

CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.
Form 10-Q
May 23, 2017
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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 April 29, 2017

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 0-18225

CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

California 77-0059951

(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer
incorporation or organization) Identification Number)

170 West Tasman Drive

San Jose, California 95134

(Address of principal executive office and zip code)

(408) 526-4000

(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

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, smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth 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

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes No

Number of shares of the registrant's common stock outstanding as of May 18, 2017: 5,000,054,399

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PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements (Unaudited)

CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(in millions, except par value)

(Unaudited)

	April 29, 2017	July 30, 2016
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$8,116	\$7,631
Investments	59,858	58,125
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$213 at April 29, 2017 and \$249 at July 30, 2016	4,635	5,847
Inventories	1,366	1,217
Financing receivables, net	4,639	4,272
Other current assets	1,348	1,627
Total current assets	79,962	78,719
Property and equipment, net	3,395	3,506
Financing receivables, net	4,568	4,158
Goodwill	29,516	26,625
Purchased intangible assets, net	2,704	2,501
Deferred tax assets	4,351	4,299
Other assets	1,454	1,844
TOTAL ASSETS	\$125,950	\$121,652
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Short-term debt	\$4,248	\$4,160
Accounts payable	1,219	1,056
Income taxes payable	20	517
Accrued compensation	2,825	2,951
Deferred revenue	10,344	10,155
Other current liabilities	4,062	6,072
Total current liabilities	22,718	24,911
Long-term debt	28,222	24,483
Income taxes payable	1,168	925
Deferred revenue	6,978	6,317
Other long-term liabilities	1,482	1,431
Total liabilities	60,568	58,067
Commitments and contingencies (Note 12)		
Equity:		
Cisco shareholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, no par value: 5 shares authorized; none issued and outstanding	—	—
Common stock and additional paid-in capital, \$0.001 par value: 20,000 shares authorized; 4,998 and 5,029 shares issued and outstanding at April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016, respectively	45,003	44,516
Retained earnings	20,721	19,396
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	(342)	(326)
Total Cisco shareholders' equity	65,382	63,586
Noncontrolling interests	—	(1)

Total equity	65,382	63,585
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$125,950	\$121,652

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
(in millions, except per-share amounts)
(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016
REVENUE:				
Product	\$8,885	\$8,875	\$26,678	\$27,702
Service	3,055	3,125	9,194	8,907
Total revenue	11,940	12,000	35,872	36,609
COST OF SALES:				
Product	3,405	3,214	10,113	10,547
Service	1,017	1,065	3,081	3,077
Total cost of sales	4,422	4,279	13,194	13,624
GROSS MARGIN	7,518	7,721	22,678	22,985
OPERATING EXPENSES:				
Research and development	1,507	1,626	4,560	4,695
Sales and marketing	2,226	2,447	6,866	7,176
General and administrative	487	566	1,498	1,281
Amortization of purchased intangible assets	59	81	201	221
Restructuring and other charges	70	17	614	255
Total operating expenses	4,349	4,737	13,739	13,628
OPERATING INCOME	3,169	2,984	8,939	9,357
Interest income	354	270	978	732
Interest expense	(219)	(175)	(639)	(496)
Other income (loss), net	(113)	4	(171)	(67)
Interest and other income (loss), net	22	99	168	169
INCOME BEFORE PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES	3,191	3,083	9,107	9,526
Provision for income taxes	676	734	1,922	1,600
NET INCOME	\$2,515	\$2,349	\$7,185	\$7,926
Net income per share:				
Basic	\$0.50	\$0.47	\$1.43	\$1.57
Diluted	\$0.50	\$0.46	\$1.42	\$1.56
Shares used in per-share calculation:				
Basic	5,005	5,032	5,015	5,060
Diluted	5,045	5,065	5,056	5,095
Cash dividends declared per common share	\$0.29	\$0.26	\$0.81	\$0.68
See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.				

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

(in millions)

(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016
Net income	\$2,515	\$ 2,349	\$7,185	\$ 7,926
Available-for-sale investments:				
Change in net unrealized gains and losses, net of tax benefit (expense) of \$(25) and \$129 for the three and nine months ended April 29, 2017, respectively, and \$(146) and \$59 for the corresponding periods of fiscal 2016, respectively	229	217	(168)	(95)
Net (gains) losses reclassified into earnings, net of tax (benefit) expense of \$(32) and \$(38) for the three and nine months ended April 29, 2017, respectively, and \$(2) and \$(9) for the corresponding periods of fiscal 2016, respectively	44	4	53	17
	273	221	(115)	(78)
Cash flow hedging instruments:				
Change in unrealized gains and losses, net of tax benefit (expense) of \$(5) and \$(1) for the three and nine months ended April 29, 2017, respectively, and \$(2) and \$2 for the corresponding periods of fiscal 2016, respectively	20	19	(24)	(1)
Net (gains) losses reclassified into earnings, net of tax (benefit) expense of \$(2) and \$(5) for the three and nine months ended April 29, 2017, respectively, and \$(2) and \$(4) for the corresponding periods of fiscal 2016, respectively	25	7	61	13
	45	26	37	12
Net change in cumulative translation adjustment and actuarial gains and losses net of tax benefit (expense) of \$(6) and \$(7) for the three and nine months ended April 29, 2017, respectively, and \$(9) and \$(43) for the corresponding periods of fiscal 2016, respectively	134	326	63	(231)
Other comprehensive income (loss)	452	573	(15)	(297)
Comprehensive income	2,967	2,922	7,170	7,629
Comprehensive (income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interests	7	7	(1)	9
Comprehensive income attributable to Cisco Systems, Inc.	\$2,974	\$ 2,929	\$7,169	\$ 7,638

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(in millions)
(Unaudited)

	Nine Months Ended	
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income	\$7,185	\$7,926
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation, amortization, and other	1,708	1,546
Share-based compensation expense	1,124	1,101
Provision for receivables	20	(27)
Deferred income taxes	(125)	229
Excess tax benefits from share-based compensation	(125)	(103)
(Gains) losses on divestitures, investments and other, net	156	(279)
Change in operating assets and liabilities, net of effects of acquisitions and divestitures:		
Accounts receivable	1,253	1,412
Inventories	(149)	189
Financing receivables	(773)	(296)
Other assets	140	(94)
Accounts payable	149	(114)
Income taxes, net	(112)	(723)
Accrued compensation	(154)	(318)
Deferred revenue	592	7
Other liabilities	(1,014)	(704)
Net cash provided by operating activities	9,875	9,752
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchases of investments	(35,562)	(36,366)
Proceeds from sales of investments	24,414	23,806
Proceeds from maturities of investments	8,390	11,790
Acquisition of businesses, net of cash and cash equivalents acquired	(3,211)	(3,161)
Proceeds from business divestiture	—	372
Purchases of investments in privately held companies	(172)	(202)
Return of investments in privately held companies	168	74
Acquisition of property and equipment	(756)	(880)
Proceeds from sales of property and equipment	6	11
Other	35	(195)
Net cash used in investing activities	(6,688)	(4,751)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Issuances of common stock	418	771
Repurchases of common stock—repurchase program	(2,516)	(3,154)
Shares repurchased for tax withholdings on vesting of restricted stock units	(497)	(469)
Short-term borrowings, original maturities less than 90 days, net	2,000	(4)
Issuances of debt	6,232	6,978
Repayments of debt	(4,151)	(3,863)
Excess tax benefits from share-based compensation	125	103
Dividends paid	(4,063)	(3,441)

Other	(250)	96
Net cash used in financing activities	(2,702)	(2,983)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	485	2,018
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	7,631	6,877
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$8,116	\$8,895

Supplemental cash flow information:

Cash paid for interest	\$727	\$691
Cash paid for income taxes, net	\$2,159	\$2,093

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EQUITY
(in millions, except per-share amounts)
(Unaudited)

	Shares of Common Stock	Common Stock and Additional Paid-In Capital	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Total Cisco Shareholders' Equity	Non-control Interests	Total Equity
BALANCE AT JULY 30, 2016	5,029	\$ 44,516	\$ 19,396	\$ (326)	\$ 63,586	\$ (1)	\$ 63,585
Net income			7,185		7,185		7,185
Other comprehensive income (loss)				(16)	(16)	1	(15)
Issuance of common stock	65	418			418		418
Repurchase of common stock	(80)	(708)	(1,797)		(2,505)		(2,505)
Shares repurchased for tax withholdings on vesting of restricted stock units	(16)	(497)			(497)		(497)
Cash dividends declared (\$0.81 per common share)			(4,063)		(4,063)		(4,063)
Tax effects from employee stock incentive plans		(34)			(34)		(34)
Share-based compensation		1,138			1,138		1,138
Purchase acquisitions and other		170			170		170
BALANCE AT APRIL 29, 2017	4,998	\$ 45,003	\$ 20,721	\$ (342)	\$ 65,382	\$ —	\$ 65,382

	Shares of Common Stock	Common Stock and Additional Paid-In Capital	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Total Cisco Shareholders' Equity	Non-control Interests	Total Equity
BALANCE AT JULY 25, 2015	5,085	\$ 43,592	\$ 16,045	\$ 61	\$ 59,698	\$ 9	\$ 59,707
Net income			7,926		7,926		7,926
Other comprehensive income (loss)				(288)	(288)	(9)	(297)
Issuance of common stock	87	771			771		771
Repurchase of common stock	(120)	(1,036)	(2,082)		(3,118)		(3,118)
Shares repurchased for tax withholdings on vesting of restricted stock units	(18)	(469)			(469)		(469)
Cash dividends declared (\$0.68 per common share)			(3,441)		(3,441)		(3,441)
Tax effects from employee stock incentive plans		32			32		32
Share-based compensation		1,101			1,101		1,101
Purchase acquisitions and other		146			146		146
BALANCE AT APRIL 30, 2016	5,034	\$ 44,137	\$ 18,448	\$ (227)	\$ 62,358	\$ —	\$ 62,358

Supplemental Information

In September 2001, the Company's Board of Directors authorized a stock repurchase program. As of April 29, 2017, the Company's Board of Directors had authorized an aggregate repurchase of up to \$112 billion of common stock

under this program with no termination date. For additional information regarding stock repurchase, see Note 13 to the Consolidated Financial Statements. The stock repurchases since the inception of this program and the related impacts on Cisco shareholders' equity are summarized in the following table (in millions):

	Shares of Common Stock	Common Stock and Additional Paid-In Capital	Retained Earnings	Total Cisco Shareholders' Equity
Repurchases of common stock under the repurchase program	4,671	\$ 24,603	\$74,499	\$ 99,102

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Unaudited)

1. Basis of Presentation

The fiscal year for Cisco Systems, Inc. (the “Company” or “Cisco”) is the 52 or 53 weeks ending on the last Saturday in July. Fiscal 2017 is a 52-week fiscal year, and fiscal 2016 was a 53-week fiscal year. The Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of Cisco and its subsidiaries. All intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated. The Company conducts business globally and is primarily managed on a geographic basis in the following three geographic segments: the Americas; Europe, Middle East, and Africa (EMEA); and Asia Pacific, Japan, and China (APJC).

The accompanying financial data as of April 29, 2017 and for the three and nine months ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016 has been prepared by the Company, without audit, pursuant to the rules and regulations of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”). Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States (“GAAP”) have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such rules and regulations. The July 30, 2016 Consolidated Balance Sheet was derived from audited financial statements, but does not include all disclosures required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. However, the Company believes that the disclosures are adequate to make the information presented not misleading. These Consolidated Financial Statements should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and the notes thereto included in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended July 30, 2016.

The Company consolidates its investments in a venture fund managed by SOFTBANK Corp. and its affiliates (“SOFTBANK”) as this is a variable interest entity and the Company is the primary beneficiary. The noncontrolling interests attributed to SOFTBANK are presented as a separate component from the Company’s equity in the equity section of the Consolidated Balance Sheets. SOFTBANK’s share of the earnings in the venture fund are not presented separately in the Consolidated Statements of Operations as these amounts are not material for any of the fiscal periods presented.

In the opinion of management, all normal recurring adjustments necessary to present fairly the consolidated balance sheet as of April 29, 2017; the results of operations and the statements of comprehensive income for the three and nine months ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016; and the statements of cash flows and equity for the nine months ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, as applicable, have been made. The results of operations for the three and nine months ended April 29, 2017 are not necessarily indicative of the operating results for the full fiscal year or any future periods.

Certain reclassifications have been made to the amounts in prior periods in order to conform to the current period’s presentation. The Company has evaluated subsequent events through the date that the financial statements were issued.

2. Recent Accounting Pronouncements

(a) New Accounting Updates Recently Adopted

Consolidation of Certain Types of Legal Entities In February 2015, the FASB issued an accounting standard update that changes the analysis that a reporting entity must perform to determine whether it should consolidate certain types of legal entities. The accounting standard update became effective for the Company beginning in the first quarter of fiscal 2017. The application of this accounting standard update did not have any impact on the Company’s Consolidated Balance Sheet or Statement of Operations upon adoption, but the Company has provided additional disclosures in Note 8 pursuant to this accounting standard update.

(b) Recent Accounting Standards or Updates Not Yet Effective

Revenue Recognition In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued an accounting standard update related to revenue from contracts with customers, which, along with amendments issued in 2015 and 2016, will supersede nearly all current U.S. GAAP guidance on this topic and eliminate industry-specific guidance.

The underlying principle is to recognize revenue when promised goods or services are transferred to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration that is expected to be received for those goods or services. This accounting standard update, as amended, will be effective for the Company beginning in the first quarter of fiscal 2019. The new revenue standard may be applied retrospectively to each prior period presented or retrospectively with the cumulative effect recognized in retained earnings as of the date of adoption ("modified retrospective basis"). Early adoption is permitted, but no earlier than fiscal 2018. The Company expects to adopt this accounting standard update on a modified retrospective basis in the first quarter of fiscal 2019, and it is currently evaluating the impact of this accounting standard update on its Consolidated Financial Statements.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

Financial Instruments In January 2016, the FASB issued an accounting standard update that changes the accounting for equity investments, financial liabilities under the fair value option, and the presentation and disclosure requirements for financial instruments. The accounting standard update will be effective for the Company beginning in the first quarter of fiscal 2019, and early adoption is permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of this accounting standard update on its Consolidated Financial Statements.

Leases In February 2016, the FASB issued an accounting standard update related to leases requiring lessees to recognize operating and financing lease liabilities on the balance sheet, as well as corresponding right-of-use assets. The new lease standard also makes some changes to lessor accounting and aligns key aspects of the lessor accounting model with the revenue recognition standard. In addition, disclosures will be required to enable users of financial statements to assess the amount, timing, and uncertainty of cash flows arising from leases. The accounting standard update will be effective for the Company beginning in the first quarter of fiscal 2020 on a modified retrospective basis, and early adoption is permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of this accounting standard update on its Consolidated Financial Statements.

Share-Based Compensation In March 2016, the FASB issued an accounting standard update that impacts the accounting for share-based payment transactions, including income tax consequences, classification of awards as either equity or liabilities, and classification on the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows. The accounting standard will be effective for the Company beginning the first quarter of fiscal 2018, and early adoption is permitted. The Company does not expect that this accounting standard update will have a material impact on its Consolidated Financial Statements.

Credit Losses of Financial Instruments In June 2016, the FASB issued an accounting standard update that requires measurement and recognition of expected credit losses for financial assets held based on historical experience, current conditions, and reasonable and supportable forecasts that affect the collectibility of the reported amount. The accounting standard update will be effective for the Company beginning in the first quarter of fiscal 2021 on a modified retrospective basis, and early adoption in fiscal 2020 is permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of this accounting standard update on its Consolidated Financial Statements.

Classification of Cash Flow Elements In August 2016, the FASB issued an accounting standard update related to the classification of certain cash receipts and cash payments on the statement of cash flows. The accounting standard update will be effective for the Company beginning in the first quarter of fiscal 2019 on a retrospective basis, and early adoption is permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of this accounting standard update on its Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

Income Taxes on Intra-Entity Transfers of Assets In October 2016, the FASB issued an accounting standard update that requires recognition of the income tax consequences of intra-entity transfers of assets (other than inventory) at the transaction date. The accounting standard update will be effective for the Company beginning in the first quarter of fiscal 2019 on a modified retrospective basis, and early adoption is permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of this accounting standard update on its Consolidated Financial Statements.

Restricted Cash in Statement of Cash Flow In November 2016, the FASB issued an accounting standard update that provides guidance on the classification and presentation of changes in restricted cash and cash equivalents in the statement of cash flows. The accounting standard update will be effective for the Company beginning in the first quarter of fiscal 2019 using a retrospective transition method to each period presented, and early adoption is permitted. The Company does not expect that this accounting standard update will have a material impact on its Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

Definition of a Business In January 2017, the FASB issued an accounting standard update that clarifies the definition of a business to help companies evaluate whether acquisition or disposal transactions should be accounted for as asset groups or as businesses. The accounting standard update will be effective for the Company beginning in the first quarter of fiscal 2019 on a prospective basis. The impact of this accounting standard update will be fact dependent, but

the Company expects that some transactions that were previously accounted for as business combinations or disposal transactions will be accounted for as asset purchases or asset sales under the accounting standard update.

Simplifying the Test for Goodwill Impairment In January 2017, the FASB issued an accounting standard update that removes Step 2 of the goodwill impairment test, which requires the assessment of fair value of individual assets and liabilities of a reporting unit to measure goodwill impairments. Goodwill impairment will now be the amount by which a reporting unit's carrying value exceeds its fair value. The accounting standard update will be effective for the Company beginning in the first quarter of fiscal 2021 on a prospective basis, and early adoption is permitted. The Company does not expect that this accounting standard update will impact its Consolidated Financial Statements.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

3. Acquisitions and Divestitures

The Company completed four acquisitions during the nine months ended April 29, 2017. A summary of the allocation of the total purchase consideration is presented as follows (in millions):

	Purchase Consideration	Net Tangible Assets Acquired (Liabilities Assumed)	Purchased Intangible Assets	Goodwill
CloudLock	\$ 249	\$ —	\$ 36	\$ 213
AppDynamics	3,258	(175)	785	2,648
Others (two in total)	9	—	5	4
Total	\$ 3,516	\$ (175)	\$ 826	\$ 2,865

On March 17, 2017, the Company completed its acquisition of privately held AppDynamics, Inc. ("AppDynamics"), an application intelligence software company. AppDynamics's cloud application and business monitoring platform is designed to enable companies to improve application and business performance. With the AppDynamics acquisition, the Company seeks to provide end-to-end visibility and intelligence from the customer's network through to the application. Product revenue from the AppDynamics acquisition has been included in the Company's Other product category.

