believed that accounts receivable, installments receivable, collateralized receivables and certain other measures were appropriate indicators of estimated cash generation at that time.

Since a substantial majority of our future bookings will reflect arrangements which include SMS for the term of the arrangement, we expect billings backlog to grow over time and expect installments receivable and collateralized receivables to decline. To the extent customers have transitioned to arrangements which include SMS for the term of the arrangement, our future cash collections will include the contractually committed sources of cash associated with our licensing and SMS business. The only sources of cash that will continue to be excluded from future cash collections will be amounts attributable to professional services, training and any remaining standalone SMS.

The following table provides our future cash collections as of the dates presented (dollars in thousands):

	September 30, 2011	June 30, 2011
Billings backlog	\$ 661,759	\$ 640,988
Accounts receivable, net	21,998	27,866
Installments receivable, undiscounted (non-GAAP) (1)	86,325	95,796
Collateralized receivables, undiscounted (non-GAAP) (1)	24,967	26,691
Future cash collections	<u>\$ 795,049</u>	<u>\$ 791,341</u>

(1) Excludes unamortized discount.

The growth in billings backlog for the quarter ended September 30, 2011 reflected our customers' continued adoption of our subscription-based licensing model. As customers continue to convert to our subscription-based licensing model, the aggregate value of uninvoiced bookings will become part of billings backlog and future cash collections. We expect the future cash collections metric to level-off when most of our term contracts have converted to term arrangements with annual payment terms.

We are providing the following table for the periods presented to reconcile undiscounted installment and collateralized receivables, as included in our future cash collections metric, with GAAP installment receivables, net and GAAP collateralized receivables, net (dollars in thousands):

	September 30, 2011	June 30, 2011
Installments receivable, undiscounted (non-GAAP)	\$ 86,325	\$ 95,796
Unamortized discount	(7,560)	(9,320)
Installments receivable, net	<u>\$ 78,765</u>	<u>\$ 86,476</u>
Collateralized receivables, undiscounted (non-GAAP)	\$ 24,967	\$ 26,691
Unamortized discount	(1,198)	(1,652)
Collateralized receivables, net	<u>\$ 23,769</u>	<u>\$ 25,039</u>

Installments and collateralized receivables are shown at net present value on our consolidated balance sheets. Future cash collections excludes the unamortized discount on installment and collateralized receivables. Amounts collected for collateralized receivables are applied to pay the related secured borrowings and are not available for any other expenditures.

Adjusted Total Costs

The following table presents our total cost of revenue and total operating expenses, as adjusted for stock-based compensation expense, for the indicated periods (dollars in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Period-to-Period Change	
	2011	2010	\$	%
Total cost of revenue	\$ 13,821	\$ 13,248	\$ 573	4.3%
Total operating expenses	53,029	49,560	3,469	7.0
Total expenses	\$ 66,850	\$ 62,808	\$ 4,042	6.4
Less:				
Stock-based compensation	\$ (3,708)	\$ (2,697)	\$ (1,011)	37.5
Adjusted total costs (non-GAAP)	<u>\$ 63,142</u>	<u>\$ 60,111</u>	<u>\$ 3,031</u>	<u>5.0</u>

Total expenses increased \$4.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2011 compared to the same period of the prior fiscal year. Adjusted total costs, which consist of total cost of revenue and total operating expenses, adjusted to exclude stock-based compensation, increased by \$3.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2011, respectively, compared to the same periods in the prior fiscal year.

Stock- Based Compensation Expense

The increase in stock-based compensation expense for the periods presented primarily relates to the incremental expense associated with the August 2011 annual grant, which had a higher valuation than the prior year annual grant. The higher grant valuation is primarily attributable to a higher grant date stock price of our common stock and the mix of granted awards being slightly more weighted to RSUs. RSUs result in more expense than options, as the gross stock-based compensation expense (prior to the effect of forfeitures) is based on the grant date stock price. Under the Black-Scholes option valuation model, options have a lesser valuation than the grant date share price. Also contributing to the period-over-period increase in total stock-based compensation expense was the immediate vesting of our board of director awards and the increase of the equity component of director's compensation in fiscal 2012, which resulted in \$0.5 million of incremental expense compared to the prior year period.

Comparison of the Three Months Ended September 30, 2011 and 2010

Adjusted total costs increased \$3.0 million period-over-period, predominantly due to higher compensation and related costs. Please refer to the "- Results of Operations" section below for additional information on period-over-period expense fluctuations.

Free Cash Flow

Free cash flow is calculated as net cash provided by operating activities less the sum of (a) purchase of property, equipment and leasehold improvements and (b) capitalized computer software development costs.

Customer collections and, consequently, cash flow from operating activities and free cash flow are primarily driven by license and services billings, rather than recognized revenue. As a result, our changes in revenue recognition due to the introduction of our aspenONE subscription offering will not have an adverse impact on cash receipts. Until existing license contracts are renewed and license related revenue returns to prior year levels, we believe free cash flow is a more relevant measure of our financial performance than income statement profitability measures such as total revenue, gross profit, operating profit and net income. Additionally, we also believe that free cash flow is often used by security analysts, investors and other interested parties in the evaluation of software companies.

The following table provides a reconciliation of net cash flow to free cash flow provided by operating activities for the periods presented (dollars in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 5,273	\$ 6,388
Purchase of property, equipment and leasehold improvements	(386)	(588)
Capitalized computer software development costs	(200)	(176)
Free cash flow (non-GAAP)	\$ 4,687	\$ 5,624

Our cash receipts are historically seasonal in nature, and are typically highest in the second half of the fiscal year. We expect this trend to continue throughout fiscal 2012, with our cash flows from operating activities to be more heavily weighted to the second half of the year.

We believe we will realize improved free cash flow due to the continued growth of our portfolio of term license contracts and as customers continue to renew contracts that were previously paid upfront. As part of our historical arrangements, customers could elect to pay for their term licenses upfront, at a discount, rather than annually over the contract term. The timing of upfront payments resulted in increased cash flow variability, both in the period of the payment, and the subsequent years of the contract term. We have reduced the incentive for customers to pay up front and we expect our free cash flow to benefit as these arrangements reach the end of their terms and are renewed.

Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

Our consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with GAAP. The preparation of our financial statements requires management to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue, expenses and related disclosures. We base our estimates on historical experience and various other assumptions that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

We believe that the assumptions and estimates associated with the following critical accounting policies have the greatest potential impact on our consolidated financial statements:

- revenue recognition;
- accounting for income taxes; and
- loss contingencies.

Revenue Recognition

Four basic criteria must be satisfied before software license revenue can be recognized: persuasive evidence of an arrangement between us and an end user; delivery of our product has occurred; the fee for the product is fixed or determinable; and collection of the fee is probable.

Persuasive evidence of an arrangement—We use a contract signed by the customer as evidence of an arrangement for software licenses and SMS. For professional services we use a signed contract and a statement of work to evidence an arrangement. In cases where both a signed contract and a purchase order are required by the customer, we consider both taken together as evidence of the arrangement.

Delivery of our product—Software and the corresponding access keys are generally delivered to customers via disk media with standard shipping terms of Free Carrier, Aspen Technology's warehouse (i.e., FCA, named place). Our software license agreements do not contain conditions for acceptance.

Fee is fixed or determinable—We assess whether a fee is fixed or determinable at the outset of the arrangement. Significant judgment is involved in making this assessment. Under our upfront revenue model, we are able to demonstrate that the fees are fixed or determinable for all arrangements, including those for our term licenses that contain extended payment terms. We have an established history of collecting under the terms of these contracts without providing concessions to customers. In addition, we also assess whether contract modifications to an existing term arrangement constitute a concession. In making this assessment, significant analysis is performed to ensure that no concessions are given. Our software license agreements do not include right of return or exchange. For license arrangements executed under the upfront revenue model, we recognize license revenue upon shipment of the software product, provided all other revenue recognition requirements are met.

With the introduction of our aspenONE subscription offering and the changes to the licensing terms of our point products arrangements sold on a fixed-term basis, we cannot assert that the fees in these new arrangements are fixed or determinable because the rights provided to customers and the economics of the arrangements are not comparable to our historical transactions with other customers under the upfront revenue model. As a result, the amount of revenue recognized for these arrangements is limited by the amount of customer payments that become due. For our term arrangements sold with SMS included for the term of the arrangement this generally results in the fees being recognized ratably over the contract term.

Collection of fee is probable—We assess the probability of collecting from each customer at the outset of the arrangement based on a number of factors, including the customer’s payment history, its current creditworthiness, economic conditions in the customer’s industry and geographic location, and general economic conditions. If in our judgment collection of a fee is not probable, revenue is recognized as cash is collected, provided all other conditions for revenue recognition have been met.

Vendor-Specific Objective Evidence of Fair Value

We have established vendor-specific objective evidence of fair value, or VSOE, for certain SMS offerings and for professional services, but not for our software products or our new enhanced SMS offering. We assess VSOE of fair value for SMS and professional services based on an analysis of standalone sales of SMS and professional services, using the bell-shaped curve approach. We do not have a history of selling our enhanced SMS offering to customers on a stand-alone basis, and as a result are unable to establish VSOE of fair value for this new deliverable.

We allocate the arrangement consideration among the elements included in our multi-element arrangements using the residual method. Under the residual method, the VSOE of the undelivered elements is deferred and the remaining portion of the arrangement fee for perpetual and term licenses is recognized as revenue upon delivery of the software, assuming all other revenue recognition criteria are met. If VSOE does not exist for an undelivered element in an arrangement, revenue is deferred until such evidence does exist for the undelivered elements, or until all elements are delivered, whichever is earlier. Under the upfront revenue model, the residual license fee is recognized upfront upon delivery of the software provided all other revenue recognition criteria were met. Arrangements that qualify for upfront recognition include sales of perpetual licenses and amendments to existing legacy term arrangements.