On August 1, 2016, the Company completed its acquisition of privately held CloudLock Inc. ("CloudLock"), a provider of cloud security that specializes in cloud access security broker technology that provides enterprises with visibility and analytics around user behavior and sensitive data in cloud services. Revenue from the CloudLock acquisition has been included in the Company's Security product category.

The total purchase consideration related to the Company's acquisitions completed during the nine months ended April 29, 2017 consisted of cash consideration and vested share-based awards assumed. The total cash and cash equivalents acquired from these acquisitions was approximately \$135 million. Total transaction costs related to the Company's acquisition activities were \$7 million and \$29 million for the nine months ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, respectively. These transaction costs were expensed as incurred in general and administrative expenses ("G&A") in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

The Company's purchase price allocation for acquisitions completed during recent periods is preliminary and subject to revision as additional information about fair value of assets and liabilities becomes available. Additional information that existed as of the acquisition date but at that time was unknown to the Company may become known to the Company during the remainder of the measurement period, a period not to exceed 12 months from the acquisition date. Adjustments in the purchase price allocation may require a recasting of the amounts allocated to goodwill retroactive to the period in which the acquisition occurred.

The goodwill generated from the Company's acquisitions completed during the nine months ended April 29, 2017 is primarily related to expected synergies. The goodwill is generally not deductible for income tax purposes.

The Consolidated Financial Statements include the operating results of each acquisition from the date of acquisition. Pro forma results of operations for the acquisitions completed during the nine months ended April 29, 2017 have not been presented because the effects of the acquisitions, individually and in the aggregate, were not material to the Company's financial results.

Pending Acquisition of Viptela On May 1, 2017, the Company announced its intent to acquire privately held Viptela, Inc. ("Viptela"), a software-defined wide area network (SD-WAN) company. Under the terms of the agreement, the Company will pay approximately \$610 million in cash and assumed equity awards to acquire Viptela. The acquisition

is expected to close in the second half of calendar 2017.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

4. Goodwill and Purchased Intangible Assets

(a) Goodwill

The following table presents the goodwill allocated to the Company's reportable segments as of and during the nine months ended April 29, 2017 (in millions):

	Balance at July 30, 2016	Acquisitions	Other	Balance at April 29, 2017
Americas	\$16,529	\$ 1,986	\$ 13	\$18,528
EMEA	6,269	724	8	7,001
APJC	3,827	155	5	3,987
Total	\$26,625	\$ 2,865	\$ 26	\$29,516

"Other" in the table above primarily consists of foreign currency translation, as well as immaterial purchase accounting adjustments.

(b) Purchased Intangible Assets

The following table presents details of the Company's intangible assets acquired through acquisitions completed during the nine months ended April 29, 2017 (in millions, except years):

	FINITE LIVES			INDEFINITE LIVES		TOTAL Amount		
	TECHNOLOGY Weighted- Average Useful Life (in Years)	Amount	CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIPS Weighted- Average Useful Life (in Years)	OTHER Weighted- Average Useful Life (in Years)	IPR&D Amount			
CloudLock	6.0	\$ 32	4.0	\$ 3	1.5	\$ 1	\$ —	\$ 36
AppDynamics	4.0	525	7.0	235	2.3	25	—	785
Others (two in total)	3.0	5	0.0	—	0.0	—	—	5
Total		\$ 562		\$ 238		\$ 26	\$ —	\$ 826

The following tables present details of the Company's purchased intangible assets (in millions):

April 29, 2017	Gross	Accumulated Amortization	Net
Purchased intangible assets with finite lives:			
Technology	\$3,345	\$ (1,485)	\$ 1,860
Customer relationships	1,353	(714)	639
Other	82	(31)	51
Total purchased intangible assets with finite lives	4,780	(2,230)	2,550
In-process research and development, with indefinite lives	154	—	154
Total	\$4,934	\$ (2,230)	\$ 2,704

July 30, 2016	Gross	Accumulated Amortization	Net
Purchased intangible assets with finite lives:			
Technology	\$3,038	\$ (1,391)	\$ 1,647
Customer relationships	1,793	(1,203)	590
Other	85	(43)	42

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Total purchased intangible assets with finite lives	4,916	(2,637)	2,279
In-process research and development, with indefinite lives	222	—		222
Total	\$5,138	\$ (2,637)	\$2,501

Purchased intangible assets include intangible assets acquired through acquisitions as well as through direct purchases or licenses.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

Impairment charges related to purchased intangible assets for the three and nine months ended April 29, 2017 were zero and \$42 million, respectively. Impairment charges were primarily as a result of declines in estimated fair values of certain purchased intangible assets resulting from the reduction or elimination of expected future cash flows associated with certain of the Company's technology and IPR&D intangible assets. Of these impairment charges, \$38 million was recorded to restructuring and other charges in connection with the Company's decision to exit certain product lines, and the corresponding elimination of future associated cash flows. Impairment charges related to purchased intangible assets for the three and nine months ended April 30, 2016 were \$7 million and \$44 million, respectively.

The following table presents the amortization of purchased intangible assets, including impairment charges (in millions):

	Three Months Ended April 29, 2017		Nine Months Ended April 29, 2016	
Amortization of purchased intangible assets:				
Cost of sales	\$141	\$ 134	\$394	\$ 419
Operating expenses				
Amortization of purchased intangible assets	59	81	201	221
Restructuring and other charges	—	—	38	—
Total	\$200	\$ 215	\$633	\$ 640

The estimated future amortization expense of purchased intangible assets with finite lives as of April 29, 2017 is as follows (in millions):

Fiscal Year	Amount
2017 (remaining three months)	\$ 211
2018	770
2019	681
2020	462
2021	266
Thereafter	160
Total	\$ 2,550

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

5. Restructuring and Other Charges

In August 2016, the Company announced a restructuring plan (the "Fiscal 2017 Plan") in order to reinvest in its key priority areas in which up to 5,500 employees would be impacted, with estimated pretax charges of approximately \$700 million. In May 2017, the Company extended the Fiscal 2017 Plan to include an additional 1,100 employees with \$150 million of estimated additional pretax charges. The Company's estimated aggregate pretax charges of approximately \$850 million under the Fiscal 2017 Plan consist primarily of severance and other one-time termination benefits, and other associated costs. These charges are primarily cash-based, and the Company expects the Fiscal 2017 Plan to be substantially completed by the end of the first quarter of fiscal 2018. The Company has incurred net charges of \$70 million and \$17 million for the three months ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, respectively, and \$614 million and \$253 million, net of a \$2 million credit to cost of sales for the nine months ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, respectively.

In connection with a restructuring action announced in August 2014 (the "Fiscal 2015 Plan"), the Company incurred cumulative charges of approximately \$756 million. The Company completed the Fiscal 2015 Plan in fiscal 2016.

The following tables summarize the activities related to the restructuring and other charges (in millions):

	FISCAL 2015 PLAN		FISCAL 2017 PLAN		Total
	Employee Severance	Other	Employee Severance	Other	
Liability as of July 30, 2016	\$21	\$24	\$—	\$—	\$45
Charges	—	—	510	104	614
Cash payments	(14)	(5)	(449)	(21)	(489)
Non-cash items	(4)	(9)	(3)	(48)	(64)
Liability as of April 29, 2017	\$3	\$10	\$58	\$35	\$106

	FISCAL 2015 AND PRIOR PLANS		Total
	Employee Severance	Other	
Liability as of July 25, 2015	\$60	\$29	\$89
Charges	224	31	255
Cash payments	(238)	(13)	(251)
Non-cash items	—	(21)	(21)
Liability as of April 30, 2016	\$46	\$26	\$72

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

6. Balance Sheet Details

The following tables provide details of selected balance sheet items (in millions):

	April 29, July 30,	
	2017	2016
Inventories:		
Raw materials	\$ 209	\$ 91
Finished goods:		
Distributor inventory and deferred cost of sales	515	457
Manufactured finished goods	332	415
Total finished goods	847	872
Service-related spares	286	236
Demonstration systems	24	18
Total	\$ 1,366	\$ 1,217
Property and equipment, net:		
Gross property and equipment:		
Land, buildings, and building and leasehold improvements	\$4,848	\$4,778
Computer equipment and related software	1,266	1,288
Production, engineering, and other equipment	5,701	5,658
Operating lease assets	322	296
Furniture and fixtures	567	543
Total gross property and equipment	12,704	12,563
Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization	(9,309)	(9,057)
Total	\$3,395	\$3,506
Deferred revenue:		
Service		\$10,532 \$10,621
Product:		
Deferred revenue related to recurring software and subscription businesses	4,352	3,308
Deferred revenue related to two-tier distributors	311	377
Other product deferred revenue	2,127	2,166
Total product deferred revenue	6,790	5,851
Total	\$17,322	\$16,472
Reported as:		
Current		\$10,344 \$10,155
Noncurrent		6,978 6,317
Total		\$17,322 \$16,472

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

7. Financing Receivables and Operating Leases

(a) Financing Receivables

Financing receivables primarily consist of lease receivables, loan receivables, and financed service contracts and other. Lease receivables represent sales-type and direct-financing leases resulting from the sale of the Company's and complementary third-party products and are typically collateralized by a security interest in the underlying assets. Loan receivables represent financing arrangements related to the sale of the Company's products and services, which may include additional funding for other costs associated with network installation and integration of the Company's products and services. Lease receivables consist of arrangements with terms of four years on average, while loan receivables generally have terms of up to three years. The financed service contracts and other category includes financing receivables related to technical support and advanced services, software, and receivables related to financing of certain indirect costs associated with leases. Revenue related to the technical support services is typically deferred and included in deferred service revenue and is recognized ratably over the period during which the related services are to be performed, which typically ranges from one to three years.

A summary of the Company's financing receivables is presented as follows (in millions):

April 29, 2017	Lease Receivables	Loan Receivables	Financed Service Contracts and Other	Total
Gross	\$ 2,792	\$ 2,659	\$ 4,096	\$9,547
Residual value	175	—	—	175
Unearned income	(146)	—	—	(146)
Allowance for credit loss	(220)	(117)	(32)	(369)
Total, net	\$ 2,601	\$ 2,542	\$ 4,064	\$9,207
Reported as:				
Current	\$ 1,257	\$ 1,224	\$ 2,158	\$4,639
Noncurrent	1,344	1,318	1,906	4,568
Total, net	\$ 2,601	\$ 2,542	\$ 4,064	\$9,207
July 30, 2016	Lease Receivables	Loan Receivables	Financed Service Contracts and Other	Total
Gross	\$ 3,272	\$ 2,135	\$ 3,370	\$8,777
Residual value	202	—	—	202
Unearned income	(174)	—	—	(174)
Allowance for credit loss	(230)	(97)	(48)	(375)
Total, net	\$ 3,070	\$ 2,038	\$ 3,322	\$8,430
Reported as:				
Current	\$ 1,490	\$ 988	\$ 1,794	\$4,272
Noncurrent	1,580	1,050	1,528	4,158
Total, net	\$ 3,070	\$ 2,038	\$ 3,322	\$8,430

As of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016, the deferred service revenue related to "Financed Service Contracts and Other" was \$1,965 million and \$1,716 million, respectively.

Future minimum lease payments to the Company on lease receivables as of April 29, 2017 are summarized as follows (in millions):

Fiscal Year	Amount
2017 (remaining three months)	\$ 350

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2018	1,227
2019	704
2020	361
2021	135
Thereafter	15
Total	\$ 2,792

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

Actual cash collections may differ from the contractual maturities due to early customer buyouts, refinancings, or defaults.

(b) Credit Quality of Financing Receivables

Gross receivables, excluding residual value, less unearned income categorized by the Company's internal credit risk rating as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016 are summarized as follows (in millions):

	INTERNAL CREDIT RISK RATING			
	1 to 4	5 to 6	7 and Higher	Total
April 29, 2017				
Lease receivables	\$1,404	\$1,161	\$ 81	\$2,646
Loan receivables	1,493	990	176	2,659
Financed service contracts and other	2,771	1,305	20	4,096
Total	\$5,668	\$3,456	\$ 277	\$9,401

	INTERNAL CREDIT RISK RATING			
	1 to 4	5 to 6	7 and Higher	Total
July 30, 2016				
Lease receivables	\$1,703	\$1,294	\$ 101	\$3,098
Loan receivables	986	967	182	2,135
Financed service contracts and other	2,077	1,271	22	3,370
Total	\$4,766	\$3,532	\$ 305	\$8,603

The Company determines the adequacy of its allowance for credit loss by assessing the risks and losses inherent in its financing receivables by portfolio segment. The portfolio segment is based on the types of financing offered by the Company to its customers, which consist of the following: lease receivables, loan receivables, and financed service contracts and other.

The Company's internal credit risk ratings of 1 through 4 correspond to investment-grade ratings, while credit risk ratings of 5 and 6 correspond to non-investment grade ratings. Credit risk ratings of 7 and higher correspond to substandard ratings.

In circumstances when collectibility is not deemed reasonably assured, the associated revenue is deferred in accordance with the Company's revenue recognition policies, and the related allowance for credit loss, if any, is included in deferred revenue. The Company also records deferred revenue associated with financing receivables when there are remaining performance obligations, as it does for financed service contracts. Total allowances for credit loss and deferred revenue as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016 were \$2,362 million and \$2,112 million, respectively, and they were associated with total financing receivables before allowances for credit loss of \$9,576 million and \$8,805 million as of their respective period ends.

The following tables present the aging analysis of gross receivables, excluding residual value and less unearned income as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016 (in millions):

	DAYS PAST DUE (INCLUDES BILLED AND UNBILLED)				Total Past Due	Current	Total	Nonaccrual Financing Receivables	Impaired Financing Receivables
	31-60	61-90	91+						
April 29, 2017									
Lease receivables	\$131	\$110	\$275	\$516	\$2,130	\$2,646	\$ 52	\$ 52	
Loan receivables	31	28	61	120	2,539	2,659	59	59	
Financed service contracts and other	244	129	425	798	3,298	4,096	31	11	
Total	\$406	\$267	\$761	\$1,434	\$7,967	\$9,401	\$ 142	\$ 122	

DAYS PAST DUE
(INCLUDES BILLED AND
UNBILLED)

July 30, 2016	31-60	61-90	91+	Total Past Due	Current	Total	Nonaccrual Financing Receivables	Impaired Financing Receivables
Lease receivables	\$ 111	\$ 25	\$ 251	\$ 387	\$ 2,711	\$ 3,098	\$ 60	\$ 60
Loan receivables	30	9	37	76	2,059	2,135	42	42
Financed service contracts and other	213	152	565	930	2,440	3,370	30	10
Total	\$ 354	\$ 186	\$ 853	\$ 1,393	\$ 7,210	\$ 8,603	\$ 132	\$ 112

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

Past due financing receivables are those that are 31 days or more past due according to their contractual payment terms. The data in the preceding tables is presented by contract, and the aging classification of each contract is based on the oldest outstanding receivable, and therefore past due amounts also include unbilled and current receivables within the same contract. The balances of either unbilled or current financing receivables included in the category of 91 days plus past due for financing receivables were \$318 million and \$670 million as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016, respectively.

As of April 29, 2017, the Company had financing receivables of \$425 million, net of unbilled or current receivables, that were in the category of 91 days plus past due but remained on accrual status as they are well secured and in the process of collection. Such balance was \$144 million as of July 30, 2016.

(c) Allowance for Credit Loss Rollforward

The allowances for credit loss and the related financing receivables are summarized as follows (in millions):

Three months ended April 29, 2017	CREDIT LOSS ALLOWANCES			
	Lease Receivables	Loan Receivables	Financed Service Contracts and Other	Total
Allowance for credit loss as of January 28, 2017	\$225	\$ 106	\$ 47	\$378
Provisions	3	10	(14)	(1)
Recoveries (write-offs), net	(8)	—	(1)	(9)
Foreign exchange and other	—	1	—	1
Allowance for credit loss as of April 29, 2017	\$220	\$ 117	\$ 32	\$369

Nine months ended April 29, 2017	CREDIT LOSS ALLOWANCES			
	Lease Receivables	Loan Receivables	Financed Service Contracts and Other	Total
Allowance for credit loss as of July 30, 2016	\$230	\$ 97	\$ 48	\$375
Provisions	1	22	(15)	8
Recoveries (write-offs), net	(10)	(4)	(1)	(15)
Foreign exchange and other	(1)	2	—	1
Allowance for credit loss as of April 29, 2017	\$220	\$ 117	\$ 32	\$369

Three months ended April 30, 2016	CREDIT LOSS ALLOWANCES			
	Lease Receivables	Loan Receivables	Financed Service Contracts and Other	Total
Allowance for credit loss as of January 23, 2016	\$248	\$ 80	\$ 37	\$365
Provisions	7	8	2	17
Recoveries (write-offs), net	(6)	—	—	(6)
Foreign exchange and other	1	5	1	7
Allowance for credit loss as of April 30, 2016	\$250	\$ 93	\$ 40	\$383

Nine months ended April 30, 2016	CREDIT LOSS ALLOWANCES			
	Lease Receivables	Loan Receivables	Financed Service Contracts and Other	Total
Allowance for credit loss as of July 25, 2015	\$259	\$ 87	\$ 36	\$382
Provisions	3	2	7	12
Recoveries (write-offs), net	(10)	—	(4)	(14)
Foreign exchange and other	(2)	4	1	3

Allowance for credit loss as of April 30, 2016 \$250 \$ 93 \$ 40 \$383

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

The Company assesses the allowance for credit loss related to financing receivables on either an individual or a collective basis. The Company considers various factors in evaluating lease and loan receivables and the earned portion of financed service contracts for possible impairment on an individual basis. These factors include the Company's historical experience, credit quality and age of the receivable balances, and economic conditions that may affect a customer's ability to pay. When the evaluation indicates that it is probable that all amounts due pursuant to the contractual terms of the financing agreement, including scheduled interest payments, are unable to be collected, the financing receivable is considered impaired. All such outstanding amounts, including any accrued interest, will be assessed and fully reserved at the customer level. The Company's internal credit risk ratings are categorized as 1 through 10, with the lowest credit risk rating representing the highest quality financing receivables.

Typically, the Company also considers receivables with a risk rating of 8 or higher to be impaired and will include them in the individual assessment for allowance. These balances, as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016, are presented under "(b) Credit Quality of Financing Receivables" above.

The Company evaluates the remainder of its financing receivables portfolio for impairment on a collective basis and records an allowance for credit loss at the portfolio segment level. When evaluating the financing receivables on a collective basis, the Company uses expected default frequency rates published by a major third-party credit-rating agency as well as its own historical loss rate in the event of default, while also systematically giving effect to economic conditions, concentration of risk, and correlation.

(d) Operating Leases

The Company provides financing of certain equipment through operating leases, and the amounts are included in property and equipment in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. Amounts relating to equipment on operating lease assets and the associated accumulated depreciation are summarized as follows (in millions):

	April 29, July 30,	
	2017	2016
Operating lease assets	\$ 322	\$ 296
Accumulated depreciation (187)	(187)	(161)
Operating lease assets, net	\$ 135	\$ 135

Minimum future rentals on noncancelable operating leases as of April 29, 2017 are summarized as follows (in millions):

Fiscal Year	Amount
2017 (remaining three months)	\$ 53
2018	157
2019	81
2020	23
2021	5
Thereafter	2
Total	\$ 321

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

8. Investments

(a) Summary of Available-for-Sale Investments

The following tables summarize the Company's available-for-sale investments (in millions):

April 29, 2017	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
Fixed income securities:				
U.S. government securities	\$ 20,951	\$ 4	\$ (67)	\$20,888
U.S. government agency securities	2,233	—	(6)	2,227
Non-U.S. government and agency securities	721	—	(2)	719
Corporate debt securities	31,649	145	(160)	31,634
U.S. agency mortgage-backed securities	2,038	3	(18)	2,023
Commercial paper	635	—	—	635
Certificates of deposit	26	—	—	26
Total fixed income securities	58,253	152	(253)	58,152
Publicly traded equity securities	1,177	533	(4)	1,706
Total ⁽¹⁾	\$ 59,430	\$ 685	\$ (257)	\$59,858
July 30, 2016	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
Fixed income securities:				
U.S. government securities	\$ 26,473	\$ 73	\$ (2)	\$26,544
U.S. government agency securities	2,809	8	—	2,817
Non-U.S. government and agency securities	1,096	4	—	1,100
Corporate debt securities	24,044	263	(15)	24,292
U.S. agency mortgage-backed securities	1,846	22	—	1,868
Total fixed income securities	56,268	370	(17)	56,621
Publicly traded equity securities	1,211	333	(40)	1,504
Total ⁽¹⁾	\$ 57,479	\$ 703	\$ (57)	\$58,125

⁽¹⁾ Includes investments that were pending settlement as of the respective fiscal years. The net unsettled investment purchases were \$80 million and \$654 million as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016, respectively.

Non-U.S. government and agency securities include agency and corporate debt securities that are guaranteed by non-U.S. governments.

(b) Gains and Losses on Available-for-Sale Investments

The following table presents the gross realized gains and gross realized losses related to the Company's available-for-sale investments (in millions):

	Three Months Ended April 29, 2017		Nine Months Ended April 30, 2016	
Gross realized gains	\$43	\$ 68	\$91	\$ 119
Gross realized losses	(119)	(74)	(182)	(145)
Total	\$(76)	\$(6)	\$(91)	\$(26)

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

The following table presents the realized net gains (losses) related to the Company's available-for-sale investments by security type (in millions):

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016
Net gains (losses) on investments in publicly traded equity securities	\$(59)	\$ 25	\$(50)	\$ 18
Net gains (losses) on investments in fixed income securities	(17)	(31)	(41)	(44)
Total	\$(76)	\$(6)	\$(91)	\$(26)

The following tables present the breakdown of the available-for-sale investments with gross unrealized losses and the duration that those losses had been unrealized at April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016 (in millions):

	UNREALIZED LOSSES LESS THAN 12 MONTHS		UNREALIZED LOSSES 2 MONTHS OR GREATER		TOTAL	
	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses
April 29, 2017						
Fixed income securities:						
U.S. government securities	\$ 17,231	\$(67)	\$ 16	\$ —	\$17,247	\$(67)
U.S. government agency securities	1,980	(6)	—	—	1,980	(6)
Non-U.S. government and agency securities	607	(2)	6	—	613	(2)
Corporate debt securities	11,915	(159)	78	(1)	11,993	(160)
U.S. agency mortgage-backed securities	1,448	(18)	4	—	1,452	(18)
Total fixed income securities	33,181	(252)	104	(1)	33,285	(253)
Publicly traded equity securities	50	(4)	—	—	50	(4)
Total	\$ 33,231	\$(256)	\$ 104	\$(1)	\$33,335	\$(257)
July 30, 2016						
Fixed income securities:						
U.S. government securities	\$ 2,414	\$(2)	\$ —	\$ —	\$2,414	\$(2)
U.S. government agency securities	144	—	—	—	144	—
Non-U.S. government and agency securities	61	—	—	—	61	—
Corporate debt securities	2,499	(7)	1,208	(8)	3,707	(15)
U.S. agency mortgage-backed securities	174	—	—	—	174	—
Total fixed income securities	5,292	(9)	1,208	(8)	6,500	(17)
Publicly traded equity securities	188	(40)	—	—	188	(40)
Total	\$ 5,480	\$(49)	\$ 1,208	\$(8)	\$6,688	\$(57)

For the three and nine months ended April 29, 2017, the net realized losses related to the Company's available-for-sale investments included impairment charges of \$73 million. These impairment charges related primarily to publicly traded equity securities and were due to a decline in the fair value of those securities below their cost basis that were determined to be other than temporary. For the three and nine months ended April 30, 2016, the net realized losses

related to the Company's available-for-sale investments included impairment charges of zero and \$3 million, respectively, for fixed income securities.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

As of April 29, 2017, for fixed income securities that were in unrealized loss positions, the Company has determined that (i) it does not have the intent to sell any of these investments and (ii) it is not more likely than not that it will be required to sell any of these investments before recovery of the entire amortized cost basis. In addition, as of April 29, 2017, the Company anticipates that it will recover the entire amortized cost basis of such fixed income securities and has determined that no other-than-temporary impairments associated with credit losses were required to be recognized during the nine months ended April 29, 2017.

The Company has evaluated its publicly traded equity securities as of April 29, 2017 and has determined that there were no additional other-than-temporary impairments in the respective categories of unrealized losses. This determination was based on several factors, which include the length of time and extent to which fair value has been less than the cost basis, the financial condition and near-term prospects of the issuer, and the Company's intent and ability to hold the publicly traded equity securities for a period of time sufficient to allow for any anticipated recovery in market value.

(c) Maturities of Fixed Income Securities

The following table summarizes the maturities of the Company's fixed income securities as of April 29, 2017 (in millions):

	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
Less than 1 year	\$ 14,699	\$ 14,693
Due in 1 to 2 years	15,709	15,688
Due in 2 to 5 years	21,905	21,915
Due after 5 years	3,903	3,833
Mortgage-backed securities with no single maturity	2,037	2,023
Total	\$ 58,253	\$ 58,152

Actual maturities may differ from the contractual maturities because borrowers may have the right to call or prepay certain obligations.

(d) Securities Lending

The Company periodically engages in securities lending activities with certain of its available for sale investments. These transactions are accounted for as a secured lending of the securities, and the securities are typically loaned only on an overnight basis. The average daily balance of securities lending for the nine months ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016 was \$0.8 billion and \$0.6 billion, respectively. The Company requires collateral equal to at least 102% of the fair market value of the loaned security and that the collateral be in the form of cash or liquid, high-quality assets. The Company engages in these secured lending transactions only with highly creditworthy counterparties, and the associated portfolio custodian has agreed to indemnify the Company against collateral losses. The Company did not experience any losses in connection with the secured lending of securities during the periods presented. As of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016, the Company had no outstanding securities lending transactions.

(e) Investments in Privately Held Companies

The carrying value of the Company's investments in privately held companies was included in other assets. For such investments that were accounted for under the equity and cost method as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016, the amounts are summarized in the following table (in millions):

	April 29, July 30,	
	2017	2016
Equity method investments	\$ 130	\$ 174
Cost method investments	820	829
Total	\$ 950	\$ 1,003

For additional information on impairment charges related to investments in privately held companies, see Note 9.

Variable Interest Entities In the ordinary course of business, the Company has investments in privately held companies and provides financing to certain customers. These privately held companies and customers may be considered to be variable interest entities. The Company evaluates on an ongoing basis its investments in these privately held companies and its customer financings, and has determined that as of April 29, 2017, except as disclosed in Note 1, there were no significant variable interest entities required to be consolidated in the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

As discussed in Note 2, during the first quarter of fiscal 2017, the Company adopted a new accounting standard update related to the consolidation of certain types of legal entities. As of April 29, 2017, the carrying value of the Company's investments in privately held companies was \$950 million, of which \$547 million of such investments are considered to be in variable interest entities which are unconsolidated. In addition, the Company has additional funding commitments of \$170 million related to these investments, some of which are based on the achievement of certain agreed-upon milestones, and some of which are required to be funded on demand. The carrying value of these investments and the additional funding commitments collectively represent the Company's maximum exposure related to these variable interest entities.

9. Fair Value

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received from selling an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. When determining the fair value measurements for assets and liabilities required or permitted to be either recorded or disclosed at fair value, the Company considers the principal or most advantageous market in which it would transact, and it also considers assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability.

(a) Fair Value Hierarchy

The accounting guidance for fair value measurement requires an entity to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. The standard establishes a fair value hierarchy based on the level of independent, objective evidence surrounding the inputs used to measure fair value. A financial instrument's categorization within the fair value hierarchy is based upon the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The fair value hierarchy is as follows:

Level 1 applies to assets or liabilities for which there are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2 applies to assets or liabilities for which there are inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets; quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in markets with insufficient volume or infrequent transactions (less active markets); or model-derived valuations in which significant inputs are observable or can be derived principally from, or corroborated by, observable market data.

Level 3 applies to assets or liabilities for which there are unobservable inputs to the valuation methodology that are significant to the measurement of the fair value of the assets or liabilities.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

(b) Assets and Liabilities Measured at Fair Value on a Recurring Basis

Assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016 were as follows (in millions):

	APRIL 29, 2017				JULY 30, 2016			
	FAIR VALUE				FAIR VALUE			
	MEASUREMENTS				MEASUREMENTS			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total Balance	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total Balance
Assets:								
Cash equivalents:								
U.S. government securities	\$—	\$41	\$—	\$—\$41	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—
Corporate debt securities	—	—	—	—	—	43	—	43
Money market funds	5,807	—	—	5,807	6,049	—	—	6,049
Commercial paper	—	160	—	160	—	—	—	—
Available-for-sale investments:								
U.S. government securities	—	20,888	—	20,888	—	26,544	—	26,544
U.S. government agency securities	—	2,227	—	2,227	—	2,817	—	2,817
Non-U.S. government and agency securities	—	719	—	719	—	1,100	—	1,100
Corporate debt securities	—	31,634	—	31,634	—	24,292	—	24,292
U.S. agency mortgage-backed securities	—	2,023	—	2,023	—	1,868	—	1,868
Commercial paper	—	635	—	635	—	—	—	—
Certificates of deposit	—	26	—	26	—	—	—	—
Publicly traded equity securities	1,706	—	—	1,706	1,504	—	—	1,504
Derivative assets	—	123	—	123	—	384	1	385
Total	\$7,513	\$58,476	\$—	\$—\$65,989	\$7,553	\$57,048	\$—	\$64,602
Liabilities:								
Derivative liabilities	\$—	\$23	\$—	\$—\$23	\$—	\$54	\$—	\$54
Total	\$—	\$23	\$—	\$—\$23	\$—	\$54	\$—	\$54

Level 1 publicly traded equity securities are determined by using quoted prices in active markets for identical assets. Level 2 fixed income securities are priced using quoted market prices for similar instruments or nonbinding market prices that are corroborated by observable market data. The Company uses inputs such as actual trade data, benchmark yields, broker/dealer quotes, and other similar data, which are obtained from quoted market prices, independent pricing vendors, or other sources, to determine the ultimate fair value of these assets and liabilities. The Company uses such pricing data as the primary input to make its assessments and determinations as to the ultimate valuation of its investment portfolio and has not made, during the periods presented, any material adjustments to such inputs. The Company is ultimately responsible for the financial statements and underlying estimates. The Company's derivative instruments are primarily classified as Level 2, as they are not actively traded and are valued using pricing models that use observable market inputs. The Company did not have any transfers between Level 1 and Level 2 fair value measurements during the periods presented.

Level 3 assets include certain derivative instruments, the values of which are determined based on discounted cash flow models using inputs that the Company could not corroborate with market data.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

(c) Assets Measured at Fair Value on a Nonrecurring Basis

The following table presents the Company's assets that were measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis during the indicated periods and the related recognized gains and losses for the periods indicated (in millions):

	TOTAL GAINS (LOSSES) FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED April 29, 2017		TOTAL GAINS (LOSSES) FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED April 30, 2016	
Investments in privately held companies (impaired)	\$(51)	\$(7)	\$(162)	\$(63)
Purchased intangible assets (impaired)	—	(7)	(42)	(44)
Property held for sale—land and buildings	—	—	(24)	—
Total gains (losses) for nonrecurring measurements	\$(51)	\$(14)	\$(228)	\$(107)

These assets were measured at fair value due to events or circumstances the Company identified as having significant impact on their fair value during the respective periods. To arrive at the valuation of these assets, the Company considers any significant changes in the financial metrics and economic variables and also uses third-party valuation reports to assist in the valuation as necessary.

The fair value measurement of the impaired investments was classified as Level 3 because significant unobservable inputs were used in the valuation due to the absence of quoted market prices and inherent lack of liquidity. Significant unobservable inputs, which included financial metrics of comparable private and public companies, financial condition and near-term prospects of the investees, recent financing activities of the investees, and the investees' capital structure as well as other economic variables, reflected the assumptions market participants would use in pricing these assets. The impairment charges, representing the difference between the net book value and the fair value as a result of the evaluation, were recorded to other income (loss), net. The remaining carrying value of the investments that were impaired was \$92 million and \$20 million as of April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, respectively. The fair value for purchased intangible assets measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis was categorized as Level 3 due to the use of significant unobservable inputs in the valuation. Significant unobservable inputs that were used included expected revenues and net income related to the assets and the expected life of the assets. The difference between the estimated fair value and the carrying value of the assets was recorded as an impairment charge, which was included in product cost of sales and operating expenses as applicable. See Note 4. The remaining carrying value of the specific purchased intangible assets that were impaired was \$7 million and zero as of April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, respectively.

The fair value of property held for sale was measured with the assistance of third-party valuation models, which used discounted cash flow techniques as part of their analysis. The fair value measurement was categorized as Level 3, as significant unobservable inputs were used in the valuation report. The impairment charge as a result of the valuations, which represented the difference between the fair value less cost to sell and the carrying amount of the assets held for sale, was included in restructuring and other charges. The remaining carrying value of the property held for sale that was impaired was \$11 million and zero as of April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, respectively.

(d) Other Fair Value Disclosures

The carrying value of the Company's investments in privately held companies that were accounted for under the cost method was \$820 million and \$829 million as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016, respectively. It was not practicable to estimate the fair value of this portfolio.

The fair value of the Company's short-term loan receivables and financed service contracts approximates their carrying value due to their short duration. The aggregate carrying value of the Company's long-term loan receivables and financed service contracts and other as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016 was \$3.2 billion and \$2.6 billion, respectively. The estimated fair value of the Company's long-term loan receivables and financed service contracts and other approximates their carrying value. The Company uses significant unobservable inputs in determining discounted cash flows to estimate the fair value of its long-term loan receivables and financed service contracts, and therefore they are categorized as Level 3.

As of April 29, 2017, the estimated fair value of the short-term debt approximates its carrying value due to the short maturities. As of April 29, 2017, the fair value of the Company's senior notes and other long-term debt was \$32.0 billion with a carrying amount of \$30.5 billion. This compares to a fair value of \$30.9 billion and a carrying amount of \$28.6 billion as of July 30, 2016. The fair value of the senior notes and other long-term debt was determined based on observable market prices in a less active market and was categorized as Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

10. Borrowings

(a) Short-Term Debt

The following table summarizes the Company's short-term debt (in millions, except percentages):

	April 29, 2017		July 30, 2016	
	Amount	Effective Rate	Amount	Effective Rate
Current portion of long-term debt	\$2,248	1.58 %	\$4,159	0.97 %
Commercial paper	2,000	0.88 %	—	—
Other notes and borrowings	—	—	1	2.08 %
Total short-term debt	\$4,248		\$4,160	

The effective interest rate on the current portion of long-term debt includes the impact of interest rate swaps, as discussed further in "(b) Long-Term Debt." Other notes and borrowings consist of the short-term portion of secured borrowings associated with customer financing arrangements. These notes and credit facilities were subject to various terms and foreign currency market interest rates pursuant to individual financial arrangements between the financing institution and the applicable foreign subsidiary.