Professional Services Revenue

Professional services are provided to customers on a time-and-materials (T&M) or fixed-price basis. We allocate the fair value of our professional services that are bundled with non-aspenONE subscription arrangements, and generally recognize the related revenue as the services are performed, assuming all other revenue recognition criteria have been met. We recognize professional services fees for our T&M contracts based upon hours worked and contractually agreed-upon hourly rates. Revenue from fixed-price engagements is recognized using the proportional performance method based on the ratio of costs incurred, to the total estimated project costs. Professional services revenue is recognized within services and other revenue in the statement of operations. Project costs are based on standard rates, which vary by the consultant’s professional level, plus all direct expenses incurred to complete the engagement that are not reimbursed by the client. Project costs are typically expensed as incurred. The use of the proportional performance method is dependent upon our ability to reliably estimate the costs to complete a project. We use historical experience as a basis for future estimates to complete current projects. Additionally, we believe that costs are the best available measure of performance. Out-of-pocket expenses which have been reimbursed by customers are recorded as revenue.

If the costs to complete a project are not estimable or the completion is uncertain, the revenue is recognized upon completion of the services. In those circumstances in which committed professional services arrangements are sold as a single arrangement with, or in contemplation of, a new license agreement, revenue is deferred and recognized on a ratable basis over the longer of the period the services are performed or the license term. We have occasionally been required to commit unanticipated additional resources to complete projects, which resulted in lower than anticipated income or losses on those contracts. Provisions for estimated losses on contracts are made during the period in which such losses become probable and can be reasonably estimated.

Occasionally, we provide professional services considered essential to the functionality of the software. We recognize the combined revenue from the sale of the software and related services using the percentage-of-completion method. When these professional services are combined with, and essential to, the functionality of an aspenONE subscription transaction, the amount of combined revenue will be recognized over the longer of the subscription term or the period the professional services are provided.

Please refer to Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Result of Operations contained in Part II, Item 7 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for our fiscal year ended June 30, 2011 for a discussion of our critical accounting policies and estimates related to accounting for income taxes and loss contingencies.

Results of Operations

Comparison of the Three Months Ended September 30, 2011 and 2010

The following table sets forth the results of operations, percentage of net revenue and the period-to- period percentage change in certain financial data for the three months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 (dollars in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,				% Change
	2011		2010		
Revenue:					
Subscription and software	\$ 31,910	62.3%	\$ 18,967	44.0%	68.2%
Services and other	19,315	37.7	24,133	56.0	(20.0)
Total revenue	51,225	100.0	43,100	100.0	18.9
Cost of revenue:					
Subscription and software	2,724	5.3	2,122	4.9	28.4
Services and other	11,097	21.7	11,126	25.8	(0.3)
Total cost of revenue	13,821	27.0	13,248	30.7	4.3
Gross profit	37,404	73.0	29,852	69.3	25.3
Operating expenses:					
Selling and marketing	23,446	45.8	20,351	47.2	15.2
Research and development	13,769	26.9	12,575	29.2	9.5
General and administrative	15,887	31.0	16,557	38.4	(4.0)
Restructuring charges	(73)	(0.1)	77	0.2	*
Total operating expenses	53,029	103.5	49,560	115.0	7.0
Loss from operations	(15,625)	(30.5)	(19,708)	(45.7)	(20.7)
Interest income	2,231	4.4	3,702	8.6	(39.7)
Interest expense	(1,092)	(2.1)	(1,244)	(2.9)	(12.2)
Other (expense) income, net	(2,032)	(4.0)	2,664	6.2	*
Loss before income taxes	(16,518)	(32.2)	(14,586)	(33.8)	13.2
(Benefit from) provision for income taxes	(4,782)	(9.3)	882	2.0	*
Net loss	\$ (11,736)	(22.9) %	\$ (15,468)	(35.9) %	(24.1) %

* Not meaningful.

Revenue

Total revenue in the first quarter of fiscal 2012 increased by \$8.1 million compared to the corresponding period of the prior year and was comprised of increased subscription and software revenue of \$12.9 million, partially offset by decreased services and other revenue of \$4.8 million.

Subscription and Software Revenue

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Period-to-Period Change	
	2011	2010	\$	%
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Subscription and software revenue	\$ 31,910	\$ 18,967	\$ 12,943	68.2%
As a percent of revenue	62.3%	44.0%		

The increase in subscription and software revenue in the first quarter of fiscal 2012 is a result of a larger base of aspenONE subscription arrangements from previous quarters being recognized as revenue on a ratable basis in the current quarter. We expect subscription and software revenue to continue to increase as customers renew existing contracts under our subscription-based licensing model and arrangements with ratable recognition become a more significant portion of our term license portfolio.

As discussed above in “– Results of Operations Classification - Subscription and Software Revenue,” we have combined subscription and software revenues on our results of operations. The following table reconciles the amount of revenue recognized for the first quarter of fiscal 2012 and 2011, based on the respective revenue recognition methodology. As illustrated below, the introduction of our enhanced SMS offering in fiscal 2012 has resulted in a substantial majority of our subscription and software revenue being recognized on a ratable basis in fiscal 2012.

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
	(Dollars in thousands)		% of Total	
Subscription and software revenue:				
Ratable (1)	\$ 28,455	\$ 9,656	89.2%	50.9%
Residual method (2)	3,455	9,311	10.8	49.1
Subscription and software revenue	\$ 31,910	\$ 18,967	100.0%	100.0%

(1) In the first quarter of fiscal 2011, the fair value of the SMS element of point product arrangements totaled \$0.4 million and was presented in the statements of operations as services and other revenue. For fiscal 2012, the fee attributable to SMS in point product arrangements is no longer separable because we are unable to establish VSOE of fair value, and as a result, is included within ratable revenue.

(2) Residual method revenue detail

	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010
	(Dollars in thousands)	
Residual method revenue:		
Point products - Software	*	\$ 5,611
Upfront legacy amendments and legacy arrangements	3,115	2,831
Perpetual arrangements	340	869
Total residual method revenue	\$ 3,455	\$ 9,311

* In fiscal 2012, the total combined arrangement fee (which includes the fee attributable to SMS) for point product arrangements with enhanced SMS is recognized on a ratable basis.

We expect residual method revenue from legacy arrangements to continue to decrease and be replaced with term-based licensing agreements that are recognized on a ratable basis. We do not expect revenue related to point products licensed on a perpetual basis to be a significant source of revenue in fiscal 2012.

Services and Other Revenue

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Period-to-Period Change	
	2011	2010	\$	%
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Professional services revenue	\$ 5,148	\$ 6,664	\$ (1,516)	(22.7) %
SMS and other revenue	14,167	17,469	(3,302)	(18.9) %
Services and other revenue	\$ 19,315	\$ 24,133	\$ (4,818)	(20.0) %
As a percent of revenue	37.7%	56.0%		

Professional Services Revenue

The period-over-period decrease in professional services revenue primarily relates to higher professional service revenue deferral related to aspenONE arrangements, and decreased customer demand for professional services. Under the aspenONE subscription offering, revenue from committed professional service arrangements that are sold as a single arrangement with, or in contemplation of, a new aspenONE licensing transaction, is deferred and recognized on a ratable basis over the longer of (a) the period the services are performed or (b) the term of the related software arrangement. As our typical contract term approximates five years, professional services revenue on these types of arrangements will usually be recognized over a longer period than under the upfront revenue model. We had an increase in net revenue deferrals of \$1.1 million for professional services bundled with aspenONE transactions, which contributed to the period-over-period decrease in professional services revenue.

SMS and Other Revenue

SMS and other revenue includes annual renewal SMS associated with our perpetual and legacy term arrangements. SMS and other revenue decreased in the first quarter of fiscal 2012, primarily due to customers transitioning to arrangements that include SMS for the contract term, and the continued trend of customers electing to replace perpetual license arrangements with new term contracts. Under our subscription-based licensing model, SMS revenue is included within subscription and software revenue, whereas previously, it was presented within services and other revenue. We expect SMS revenue related to perpetual arrangements and legacy term arrangements to continue to decrease as customers continue to transition to our subscription-based licensing model. Over the next few years, we expect that SMS revenue will represent less than 10% of our total revenue, and at that point, we would include SMS revenue in our subscription and software line in our statement of operations.

Expenses

Cost of Subscription and Software Revenue

	Three Months Ended		Period-to-Period Change	
	September 30,			
	2011	2010	\$	%
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Cost of subscription and software revenue	\$ 2,724	\$ 2,122	\$ 602	28.4%
Gross profit	29,186	16,845	12,341	73.3
Gross margin	91.5%	88.8%		

The period-over-period increase in cost of subscription and software revenue for the first quarter of fiscal 2012 is primarily due to a larger percentage of SMS services being provided to customers under our subscription-based licensing model, partially offset by lower royalty expense in the current year period.

We allocate the portion of SMS cost associated with providing support services on subscription and software arrangements that include enhanced SMS, in order to match the expense with the related revenue. Prior to the introduction of the aspenONE subscription offering in fiscal 2010, all costs associated with providing SMS were included in cost of services and other revenue. As more customers transition to the subscription-based licensing model, more of the related SMS costs will be included in cost of subscription and software.

Our subscription and software gross margins were slightly higher than the comparable period of the prior year, primarily as a result of lower royalty expense.

Cost of Services and Other Revenue

	Three Months Ended		Period-to-Period Change	
	September 30,			
	2011	2010	\$	%
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Cost of services and other revenue	\$ 11,097	\$ 11,126	\$ (29)	(0.3) %
Gross profit	8,218	13,007	(4,789)	(36.8)
Gross margin	42.5%	53.9%		

Our services and other revenue gross margins decreased to 42.5% in the first quarter of fiscal 2012, compared to 53.9% in the comparable period of the prior year, primarily as a result of the impact of higher margin SMS revenue migrating to subscription and software revenue, and higher professional service revenue deferrals.

Going forward, we expect the revenues and costs related to our SMS business to continue to migrate to cost of subscription and software revenue under the subscription-based model. Because SMS revenue has a higher gross profit margin than our professional services business, we expect the reported gross profit margin of services and other revenue to continue to decline.

Cost of Professional Services Revenue

The timing of expense recognition on certain professional service arrangements can impact the ability to compare the cost of professional services revenue from period to period. The cost of professional services revenue was \$0.5 million higher in the first quarter of 2012, as compared to the prior year period, primarily due to higher cost deferrals in the first quarter of fiscal 2011 related to the impact of a project being recognized on a completed contract basis.

Cost of SMS and Other Revenue

Cost of SMS and other revenue decreased \$0.5 million in the first quarter of fiscal 2012, compared to the prior year period, primarily due to the migration of SMS costs associated with supporting our aspenONE subscription arrangements moving to the cost of subscription and software revenue. As the subscription business grows, we expect the cost of SMS revenue to continue to migrate from cost of services and other revenue to cost of subscription and software revenue. Eventually, we expect the majority of the costs of our SMS business to be presented in cost of subscription and software revenue. In the aggregate, the cost of providing SMS on all of our product offerings was slightly higher, due to incremental costs associated with our new enhanced SMS offering. We do not expect these incremental costs to have a significant impact on our gross margin.

Selling and Marketing Expense

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Period-to-Period Change	
	2011	2010	\$	%
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Selling and marketing expense	\$ 23,446	\$ 20,351	\$ 3,095	15.2%
As a percent of revenue	45.8%	47.2%		

The period-over-period increase in selling and marketing expense is predominantly the result of higher compensation expenses of \$2.2 million, including higher commissions of \$0.8 million and higher stock-based compensation expense of \$0.3 million. The remaining period-over-period increase is the result of higher expense for company events and travel related costs.

Research and Development Expense

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Period-to-Period Change	
	2011	2010	\$	%
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Research and development expense	\$ 13,769	\$ 12,575	\$ 1,194	9.5%
As a percent of revenue	26.9%	29.2%		

The period-over-period change in research and development expense is primarily the result of higher compensation expense compared to the prior year period.

General and Administrative Expense

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Period-to-Period Change	
	2011	2010	\$	%
	(Dollars in thousands)			
General and administrative expense	\$ 15,887	\$ 16,557	\$ (670)	(4.0)%
As a percent of revenue	31.0%	38.4%		

The period-over-period decrease in general and administrative expense is primarily attributable to lower legal and related costs of \$0.4 million and lower bad debt expense of \$0.6 million, partially offset by increased stock-based compensation expense of \$0.6 million. The remaining period-over-period decrease is primarily the result of lower consultant fees.

Restructuring Charges

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Period-to-Period Change	
	2011	2010	\$	%
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Restructuring charges	\$ (73)	\$ 77	\$ (150)	* %
As a percent of revenue	(0.1) %	0.2%		

* Not meaningful.

There were no new restructuring events in the first quarter of fiscal 2012. The activity in restructuring charges was the result of accretion and adjustments to existing facilities-related restructuring plans for changes in estimates.

Interest Income

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Period-to-Period Change	
	2011	2010	\$	%
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Interest income	\$ 2,231	\$ 3,702	\$ (1,471)	(39.7) %
As a percent of revenue	4.4%	8.6%		

The period-over-period decrease in interest income is primarily attributable to the continued decrease of our collateralized and installment receivables portfolios. We expect interest income to continue to decrease going forward.

Interest Expense

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Period-to-Period Change	
	2011	2010	\$	%
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Interest expense	\$ (1,092)	\$ (1,244)	\$ 152	(12.2) %
As a percent of revenue	(2.1)%	(2.9)%		

The period-over-period decrease in interest expense is primarily attributable to lower average secured borrowing balances, resulting from the continued pay-down of our existing secured borrowing arrangements. We expect interest expense to continue to decrease going forward.

Other Income, Net

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Period-to-Period Change	
	2011	2010	\$	%
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Other (expense) income, net	\$ (2,032)	\$ 2,664	\$ (4,696)	*%
As a percent of revenue	(4.0)%	6.2%		

* Not meaningful.

Other income (expense), net is comprised primarily of unrealized and realized foreign currency exchange gains and losses generated from the settlement and remeasurement of transactions denominated in currencies other than the functional currency of our operating units. Other income (expense), net also includes miscellaneous non-operating gains and losses.

For the first quarter of fiscal 2012, other income, net, includes \$2.0 million of net currency losses. For the first quarter of fiscal 2011, other expenses, net, included \$2.6 million of net currency gains.

(Benefit from) provision for Income Taxes

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Period-to-Period Change	
	2011	2010	\$	%
	(Dollars in thousands)			
(Benefit from) provision for income taxes	\$ (4,782)	\$ 882	\$ (5,664)	*%
As a percent of revenue	(9.3) %	2.0%		

* Not meaningful.

The period-over-period decrease in the provision for income taxes was primarily due to the tax benefit from current period losses and our belief that it is more likely than not that we will recognize this benefit in the future. In the first quarter of fiscal 2011, we maintained a valuation allowance on our U.S. deferred tax assets, and as a result, did not record a similar tax benefit. We made cash payments totaling \$0.7 million in the first quarter of fiscal 2012, which were offset by cash refunds of \$0.1 million. Tax payments in the current year period were comprised of foreign tax payments of \$0.7 million and U.S. state tax payments of less than \$0.1 million.

Based on our evaluation of the realizability of our U.S. federal net operating loss carryforwards, or NOLs, foreign tax credits, and R&D credits through the generation of future taxable income, a significant portion of the U.S. valuation allowance was reversed in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2011. While we are currently operating at a taxable loss and have a history of losses, we are able to forecast sufficient future pre-tax profitability, which will allow us to utilize our deferred tax assets. Based on our current forecast, we expect that we will utilize all of our U.S. NOLs, foreign tax credits, and a portion of our R&D credits by fiscal year 2015, based on a “with and without” approach.

We have retained a small valuation allowance in the U.S. for a deferred tax asset related to certain R&D credits, which we expect to expire before utilization. Additionally, we have retained a valuation allowance for unrealized capital losses, since we do not have any investments currently on our balance sheet that would give rise to a capital gain. We have also retained a valuation allowance on certain foreign subsidiaries’ NOLs, where it is more likely than not that a benefit will not be realized. At September 30, 2011 and June 30, 2011, our total valuation allowance was \$8.3 million and \$8.0 million, respectively.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Resources

We have historically financed our operations with cash generated from operating activities and from borrowings secured by our installments receivable. As of September 30, 2011, our principal sources of liquidity consisted of \$145.4 million in cash and cash equivalents.

We believe our existing cash and cash equivalents and our cash flow from operating activities will be sufficient to meet our anticipated cash needs for at least the next twelve months. To the extent our cash and cash equivalents and cash flow from operating activities are insufficient to fund future activities, we may need to raise additional funds through the financing of additional receivables or from public or private equity or debt financings. We also may need to raise additional funds in the event we decide to effect one or more acquisitions of businesses, technologies or products. If additional funding is required, we may not be able to effect a receivable, equity or debt financing on terms acceptable to us or at all.

The following table summarizes our cash flow activities for the periods indicated (dollars in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010
Cash flow provided by (used in):		
Operating activities	\$ 5,273	\$ 6,388
Investing activities	(586)	(764)
Financing activities	(8,951)	(8,076)
Effect of exchange rates on cash balances	(365)	668
Decrease in cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ (4,629)</u>	<u>\$ (1,784)</u>

Operating Activities

Our primary source of cash is from the annual installments associated with our software license arrangements and related software support services, and to a lesser extent from professional services and training. We believe that cash inflows from our term license business will grow as we benefit from the continued growth of our portfolio of term license contracts, and as customers renew expiring contracts that were previously paid upfront. We anticipate that existing cash balances, together with funds generated from operations, will be sufficient to finance our operations and meet our cash requirements for the foreseeable future.

Cash from operating activities provided \$5.3 million during the first quarter of fiscal 2012. This amount resulted from a net loss of \$11.7 million, adjusted for non-cash benefits of \$1.2 million and a net \$15.8 million source of cash due to decreases in operating assets and increases in operating liabilities.

Non-cash expenses within net loss consist primarily of \$3.7 million for stock-based compensation expense, \$1.4 million of depreciation and amortization, and \$1.3 million of net unrealized foreign currency losses, partially offset by a deferred income tax benefit of \$5.4 million.

A decrease in operating assets and an increase in operating liabilities contributed \$15.8 million to net cash from operating activities. The cash generated from this change consisted of (a) decreases in installment and collateralized receivables totaling \$8.3 million, (b) a decrease in accounts receivable and unbilled services of \$6.2 million, (c) a decrease in prepaid expenses, prepaid income taxes, and other assets of \$1.2 million and (d) an increase in deferred revenue of \$7.0 million. Partially offsetting these sources of cash were decreases in accounts payable, accrued expenses, income taxes payable and other liabilities of \$6.9 million.

Investing Activities

During the first quarter of fiscal 2012, we used \$0.4 million of cash for capital expenditures, primarily related to computer hardware and software expenditures. We do not currently expect our future investment in capital expenditures to be materially different from recent levels. During the first quarter of fiscal 2012, we capitalized software development costs of \$0.2 million related to projects where we established technological feasibility. We are not currently a party to any material purchase contracts related to future capital expenditures.