Effective March 31, 2017, the Company increased its borrowing capacity under its existing commercial paper program from \$3.0 billion to \$10.0 billion. The Company uses the proceeds from the issuance of commercial paper notes for general corporate purposes. The Company had \$2.0 billion and no commercial paper notes outstanding as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016, respectively.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

(b) Long-Term Debt

The following table summarizes the Company's long-term debt (in millions, except percentages):

	Maturity Date	April 29, 2017		July 30, 2016	
		Amount	Effective Rate	Amount	Effective Rate
Senior notes:					
Floating-rate notes:					
Three-month LIBOR plus 0.28%	March 3, 2017	(1)\$—	—	\$1,000	1.03%
Three-month LIBOR plus 0.60%	February 21, 2018	1,000	1.72%	1,000	1.32%
Three-month LIBOR plus 0.31%	June 15, 2018	900	1.51%	900	1.03%
Three-month LIBOR plus 0.50%	March 1, 2019	500	1.62%	500	1.23%
Three-month LIBOR plus 0.34%	September 20, 2019 (2)	500	1.53%	—	—
Fixed-rate notes:					
1.10%	March 3, 2017	(1)—	—	2,400	0.87%
3.15%	March 14, 2017	(1)—	—	750	1.22%
1.40%	February 28, 2018	1,250	1.47%	1,250	1.47%
1.65%	June 15, 2018	1,600	1.72%	1,600	1.72%
4.95%	February 15, 2019	2,000	4.90%	2,000	4.76%
1.60%	February 28, 2019	1,000	1.67%	1,000	1.67%
2.125%	March 1, 2019	1,750	1.60%	1,750	1.08%
1.40%	September 20, 2019 (2)	1,500	1.48%	—	—
4.45%	January 15, 2020	2,500	3.66%	2,500	3.25%
2.45%	June 15, 2020	1,500	2.54%	1,500	2.54%
2.20%	February 28, 2021	2,500	2.30%	2,500	2.30%
2.90%	March 4, 2021	500	1.76%	500	1.24%
1.85%	September 20, 2021 (2)	2,000	1.90%	—	—
3.00%	June 15, 2022	500	2.03%	500	1.51%
2.60%	February 28, 2023	500	2.68%	500	2.68%
2.20%	September 20, 2023 (2)	750	2.27%	—	—
3.625%	March 4, 2024	1,000	1.88%	1,000	1.36%
3.50%	June 15, 2025	500	2.19%	500	1.67%
2.95%	February 28, 2026	750	3.01%	750	3.01%
2.50%	September 20, 2026 (2)	1,500	2.55%	—	—
5.90%	February 15, 2039	2,000	6.11%	2,000	6.11%
5.50%	January 15, 2040	2,000	5.67%	2,000	5.67%
Total		30,500		28,400	
Unaccreted discount/issuance costs		(140)		(137)	
Hedge accounting fair value adjustments		110		379	
Total		\$30,470		\$28,642	

Reported as:

Current portion of long-term debt	\$2,248	\$4,159
Long-term debt	28,222	24,483
Total	\$30,470	\$28,642

(1) In March 2017, the Company repaid senior notes with an aggregate principal amount of \$4.15 billion upon maturity.

⁽²⁾ In September 2016, the Company issued senior notes for an aggregate principal amount of \$6.25 billion.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

To achieve its interest rate risk management objectives, the Company entered into interest rate swaps in prior periods with an aggregate notional amount of \$6.8 billion designated as fair value hedges of certain of its fixed-rate senior notes. In effect, these swaps convert the fixed interest rates of the fixed-rate notes to floating interest rates based on the London InterBank Offered Rate ("LIBOR"). The gains and losses related to changes in the fair value of the interest rate swaps substantially offset changes in the fair value of the hedged portion of the underlying debt that are attributable to the changes in market interest rates. For additional information, see Note 11.

The effective rates for the fixed-rate debt include the interest on the notes, the accretion of the discount, the issuance costs, and, if applicable, adjustments related to hedging. Interest is payable semiannually on each class of the senior fixed-rate notes and payable quarterly on the floating-rate notes. Each of the senior fixed-rate notes is redeemable by the Company at any time, subject to a make-whole premium.

The senior notes rank at par with the commercial paper notes that have been issued pursuant to the Company's short-term debt financing program, as discussed above under "(a) Short-Term Debt." As of April 29, 2017, the Company was in compliance with all debt covenants.

As of April 29, 2017, future principal payments for long-term debt, including the current portion, are summarized as follows (in millions):

Fiscal Year	Amount
2017 (remaining three months)	\$—
2018	4,750
2019	5,250
2020	6,000
2021	3,000
Thereafter	11,500
Total	\$30,500

(c) Credit Facilities

On May 15, 2015, the Company entered into a credit agreement with certain institutional lenders that provides for a \$3.0 billion unsecured revolving credit facility that is scheduled to expire on May 15, 2020. Any advances under the credit agreement will accrue interest at rates that are equal to, based on certain conditions, either (i) the highest of (a) the Federal Funds rate plus 0.50%, (b) Bank of America's "prime rate" as announced from time to time, or (c) LIBOR, or a comparable or successor rate that is approved by the Administrative Agent ("Eurocurrency Rate"), for an interest period of one-month plus 1.00%, or (ii) the Eurocurrency Rate, plus a margin that is based on the Company's senior debt credit ratings as published by Standard & Poor's Financial Services, LLC and Moody's Investors Service, Inc., provided that in no event will the Eurocurrency Rate be less than zero. The Company may also, upon the agreement of either the then-existing lenders or additional lenders not currently parties to the agreement, increase the commitments under the credit facility by up to an additional \$2.0 billion and/or extend the expiration date of the credit facility up to May 15, 2022.

In addition, on March 30, 2017, the Company entered into a 364-Day credit agreement with certain institutional lenders that provides for a \$2.0 billion unsecured revolving credit facility that is scheduled to expire on March 29, 2018. The credit agreement also provides the Company with the option to, for a fee, convert any borrowing outstanding thereunder on March 29, 2018 to a term loan maturing no later than March 29, 2019. The interest rate applicable to outstanding balances under the credit agreement will be based on either (i) the higher of (a) the rates on overnight Federal Funds transactions with members of the Federal Reserve System (i.e., Federal Funds rate) plus 0.50%, (b) Bank of America's "prime rate" as announced from time to time or (c) LIBOR for an interest period of one month plus 1.00%, or (ii) LIBOR plus a margin that is based on the Company's senior debt credit ratings as published by S&P Global Rating, a business unit of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC, and Moody's Investors Service, Inc.

These credit agreements require that the Company comply with certain covenants, including that the Company maintains an interest coverage ratio as defined in these agreements. As of April 29, 2017, the Company was in compliance with the required interest coverage ratios and the other covenants, and the Company had not borrowed any funds under these credit facilities.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

11. Derivative Instruments

(a) Summary of Derivative Instruments

The Company uses derivative instruments primarily to manage exposures to foreign currency exchange rate, interest rate, and equity price risks. The Company's primary objective in holding derivatives is to reduce the volatility of earnings and cash flows associated with changes in foreign currency exchange rates, interest rates, and equity prices. The Company's derivatives expose it to credit risk to the extent that the counterparties may be unable to meet the terms of the agreement. The Company does, however, seek to mitigate such risks by limiting its counterparties to major financial institutions. In addition, the potential risk of loss with any one counterparty resulting from this type of credit risk is monitored. Management does not expect material losses as a result of defaults by counterparties.

The fair values of the Company's derivative instruments and the line items on the Consolidated Balance Sheets to which they were recorded are summarized as follows (in millions):

	DERIVATIVE ASSETS		DERIVATIVE LIABILITIES			
	Balance Sheet Line Item	April 29, 2017	July 30, 2016	Balance Sheet Line Item	April 29, 2017	July 30, 2016
Derivatives designated as hedging instruments:						
Foreign currency derivatives	Other current assets	\$ 18	\$ 7	Other current liabilities	\$ 22	\$ 53
Interest rate derivatives	Other current assets	—	11	Other current liabilities	—	—
Interest rate derivatives	Other assets	104	366	Other long-term liabilities	—	—
Total		122	384		22	53
Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments:						
Foreign currency derivatives	Other current assets	1	—	Other current liabilities	1	1
Equity derivatives/warrants	Other assets	—	1	Other long-term liabilities	—	—
Total		1	1		1	1
Total		\$ 123	\$ 385		\$ 23	\$ 54

The effects of the Company's cash flow and net investment hedging instruments on other comprehensive income (OCI) and the Consolidated Statements of Operations are summarized as follows (in millions):

GAINS (LOSSES) RECOGNIZED IN OCI ON DERIVATIVES FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED (EFFECTIVE PORTION)			GAINS (LOSSES) RECLASSIFIED FROM AOCI INTO INCOME FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED (EFFECTIVE PORTION)		
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	Line Item in Statements of Operations	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016
Derivatives designated as cash flow hedging instruments:					
Foreign currency derivatives	\$ 25	\$ 21	Operating expenses	\$ (20)	\$ (7)
			Cost of sales—service	(7)	(2)
Total	\$ 25	\$ 21		\$ (27)	\$ (9)

Derivatives designated as net investment hedging instruments:

Foreign currency derivatives	\$ (10)	\$ (15)	Other income (loss), net	\$ —	\$ —
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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

GAINS (LOSSES) RECOGNIZED IN OCI ON DERIVATIVES FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED (EFFECTIVE PORTION)	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	GAINS (LOSSES) RECLASSIFIED FROM AOCI INTO INCOME FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED (EFFECTIVE PORTION) Line Item in Statements of Operations	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016
Derivatives designated as cash flow hedging instruments:					
Foreign currency derivatives	\$ (23)	\$ (3)	Operating expenses	\$ (50)	\$ (13)
			Cost of sales—service	(16)	(4)
Total	\$ (23)	\$ (3)		\$ (66)	\$ (17)

Derivatives designated as net investment hedging
instruments:

Foreign currency derivatives	\$ (4)	\$ (4)	Other income (loss), net	\$ —	\$ —
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As of April 29, 2017, the Company estimates that approximately \$9 million of net derivative losses related to its cash flow hedges included in accumulated other comprehensive income ("AOCI") will be reclassified into earnings within the next 12 months when the underlying hedged item impacts earnings.

The effect on the Consolidated Statements of Operations of derivative instruments designated as fair value hedges and the underlying hedged items is summarized as follows (in millions):

Derivatives Designated as Fair Value Hedging Instruments	Line Item in Statements of Operations	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016
Interest rate derivatives	Interest expense	\$ (6)	\$ 19	\$ 7	\$ (18)

GAINS (LOSSES) ON DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED	GAINS (LOSSES) RELATED TO HEDGED ITEMS FOR THE NINE MONTHS
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Derivatives Designated as Fair Value Hedging Instruments	Line Item in Statements of Operations	ENDED			
		April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016
Interest rate derivatives	Interest expense	\$ (272)	\$ 130	\$ 269	\$ (125)

The effect on the Consolidated Statements of Operations of derivative instruments not designated as hedges is summarized as follows (in millions):

Derivatives Not Designated as Hedging Instruments	Line Item in Statements of Operations	GAINS (LOSSES) FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED		GAINS (LOSSES) FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED	
		April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016
Foreign currency derivatives	Other income (loss), net	\$ 4	\$ 80	\$ (32)	\$ 26
Total return swaps—deferred compensation	Operating expenses	19	46	42	(8)
Equity derivatives	Other income (loss), net	1	1	10	14
Total		\$ 24	\$ 127	\$ 20	\$ 32

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

The notional amounts of the Company's outstanding derivatives are summarized as follows (in millions):

	April 29, July 30, 2017 2016	
Derivatives designated as hedging instruments:		
Foreign currency derivatives—cash flow hedges	\$ 1,885	\$ 2,683
Interest rate derivatives	6,750	9,900
Net investment hedging instruments	340	298
Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments:		
Foreign currency derivatives	2,262	2,057
Total return swaps—deferred compensation	523	476
Total	\$ 11,760	\$ 15,414

(b) Offsetting of Derivative Instruments

The Company presents its derivative instruments at gross fair values in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. However, the Company's master netting and other similar arrangements with the respective counterparties allow for net settlement under certain conditions, which are designed to reduce credit risk by permitting net settlement with the same counterparty. To further limit credit risk, the Company also enters into collateral security arrangements related to certain derivative instruments whereby cash is posted as collateral between the counterparties based on the fair market value of the derivative instrument. Information related to these offsetting arrangements is summarized as follows (in millions):

	April 29, 2017			GROSS AMOUNTS NOT OFFSET IN THE CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS BUT WITH LEGAL RIGHTS TO OFFSET		
	Gross Amounts Recognized	Gross Amounts Offset	Net Amounts Presented	Gross Derivative Amounts	Cash Collateral	Net Amount
Derivatives assets	\$ 123	\$ —	\$ 123	\$ (16)	\$ (78)	\$ 29
Derivatives liabilities	\$ 23	\$ —	\$ 23	\$ (16)	\$ —	\$ 7

	July 30, 2016			GROSS AMOUNTS NOT OFFSET IN THE CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS BUT WITH LEGAL RIGHTS TO OFFSET		
	Gross Amounts Recognized	Gross Amounts Offset	Net Amounts Presented	Gross Derivative Amounts	Cash Collateral	Net Amount
Derivatives assets	\$ 385	\$ —	\$ 385	\$ (23)	\$ (305)	\$ 57
Derivatives liabilities	\$ 54	\$ —	\$ 54	\$ (23)	\$ —	\$ 31

(c) Foreign Currency Exchange Risk

The Company conducts business globally in numerous currencies. Therefore, it is exposed to adverse movements in foreign currency exchange rates. To limit the exposure related to foreign currency changes, the Company enters into foreign currency contracts. The Company does not enter into such contracts for speculative purposes.

The Company hedges forecasted foreign currency transactions related to certain operating expenses and service cost of sales with currency options and forward contracts. These currency options and forward contracts, designated as cash flow hedges, generally have maturities of less than 24 months. The Company assesses effectiveness based on changes in total fair value of the derivatives. The effective portion of the derivative instrument's gain or loss is initially reported as a component of AOCI and subsequently reclassified into earnings when the hedged exposure affects earnings. The ineffective portion, if any, of the gain or loss is reported in earnings immediately. During the periods presented, the Company did not discontinue any cash flow hedges for which it was probable that a forecasted transaction would not occur.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

The Company enters into foreign exchange forward and option contracts to reduce the short-term effects of foreign currency fluctuations on assets and liabilities such as foreign currency receivables, including long-term customer financings, investments, and payables. These derivatives are not designated as hedging instruments. Gains and losses on the contracts are included in other income (loss), net, and substantially offset foreign exchange gains and losses from the remeasurement of intercompany balances or other current assets, investments, or liabilities denominated in currencies other than the functional currency of the reporting entity.

The Company hedges certain net investments in its foreign operations with forward contracts to reduce the effects of foreign currency fluctuations on the Company's net investment in those foreign subsidiaries.

(d) Interest Rate Risk

Interest Rate Derivatives, Investments The Company's primary objective for holding fixed income securities is to achieve an appropriate investment return consistent with preserving principal and managing risk. To realize these objectives, the Company may utilize interest rate swaps or other derivatives designated as fair value or cash flow hedges. As of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016, the Company did not have any outstanding interest rate derivatives related to its fixed income securities.

Interest Rate Derivatives Designated as Fair Value Hedges, Long-Term Debt In the nine months ended April 29, 2017, the Company did not enter into any interest rate swaps. In prior fiscal years, the Company entered into interest rate swaps designated as fair value hedges related to fixed-rate senior notes that are due in fiscal 2019 through 2025. Under these interest rate swaps, the Company receives fixed-rate interest payments and makes interest payments based on LIBOR plus a fixed number of basis points. The effect of such swaps is to convert the fixed interest rates of the senior fixed-rate notes to floating interest rates based on LIBOR. The gains and losses related to changes in the fair value of the interest rate swaps are included in interest expense and substantially offset changes in the fair value of the hedged portion of the underlying debt that are attributable to the changes in market interest rates. The fair value of the interest rate swaps was reflected in other current assets and other assets.

(e) Equity Price Risk

The Company may hold equity securities for strategic purposes or to diversify its overall investment portfolio. The publicly traded equity securities in the Company's portfolio are subject to price risk. To manage its exposure to changes in the fair value of certain equity securities, the Company has periodically entered into equity derivatives that are designated as fair value hedges. The changes in the value of the hedging instruments are included in other income (loss), net, and offset the change in the fair value of the underlying hedged investment. In addition, the Company periodically enters into equity derivatives that are not designated as accounting hedges. The changes in the fair value of these derivatives are also included in other income (loss), net.

The Company is also exposed to variability in compensation charges related to certain deferred compensation obligations to employees. Although not designated as accounting hedges, the Company utilizes derivatives such as total return swaps to economically hedge this exposure.

(f) Hedge Effectiveness

For the periods presented, amounts excluded from the assessment of hedge effectiveness were not material for fair value, cash flow, and net investment hedges. In addition, hedge ineffectiveness for fair value, cash flow, and net investment hedges was not material for any of the periods presented.

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(Unaudited)

12. Commitments and Contingencies

(a) Operating Leases

The Company leases office space in many U.S. locations. Outside the United States, larger leased sites include sites in Belgium, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Israel, Japan, Poland and the United Kingdom. The Company also leases equipment and vehicles. Future minimum lease payments under all noncancelable operating leases with an initial term in excess of one year as of April 29, 2017 are as follows (in millions):

Fiscal Year	Amount
2017 (remaining three months)	\$ 115
2018	355
2019	230
2020	161
2021	98
Thereafter	201
Total	\$ 1,160

(b) Purchase Commitments with Contract Manufacturers and Suppliers

The Company purchases components from a variety of suppliers and uses several contract manufacturers to provide manufacturing services for its products. During the normal course of business, in order to manage manufacturing lead times and help ensure adequate component supply, the Company enters into agreements with contract manufacturers and suppliers that either allow them to procure inventory based upon criteria as defined by the Company or establish the parameters defining the Company's requirements. A significant portion of the Company's reported purchase commitments arising from these agreements consists of firm, noncancelable, and unconditional commitments. In certain instances, these agreements allow the Company the option to cancel, reschedule, and adjust the Company's requirements based on its business needs prior to firm orders being placed. As of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016, the Company had total purchase commitments for inventory of \$4,720 million and \$3,896 million, respectively.

The Company records a liability for firm, noncancelable, and unconditional purchase commitments for quantities in excess of its future demand forecasts consistent with the valuation of the Company's excess and obsolete inventory. As of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016, the liability for these purchase commitments was \$179 million and \$159 million, respectively, and was included in other current liabilities.