Financing Activities

During the first quarter of fiscal 2012, we used \$9.0 million of cash for financing activities. We paid \$9.2 million for the repurchase of our common stock; made net payments on secured borrowings of \$0.8 million (\$2.2 million of repayments offset by \$1.4 million of proceeds); paid withholding taxes of \$1.2 million on vested and settled restricted stock units; and received proceeds of \$2.2 million from the exercise of employee stock options during the quarter.

Net Repayments on Secured Borrowings for the Three Months Ended September 30, 2011 and 2010

The following schedule reconciles our net repayments on secured borrowings for the three months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010:

	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010
	(Dollars in Thousands)	
Secured borrowings, beginning of year	\$ 24,913	\$ 76,135
Secured borrowings, end of quarter	24,809	71,213
Net change in secured borrowings	(104)	(4,922)
Decrease in accrued expenses and other current liabilities for amounts due to financing institutions	(741)	(2,400)
Impact of foreign currency	21	(95)
Net repayments on secured borrowings	<u>\$ (824)</u>	<u>\$ (7,417)</u>

We have continued to reduce our secured borrowings and amounts due to financing institution balances, while maintaining our cash balance (dollars in thousands):

	September 30,	
	2011	2010
	(Dollars in Thousands)	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 145,356	\$ 123,161
Secured borrowings	24,809	71,213
Amounts due to financing institutions	25,297	1,816
Total secured borrowings and amounts due to financing institutions	<u>\$ 50,106</u>	<u>\$ 73,029</u>

The superseding of installment contracts which serve as collateral for our secured borrowings balances can have a significant impact on our cash flows from financing activities. When previously financed receivables contracts are replaced, or “superseded,” with new arrangements, the secured borrowings collateralized by those receivables become immediately due and payable. As a result, they are reported in accrued expenses and other current liabilities until payment is remitted to the financial institution. Our current liability for amounts due to financing institutions totaled \$25.3 million at September 30, 2011, a decrease of \$0.7 million from June 30, 2011, and an increase of \$23.5 million from September 30, 2010. At both September 30, 2011 and June 30, 2011, this balance includes amounts related to superseding a large previously financed arrangement that has not yet been repaid or replaced. We are currently in discussions with the financing institution and expect to either (i) repay the secured borrowing or (ii) replace the borrowing with new installments of an equal amount.

We did not finance any receivables to fund operations in the first quarter of fiscal 2012, and we have not done so since the second quarter of fiscal 2008. We expect the existing combined secured borrowings and amounts due to financing institution balances included in our consolidated balance sheet at September 30, 2011 to continue to decline during the remainder of fiscal 2012 and thereafter, as we continue the trend of not replacing securitized borrowings as they are paid down.

Borrowings Collateralized by Receivable Contracts

We maintain arrangements with General Electric Capital Corporation and Silicon Valley Bank providing for borrowings that are secured by our installment and other receivable contracts, and for which limited recourse exists against us. Under these programs, we and the financial institution must agree to enter into each transaction and negotiate the amount borrowed and interest rate secured by each receivable. The customers' payments of the underlying receivables fund the repayment of the related amounts borrowed. The weighted average interest rate on the secured borrowings was 8.7% at September 30, 2011. The collateralized receivables earn interest income, and the secured borrowings accrue borrowing costs at approximately the same interest rate.

We estimate that there was approximately \$65.9 million available under the Silicon Valley Bank program at September 30, 2011. As the collection of the collateralized receivables and resulting payment of the borrowing obligation reduces the outstanding balance, the availability under the arrangement can be increased. We expect to maintain our access to cash under this arrangement.

Under the terms of these programs, we have transferred the receivables to the financial institutions with limited financial recourse to us. We can be required to repurchase the receivables under certain circumstances in case of specific defaults by us as set forth in the program terms. Potential recourse obligations are primarily related to the Silicon Valley Bank arrangement, which requires us to pay interest to Silicon Valley Bank for a limited period when the underlying customer has not paid by the receivable due date. Other than the specific items noted above, the financial institution bears the credit risk of the customers associated with the receivables the institution purchased.

Recently Adopted Accounting Pronouncements

In September 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-08, *Intangibles — Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): “Testing Goodwill for Impairment.”* ASU No. 2011-08 allows entities to first assess qualitative factors to determine whether the existence of events or circumstances indicates that it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount. Performing the two-step goodwill impairment test is not necessary if an entity determines based on this assessment that it is not more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount. ASU No. 2011-08 is effective for annual and interim goodwill impairment tests performed for the fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2011. We are currently evaluating our options for the adoption of ASU No. 2011-08, as early adoption is permitted. The adoption of ASU No. 2011-08 is not expected to have a material effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In June 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-05, *Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Presentation of Comprehensive Income.* ASU No. 2011-05 eliminates the option of presenting components of other comprehensive income as a part of the statement of changes in stockholders' equity. ASU No. 2011-05 requires all non-owner changes in stockholders' equity to be presented either in a single statement of comprehensive income or in two separate consecutive statements. ASU No. 2011-05 is effective for public entities for annual periods, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2011 and should be applied retrospectively. We will adopt ASU No. 2011-05 during the period ending September 30, 2012. The adoption of ASU No. 2011-05 is not expected to have a material effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In May 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-04, *Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820): Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRSs.* ASU No. 2011-04 establishes common fair value measurement and disclosure requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRSs and changes the wording used to describe the aforementioned requirements in U.S. GAAP. ASU No. 2011-04 establishes additional disclosure requirements for fair value measurements categorized within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy. For these measurements, entities are required to disclose valuation processes used in developing fair values, as well as sensitivity of the fair value measurements to changes in unobservable inputs and interrelationships between them. ASU No. 2011-04 is effective for public entities for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011. We will adopt ASU No. 2011-04 during the period ending March 31, 2012. The adoption of ASU No. 2011-04 is not expected to have a material effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In April 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-03, *Transfers and Servicing (Topic 860): Reconsideration of Effective Control for Repurchase Agreements*. ASU No. 2011-03 applies to repurchase and other agreements that both entitle and obligate the transferor to repurchase or redeem financial instruments before their maturity. ASU No. 2011-03 removes transferor's ability criterion from the consideration of effective control over the transferred assets and eliminates the requirement to demonstrate that the transferor possesses adequate collateral to fund substantially all the cost of purchasing replacement financial assets. ASU No. 2011-03 is effective for the first interim or annual period beginning on or after December 15, 2011 and should be applied prospectively to transactions or modifications of existing transactions that occur on or after the effective date. We will adopt ASU No. 2011-03 during the period ended March 31, 2012. The adoption of ASU No. 2011-03 is not expected to have a material effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.

In the ordinary course of conducting business, we are exposed to certain risks associated with potential changes in market conditions. These market risks include changes in currency exchange rates and interest rates. In order to manage the volatility of our more significant market risks, we may enter into derivative financial instruments such as forward currency exchange contracts.

In the first quarter of fiscal 2012, 23.3% of our total revenue was denominated in a currency other than the U.S. dollar. In addition, certain of our operating costs incurred outside the United States are denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar. We conduct business on a worldwide basis and as a result, a portion of our revenues, earnings, net assets, and net investments in foreign affiliates is exposed to changes in foreign currency exchange rates. We measure our net exposure for cash balance positions and for currency cash inflows and outflows in order to evaluate the need to mitigate our foreign exchange risk. We may enter into foreign currency forward contracts to minimize the impact related to unfavorable exchange rate movements, although we have not done so since fiscal 2008. Our largest exposures to foreign currency exchange rates exist primarily with the Euro, Pound Sterling, Canadian Dollar, and Japanese Yen.

During the first quarter of fiscal 2012, we recorded \$2.0 million of net foreign currency exchange losses related to the settlement and remeasurement of transactions denominated in currencies other than the functional currency of our operating units. During the first quarter of fiscal 2011, the comparative foreign currency activity for similar non-functional currency denominated transactions resulted in a gain of \$2.6 million. Our analysis of operating results transacted in various foreign currencies indicated that a hypothetical 10% change in the foreign currency exchange rates could have increased or decreased the consolidated results of operations for the first quarter of fiscal 2012 by approximately \$1.2 million and by \$0.7 million for the quarter of fiscal 2011.

Investment Portfolio

We do not use derivative financial instruments in our investment portfolio. We place our investments in instruments that meet high credit quality standards, as specified in our investment policy guidelines. We do not expect any material loss with respect to our investment portfolio from changes in market interest rates or credit losses, as our investments consist primarily of money market accounts. At September 30, 2011, all of the instruments in our investment portfolio were included in cash and cash equivalents.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

a) Disclosure controls and Procedures

Our management, with the participation of our chief executive officer and chief financial officer, evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of September 30, 2011. The term "disclosure controls and procedures," as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act, means controls and other procedures of a company that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by a company in the reports that it files or submits under the Securities Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported, within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms. Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by a company in the reports that it files or submits under the Securities Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to the company's management, including its principal executive and principal financial officers, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. Management recognizes that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving their objectives and management necessarily applies its judgment in evaluating the cost-benefit relationship of possible controls and procedures. Based on the evaluation of our disclosure controls and procedures as of September 30, 2011, and due to the material weakness in our internal control over financial reporting described in our accompanying *Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting*, our chief executive officer and chief financial officer concluded that, as of such date, our disclosure controls and procedures were not effective.

b) Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

During the three months ended September 30, 2011, no changes other than those in conjunction with certain remediation efforts described below, were identified to our internal control over financial reporting that materially affected, or were reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

c) Remediation Efforts

In the three months ended September 30, 2011, we are continuing to implement the following measures that we initiated in fiscal 2011 to improve our internal controls over the financial reporting process. We plan to further enhance these measures in the remaining quarters of fiscal 2012.

- Recruit additional qualified professionals into the tax function to address workload bottlenecks and inadequate review controls over key aspects of tax accounting.
- Redesign our tax accounting processes and related controls to ensure that our accounting for income taxes and related disclosures can be completed accurately and in a timely manner; and,
- Train and utilize other qualified individuals, primarily within the accounting organization, to perform tasks that will alleviate work load on certain key resources in the tax department.

d) Remediation Plans

We have made no significant changes in our remediation plans during the three months ended September 30, 2011 that could materially affect, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting. For further information with regard to our "Remediation Plans," please refer to Item 9A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011.

PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings.

Refer to Note 11, “Commitments and Contingencies,” in the Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding certain legal proceedings, the contents of which are herein incorporated by reference. We may also assert claims to protect our rights from time to time, such as the claims we assert in the action we commenced in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas captioned *Aspen Technology, Inc. v. Tekin A. Kunt and M3 Technology, Inc.*, Civil Action No. 4:10-cv-01127, seeking equitable relief and money damages relating to misappropriation of our trade secrets, copyright infringement and other wrongful actions by a former employee and his current employer.

Item 1A. Risk Factors.

Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the risks and uncertainties described below before purchasing our common stock. *The risks and uncertainties described below are not the only ones facing our company. Additional risks and uncertainties may also impair our business operations. If any of the following risks actually occurs, our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows would likely suffer. In that case, the trading price of our common stock could fall, and you may lose all or part of your investment in our common stock.*

Risks Related to Our Business

If we fail to develop new software products, enhance existing products and services, or penetrate new vertical markets, we will be unable to implement our growth strategy successfully and our business could be seriously harmed.

The maintenance and extension of our market leadership and our future growth is largely dependent upon our ability to develop new software products that achieve market acceptance with acceptable operating margins. Enterprises are requiring their application software vendors to provide greater levels of functionality and broader product offerings. We must continue to enhance our current product line and develop and introduce new products and services that keep pace with increasingly sophisticated customer requirements and the technological developments of our competitors. Our business and operating results could suffer if we cannot successfully respond to the technological advances of competitors, or if our new products or product enhancements and services do not achieve market acceptance.

We have implemented a product strategy that unifies our software solutions under the aspenONE brand with differentiated aspenONE vertical solutions targeted at specific process industry segments. We cannot ensure that our product strategy will result in products that will meet market needs and achieve significant market acceptance. If we fail to introduce new products that meet the demands of our customers or our target markets, or if we fail to penetrate new vertical markets in the process industries, our operating results and cash flows from operations will grow at a slower rate than we anticipate and our financial condition could suffer.

Our business could suffer if the demand for, or usage of, our aspenONE software declines for any reason.

Our aspenONE suites account for a significant majority of our revenue and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future. If demand for, or usage of, our software declines for any reason, our operating results, cash flows from operations and financial position would suffer. Our business could be adversely affected by:

- any decline in demand for or usage of our aspenONE suites;
- the introduction of products and technologies that serve as a replacement or substitute for, or represent an improvement over, our aspenONE suites;
- technological innovations that our aspenONE suites do not address; and
- our inability to release enhanced versions of our aspenONE suites on a timely basis.

The reversal of a significant portion of our U.S. valuation allowance resulted in us reporting net income for fiscal 2011. However, we expect to generate net losses for at least the next fiscal year, as we continue to transition to our subscription- based licensing model.

As discussed in Note 10, “Income Taxes,” of our audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2011, we reversed a significant portion of our U.S. valuation allowance in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2011, which resulted in us reporting net income for the prior fiscal year. However, this reversal was a non-recurring item, and we expect to return to a pattern where we generate net losses for at least the next fiscal year, as we continue to transition to our subscription-based licensing model.

Our operating results may suffer if customers in the energy, chemicals, engineering and construction, or pharmaceutical industries experience an economic downturn or other adverse events.

We derive a majority of our revenue from companies in the energy, chemicals, engineering and construction, and pharmaceutical industries. Accordingly, our future success depends upon the continued demand for process optimization software and related services by companies in these process industries. These industries are highly cyclical and highly reactive to the price of oil, as well as general economic conditions. Adverse changes in these industries could and have caused delays and reductions in information technology spending by our customers, which could lead to reductions, postponements or cancellations of customer purchases of our products and services and in turn could negatively impact our operating results.

Because of the nature of their products and manufacturing processes, companies in these process industries are subject to heightened risk of adverse or even catastrophic environmental, safety and health accidents or incidents. Further, our customers are often subject to ever-changing standards and regulations, and the global nature of their operations can subject them to numerous regulatory regimes. Legislation or regulations regarding these areas may require us to make rapid changes in our products and services, and our inability to affect those changes could adversely impact our revenue, operating margins and other operating results. Any of the foregoing types of events that affect our customers may adversely impact their operations and information technology spending, which could have an adverse effect on our operating results.

In addition, in the past, worldwide economic downturns and pricing pressures experienced by energy, chemical, pharmaceutical and other process industries have led to consolidations and reorganizations. These downturns, pricing pressures and reorganizations have caused delays and reductions in capital and operating expenditures by many of these companies. These delays and reductions have reduced demand for products and services like ours.

A recurrence of these industry patterns, including any recurrence that may occur in connection with current global economic events, as well as general domestic and foreign economic conditions and other factors that reduce spending by companies in these industries, could harm our operating results in the future. There is no assurance that customers may not seek bankruptcy or other similar relief from creditors, fail to pay amounts due to us, or pay those amounts more slowly, any of which could adversely affect our results of operations.

Unfavorable economic and market conditions or a lessening demand in the market for process optimization software could adversely affect our operating results.

Our business is influenced by a range of factors that are beyond our control and difficult or impossible to predict. If the market for process optimization software grows more slowly than we anticipate, demand for our products and services could decline and our operating results could be impaired. Further, the state of the global economy may deteriorate in the future. Our operating results may be adversely affected by unfavorable global economic and market conditions as well as a lessening demand for process optimization software generally. Customer demand for our products is intrinsically linked to the strength of the global economy. If weakness in the global economy persists, many customers may delay or reduce technology purchases. This could result in reductions in sales of our products, longer sales cycles, slower adoption of new technologies, increased price competition or reduced use of our products by our customers. We will lose revenue if demand for our products is reduced because potential customers experience weak or deteriorating economic conditions, catastrophic environmental or other events and our business, results of operations, financial condition and cash flow from operations would likely be adversely affected.

The majority of our revenue is attributable to operations outside the United States, and our operating results therefore may be materially affected by the economic, political, regulatory and other risks of foreign operations.

As of September 30, 2011, we operated in 29 countries. We sell our products primarily through a direct sales force located throughout the world. In the event that we are unable to adequately staff and maintain our foreign operations, we could face difficulties managing our international operations.

Customers outside the United States accounted for a significant amount of our total revenue during the three months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010. We anticipate that revenue from customers outside the United States will continue to account for a significant portion of our total revenue for the foreseeable future. Our operations outside the United States are subject to additional risks, including:

- unexpected changes in regulatory requirements, exchange rates, tariffs and other barriers;
- political and economic instability and possible nationalization of property by governments without compensation to the owners;
- less effective protection of intellectual property;
- requirements of foreign laws and other governmental controls;
- difficulties and delays in translating products and product documentation into languages other than English;
- difficulties and delays in negotiating software licenses compliant with accounting revenue recognition requirements in the United States;
- difficulties in collecting trade accounts receivable in other countries;
- adverse tax consequences; and
- the challenges of handling legal disputes in foreign jurisdictions.

Fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates could result in declines in our reported revenue and operating results.

During the three months ended September 30, 2011 and for fiscal year 2011, 23.3% and 21.7%, respectively, of our total revenue was denominated in a currency other than the U.S. dollar. In addition, certain of our operating expenses incurred outside the United States are denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar. Our reported revenue and operating results are subject to fluctuations in foreign exchange rates. Foreign currency risk arises primarily from the net difference between non-U.S. dollar receipts from customers outside the United States and non-U.S. dollar operating expenses for subsidiaries in foreign countries. Currently, our largest exposures to foreign exchange rates exist primarily with the Euro, Pound Sterling, Canadian dollar and Japanese Yen against the U.S. dollar. Over recent months, the value of foreign currencies against the U.S. dollar has fluctuated dramatically. Since late fiscal 2008, we have not entered into derivative financial instruments, such as forward currency exchange contracts, intended to manage the volatility of these market risks. We cannot predict the impact of foreign currency fluctuations, and foreign currency fluctuations in the future may adversely affect our revenue and operating results. Any hedging policies we may implement in the future may not be successful, and the cost of those hedging techniques may have a significant negative impact on our operating results.

Competition from software offered by current competitors and new market entrants, as well as from internally developed solutions by our customers, could adversely affect our ability to sell our software products and related services and could result in pressure to price our products in a manner that reduces our margins.

Our markets in general are highly competitive and differ among our principal product areas: engineering, manufacturing, and supply chain management. Our engineering software competes with products of businesses such as ABB Ltd., Honeywell International, Inc., Invensys plc and KBC Advanced Technologies plc. Our manufacturing software competes with products of companies such as ABB Ltd., Honeywell International, Inc., Invensys plc, OSIsoft, Inc., Rockwell Automation, Inc., Siemens AG and Yokogawa Electric Corporation. Our supply chain management software competes with products of companies such as JDA Software Group, Inc., Oracle Corporation and SAP AG. In addition, we face challenges in selling our solutions to large companies in the process industries that have internally developed their own proprietary software solutions.

Many of our current and potential competitors have greater financial, technical, marketing, service and other resources than we have. As a result, these companies may be able to offer lower prices, additional products or services, or other incentives that we cannot match or offer. These competitors may be in a stronger position to respond more quickly to new technologies and may be able to undertake more extensive marketing campaigns. We believe they also have adopted and may continue to pursue more aggressive pricing policies and make more attractive offers to potential customers, employees and strategic partners. For example, some competitors may be able to initiate relationships through sales and installations of hardware and then seek to expand their customer relationships by offering process optimization software at a discount. In addition, many of our competitors have established, and may in the future continue to establish, cooperative relationships with third parties to improve their product offerings and to increase the availability of their products in the marketplace. Competitors with greater financial resources may make strategic acquisitions to increase their ability to gain market share or improve the quality or marketability of their products.