(c) Other Commitments

In connection with the Company's acquisitions, the Company has agreed to pay certain additional amounts contingent upon the achievement of certain agreed-upon technology, development, product, or other milestones or upon the continued employment with the Company of certain employees of the acquired entities.

The following table summarizes the compensation expense related to acquisitions (in millions):

	Three Months Ended April 29, 2017	Three Months Ended April 30, 2016	Nine Months Ended April 29, 2017	Nine Months Ended April 30, 2016
Compensation expense related to acquisitions	\$36	\$ 68	\$173	\$ 212

As of April 29, 2017, the Company estimated that future cash compensation expense of up to \$222 million may be required to be recognized pursuant to the applicable business combination agreements, which included the remaining potential compensation expense related to Insieme Networks, Inc. ("Insieme"), as more fully discussed immediately below.

Insieme Networks, Inc. In the third quarter of fiscal 2012, the Company made an investment in Insieme, an early stage company focused on research and development in the data center market. As set forth in the agreement between

the Company and Insieme, this investment included \$100 million of funding and a license to certain of the Company's technology. Immediately prior to the call option exercise and acquisition described below, the Company owned approximately 83% of Insieme as a result of these investments and has consolidated the results of Insieme in its Consolidated Financial Statements. In connection with this investment, the Company and Insieme entered into a put/call option agreement that provided the Company with the right to purchase the

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remaining interests in Insieme. In addition, the noncontrolling interest holders could require the Company to purchase their shares upon the occurrence of certain events.

During the first quarter of fiscal 2014, the Company exercised its call option and entered into an agreement to purchase the remaining interests in Insieme. The acquisition closed in the second quarter of fiscal 2014, at which time the former noncontrolling interest holders became eligible to receive up to two milestone payments, which will be determined using agreed-upon formulas based primarily on revenue for certain of Insieme's products. The Company recorded compensation expense of \$9 million and \$35 million during the three months ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, respectively, and \$41 million and \$136 million during the nine months ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, respectively, related to the fair value of the vested portion of amounts that were earned or are expected to be earned by the former noncontrolling interest holders. Continued vesting will result in additional compensation expense in future periods. Based on the terms of the agreement, the Company has determined that the maximum amount that could be recorded as compensation expense by the Company is approximately \$831 million (which includes the \$824 million that has been expensed to date), net of forfeitures. The former noncontrolling interest holders earned the maximum amount related to these two milestone payments and were paid approximately \$436 million and \$375 million during the nine months ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, respectively. As of April 29, 2017, the Company paid a total of approximately \$825 million pursuant to these two milestone payments.

(d) Product Warranties

The following table summarizes the activity related to the product warranty liability (in millions):

	Nine Months Ended	
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016
Balance at beginning of period	\$414	\$ 449
Provisions for warranty issued	528	520
Adjustments for pre-existing warranties	(17)	(8)
Settlements	(511)	(524)
Divestitures	—	(28)
Balance at end of period	\$414	\$ 409

The Company accrues for warranty costs as part of its cost of sales based on associated material product costs, labor costs for technical support staff, and associated overhead. The Company's products are generally covered by a warranty for periods ranging from 90 days to five years, and for some products the Company provides a limited lifetime warranty.

(e) Financing and Other Guarantees

In the ordinary course of business, the Company provides financing guarantees for various third-party financing arrangements extended to channel partners and end-user customers. Payments under these financing guarantee arrangements were not material for the periods presented.

Channel Partner Financing Guarantees The Company facilitates arrangements for third-party financing extended to channel partners, consisting of revolving short-term financing, generally with payment terms ranging from 60 to 90 days. These financing arrangements facilitate the working capital requirements of the channel partners, and, in some cases, the Company guarantees a portion of these arrangements. The volume of channel partner financing was \$6.6 billion and \$6.4 billion for the three months ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, respectively, and was \$19.7 billion and \$19.8 billion for the nine months ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, respectively. The balance of the channel partner financing subject to guarantees was \$0.9 billion and \$1.1 billion as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016, respectively.

End-User Financing Guarantees The Company also provides financing guarantees for third-party financing arrangements extended to end-user customers related to leases and loans, which typically have terms of up to three years. The volume of financing provided by third parties for leases and loans as to which the Company had provided guarantees was \$10 million and \$18 million for the three months ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, respectively, and was \$47 million and \$57 million for the nine months ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, respectively.

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Financing Guarantee Summary The aggregate amounts of financing guarantees outstanding at April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016, representing the total maximum potential future payments under financing arrangements with third parties along with the related deferred revenue, are summarized in the following table (in millions):

	April 29, July 30, 2017 2016	
Maximum potential future payments relating to financing guarantees:		
Channel partner	\$ 260	\$ 281
End user	83	96
Total	\$ 343	\$ 377
Deferred revenue associated with financing guarantees:		
Channel partner	\$ (83)	\$ (85)
End user	(57)	(76)
Total	\$ (140)	\$ (161)
Maximum potential future payments relating to financing guarantees, net of associated deferred revenue	\$ 203	\$ 216

Other Guarantees The Company's other guarantee arrangements as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016 that were subject to recognition and disclosure requirements were not material.

(f) Supplier Component Remediation Liabilities

In the second quarter of fiscal 2014, the Company recorded a charge to product cost of sales of \$655 million resulting from failures related to products containing memory components manufactured by a single supplier between 2005 and 2010. The Company performs regular assessments of the sufficiency of this liability and reduced the amount by a total of \$238 million in fiscal 2016 and fiscal 2015 based on updated analyses. During the second quarter of fiscal 2017, the Company further reduced the liability by \$141 million to reflect lower than expected defects, actual usage history, and estimated lower future remediation costs as more of the impacted products age and near the end of the support period covered by the remediation program.

In addition, during the second quarter of fiscal 2017, the Company recorded a charge to product cost of sales of \$125 million related to the expected remediation costs for anticipated failures in future periods of a widely-used component sourced from a third party which is included in several of the Company's products.

The liability related to these matters as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016 was \$206 million and \$276 million, respectively.

(g) Indemnifications

In the normal course of business, the Company indemnifies other parties, including customers, lessors, and parties to other transactions with the Company, with respect to certain matters. The Company has agreed to hold such parties harmless against losses arising from a breach of representations or covenants or out of intellectual property infringement or other claims made against certain parties. These agreements may limit the time within which an indemnification claim can be made and the amount of the claim.

The Company has been asked to provide partial indemnification in matters involving certain of the Company's service provider customers that are subject to patent infringement claims asserted by Sprint Communications Company, L.P. in Kansas and Delaware. Sprint alleges that the service provider customers infringe Sprint's patents by offering VoIP telephone services utilizing products provided by the Company and other manufacturers. Sprint seeks monetary damages. Sprint's Kansas cases were stayed pending resolution of Sprint's appeal of the Delaware court's judgment that certain Sprint patents were invalid. The Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit overturned the Delaware court's judgment on September 23, 2016. As a result, Sprint's Kansas cases were set for trial on February 13, 2017 against Time Warner Cable, Inc., et al., and March 6, 2017 against Comcast Cable Communications, LLC, et al., and its Delaware case was reset for trial on November 6, 2017 against Cox Communications, Inc., et al. On March 3, 2017, a

jury in Kansas found that Time Warner Cable willfully infringed five Sprint patents and awarded Sprint \$139.8 million in damages a portion of which if upheld on appeal could be subject to indemnification by the Company. On March 14, 2017, the Kansas court declined Sprint's request for enhanced damages based on the jury's willfulness finding and entered judgment in favor of Sprint for \$139.8 million plus 1.06% in post-judgment interest. Sprint has since requested \$20.3 million in pre-judgment interest. Time Warner Cable has opposed Sprint's request for pre-judgment interest and has filed post-trial motions to set aside the verdict or seek a new trial. Sprint's trial against Comcast was continued until October 30, 2017.

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The Company believes that the service providers have strong defenses and arguments that the Company's products do not infringe the patents and/or that Sprint's patents are invalid and/or that Sprint's damages claims are inconsistent with prevailing law. Due to the uncertainty surrounding the litigation process, which involves numerous defendants, the Company is unable to reasonably estimate the ultimate outcome of this litigation at this time. Should Sprint prevail in litigation, mediation, or settlement, the Company, in accordance with its agreements, may have an obligation to indemnify its service provider customers for damages, mediation awards, or settlement amounts arising from their use of Cisco products. At this time, the Company does not anticipate that its obligations regarding the final outcome of the matters would be material.

In addition, the Company has entered into indemnification agreements with its officers and directors, and the Company's Amended and Restated Bylaws contain similar indemnification obligations to the Company's agents. It is not possible to determine the maximum potential amount under these indemnification agreements due to the Company's limited history with prior indemnification claims and the unique facts and circumstances involved in each particular agreement. Historically, payments made by the Company under these agreements have not had a material effect on the Company's operating results, financial position, or cash flows.

(h) Legal Proceedings

Brazil Brazilian authorities have investigated the Company's Brazilian subsidiary and certain of its former employees, as well as a Brazilian importer of the Company's products, and its affiliates and employees, relating to alleged evasion of import taxes and alleged improper transactions involving the subsidiary and the importer. Brazilian tax authorities have assessed claims against the Company's Brazilian subsidiary based on a theory of joint liability with the Brazilian importer for import taxes, interest, and penalties. In addition to claims asserted by the Brazilian federal tax authorities in prior fiscal years, tax authorities from the Brazilian state of Sao Paulo have asserted similar claims on the same legal basis in prior fiscal years.

The asserted claims by Brazilian federal tax authorities that remain are for calendar years 2003 through 2007, and the asserted claims by the tax authorities from the state of Sao Paulo are for calendar years 2005 through 2007. The total asserted claims by Brazilian state and federal tax authorities aggregate to \$255 million for the alleged evasion of import and other taxes, \$1.5 billion for interest, and \$1.2 billion for various penalties, all determined using an exchange rate as of April 29, 2017. The Company has completed a thorough review of the matters and believes the asserted claims against the Company's Brazilian subsidiary are without merit, and the Company is defending the claims vigorously. While the Company believes there is no legal basis for the alleged liability, due to the complexities and uncertainty surrounding the judicial process in Brazil and the nature of the claims asserting joint liability with the importer, the Company is unable to determine the likelihood of an unfavorable outcome against its Brazilian subsidiary and is unable to reasonably estimate a range of loss, if any. The Company does not expect a final judicial determination for several years.

SRI International On September 4, 2013, SRI International, Inc. ("SRI") asserted patent infringement claims against the Company in the U.S. District Court for the District of Delaware, accusing Cisco products and services in the area of network intrusion detection of infringing two U.S. patents. SRI sought monetary damages of at least a reasonable royalty and enhanced damages. On May 12, 2016, the jury returned a verdict finding willful infringement of the asserted patents. The jury awarded SRI damages of \$23.7 million, and the Court will decide whether to award enhanced damages and attorneys' fees and whether an ongoing royalty should be awarded through the expiration of the patents in 2018. In June 2016, the Company filed post-trial motions. The Company also intends to pursue an appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit on various grounds. The Company believes it has strong arguments to overturn the jury verdict and/or reduce the damages award. While the ultimate outcome of the case may still result in a loss, the Company does not expect it to be material.

SSL SSL Services, LLC ("SSL") has asserted claims for patent infringement against the Company in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas. The proceeding was instituted on March 25, 2015. SSL alleges that the

Company's AnyConnect products that include Virtual Private Networking functions infringed a U.S. patent owned by SSL. SSL seeks money damages from the Company. On August 18, 2015, Cisco petitioned the Patent Trial and Appeal Board ("PTAB") of the United States Patent and Trademark Office to review whether the patent SSL has asserted against the Company is valid over prior art. On February 23, 2016, a PTAB multi-judge panel found a reasonable likelihood that Cisco would prevail in showing that SSL's patent claims are unpatentable and instituted proceedings. On June 28, 2016, in light of the PTAB's decision to review the patent's validity, the district court issued an order staying the district court case pending the final written decision from the PTAB. On February 22, 2017, following a hearing, the PTAB issued its Final Written Decision that the patent's claims are unpatentable. SSL has filed a notice that it intends to appeal this decision to the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. The Company believes it has strong arguments that the Company's products do not infringe and the patent is invalid. If the Company does not prevail and a jury were to find that the Company's AnyConnect products infringe, the Company believes damages, as appropriately measured, would be immaterial. Due to uncertainty surrounding patent litigation processes, however, the Company is unable to reasonably estimate the ultimate outcome of this litigation at this time.

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In addition, the Company is subject to legal proceedings, claims, and litigation arising in the ordinary course of business, including intellectual property litigation. While the outcome of these matters is currently not determinable, the Company does not expect that the ultimate costs to resolve these matters will have a material adverse effect on its consolidated financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

13. Shareholders' Equity

(a) Cash Dividends on Shares of Common Stock

During the nine months ended April 29, 2017, the Company declared and paid cash dividends of \$0.81 per common share, or \$4.1 billion, on the Company's outstanding common stock. During the nine months ended April 30, 2016, the Company declared and paid cash dividends of \$0.68 per common share, or \$3.4 billion, on the Company's outstanding common stock.

Any future dividends will be subject to the approval of the Company's Board of Directors.

(b) Stock Repurchase Program

In September 2001, the Company's Board of Directors authorized a stock repurchase program. As of April 29, 2017, the Company's Board of Directors had authorized an aggregate repurchase of up to \$112 billion of common stock under this program, and the remaining authorized repurchase amount was \$12.9 billion, with no termination date. A summary of the stock repurchase activity under the stock repurchase program, reported based on the trade date, is summarized as follows (in millions, except per-share amounts):

	Shares Repurchased	Weighted- Average Price per Share	Amount Repurchased
Cumulative balance at July 30, 2016	4,591	\$ 21.04	\$ 96,597
Repurchase of common stock under the stock repurchase program ⁽¹⁾	80	31.27	2,505
Cumulative balance at April 29, 2017	4,671	\$ 21.21	\$ 99,102

⁽¹⁾ There were \$34 million of stock repurchases pending settlement as of April 29, 2017. There were \$45 million of stock repurchases that were pending settlement as of July 30, 2016.

The purchase price for the shares of the Company's stock repurchased is reflected as a reduction to shareholders' equity. The Company is required to allocate the purchase price of the repurchased shares as (i) a reduction to retained earnings and (ii) a reduction of common stock and additional paid-in capital.

(c) Restricted Stock Unit Withholdings

For the nine months ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, the Company repurchased approximately 16 million and 18 million shares, or \$497 million and \$469 million of common stock, respectively, in settlement of employee tax withholding obligations due upon the vesting of restricted stock or stock units.

(d) Preferred Stock

Under the terms of the Company's Articles of Incorporation, the Board of Directors may determine the rights, preferences, and terms of the Company's authorized but unissued shares of preferred stock.

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14. Employee Benefit Plans

(a) Employee Stock Incentive Plans

Stock Incentive Plan Program Description As of April 29, 2017, the Company had one stock incentive plan: the 2005 Stock Incentive Plan (the "2005 Plan"). In addition, the Company has, in connection with the acquisitions of various companies, assumed the share-based awards granted under stock incentive plans of the acquired companies or issued share-based awards in replacement thereof. Share-based awards are designed to reward employees for their long-term contributions to the Company and provide incentives for them to remain with the Company. The number and frequency of share-based awards are based on competitive practices, operating results of the Company, government regulations, and other factors. The Company's primary stock incentive plan is summarized as follows:

2005 Plan The 2005 Plan permits the granting of stock options, restricted stock, and restricted stock units ("RSUs"), the vesting of which may be performance-based or market-based along with the requisite service requirement, and stock appreciation rights to employees (including employee directors and officers), consultants of the Company and its subsidiaries and affiliates, and non-employee directors of the Company. As of April 29, 2017, the maximum number of shares issuable under the 2005 Plan over its term was 694 million shares, plus shares from certain previous plans that were forfeited or were terminated for any other reason before being exercised or settled. If any awards granted under the 2005 Plan are forfeited or are terminated for any other reason before being exercised or settled, the unexercised or unsettled shares underlying the awards will again be available under the 2005 Plan. In addition, starting November 19, 2013, shares withheld by the Company from an award other than a stock option or stock appreciation right to satisfy withholding tax liabilities resulting from such award will again be available for issuance, based on the fungible share ratio in effect on the date of grant.

The number of shares available for issuance under the 2005 Plan is reduced by 1.5 shares for each share awarded as a stock grant or a stock unit. Stock options and stock appreciation rights granted under the 2005 Plan have an exercise price of at least 100% of the fair market value of the underlying stock on the grant date and prior to November 12, 2009 have an expiration date no later than nine years from the grant date. The expiration date for stock options and stock appreciation rights granted subsequent to the amendment approved on November 12, 2009 shall be no later than 10 years from the grant date. The stock options will generally become exercisable for 20% or 25% of the option shares one year from the date of grant and then ratably over the following 48 months or 36 months, respectively. Time-based stock grants and time-based RSUs will generally vest with respect to 20% or 25% of the shares or share units covered by the grant annually over the vesting period. The majority of the performance-based and market-based RSUs vests at the end of the three-year requisite service period or earlier if the award recipient meets certain retirement eligibility conditions. Certain performance-based RSUs, that are based on the achievement of financial and/or non-financial operating goals, typically vest upon the achievement of milestones (and may require subsequent service periods), with overall vesting of the shares underlying the award ranging from six months to three years. The Compensation and Management Development Committee of the Board of Directors has the discretion to use different vesting schedules. Stock appreciation rights may be awarded in combination with stock options or stock grants, and such awards shall provide that the stock appreciation rights will not be exercisable unless the related stock options or stock grants are forfeited. Stock grants may be awarded in combination with non-statutory stock options, and such awards may provide that the stock grants will be forfeited in the event that the related non-statutory stock options are exercised.

(b) Employee Stock Purchase Plan

The Company has an Employee Stock Purchase Plan, which includes its subplan named the International Employee Stock Purchase Plan (together, the "Purchase Plan"), under which 621 million shares of the Company's common stock have been reserved for issuance as of April 29, 2017. Eligible employees are offered shares through a 24-month offering period, which consists of four consecutive 6-month purchase periods. Employees may purchase a limited number of shares of the Company's stock at a discount of up to 15% of the lesser of the market value at the beginning of the offering period or the end of each 6-month purchase period. The Purchase Plan is scheduled to terminate on

January 3, 2020. The Company issued 12 million and 14 million shares under the Purchase Plan during the nine months ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, respectively. As of April 29, 2017, 111 million shares were available for issuance under the Purchase Plan.