Competition could seriously impede our ability to sell additional software products and related services on terms favorable to us. Businesses may continue to enhance their internally developed solutions, rather than investing in commercial software such as ours. Our current and potential commercial competitors may develop and market new technologies that render our existing or future products obsolete, unmarketable or less competitive. In addition, if these competitors develop products with similar or superior functionality to our products, we may need to decrease the prices for our products in order to remain competitive. If we are unable to maintain our current pricing due to competitive pressures, our margins will be reduced and our operating results will be negatively affected. We cannot ensure that we will be able to compete successfully against current or future competitors or that competitive pressures will not materially adversely affect our business, financial condition and operating results.

Defects or errors in our software products could harm our reputation, impair our ability to sell our products and result in significant costs to us.

Our software products are complex and may contain undetected defects or errors. We have not suffered significant harm from any defects or errors to date, but we have from time to time found defects in our products and we may discover additional defects in the future. We may not be able to detect and correct defects or errors before releasing products. Consequently, we or our customers may discover defects or errors after our products have been implemented. We have in the past issued, and may in the future need to issue, corrective releases of our products to remedy defects or errors. The occurrence of any defects or errors could result in:

- lost or delayed market acceptance and sales of our products;
- delays in payment to us by customers;
- product returns;
- injury to our reputation;
- diversion of our resources;

- legal claims, including product liability claims, against us;
- increased service and warranty expenses or financial concessions; and
- increased insurance costs.

Defects and errors in our software products could result in claims for substantial damages against us.

Arbitration and litigation involving a former reseller in the Middle East may subject us to substantial damages and expenses.

Prior to October 6, 2009, we had an exclusive reseller relationship covering certain countries in the Middle East with AspenTech Middle East W.L.L., a Kuwaiti corporation (now known as Advanced Technology Middle East W.L.L.) that we refer to below as ATME. Under the reseller agreement, we had the right to terminate for, among other things, a material breach in the event of ATME's willful misconduct or fraud. Effective October 6, 2009, we terminated the reseller relationship for material breach by ATME based on certain actions of ATME.

On November 2, 2009, ATME commenced an action in the Queen's Bench Division (Commercial Court) of the High Court of Justice (England & Wales) captioned *In The Matter Of An Intended Arbitration Between AspenTech Middle East W.L.L. and Aspen Technology, Inc., 2009 Folio 1436*, seeking preliminary injunctive relief restraining us from taking any steps to impede ATME from serving as our exclusive reseller in the countries covered by the reseller agreement with ATME. We filed evidence in opposition to that request for relief on November 12, 2009. At a hearing on November 13, 2009, the court dismissed ATME's application for preliminary injunctive relief. The court sealed an Order to this effect on November 23, 2009, and further ordered that ATME pay our costs of claim.

Relatedly, on November 11, 2009, we filed a request for arbitration against ATME in the International Court of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce, captioned *Aspen Technology, Inc. v. AspenTech Middle East W.L.L., Case No. 16732/VRO*. Our request for arbitration asserted claims against ATME seeking a declaration that ATME committed a material breach of our agreement and that our termination of our agreement was lawful, and seeking damages for ATME's willful misconduct in connection with the reseller relationship. On November 18, 2009, ATME filed its answer to that request for arbitration and asserted counterclaims against us seeking a declaratory judgment that we unlawfully terminated our agreement with ATME and seeking damages for breach of contract by reason of our purported unlawful termination of our agreement. Our reply to those counterclaims was filed on December 18, 2009. Pursuant to a procedural order issued by the arbitral tribunal, a hearing was conducted between January 24, 2011 and February 2, 2011, and a supplemental hearing took place in June 2011.

We expect a determination to be made in the first half of fiscal 2012 with respect to the pending arbitration. However, we can provide no assurance as to the actual timing or outcome of the arbitration. In general, there is no provision for either party to appeal the determination reached. The reseller agreement with ATME contained a provision whereby we could be liable for a termination fee if the agreement were terminated other than for material breach. This fee is to be calculated based on a formula contained in the reseller agreement that we believe was originally developed based on certain assumptions about the future financial performance of ATME, as well as ATME's actual financial performance. Based on the formula and the financial information provided to us by ATME, which we have not verified independently, a calculation based on the formula would result in a termination fee of between \$60 million and \$77 million. Under the terminated reseller agreement, no termination fee is owed on termination for material breach. If we are found to have breached the terms of our agreement with ATME, we could be liable for damages including the termination fee, the amount of which may be greater or less than the number indicated above.

On March 11, 2010, a Kuwaiti entity (known as ATME Group and affiliated with ATME) filed a lawsuit in a Kuwaiti court naming as defendants ATME, us and a reseller newly appointed by us in Kuwait. In this lawsuit, ATME Group claims that it was an exclusive reseller for ATME in Kuwait and that it therefore is entitled to damages resulting from purported customer contracts in Kuwait. We intend to defend this action vigorously.

We are subject to a lawsuit by a purchaser of our shares in a private placement.

In March 2006, we settled class action litigation, including related derivative claims, arising out of our originally filed consolidated financial statements for fiscal 2000 through 2004, the accounting for which we restated in March 2005. Certain members of the class (representing 1,457,969 shares of common stock (or less than 1% of the shares putatively purchased during the class action period)) opted out of the settlement and had the right to bring their own state or federal law claims against us, referred to as “opt-out” claims. Opt-out claims were filed on behalf of the holders of approximately 1.1 million of such shares. All but one of these actions were settled and/or dismissed. The remaining action is discussed below.

380544 Canada, Inc., et al. v. Aspen Technology, Inc., was filed on February 15, 2007 in the federal district court for the Southern District of New York and docketed as Civ. A. No. 1:07-cv-01204-JFK in that court. The claims in this action include claims against us and one or more of our former officers alleging securities and common law fraud, breach of contract, deceptive practices and/or rescissory damages liability, based on the restated results of one or more fiscal periods included in our restated consolidated financial statements referenced in the class action. This action was brought by persons who purchased 566,665 shares of our common stock in a private placement. Certain motions to dismiss filed by other defendants were resolved on May 5, 2009. On July 26, 2010, the plaintiff moved for leave to file a second amended complaint, and the motion was denied on September 14, 2011. Fact discovery is scheduled to close on February 24, 2012. The claims in the 380544 Canada action are for damages totaling at least \$4.0 million, not including claims for attorneys’ fees. We plan to defend the 380544 Canada action vigorously.

We can provide no assurance as to the outcome of this case or the likelihood of the filing of additional opt-out claims, and these claims may result in judgments against us for significant damages. Regardless of the outcome, such litigation has resulted in the past, and may continue to result in the future, in significant legal expenses and may require significant attention and resources of management, all of which could result in losses and damages that have a material adverse effect on our business.

We may be subject to significant expenses and damages because of pending liability claims and other claims related to our products and services.

The sale and implementation of certain of our software products and services, particularly in the areas of advanced process control and supply chain management, entail the risk of product liability claims and associated damages. Our software products and services are often integrated with our customers’ networks and software applications and are used in the design, operation and management of manufacturing and supply chain processes at large facilities, often for mission critical applications.

Any errors, defects, performance problems or other failures of our software could result in significant liability to us for damages or for violations of environmental, safety and other laws and regulations. Our software products and implementation services could give rise to warranty and other claims. In the ordinary course of business, we are from time to time involved in lawsuits or claims relating to our products or services. These matters include an April 2004 claim by a customer for approximately \$5.0 million that certain of our software products and implementation services failed to meet the customer’s expectations. We are unable to determine whether resolution of any of these matters will have a material adverse impact on our financial position, cash flows or results of operations, or, in many cases, reasonably estimate the amount of the loss, if any, that may result from the resolution of these matters.

Our agreements with customers generally contain provisions designed to limit our exposure to potential product liability claims. It is possible, however, that the limitation of liability provisions in our agreements may not be effective as a result of federal, foreign, state or local laws or ordinances or unfavorable judicial decisions. A substantial product liability judgment against us could materially and adversely harm our operating results and financial condition. Even if our software is not at fault, a product liability claim brought against us could be time-consuming, costly to defend and harmful to our operations and reputation.

Third-party claims that we infringe the intellectual property rights of others may be costly to defend or settle and could damage our business.

We cannot be certain that our software and services do not infringe issued patents, copyrights, trademarks or other intellectual property rights of third parties. Litigation regarding intellectual property rights is common in the software industry, and we may be subject to legal proceedings and claims from time to time, including claims of alleged infringement of intellectual property rights of third parties by us or our licensees concerning their use of our software products and integration technologies and services. Third parties may bring claims of infringement against us. Because our software is integrated with our customers' networks and business processes, as well as other software applications, third parties may bring claims of infringement against us, as well as our customers and other software suppliers, if the cause of the alleged infringement cannot easily be determined.

Claims of alleged infringement may have a material adverse effect on our business and may discourage potential customers from doing business with us on acceptable terms, if at all. Defending against claims of infringement may be time-consuming and may result in substantial costs and diversion of resources, including our management's attention to our business. Furthermore, a party making an infringement claim could secure a judgment that requires us to pay substantial damages. A judgment could also include an injunction or other court order that could prevent us from selling our software or require that we re-engineer some or all of our products. Claims of intellectual property infringement also might require us to enter costly royalty or license agreements. We may be unable to obtain royalty or license agreements on terms acceptable to us or at all. Our business, operating results and financial condition could be harmed significantly if any of these events occurred, and the price of our common stock could be adversely affected. Furthermore, former employers of our current and future employees may assert that our employees have improperly disclosed confidential or proprietary information to us. In addition, we have agreed, and may agree in the future, to indemnify certain of our customers against claims that our software infringes upon the intellectual property rights of others. Although we carry general liability insurance, our current insurance coverage may not apply to, and likely would not protect us from, liability that may be imposed under any of the types of claims described above.

We may not be able to protect our intellectual property rights, which could make us less competitive and cause us to lose market share.

We regard our software as proprietary. Our strategy is to rely on a combination of copyright, patent, trademark and trade secret laws in the United States and other jurisdictions, and to rely on license and confidentiality agreements and software security measures to further protect our proprietary technology and brand. We have obtained or applied for patent protection with respect to some of our intellectual property, but generally do not rely on patents as a principal means of protecting our intellectual property. We have registered or applied to register some of our trademarks in the United States and in selected other countries. We generally enter into non-disclosure agreements with our employees and customers, and historically have restricted third-party access to our software and source code, which we regard as proprietary information. In certain cases, we have provided copies of the source code to customers for the purpose of special product customization or have deposited copies of the source code with a third party escrow agent as security for ongoing service and license obligations. In these cases, we rely on non-disclosure and other contractual provisions to protect our proprietary rights.

The steps we have taken to protect our proprietary rights may not be adequate to deter misappropriation of our technology or independent development by others of technologies that are substantially equivalent or superior to our technology. Our intellectual property rights may expire or be challenged, invalidated or infringed upon by third parties or we may be unable to maintain, renew or enter into new licenses on commercially reasonable terms. Any misappropriation of our technology or development of competitive technologies could harm our business and could diminish or cause us to lose the competitive advantages associated with our proprietary technology, and could subject us to substantial costs in protecting and enforcing our intellectual property rights, including costs of proceedings we have instituted to enforce our intellectual property rights, such as those described in Note 11 "Commitment and Contingencies - Other Proceedings," and/or temporarily or permanently disrupt our sales and marketing of the affected products or services. The laws of some countries in which our products are licensed do not protect our intellectual property rights to the same extent as the laws of the United States. Moreover, in some non-U.S. countries, laws affecting intellectual property rights are uncertain in their application, which can affect the scope of enforceability of our intellectual property rights.

In preparing our consolidated financial statements for the three months ended September 30, 2011, we identified a material weakness in our internal control over financial reporting, and our failure to remedy this weakness could result in material misstatements in our financial statements.

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over our financial reporting, as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Securities Exchange Act. Our management identified a material weakness in our internal control over financial reporting as of September 30, 2011. A material weakness is defined as a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of our annual or interim financial statements will not be prevented or detected on a timely basis.

The material weaknesses identified by management as of September 30, 2011 consisted of inadequate and ineffective controls over income tax accounting. As a result of this material weakness, our management concluded as of September 30, 2011 that our internal control over financial reporting was not effective based on criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission in Internal Control—An Integrated Framework (September 1992).

We have been implementing and continue to implement remedial measures designed to address this material weakness. If our remedial measures are insufficient to address this material weakness, or if additional material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in our internal control are discovered or occur in the future, our consolidated financial statements may contain material misstatements and we could be required to restate our financial results.

Implementation of some of our products can be difficult and time-consuming, and customers may be unable to implement those products successfully or otherwise achieve all of the potential benefits of the products.

Some of our scheduling, production management and execution, and supply chain products must integrate with the existing computer systems and software programs of our customers. This process can be complex, time-consuming and expensive. As a result, some customers may have difficulty in implementing those products or be unable to implement them successfully or otherwise achieve the products' potential benefits. Delayed or ineffective implementation of those software products or related services may limit our revenue or may result in customer dissatisfaction, harm to our reputation and customer unwillingness to pay the fees associated with these products.

We may suffer losses on fixed-price professional service engagements.

We undertake a portion of our professional service engagements on a fixed-price basis. Under these types of engagements, we bear the risk of cost overruns and inflation. We occasionally experience cost overruns, which may have a negative impact on our operating results.

If we fail to comply or are deemed to have failed to comply with our ongoing Federal Trade Commission, or FTC, consent decree, our business may suffer.

In December 2004, we entered into a consent decree with the FTC with respect to a civil administrative complaint filed by the FTC in August 2003 alleging that our acquisition of Hyprotech in May 2002 was anticompetitive in violation of Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act and Section 7 of the Clayton Act. In July 2009, we announced that the FTC closed an investigation relating to the alleged violations of the decree, and issued an order modifying the consent decree, which became final in August 2009. We are subject to ongoing compliance obligations under the FTC consent decree. There is no assurance that the actions required by the FTC's modified order and related settlement with Honeywell International, Inc. will not require significant attention and resources of management, which could have a material adverse effect on our business. Further, if we fail to comply, or are deemed to have failed to comply, with such consent decree, our business may suffer.

If we are not successful in attracting, integrating and retaining highly qualified personnel, we may not be able to successfully implement our business strategy.

Our ability to establish and maintain a position of technology leadership in the highly competitive software market depends in large part upon our ability to attract, integrate and retain highly qualified managerial, sales, technical and accounting personnel. Competition for qualified personnel in the software industry is intense. We have from time to time in the past experienced, and we expect to continue to experience in the future, difficulty in hiring and retaining highly skilled employees with appropriate qualifications. Our future success will depend in large part on our ability to attract, integrate and retain a sufficient number of highly qualified personnel, and there can be no assurance that we will be able to do so.

Our ability to raise capital in the future may be limited, and our failure to raise capital when needed could prevent us from executing our business plan.

We expect that our current cash and cash equivalents and cash flows from operations will be sufficient to meet our anticipated cash needs for at least the next twelve months. We may need to obtain additional financing thereafter or earlier, however, if our current plans and projections prove to be inaccurate or our expected cash flows prove to be insufficient to fund our operations because of lower-than-expected revenue, unanticipated expenses or other unforeseen difficulties.

Our ability to obtain additional financing will depend on a number of factors, including market conditions, our operating performance, the quality of our receivables, and the availability of capital in the credit markets. These factors may make the timing, amount, terms and conditions of any financing unattractive. If adequate funds are not available, or are not available on acceptable terms, we may have to forego strategic acquisitions or other investments.

Risks Related to Our Common Stock

Our common stock may experience substantial price and volume fluctuations.

The equity markets have from time to time experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations, particularly in the high technology sector, and those fluctuations often have been unrelated to the operating performance of particular companies. In addition, factors such as our aspenONE subscription offering, our financial performance, the variability of earnings associated with the release of a significant portion of our U.S. valuation allowance, announcements of technological innovations or new products by us or our competitors, and market conditions in the computer software or hardware industries, may have a significant impact on the market price of our common stock.

In the past, following periods of volatility in the market price of a public company's securities, securities class action litigation has often been instituted against that company. This type of litigation against us could result in substantial liability and costs and divert management's attention and resources.

Our corporate documents and provisions of Delaware law may prevent a change in control or management that stockholders may consider desirable.

Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, our charter and our by-laws contain provisions that might enable our management to resist a takeover of our company. These provisions include:

- limitations on the removal of directors;
- a classified board of directors, so that not all members of the board are elected at one time;
- advance notice requirements for stockholder proposals and nominations;
- the inability of stockholders to act by written consent or to call special meetings;
- the ability of the board to make, alter or repeal our by-laws; and

- the ability of the board to designate the terms of and issue new series of preferred stock without stockholder approval.

These provisions could:

- have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in control of our company or a change in our management that stockholders may consider favorable or beneficial;
- discourage proxy contests and make it more difficult for stockholders to elect directors and take other corporate actions; and
- limit the price that investors might be willing to pay in the future for shares of our common stock.

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

The following table provides information about purchases by us during the three months ended September 30, 2011 of shares of our common stock.

ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Period	(a) Total Number of Shares Purchased(1)	(b) Average Price Paid per Share	(c) Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Program(2)	(d) Approximate Dollar Value of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Program
July 1 to 31, 2011	151,200	\$ 16.44	151,200	
August 1 to 31, 2011	235,600	\$ 14.43	235,600	
September 1 to 30, 2011	200,200	\$ 16.42	200,200	
Totals	587,000	\$ 15.63	587,000	\$ 20,296,746

- (1) As of September 30, 2011, we had repurchased an aggregate of 1,288,030 shares of our common stock pursuant to the repurchase program that was approved by our Board of Directors on October 29, 2010, or the Program.
- (2) On October 29, 2010, the Board of Directors approved the repurchase of shares of our common stock having a value of up to \$40 million in the aggregate, pursuant to the Program. The Program has an expiration date of October 31, 2011.

Item 5. Other Information.

On October 27, 2011, the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors amended the Executive Annual Incentive Plan (Fiscal Year 2012) adopted by the Compensation Committee on July 14, 2011. The purpose of the Amended Annual Incentive Plan (Fiscal Year 2012), or the Plan, is to motivate and reward performance that results in the achievement of key company objectives. As amended, awards under the Plan are based solely on our overall performance.

Item 6. Exhibits.

Exhibit Number	Description	Filed with this Form 10-Q	Incorporated by Reference		
			Form	Filing Date with SEC	Exhibit Number
10.1	Amended Annual Incentive Plan (Fiscal Year 2012)	X			
31.1	Certification of Principal Executive Officer pursuant to Exchange Act Rules 13a-14 and 15d-14, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002	X			
31.2	Certification of Principal Financial Officer pursuant to Exchange Act Rules 13a-14 and 15d-14, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002	X			
32.1	Certification of President and Chief Executive Officer and Executive Vice President 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	X			
101.INS	Instance Document	X			
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document	X			
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document	X			
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document	X			
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document	X			
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document	X			

SIGNATURES

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

ASPEN TECHNOLOGY, INC.