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(c) Summary of Share-Based Compensation Expense

Share-based compensation expense consists primarily of expenses for stock options, stock purchase rights, restricted stock, and RSUs granted to employees. The following table summarizes share-based compensation expense (in millions):

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016
Cost of sales—product	\$22	\$ 21	\$62	\$ 50
Cost of sales—service	34	37	101	110
Share-based compensation expense in cost of sales	56	58	163	160
Research and development	137	130	392	351
Sales and marketing	133	148	398	413
General and administrative	79	59	173	163
Restructuring and other charges	(5)	—	(2)	14
Share-based compensation expense in operating expenses	344	337	961	941
Total share-based compensation expense	\$400	\$ 395	\$1,124	\$ 1,101
Income tax benefit for share-based compensation	\$120	\$ 91	\$327	\$ 289

As of April 29, 2017, the total compensation cost related to unvested share-based awards not yet recognized was \$2.8 billion, which is expected to be recognized over approximately 2.5 years on a weighted-average basis.

(d) Share-Based Awards Available for Grant

A summary of share-based awards available for grant is as follows (in millions):

	Share-Based Awards Available for Grant
BALANCE AT JULY 25, 2015	276
Restricted stock, stock units, and other share-based awards granted	(96)
Share-based awards canceled/forfeited/expired	30
Shares withheld for taxes and not issued	30
Other	2
BALANCE AT JULY 30, 2016	242
Restricted stock, stock units, and other share-based awards granted	(45)
Share-based awards canceled/forfeited/expired	74
Shares withheld for taxes and not issued	23
BALANCE AT APRIL 29, 2017	294

As reflected in the preceding table, for each share awarded as restricted stock or subject to a restricted stock unit award under the 2005 Plan, an equivalent of 1.5 shares was deducted from the available share-based award balance. For restricted stock units that were awarded with vesting contingent upon the achievement of future financial performance or market-based metrics, the maximum awards that can be achieved upon full vesting of such awards were reflected in the preceding table.

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(e) Restricted Stock and Stock Unit Awards

A summary of the restricted stock and stock unit activity, which includes time-based and performance-based or market-based RSUs, is as follows (in millions, except per-share amounts):

	Restricted Stock/ Stock Units	Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value per Share	Aggregate Fair Value
UNVESTED BALANCE AT JULY 25, 2015	143	\$ 22.08	
Granted and assumed	70	25.69	
Vested	(54)	20.68	\$ 1,428
Canceled/forfeited	(14)	22.86	
UNVESTED BALANCE AT JULY 30, 2016	145	24.26	
Granted and assumed	44	29.54	
Vested	(44)	22.28	\$ 1,379
Canceled/forfeited	(14)	25.16	
UNVESTED BALANCE AT APRIL 29, 2017	131	\$ 26.61	

(f) Stock Option Awards

A summary of the stock option activity is as follows (in millions, except per-share amounts):

	STOCK OPTIONS OUTSTANDING	
	Number Outstanding	Weighted-Average Exercise Price per Share
BALANCE AT JULY 25, 2015	103	\$ 28.68
Assumed from acquisitions	18	5.17
Exercised	(32)	19.22
Canceled/forfeited/expired	(16)	30.01
BALANCE AT JULY 30, 2016	73	26.78
Assumed from acquisitions	8	4.50
Exercised	(9)	15.76
Canceled/forfeited/expired	(55)	31.90
BALANCE AT APRIL 29, 2017	17	\$ 6.09

The following table summarizes significant ranges of outstanding and exercisable stock options as of April 29, 2017 (in millions, except years and share prices):

Range of Exercise Prices	STOCK OPTIONS OUTSTANDING			STOCK OPTIONS EXERCISABLE		
	Number Remaining Outstanding Life (in Years)	Weighted- Average Exercise Price per Share	Aggregate Intrinsic Value	Number Exercisable	Weighted- Average Exercise Price per Share	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
\$ 0.01 – 20.00	16 6.5	\$ 5.44	\$ 480	9	\$ 4.53	\$ 283
\$ 20.01 – 30.00	1 0.1	25.54	5	1	25.54	5
Total	17 6.3	\$ 6.09	\$ 485	10	\$ 5.69	\$ 288

The aggregate intrinsic value in the preceding table represents the total pretax intrinsic value, based on the Company's closing stock price of \$34.07 as of April 28, 2017, that would have been received by the option holders had those option holders exercised their stock options as of that date. The total number of in-the-money stock options

exercisable as of April 29, 2017 was 10 million. As of July 30, 2016, 64 million outstanding stock options were exercisable and the weighted-average exercise price was \$29.66.

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(g) Valuation of Employee Share-Based Awards

Time-based restricted stock units and performance-based restricted stock units ("PRSU") that are based on the Company's financial performance metrics or non-financial operating goals are valued using the market value of the Company's common stock on the date of grant, discounted for the present value of expected dividends. On the date of grant, the Company estimated the fair value of the total shareholder return ("TSR") component of the PRSUs using a Monte Carlo simulation model. The assumptions for the valuation of time-based RSUs and PRSUs are summarized as follows:

	RESTRICTED STOCK UNITS		PERFORMANCE BASED RESTRICTED STOCK UNITS			
Three Months Ended	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016		
Number of shares granted (in millions)	1	2	—	1		
Grant date fair value per share	\$30.91	\$24.01	\$31.65	\$23.32		
Weighted-average assumptions/inputs:						
Expected dividend yield	3.4 %	3.6 %	3.4 %	3.6 %		
Range of risk-free interest rates	0.0% - 1.5%	0.2% - 1.1%	0.8% - 1.5%	0.2% - 1.1%		
Range of expected volatilities for index	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
	RESTRICTED STOCK UNITS		PERFORMANCE BASED RESTRICTED STOCK UNITS			
Nine Months Ended	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016		
Number of shares granted (in millions)	23	38	7	5		
Grant date fair value per share	\$28.05	\$24.87	\$28.90	\$24.56		
Weighted-average assumptions/inputs:						
Expected dividend yield	3.4 %	3.2 %	3.4 %	3.0 %		
Range of risk-free interest rates	0.0% - 1.5%	0.0% - 1.2%	0.1% - 1.5%	0.0% - 1.2%		
Range of expected volatilities for index	N/A	N/A	16.7% - 46.8%	15.3% - 54.3%		

The PRSUs granted during the periods presented are contingent on the achievement of the Company's financial performance metrics, its comparative market-based returns, or the achievement of financial and non-financial operating goals. For the awards based on financial performance metrics or comparative market-based returns, generally 50% of the PRSUs are earned based on the average of annual operating cash flow and earnings per share goals established at the beginning of each fiscal year over a three-year performance period. Generally, the remaining 50% of the PRSUs are earned based on the Company's TSR measured against the benchmark TSR of a peer group over the same period. Each PRSU recipient could vest in 0% to 150% of the target shares granted contingent on the achievement of the Company's financial performance metrics or its comparative market-based returns and 0% to 100% of the target shares granted contingent on the achievement of non-financial operating goals.

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15. Comprehensive Income

The components of AOCI, net of tax, and the other comprehensive income (loss), excluding noncontrolling interest, for the nine months ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016 are summarized as follows (in millions):

	Net Unrealized Gains (Losses) on Available-for-Sale Investments	Net Unrealized Gains (Losses) on Cash Flow Hedging Instruments	Cumulative Translation Adjustment and Actuarial Gains (Losses)	Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)
BALANCE AT JULY 30, 2016	\$ 413	\$ (59)	\$ (680)	\$ (326)
Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications attributable to Cisco Systems, Inc.	(298)	(23)	69	(252)
(Gains) losses reclassified out of AOCI	91	66	1	158
Tax benefit (expense)	91	(6)	(7)	78
BALANCE AT APRIL 29, 2017	\$ 297	\$ (22)	\$ (617)	\$ (342)
	Net Unrealized Gains (Losses) on Available-for-Sale Investments	Net Unrealized Gains (Losses) on Cash Flow Hedging Instruments	Cumulative Translation Adjustment and Actuarial Gains (Losses)	Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)
BALANCE AT JULY 25, 2015	\$ 310	\$ (16)	\$ (233)	\$ 61
Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications attributable to Cisco Systems, Inc.	(145)	(3)	(190)	(338)
(Gains) losses reclassified out of AOCI	26	17	2	45
Tax benefit (expense)	50	(2)	(43)	5
BALANCE AT APRIL 30, 2016	\$ 241	\$ (4)	\$ (464)	\$ (227)

The net gains (losses) reclassified out of AOCI into the Consolidated Statements of Operations, with line item location, during each period were as follows (in millions):

	Three Months Ended April 29, 2017	Three Months Ended April 30, 2016	Nine Months Ended April 29, 2017	Nine Months Ended April 30, 2016	Line Item in Statements of Operations
Comprehensive Income Components	Income Before Taxes	Income Before Taxes	Income Before Taxes	Income Before Taxes	
Net unrealized gains and losses on available-for-sale investments	\$ (76)	\$ (6)	\$ (91)	\$ (26)	Other income (loss), net
Net unrealized gains and losses on cash flow hedging instruments					

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Foreign currency derivatives	(20)	(7)	(50)	(13)	Operating expenses
Foreign currency derivatives	(7)	(2)	(16)	(4)	Cost of sales—service
	(27)	(9)	(66)	(17)	
Cumulative translation adjustment and actuarial gains and losses	(2)	(1)	(1)	(2)	Operating expenses
Total amounts reclassified out of AOCI	\$(105)	\$(16)	\$(158)	\$(45)	

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

16. Income Taxes

The following table provides details of income taxes (in millions, except percentages):

	Three Months		Nine Months	
	Ended		Ended	
	April 29,	April 30,	April 29,	April 30,
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Income before provision for income taxes	\$3,191	\$3,083	\$9,107	\$9,526
Provision for income taxes	\$676	\$734	\$1,922	\$1,600
Effective tax rate	21.2	% 23.8	% 21.1	% 16.8

As of April 29, 2017, the Company had \$1.9 billion of unrecognized tax benefit, of which \$1.4 billion, if recognized, would favorably impact the effective tax rate. The Company regularly engages in discussions and negotiations with tax authorities regarding tax matters in various jurisdictions. The Company believes it is reasonably possible that certain federal, foreign and state tax matters may be concluded in the next 12 months. Specific positions that may be resolved include issues involving transfer pricing and various other matters. The Company estimates that the unrecognized tax benefits at April 29, 2017 could be reduced by approximately \$100 million in the next 12 months.

17. Segment Information and Major Customers

(a) Revenue and Gross Margin by Segment

The Company conducts business globally and is primarily managed on a geographic basis consisting of three segments: the Americas, EMEA, and APJC. The Company's management makes financial decisions and allocates resources based on the information it receives from its internal management system. Sales are attributed to a segment based on the ordering location of the customer. The Company does not allocate research and development, sales and marketing, or general and administrative expenses to its segments in this internal management system because management does not include the information in its measurement of the performance of the operating segments. In addition, the Company does not allocate amortization and impairment of acquisition-related intangible assets, share-based compensation expense, significant litigation and other contingencies, charges related to asset impairments and restructurings, and certain other charges to the gross margin for each segment because management does not include this information in its measurement of the performance of the operating segments.

Summarized financial information by segment for the three months ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, based on the Company's internal management system and as utilized by the Company's Chief Operating Decision Maker ("CODM"), is as follows (in millions):

	Three Months		Nine Months	
	Ended		Ended	
	April 29,	April 30,	April 29,	April 30,
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Revenue:				
Americas	\$7,046	\$7,056	\$21,149	\$21,759
EMEA	2,999	3,006	9,077	9,193
APJC	1,895	1,938	5,646	5,657
Total	\$11,940	\$12,000	\$35,872	\$36,609
Gross margin:				
Americas	\$4,551	\$4,677	\$13,672	\$14,031
EMEA	1,963	1,970	5,988	5,970
APJC	1,171	1,173	3,496	3,435
Segment total	7,685	7,820	23,156	23,436

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Unallocated corporate items	(167)	(99)	(478)	(451)
Total	\$7,518	\$7,721	\$22,678	\$22,985

Revenue in the United States was \$6.2 billion for each of the three months ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, and was \$18.7 billion and \$19.1 billion for the nine months ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, respectively.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

(b) Revenue for Groups of Similar Products and Services

The Company designs, manufactures, and sells Internet Protocol (IP)-based networking and other products related to the communications and IT industry and provides services associated with these products and their use. The Company groups its products and technologies into the following categories: Switching, NGN Routing, Collaboration, Data Center, Wireless, Security, Service Provider Video, and Other Products. These products, primarily integrated by Cisco IOS Software, link geographically dispersed local-area networks (LANs), metropolitan-area networks (MANs), and wide-area networks (WANs).

The following table presents revenue for groups of similar products and services (in millions):

	Three Months		Nine Months	
	Ended		Ended	
	April 29, April 30,		April 29, April 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Revenue:				
Switching	\$3,489	\$3,435	\$10,510	\$10,919
NGN Routing	2,032	2,074	5,938	6,057
Collaboration	1,022	1,069	3,165	3,203
Data Center	767	811	2,391	2,492
Wireless	703	620	1,967	1,882
Security	527	482	1,595	1,429
Service Provider Video ⁽¹⁾	207	296	719	1,482
Other	138	88	393	238
Product	8,885	8,875	26,678	27,702
Service	3,055	3,125	9,194	8,907
Total	\$11,940	\$12,000	\$35,872	\$36,609

⁽¹⁾ During the second quarter of fiscal 2016, the Company completed the sale of the Customer Premises Equipment portion of its Service Provider Video Connected Devices business (“SP Video CPE Business”). As a result, revenue from this portion of the Service Provider Video product category will not recur in future periods. Includes SP Video CPE Business revenue of \$504 million for the first nine months of fiscal 2016.

The Company has made certain reclassifications to the product revenue amounts for prior periods to conform to the current period’s presentation.

(c) Additional Segment Information

The majority of the Company’s assets, excluding cash and cash equivalents and investments, was attributable to its U.S. operations as of each of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016. The Company’s total cash and cash equivalents and investments held by various foreign subsidiaries were \$65.1 billion and \$59.8 billion as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016, respectively, and the remaining \$2.9 billion and \$5.9 billion at the respective period ends were available in the United States.

Property and equipment information is based on the physical location of the assets. The following table presents property and equipment information for geographic areas (in millions):

	April 29, July 30,	
	2017	2016
Property and equipment, net:		
United States	\$ 2,754	\$ 2,822
International	641	684
Total	\$ 3,395	\$ 3,506

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(Unaudited)

18. Net Income per Share

The following table presents the calculation of basic and diluted net income per share (in millions, except per-share amounts):

	Three Months		Nine Months	
	Ended		Ended	
	April 29,	April 30,	April 29,	April 30,
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Net income	\$2,515	\$ 2,349	\$7,185	\$ 7,926
Weighted-average shares—basic	5,005	5,032	5,015	5,060
Effect of dilutive potential common shares	40	33	41	35
Weighted-average shares—diluted	5,045	5,065	5,056	5,095
Net income per share—basic	\$0.50	\$ 0.47	\$1.43	\$ 1.57
Net income per share—diluted	\$0.50	\$ 0.46	\$1.42	\$ 1.56
Antidilutive employee share-based awards, excluded	6	75	118	149

Employee equity share options, unvested shares, and similar equity instruments granted by the Company are treated as potential common shares outstanding in computing diluted earnings per share. Diluted shares outstanding include the dilutive effect of in-the-money options, unvested restricted stock, and restricted stock units. The dilutive effect of such equity awards is calculated based on the average share price for each fiscal period using the treasury stock method. Under the treasury stock method, the amount the employee must pay for exercising stock options, the amount of compensation cost for future service that the Company has not yet recognized, and the amount of tax benefits that would be recorded in additional paid-in capital when the award becomes deductible are collectively assumed to be used to repurchase shares.

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

Forward-Looking Statements

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, including this Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, contains forward-looking statements regarding future events and our future results that are subject to the safe harbors created under the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act") and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"). All statements other than statements of historical facts are statements that could be deemed forward-looking statements. These statements are based on current expectations, estimates, forecasts, and projections about the industries in which we operate and the beliefs and assumptions of our management. Words such as "expects," "anticipates," "targets," "goals," "projects," "intends," "plans," "believes," "momentum," "seeks," "estimates," "endeavors," "strives," "may," variations of such words, and similar expressions are intended to identify such forward-looking statements. In addition, any statements that refer to projections of our future financial performance, our anticipated growth and trends in our businesses, and other characterizations of future events or circumstances are forward-looking statements. Readers are cautioned that these forward-looking statements are only predictions and are subject to risks, uncertainties, and assumptions that are difficult to predict, including those under "Part II, Item 1A. Risk Factors," and elsewhere herein. Therefore, actual results may differ materially and adversely from those expressed in any forward-looking statements. We undertake no obligation to revise or update any forward-looking statements for any reason.

OVERVIEW

Cisco designs and sells broad lines of products, provides services and delivers integrated solutions to develop and connect networks around the world. For over 30 years, we have helped our customers build networks and automate, orchestrate, integrate, and digitize information technology (IT)-based products and services. In an increasingly connected world, Cisco is helping to transform businesses, governments and cities worldwide. Over time, we have expanded to new markets that are a natural extension of our core networking business, as the network has become the platform for delivering an ever-increasing portfolio of IT-based products and services.

A summary of our results is as follows (in millions, except percentages and per-share amounts):

	Three Months Ended			Nine Months Ended		
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	Variance	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	Variance
Revenue ⁽¹⁾	\$11,940	\$12,000	(0.5)%	\$35,872	\$36,609	(2.0)%
Gross margin percentage	63.0 %	64.3 %	(1.3) pts	63.2 %	62.8 %	0.4 pts
Research and development	\$1,507	\$1,626	(7.3)%	\$4,560	\$4,695	(2.9)%
Sales and marketing	\$2,226	\$2,447	(9.0)%	\$6,866	\$7,176	(4.3)%
General and administrative	\$487	\$566	(14.0)%	\$1,498	\$1,281	16.9 %
Total research and development, sales and marketing, general and administrative	\$4,220	\$4,639	(9.0)%	\$12,924	\$13,152	(1.7)%
Total as a percentage of revenue	35.3 %	38.7 %	(3.4) pts	36.0 %	35.9 %	0.1 pts
Amortization of purchased intangible assets included in operating expenses	\$59	\$81	(27.2)%	\$201	\$221	(9.0)%
Restructuring and other charges included in operating expenses	\$70	\$17	311.8 %	\$614	\$255	140.8 %
Operating income as a percentage of revenue	26.5 %	24.9 %	1.6 pts	24.9 %	25.6 %	(0.7) pts
Income tax percentage	21.2 %	23.8 %	(2.6) pts	21.1 %	16.8 %	4.3 pts
Net income	\$2,515	\$2,349	7.1 %	\$7,185	\$7,926	(9.3)%
Net income as a percentage of revenue	21.1 %	19.6 %	1.5 pts	20.0 %	21.7 %	(1.7) pts
Earnings per share—diluted	\$0.50	\$0.46	8.7 %	\$1.42	\$1.56	(9.0)%

⁽¹⁾ During the second quarter of fiscal 2016, we completed the sale of the Customer Premises Equipment portion of our Service Provider Video Connected Devices business ("SP Video CPE Business"). As a result, revenue from this portion of the Service Provider Video product category will not recur in future periods. Includes SP Video CPE Business revenue of \$504 million for the first nine months of fiscal 2016.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

Three Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Three Months Ended April 30, 2016

In the third quarter of fiscal 2017, we continued to deliver solid profitability and cash flows. We remain focused on accelerating innovation across our portfolio, and we believe that we have made progress over the past year in our strategic priority areas. We continue to operate in a challenging and highly competitive environment, which has impacted, in particular, our NGN Routing and Switching areas. We saw weakness in the service provider customer market and we expect ongoing uncertainty in that area. In addition, we continued to see weakness in emerging countries in the aggregate. We experienced solid revenue growth in Wireless and Security, and we continued to make progress in the transition of our business model to increased software and subscriptions. To this end, during the third quarter of fiscal 2017, we completed our acquisition of AppDynamics, an application intelligence software company. While the overall environment remains uncertain, we continue to aggressively invest in priority areas to drive profitable growth over the long term.

In the third quarter of fiscal 2017, our revenue decreased by 1% as compared with the third quarter of fiscal 2016. Within total revenue, product revenue was flat while service revenue decreased 2%. The third quarter of fiscal 2017 had 13 weeks, compared with 14 weeks in the third quarter of fiscal 2016, thus our results for the third quarter and the first nine months of fiscal 2017 reflect one less week compared with the corresponding periods in fiscal 2016. We estimate that the additional revenue associated with the extra week was approximately \$265 million, \$200 million of which was from services, and \$65 million from our software-as-a-service (SaaS) offerings such as WebEx, and a small amount from product distribution. Total gross margin decreased by 1.3 percentage points, driven by unfavorable impacts from pricing, lower supplier component remediation adjustment and unfavorable product mix. As a percentage of revenue, research and development, sales and marketing, and general and administrative expenses, collectively, decreased by 3.4 percentage points due in part to the impact of extra week in the third quarter of fiscal 2016. Operating income as a percentage of revenue increased by 1.6 percentage points. Diluted earnings per share increased by 9%, driven by a 7% increase in net income.

In terms of our geographic segments, revenue from both Americas and EMEA was flat. Revenue in our APJC segment decreased slightly, led by a product revenue decrease in China. We experienced revenue declines from many emerging countries. The "BRICM" countries experienced a product revenue decline of 8% in the aggregate, driven by declines in the emerging countries of Brazil, China and Mexico of 28%, 17% and 9%, respectively, partially offset by increased product revenue in Russia and India of 19% and 11%, respectively.

From a customer market standpoint, we had product revenue growth in the enterprise, public sector and commercial markets which was offset by product revenue decline in the service provider market.

From a product category perspective, we had revenue increases in Wireless, Security, Switching and Other category of 13%, 9%, 2% and 57%, respectively, that were offset by revenue decreases in Data Center, Collaboration, NGN Routing and SP Video of 5%, 4%, 2% and 30%, respectively.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

Nine Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Nine Months Ended April 30, 2016

Diluted earnings per share decreased by 9% from the prior year, as a result of a 9% decrease in net income. Revenue decreased 2%, with product revenue decreasing 4% and service revenue increasing 3%. Total gross margin increased by 0.4 percentage points driven in part by the sale of the lower margin SP Video CPE Business. As a percentage of revenue, research and development, sales and marketing, and general and administrative expenses collectively increased by 0.1 percentage points. Operating income as a percentage of revenue decreased by 0.7 percentage points. Net income for the first nine months of fiscal 2017 was impacted by a higher effective tax rate in the first nine months of fiscal 2017 compared to the first nine months of fiscal 2016 primarily due to the recognition of a net benefit to the provision for income taxes in the second quarter of fiscal 2016 related to our settlement with the IRS of outstanding items related to the audit of our federal income tax returns covering the period from fiscal 2008 through fiscal 2010 and the permanent reinstatement of the U.S. federal R&D tax credit.

Strategy and Focus Areas

We see our customers increasingly using technology and, specifically, networks to grow their businesses, drive efficiencies, and try to gain a competitive advantage. In this increasingly digital world, we believe data is the most strategic asset and is increasingly distributed across every organization and ecosystem, on customer premises, at the edge of the network, and in the cloud. The network also plays an increasingly important role in enabling our customers to aggregate, automate, and draw insights from this highly distributed data, where there is a premium on security and speed. We believe this is driving them to adopt entirely new IT architectures and organizational structures. We understand how technology can deliver the outcomes our customers want to achieve, and our strategy is to lead our customers in their digital transition with solutions including pervasive, industry-leading security that intelligently connects nearly everything that can be digitally connected.

To deliver on our strategy, we are focused on providing highly secure, automated and intelligent solutions built on infrastructure that connects highly distributed data that is globally dispersed across organizations. Together with our ecosystem of partners and developers, we will provide technology, services, and solutions we believe will enable our customers to gain insight and advantage from this distributed data with scale, security and agility.

For a full discussion of our strategy and focus areas, see Item 1. Business in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended July 30, 2016.

Other Key Financial Measures

The following is a summary of our other key financial measures for the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2017 (in millions, except annualized inventory turns):

	April 29, July 30, 2017 2016	
Cash and cash equivalents and investments	\$67,974	\$65,756
Deferred revenue	\$17,322	\$16,472
Inventories	\$1,366	\$1,217
Annualized inventory turns	13.5	14.6
	Nine Months Ended April 29April 30, 2017 2016	
Cash provided by operating activities	\$9,875	\$9,752
Repurchases of common stock—stock repurchase programs	\$2,505	\$3,118
Dividends	\$4,063	\$3,441

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements and related disclosures in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires us to make judgments, assumptions, and estimates that affect the amounts reported in the Consolidated Financial Statements and accompanying notes. Note 2 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended July 30, 2016, as updated as applicable in Note 2 to the Consolidated Financial Statements herein, describes the significant accounting policies and methods used in the preparation of the Consolidated Financial Statements. The accounting policies described below are significantly affected by critical accounting estimates. Such accounting policies require significant judgments, assumptions, and estimates used in the preparation of the Consolidated Financial Statements, and actual results could differ materially from the amounts reported based on these policies.

Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognized when all of the following criteria have been met:

- Persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists. Contracts, Internet commerce agreements, and customer purchase orders are generally used to determine the existence of an arrangement. Delivery has occurred. Shipping documents and customer acceptance, when applicable, are used to verify delivery. For software, delivery is considered to have occurred upon unrestricted license access and license term commencement, when applicable.

• The fee is fixed or determinable. We assess whether the fee is fixed or determinable based on the payment terms associated with the transaction and whether the sales price is subject to refund or adjustment.

• Collectibility is reasonably assured. We assess collectibility based primarily on the creditworthiness of the customer as determined by credit checks and analysis, as well as the customer's payment history.

In instances where final acceptance of the product, system, or solution is specified by the customer, revenue is deferred until all acceptance criteria have been met. When a sale involves multiple deliverables, such as sales of products that include services, the multiple deliverables are evaluated to determine the unit of accounting, and the entire fee from the arrangement is allocated to each unit of accounting based on the relative selling price. Revenue is recognized when the revenue recognition criteria for each unit of accounting are met. For hosting arrangements, we recognize subscription revenue ratably over the subscription period, while usage revenue is recognized based on utilization. Software subscription revenue is deferred and recognized ratably over the subscription term upon delivery of the first product and commencement of the term.

The amount of revenue recognized in a given period is affected by our judgment as to whether an arrangement includes multiple deliverables and, if so, our valuation of the units of accounting. Our multiple element arrangements may contain only deliverables within the scope of Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 605, Revenue Recognition, deliverables within the scope of ASC 985-605, Software-Revenue Recognition, or a combination of both. According to the accounting guidance prescribed in ASC 605, we use vendor-specific objective evidence of selling price (VSOE) for each of those units, when available. We determine VSOE based on our normal pricing and discounting practices for the specific product or service when sold separately. In determining VSOE, we require that a substantial majority of the historical standalone transactions have the selling prices for a product or service fall within a reasonably narrow pricing range, generally evidenced by approximately 80% of such historical standalone transactions falling within plus or minus 15% of the median rates. When VSOE does not exist, we apply the selling price hierarchy to applicable multiple-deliverable arrangements. Under the selling price hierarchy, third-party evidence of selling price (TPE) will be considered if VSOE does not exist, and estimated selling price (ESP) will be used if neither VSOE nor TPE is available. Generally, we are not able to determine TPE because our go-to-market strategy differs from that of others in our markets, and the extent of our proprietary technology varies among comparable products or services from those of our peers. In determining ESP, we apply significant judgment as we weigh a variety of factors, based on the characteristics of the deliverable. We typically arrive at an ESP for a product or service that is not sold separately by considering company-specific factors such as geographies, competitive

landscape, internal costs, profitability objectives, pricing practices used to establish bundled pricing, and existing portfolio pricing and discounting.

As our business and offerings evolve over time, our pricing practices may be required to be modified accordingly, which could result in changes in selling prices, including both VSOE and ESP, in subsequent periods. There were no material impacts during the first nine months of fiscal 2017, nor do we currently expect a material impact in the next 12 months on our revenue recognition due to any changes in our VSOE, TPE, or ESP.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

We make sales to distributors which we refer to as two-tier sales to the end customer. Revenue from two-tier distributors is recognized based on a sell-through method using point-of-sale information provided by these distributors. Distributors participate in various cooperative marketing and other incentive programs, and we maintain estimated accruals and allowances for these programs. If actual credits received by distributors under these programs were to deviate significantly from our estimates, which are based on historical experience, our revenue could be adversely affected.

Allowances for Receivables and Sales Returns

The allowances for receivables were as follows (in millions, except percentages):

	April 29, July 30,	
	2017	2016
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 213	\$ 249
Percentage of gross accounts receivable	4.4 %	4.1 %
Allowance for credit loss—lease receivables	\$ 220	\$ 230
Percentage of gross lease receivables ⁽¹⁾	7.4 %	6.6 %
Allowance for credit loss—loan receivables	\$ 117	\$ 97
Percentage of gross loan receivables	4.4 %	4.5 %

⁽¹⁾ Calculated as allowance for credit loss on lease receivables as a percentage of gross lease receivables and residual value before unearned income.

The allowance for doubtful accounts is based on our assessment of the collectibility of customer accounts. We regularly review the adequacy of these allowances by considering internal factors such as historical experience, credit quality and age of the receivable balances as well as external factors such as economic conditions that may affect a customer's ability to pay as well as historical and expected default frequency rates, which are published by major third-party credit-rating agencies and are updated on a quarterly basis. We also consider the concentration of receivables outstanding with a particular customer in assessing the adequacy of our allowances for doubtful accounts. If a major customer's creditworthiness deteriorates, if actual defaults are higher than our historical experience, or if other circumstances arise, our estimates of the recoverability of amounts due to us could be overstated, and additional allowances could be required, which could have an adverse impact on our operating results.

The allowance for credit loss on financing receivables is also based on the assessment of collectibility of customer accounts. We regularly review the adequacy of the credit allowances determined either on an individual or a collective basis. When evaluating the financing receivables on an individual basis, we consider historical experience, credit quality and age of receivable balances, and economic conditions that may affect a customer's ability to pay. When evaluating financing receivables on a collective basis, we use expected default frequency rates published by a major third-party credit-rating agency as well as our own historical loss rate in the event of default, while also systematically giving effect to economic conditions, concentration of risk and correlation. Determining expected default frequency rates and loss factors associated with internal credit risk ratings, as well as assessing factors such as economic conditions, concentration of risk, and correlation, are complex and subjective. Our ongoing consideration of all these factors could result in an increase in our allowance for credit loss in the future, which could adversely affect our operating results. Both accounts receivable and financing receivables are charged off at the point when they are considered uncollectible.

A reserve for future sales returns is established based on historical trends in product return rates. The reserve for future sales returns as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016 was \$121 million and \$126 million, respectively, and was recorded as a reduction of our accounts receivable and revenue. If the actual future returns were to deviate from the historical data on which the reserve had been established, our revenue could be adversely affected.

Inventory Valuation and Liability for Purchase Commitments with Contract Manufacturers and Suppliers

Inventory is written down based on excess and obsolete inventories, determined primarily by future demand forecasts. Inventory write-downs are measured as the difference between the cost of the inventory and market, based upon

assumptions about future demand, and are charged to the provision for inventory, which is a component of our cost of sales. At the point of the loss recognition, a new, lower cost basis for that inventory is established, and subsequent changes in facts and circumstances do not result in the restoration or increase in that newly established cost basis.

We record a liability for firm, noncancelable, and unconditional purchase commitments with contract manufacturers and suppliers for quantities in excess of our future demand forecasts consistent with the valuation of our excess and obsolete inventory. As of April 29, 2017, the liability for these purchase commitments was \$179 million, compared with \$159 million as of July 30, 2016, and was included in other current liabilities.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

Our provision for inventory was \$52 million and \$55 million for the first nine months of fiscal 2017 and 2016, respectively. The provision for the liability related to purchase commitments with contract manufacturers and suppliers was \$111 million and \$108 million for the first nine months of fiscal 2017 and 2016, respectively. If there were to be a sudden and significant decrease in demand for our products, or if there were a higher incidence of inventory obsolescence because of rapidly changing technology and customer requirements, we could be required to increase our inventory write-downs, and our liability for purchase commitments with contract manufacturers and suppliers, and accordingly our profitability, could be adversely affected. We regularly evaluate our exposure for inventory write-downs and the adequacy of our liability for purchase commitments. Inventory and supply chain management remain areas of focus as we balance the need to maintain supply chain flexibility to help ensure competitive lead times with the risk of inventory obsolescence, particularly in light of current macroeconomic uncertainties and conditions and the resulting potential for changes in future demand forecast.

Loss Contingencies and Product Warranties

We are subject to the possibility of various losses arising in the ordinary course of business. We consider the likelihood of impairment of an asset or the incurrence of a liability, as well as our ability to reasonably estimate the amount of loss, in determining loss contingencies. An estimated loss contingency is accrued when it is probable that an asset has been impaired or a liability has been incurred and the amount of loss can be reasonably estimated. We regularly evaluate information available to us to determine whether such accruals should be made or adjusted and whether new accruals are required.

Third parties, including customers, have in the past and may in the future assert claims or initiate litigation related to exclusive patent, copyright, trademark, and other intellectual property rights to technologies and related standards that are relevant to us. These assertions have increased over time as a result of our growth and the general increase in the pace of patent claims assertions, particularly in the United States. If any infringement or other intellectual property claim made against us by any third party is successful, or if we fail to develop non-infringing technology or license the proprietary rights on commercially reasonable terms and conditions, our business, operating results, and financial condition could be materially and adversely affected.

In the second quarter of fiscal 2014, we recorded a charge to product cost of sales of \$655 million resulting from failures related to products containing memory components manufactured by a single supplier between 2005 and 2010. We perform regular assessments of the sufficiency of this liability and reduced the amount by a total of \$238 million in fiscal 2016 and fiscal 2015 based on updated analyses. During the second quarter of fiscal 2017, we further reduced the liability by \$141 million to reflect lower than expected defects, actual usage history, and estimated lower future remediation costs as more of the impacted products age and near the end of the support period covered by the remediation program.

In addition, during the second quarter of fiscal 2017, we recorded a \$125 million charge to product cost of sales related to the expected remediation costs for anticipated failures in future periods of a widely-used component sourced from a third party which is included in several of our products.

The liability related to these matters as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016 was \$206 million and \$276 million, respectively.

Estimating these liabilities is complex and subjective, and if we experience changes in a number of underlying assumptions and estimates such as a change in claims compared with our expectations, or if the cost of servicing these claims is different than expected, our estimated liabilities for these matters may be impacted.

Our products are generally covered by a warranty for periods ranging from 90 days to five years, and for some products we provide a limited lifetime warranty. We accrue for warranty costs as part of our cost of sales based on associated material costs, technical support labor costs, and associated overhead. Material cost is estimated based primarily upon historical trends in the volume of product returns within the warranty period and the cost to repair or replace the equipment. Technical support labor cost is estimated based primarily upon historical trends in the rate of customer cases and the cost to support the customer cases within the warranty period. Overhead cost is applied based

on estimated time to support warranty activities.

If we experience an increase in warranty claims compared with our historical experience, or if the cost of servicing warranty claims is greater than expected, our profitability could be adversely affected.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

Fair Value Measurements

Our fixed income and publicly traded equity securities, collectively, are reflected in the Consolidated Balance Sheets at a fair value of \$59.9 billion as of April 29, 2017, compared with \$58.1 billion as of July 30, 2016. Our fixed income investment portfolio as of April 29, 2017 consisted primarily of high quality investment-grade securities. See Note 8 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

As described more fully in Note 9 to the Consolidated Financial Statements, a valuation hierarchy is based on the level of independent, objective evidence available regarding the value of the investments. It encompasses three classes of investments: Level 1 consists of securities for which there are quoted prices in active markets for identical securities; Level 2 consists of securities for which observable inputs other than Level 1 inputs are used, such as quoted prices for similar securities in active markets or quoted prices for identical securities in less active markets and model-derived valuations for which the variables are derived from, or corroborated by, observable market data; and Level 3 consists of securities for which there are unobservable inputs to the valuation methodology that are significant to the measurement of the fair value.