Date: November 1, 2011

By: /s/ MARK E. FUSCO

Mark E. Fusco

President and Chief Executive Officer

(Principal Executive Officer)

Date: November 1, 2011

By: /s/ MARK P. SULLIVAN

Mark P. Sullivan

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number	Description	Filed with this Form 10-Q	Incorporated by Reference		
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Aspen Technology, Inc.

Amended Executive Annual Incentive Bonus Plan

FY12

For

“NAME”

I. Purpose

The purpose of Aspen Technology’s (“Company”) Amended Executive Annual Incentive Plan (the “Plan”) is to motivate and reward performance that results in the achievement of key Company objectives. The Plan was adopted by the Compensation Committee of the Company’s Board of Directors in July 2011 and amended by the Compensation Committee of the Company’s Board of Directors in October 2011.

II. Effective Date of Plan

The Plan will operate on a fiscal year basis (“Plan Year”), and is effective from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.

III. Eligibility

Eligibility is afforded to those employees:

- A. whose positions are determined by Aspen Technology to have significant impact on the operating results of the Company; and
- B. who have been employed by the Company for six months or more (pro-rated target awards for employment greater than six months and less than twelve months).

In FY12, the eligible positions include CEO, EVP-Field Operations, EVP & CFO, EVP, Products, SVP Marketing, SVP HR, SVP Strategy and SVP & General Counsel.

Eligibility for the Plan does not guarantee payment of an award. Payment is dependent upon performance. Further, eligibility does not guarantee continuation of employment. If employment ends prior to the end of the performance period any payment eligibility is subject to the Executive Retention Agreement then in force. Should an Executive voluntarily resign after the completion of the performance period, he is eligible to receive the earned bonus in accordance with the Plan.

IV. Target Award

The Plan is based on the “Target Award” concept, which bases the award on the Company’s overall performance. In order to achieve the Target Award amount, the Company must achieve 100% of its pre-established objectives by the end of the Plan Year. The actual award paid to the participant, if any, for a given Plan Year will be based on the Company’s overall performance, as adjusted for the overall level of bonus pool funding.

The Target Award for each position is the incentive award as defined when 100% of all Plan objectives are met and the Company attains the necessary level of performance to fund the bonus pool at 100%.

V. Components of Award

“Company Metric Performance” for Plan purposes is based on the accomplishment of one or more predetermined annual Company financial objectives, which will be selected each year based on their critical importance to the Company’s success. Company Metric Performance for fiscal year 2012 will be measured based on the achievement of the FY12 Growth in Total License Contract Value “TLCV” and Cash Flow from Operations.

The following summarizes the weighting for the various incentive components for FY12.

FY12 Plan Components	Overall Bonus Weighting	On Target Metric
Growth in TLCV	50%	\$ TBD
Cash Flow from Operations	50%	\$ TBD

Company Metric Performance (Growth in TLCV & Cash Flow)

The achievement level will then correspond to a bonus plan funding/weighting percentage by individual metric according to the following table:

Actual Performance Achieved by Metric	Funding Level of Metric Based on Performance
< 70% of Target	0%
70% of Target	50%
80% of Target	70%
90% of Target	90%
100% of Target	100%

This Plan is capped at 100% funding.

The funding is based on a minimum achievement of 70% of the on target metric. At 70% achievement, the plan funds at 50% target and will increase at a 2:1 ratio until 90% achievement. Achievement between 90% and 100% will fund at a 1:1 ratio. Each metric is measured and funded independently.

VI. Plan Funding Allocation and Achievement

For fiscal year 2012, Plan funding will be based on the attainment of specified levels of Growth in Total License Contract Value and Cash Flow from Operations. Funding is contingent upon and proportional to the Company's attainment of required levels (minimum 70% performance). In FY12, there is the potential for a mid-year payment as well as a final year-end payment. The mid-year payment is based on mid-year performance against the mid-year targets and will not exceed 25% of the annual bonus target. The year-end payment is based on total annual performance against the annual performance targets less any payment received at mid-year.

The allocation of target bonus by metric/measurement for each measurement period is as follows:

Measurement	% of Annual Bonus
Growth in TLCV	50%
Cash Flow	50%

Should the mid-year bonus earned be less than the target of 25% of bonus potential, the unrealized difference (up to the 25% mid-year potential) can be made up at year-end based on annual achievement against annual goals.

VII. Bonus Calculation

A. Bonus calculation takes into account three components:

- Growth in TLCV and corresponding funding percentage (Section V);

- Cash Flow from Operations and corresponding funding percentage (Section V); and
- Target Bonus (\$) level (as defined in Appendix A).

B. The bonus will be measured on a first half performance at mid-year and on an annual performance level at year end.

First Half (H1) Calculation (Maximum payout of 25% of annual bonus target)

Growth in TLCV

Annual Bonus Target	X	Metric Weighting 50%	X	Maximum Payout 25%	X	Mid -Year Funding Achievement %	=	H1 Growth in TLCV Bonus Payout
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Cash Flow from Operations

Annual Bonus Target	X	Metric Weighting 50%	X	Maximum Payout 25%	X	Mid -Year Funding Achievement %	=	H1 Cash Flow Bonus Payout
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Total H1 Bonus

H1 Growth in TLCV Bonus Payout	+	H1 Cash Flow Bonus Payout	=	Total H1 Bonus Payout
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End of Year (YE) Calculation

Growth in TLCV

Annual Bonus Target	X	Metric Weighting 50%	-	H1 Earned	X	Funding Achievement %	=	YE Growth in TLCV Earned Bonus
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Cash Flow from Operations

Annual Bonus Target	X	Metric Weighting 50%	-	H1 Earned	X	Funding Achievement %	=	YE Cash Flow Earned Bonus
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YE Bonus Funding

Growth in TLCV Earned	+	YE Cash Flow Earned	=	Total YE Bonus Payout
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Illustration

The following illustrations demonstrate sample calculations for determining potential bonus payments using an annual bonus potential of \$100,000.

H1 Bonus Calculation

	<u>Target Bonus \$</u>	<u>Achievement</u>	<u>Funding %</u>	<u>Bonus Earned</u>
Growth in TLCV	\$100,000 x 50% x 25% = \$12,500	90%	90%	\$12,500 * 90% = \$11,250
Cash Flow	\$100,000 x 50% x 25% = \$12,500	80%	70%	\$12,500 * 70% = \$8,750
Bonus Earned				\$11,250 + \$8,750 = \$20,000

YE Bonus Calculation

	<u>Target Bonus \$</u>	<u>YE Target Bonus Less H1 Earned</u>	<u>Percent Achieved</u>	<u>Funding %</u>	<u>Bonus Earned</u>
Growth in TLCV	\$100,000 x 50% = \$50,000	\$ 38,750	85%	80%	\$38,750 * 80% = \$31,000
Cash Flow	\$100,000 x 50% = \$50,000	\$ 41,250	100%	100%	\$41,250 * 100% = \$41,250
Annual Bonus Earned					\$31,000 + \$41,250 = \$72,250

<u>Total Annual Bonus Earned</u>	<u>Bonus Payment</u>
First Half (H1) Bonus Earned	\$ 20,000
End of Year (YE) Bonus Earned	\$ 72,250
Total Bonus Earned for the Plan Year	\$ 92,250
Percent of Annual Bonus Target	92.25%

Note: All Actual Plan awards will be adjusted up/down based on Company bonus pool funding levels.

VIII. Discretionary Awards

In addition to awards based on the performance metrics established herein and notwithstanding any limitations including caps set forth elsewhere herein, the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors may make discretionary awards to eligible employees in such amounts as the Committee determines are appropriate and in the best interests of the Company.

IX. Administration

Administration of this Plan will be the responsibility of the CEO or the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors. Any interpretation of the terms, conditions, goals, or payments from this Plan required because of a dispute will be made solely by the CEO or the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors after a full review of the facts, input from the affected parties, and with appreciation of the overall intent of the Plan and previous practices.

If any term or condition of this Plan is found to be in non-conformance with a given state or federal law (USA) or local legislation (International locations), that term or condition will be non-enforceable but will not negate other terms and conditions of the Plan. However, Aspen Technology, Inc., will review and modify the overall Plan to conform to such law.

Eligibility and participation in this Plan in no way implies or reflects any guarantee or contract of employment, except as may be stipulated by applicable local law. Aspen Technology, Inc. reserves the right to amend, modify, or terminate this Plan and the procedures set forth herein at any time. Any change to the terms of the Plan will be made in writing by SVP of Human Resources to all Participants in as far in advance as possible of the effective date of such change, and will be subject to acceptance by the Participant.



Appendix A

Employee's Name:	Manager's Name:	Organization:	Date Prepared:
FY12 Compensation	Base Salary:\$	Bonus Target: \$	OTE: \$

Employee Signature: _____

Date: _____

CEO Signature: _____

Date: _____

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

I, Mark E. Fusco, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Aspen Technology, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - a. Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - b. Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - c. Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - d. Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - a. All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - b. Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: November 1, 2011

/s/ MARK E. FUSCO

Mark E. Fusco
President and Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)

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

I, Mark P. Sullivan, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Aspen Technology, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - a. Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - b. Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - c. Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - d. Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - a. All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - b. Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: November 1, 2011

/s/ MARK P. SULLIVAN

Mark P. Sullivan
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial Officer)

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Aspen Technology, Inc. (the "Company") for the quarter ended September 30, 2011, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), each of the undersigned hereby certifies in his capacity as an officer of the Company, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that, to his knowledge:

1. The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
2. The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: November 1, 2011

/s/ MARK E. FUSCO

Mark E. Fusco
President and Chief Executive Officer

Date: November 1, 2011

/s/ MARK P. SULLIVAN

Mark P. Sullivan
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906 has been provided to Aspen Technology, Inc. and will be retained by Aspen Technology, Inc. and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.