Our Level 2 securities are valued using quoted market prices for similar instruments or nonbinding market prices that are corroborated by observable market data. We use inputs such as actual trade data, benchmark yields, broker/dealer quotes, and other similar data, which are obtained from independent pricing vendors, quoted market prices, or other sources to determine the ultimate fair value of our assets and liabilities. We use such pricing data as the primary input, to which we have not made any material adjustments during the periods presented, to make our assessments and determinations as to the ultimate valuation of our investment portfolio. We are ultimately responsible for the financial statements and underlying estimates.

The inputs and fair value are reviewed for reasonableness, may be further validated by comparison to publicly available information, and could be adjusted based on market indices or other information that management deems material to its estimate of fair value. The assessment of fair value can be difficult and subjective. However, given the relative reliability of the inputs we use to value our investment portfolio, and because substantially all of our valuation inputs are obtained using quoted market prices for similar or identical assets, we do not believe that the nature of estimates and assumptions affected by levels of subjectivity and judgment was material to the valuation of the investment portfolio as of April 29, 2017. Level 3 assets do not represent a significant portion of our total assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016.

Other-than-Temporary Impairments

We recognize an impairment charge when the declines in the fair values of our fixed income or publicly traded equity securities below their cost basis are judged to be other than temporary. The ultimate value realized on these securities, to the extent unhedged, is subject to market price volatility until they are sold.

If the fair value of a debt security is less than its amortized cost, we assess whether the impairment is other than temporary. An impairment is considered other than temporary if (i) we have the intent to sell the security, (ii) it is more likely than not that we will be required to sell the security before recovery of its entire amortized cost basis, or (iii) we do not expect to recover the entire amortized cost of the security. If an impairment is considered other than temporary based on (i) or (ii) described in the prior sentence, the entire difference between the amortized cost and the fair value of the security is recognized in earnings. If an impairment is considered other than temporary based on condition (iii), the amount representing credit loss, defined as the difference between the present value of the cash flows expected to be collected and the amortized cost basis of the debt security, will be recognized in earnings, and the amount relating to all other factors will be recognized in other comprehensive income (OCI). In estimating the amount and timing of cash flows expected to be collected, we consider all available information, including past events, current conditions, the remaining payment terms of the security, the financial condition of the issuer, expected defaults, and the value of underlying collateral.

For publicly traded equity securities, we consider various factors in determining whether we should recognize an impairment charge, including the length of time and extent to which the fair value has been less than our cost basis,

the financial condition and near-term prospects of the issuer, and our intent and ability to hold the investment for a period of time sufficient to allow for any anticipated recovery in market value.

We also have investments in privately held companies, some of which are in the startup or development stages. As of April 29, 2017, our investments in privately held companies were \$950 million, compared with \$1,003 million as of July 30, 2016, and were included in other assets. We monitor these investments for events or circumstances indicative of potential impairment, and we make appropriate reductions in carrying values if we determine that an impairment charge is required, based primarily on the financial condition and near-term prospects of these companies. These investments are inherently risky because the markets for the technologies or products these companies are developing are typically in the early stages and may never materialize.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

Goodwill and Purchased Intangible Asset Impairments

Our methodology for allocating the purchase price relating to purchase acquisitions is determined through established valuation techniques. Goodwill represents a residual value as of the acquisition date, which in most cases results in measuring goodwill as an excess of the purchase consideration transferred plus the fair value of any noncontrolling interest in the acquired company over the fair value of net assets acquired, including contingent consideration. We perform goodwill impairment tests on an annual basis in the fourth fiscal quarter and between annual tests in certain circumstances for each reporting unit. The assessment of fair value for goodwill and purchased intangible assets is based on factors that market participants would use in an orderly transaction in accordance with the new accounting guidance for the fair value measurement of nonfinancial assets.

The goodwill recorded in the Consolidated Balance Sheets as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016 was \$29.5 billion and \$26.6 billion, respectively. The increase in goodwill for the first nine months of fiscal 2017 was due in large part to our acquisition of AppDynamics. In response to changes in industry and market conditions, we could be required to strategically realign our resources and consider restructuring, disposing of, or otherwise exiting businesses, which could result in an impairment of goodwill. There was no impairment of goodwill in each of the first nine months of fiscal 2017 and 2016.

The fair value of acquired technology and patents, as well as acquired technology under development, is determined at acquisition date primarily using the income approach, which discounts expected future cash flows to present value. The discount rates used in the present value calculations are typically derived from a weighted-average cost of capital analysis and then adjusted to reflect risks inherent in the development lifecycle as appropriate. We consider the pricing model for products related to these acquisitions to be standard within the high-technology communications industry, and the applicable discount rates represent the rates that market participants would use for valuation of such intangible assets.

We make judgments about the recoverability of purchased intangible assets with finite lives whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that an impairment may exist. Recoverability of purchased intangible assets with finite lives is measured by comparing the carrying amount of the asset to the future undiscounted cash flows the asset is expected to generate. We review indefinite-lived intangible assets for impairment annually or whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the asset might be impaired. If the asset is considered to be impaired, the amount of any impairment is measured as the difference between the carrying value and the fair value of the impaired asset. Assumptions and estimates about future values and remaining useful lives of our purchased intangible assets are complex and subjective. They can be affected by a variety of factors, including external factors such as industry and economic trends, and internal factors such as changes in our business strategy and our internal forecasts. Our impairment charges related to purchased intangible assets were \$42 million and \$44 million for the first nine months of fiscal 2017 and 2016, respectively. Our ongoing consideration of all the factors described previously could result in additional impairment charges in the future, which could adversely affect our net income.

Income Taxes

We are subject to income taxes in the United States and numerous foreign jurisdictions. Our effective tax rates differ from the statutory rate, primarily due to the tax impact of state taxes, foreign operations, R&D tax credits, domestic manufacturing deductions, tax audit settlements, nondeductible compensation, international realignments, and transfer pricing adjustments. Our effective tax rate was 21.2% and 23.8% in the third quarter of fiscal 2017 and 2016, respectively. Our effective tax rate was 21.1% and 16.8% in the first nine months of fiscal 2017 and 2016, respectively.

Significant judgment is required in evaluating our uncertain tax positions and determining our provision for income taxes. Although we believe our reserves are reasonable, no assurance can be given that the final tax outcome of these matters will not be different from that which is reflected in our historical income tax provisions and accruals. We adjust these reserves in light of changing facts and circumstances, such as the closing of a tax audit or the refinement of an estimate. To the extent that the final tax outcome of these matters is different than the amounts recorded, such

differences will impact the provision for income taxes in the period in which such determination is made. The provision for income taxes includes the impact of reserve provisions and changes to reserves that are considered appropriate, as well as the related net interest and penalties.

Significant judgment is also required in determining any valuation allowance recorded against deferred tax assets. In assessing the need for a valuation allowance, we consider all available evidence, including past operating results, estimates of future taxable income, and the feasibility of tax planning strategies. In the event that we change our determination as to the amount of deferred tax assets that can be realized, we will adjust our valuation allowance with a corresponding impact to the provision for income taxes in the period in which such determination is made.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

Our provision for income taxes is subject to volatility and could be adversely impacted by earnings being lower than anticipated in countries that have lower tax rates and higher than anticipated in countries that have higher tax rates; by changes in the valuation of our deferred tax assets and liabilities; by changes to domestic manufacturing deduction laws, regulations, or interpretations thereof; by expiration of or lapses in tax incentives; by transfer pricing adjustments, including the effect of acquisitions on our intercompany R&D cost-sharing arrangement and legal structure; by tax effects of nondeductible compensation; by tax costs related to intercompany realignments; by changes in accounting principles; or by changes in tax laws and regulations, treaties, or interpretations thereof, including possible changes to the taxation of earnings of our foreign subsidiaries, the deductibility of expenses attributable to foreign income, or the foreign tax credit rules. Significant judgment is required to determine the recognition and measurement attributes prescribed in the accounting guidance for uncertainty in income taxes. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), an international association comprised of 35 countries, including the United States, has recently made changes to numerous long-standing tax principles. There can be no assurance that these changes, once adopted by countries, will not have an adverse impact on our provision for income taxes. As a result of certain of our ongoing employment and capital investment actions and commitments, our income in certain countries is subject to reduced tax rates. Our failure to meet these commitments could adversely impact our provision for income taxes. In addition, we are subject to the continuous examination of our income tax returns by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and other tax authorities. We regularly assess the likelihood of adverse outcomes resulting from these examinations to determine the adequacy of our provision for income taxes. There can be no assurance that the outcomes from these continuous examinations will not have an adverse impact on our operating results and financial condition.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Revenue

The following table presents the breakdown of revenue between product and service (in millions, except percentages):

	Three Months Ended				Nine Months Ended			
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	Variance in Dollars	Variance in Percent	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	Variance in Dollars	Variance in Percent
Revenue:								
Product	\$8,885	\$8,875	\$ 10	0.1 %	\$26,678	\$27,702	\$(1,024)	(3.7)%
Percentage of revenue	74.4 %	74.0 %			74.4 %	75.7 %		
Service	3,055	3,125	(70)	(2.2)%	9,194	8,907	287	3.2 %
Percentage of revenue	25.6 %	26.0 %			25.6 %	24.3 %		
Total	\$11,940	\$12,000	\$(60)	(0.5)%	\$35,872	\$36,609	\$(737)	(2.0)%

We manage our business primarily on a geographic basis, organized into three geographic segments. Our revenue, which includes product and service for each segment, is summarized in the following table (in millions, except percentages):

	Three Months Ended				Nine Months Ended			
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	Variance in Dollars	Variance in Percent	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	Variance in Dollars	Variance in Percent
Revenue:								
Americas	\$7,046	\$7,056	\$(10)	(0.1)%	\$21,149	\$21,759	\$(610)	(2.8)%
Percentage of revenue	59.0 %	58.8 %			59.0 %	59.4 %		
EMEA	2,999	3,006	(7)	(0.2)%	9,077	9,193	(116)	(1.3)%
Percentage of revenue	25.1 %	25.1 %			25.3 %	25.1 %		
APJC	1,895	1,938	(43)	(2.2)%	5,646	5,657	(11)	(0.2)%
Percentage of revenue	15.9 %	16.1 %			15.7 %	15.5 %		
Total	\$11,940	\$12,000	\$(60)	(0.5)%	\$35,872	\$36,609	\$(737)	(2.0)%

Three Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Three Months Ended April 30, 2016

For the third quarter of fiscal 2017, as compared with the third quarter of fiscal 2016, total revenue decreased by 1%. Product revenue was flat, while service revenue decreased by 2%. The third quarter of fiscal 2017 had 13 weeks, compared with 14 weeks in the third quarter of fiscal 2016, thus our results for the third quarter of fiscal 2017 reflect one less week compared with the third quarter of fiscal 2016. We estimate that the additional revenue associated with the extra week was approximately \$265 million, of which \$200 million was from our services subscriptions, and \$65 million from our SaaS offerings such as WebEx, and a small amount from product distribution. Our total revenue from both the Americas and EMEA segments was flat and revenue from our APJC segment decreased slightly. The emerging countries of BRICM, in the aggregate, experienced an 8% product revenue decline, with declines in Brazil, China, and Mexico partially offset by increases in the other two BRICM countries.

We conduct business globally in numerous currencies. The direct effect of foreign currency fluctuations on revenue has not been material because our revenue is primarily denominated in U.S. dollars. However, if the U.S. dollar strengthens relative to other currencies, such strengthening could have an indirect effect on our revenue to the extent it raises the cost of our products to non-U.S. customers and thereby reduces demand. A weaker U.S. dollar could have the opposite effect. However, the precise indirect effect of currency fluctuations is difficult to measure or predict because our revenue is influenced by many factors in addition to the impact of such currency fluctuations.

In addition to the impact of macroeconomic factors, including a reduced IT spending environment and reductions in spending by government entities, revenue by segment in a particular period may be significantly impacted by several

factors related to revenue recognition, including the complexity of transactions such as multiple-element arrangements; the mix of financing arrangements provided to channel partners and customers; and final acceptance of the product, system, or solution, among other factors. In addition, certain customers tend to make large and sporadic purchases, and the revenue related to these transactions may also be affected by the timing of revenue recognition, which in turn would impact the revenue of the relevant segment. As has been the case in certain emerging countries from time to time, customers require greater levels of financing arrangements, service, and support, and these activities may occur in future periods, which may also impact the timing of the recognition of revenue.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

Nine Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Nine Months Ended April 30, 2016

For the first nine months of fiscal 2017, as compared with the first nine months of fiscal 2016, total revenue decreased by 2%. Total company revenue not including SP Video CPE products decreased 1%. Product revenue decreased by 4% while service revenue increased by 3%. Our total revenue decreased in the Americas and EMEA segments and was flat in the APJC segment. The emerging countries of BRICM, in the aggregate, experienced an 11% product revenue decline, with revenue declines in Mexico, China, and Brazil partially offset by increases in the other two BRICM countries.

Product Revenue by Segment

The following table presents the breakdown of product revenue by segment (in millions, except percentages):

	Three Months Ended			Nine Months Ended				
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	Variance in Dollars	Variance in Percent	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	Variance in Dollars	Variance in Percent
Product revenue:								
Americas	\$5,094	\$5,051	\$ 43	0.9 %	\$15,269	\$15,988	\$(719)	(4.5)%
Percentage of product revenue	57.3 %	56.9 %			57.2 %	57.7 %		
EMEA	2,345	2,321	24	1.0 %	7,101	7,264	(163)	(2.2)%
Percentage of product revenue	26.4 %	26.2 %			26.6 %	26.2 %		
APJC	1,446	1,503	(57)	(3.8)%	4,308	4,450	(142)	(3.2)%
Percentage of product revenue	16.3 %	16.9 %			16.2 %	16.1 %		
Total	\$8,885	\$8,875	\$ 10	0.1 %	\$26,678	\$27,702	\$(1,024)	(3.7)%

During the second quarter of fiscal 2016, we completed the sale of our SP Video CPE Business. As a result, revenue from this portion of the Service Provider Video product category will not recur in future periods. SP Video CPE Business revenue was \$504 million for the first nine months of fiscal 2016.

Americas

Three Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Three Months Ended April 30, 2016

The 1% increase in product revenue for the Americas segment was led by solid growth in the enterprise market and, to a lesser extent, growth in the public sector market. These product revenue increases were partially offset by declines in the service provider and commercial markets. The product revenue increase in the public sector market was due primarily to an increase in sales to state and local governments, partially offset by a decrease in sales to the U.S. federal government. From a country perspective, product revenue increased by 1% in the United States and 9% in Canada, partially offset by product revenue decreases of 28% in Brazil and 9% in Mexico.

Nine Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Nine Months Ended April 30, 2016

The decrease in product revenue in the Americas segment was led by a decline in the service provider market and, to a lesser extent, declines in the public sector and commercial markets. These product revenue declines were partially offset by growth in the enterprise market. The product revenue decrease in the service provider market was driven primarily by the absence of product sales related to our SP Video CPE Business in the first nine months of fiscal 2017. We had \$378 million in product sales related to our SP Video CPE Business in the first nine months of fiscal 2016 in this segment. From a country perspective, product revenue decreased by 4% in the United States, 28% in Mexico, 13% in Brazil and 3% in Canada.

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EMEA

Three Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Three Months Ended April 30, 2016

Product revenue in the EMEA segment increased by 1%, driven by growth in the public sector and commercial markets partially offset by declines in the service provider and enterprise markets. Product revenue from emerging countries within EMEA increased by 5% and product revenue for the remainder of the EMEA segment, which primarily consists of countries in Western Europe, was flat.

Nine Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Nine Months Ended April 30, 2016

The decrease in product revenue in the EMEA segment of 2% was driven by a decline in the service provider market and, to a lesser extent, a decline in the public sector market. We experienced product revenue growth in the enterprise and commercial markets. The product revenue decrease in the service provider market was driven primarily by the absence of product sales related to our SP Video CPE Business in the first nine months of fiscal 2017. We had \$108 million in product sales related to our SP Video CPE Business in the first nine months of fiscal 2016 in this segment. Product revenue from emerging countries within EMEA decreased by 3% and product revenue for the remainder of the EMEA segment decreased by 2%.

APJC

Three Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Three Months Ended April 30, 2016

Product revenue in the APJC segment decreased by 4%, led by declines in the service provider and enterprise markets. These product revenue declines were partially offset by solid growth in the commercial market. From a country perspective, product revenue decreased by 17% in China and 14% in Japan, partially offset by product revenue increases of 24% in Australia and 11% in India.

Nine Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Nine Months Ended April 30, 2016

Product revenue in the APJC segment decreased by 3%. The product revenue decline was led by declines in the service provider and public sector markets and, to a lesser extent, a decline in the enterprise market. These decreases were partially offset by product revenue growth in the commercial market. From a country perspective, product revenue decreased by 17% in China while increasing 10% in India, 5% in Australia and 2% in Japan. Product sales for this geographic segment were adversely impacted by an \$18 million decrease in product sales related to our SP Video CPE Business.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

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Product Revenue by Groups of Similar Products

In addition to the primary view on a geographic basis, we also prepare financial information related to groups of similar products and customer markets for various purposes. Our product categories consist of the following categories (with subcategories in parentheses): Switching (fixed switching, modular switching, and storage); NGN Routing (high-end routers, mid-range and low-end routers, and other NGN Routing products); Collaboration (unified communications, Cisco TelePresence, and conferencing); Data Center; Wireless; Security; Service Provider Video (infrastructure and software and solutions); and Other Products. The Other Products category consists primarily of emerging technology products and other networking products.

The following table presents revenue for groups of similar products (in millions, except percentages):

	Three Months Ended				Nine Months Ended			
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	Variance in Dollars	Variance in Percent	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	Variance in Dollars	Variance in Percent
Product revenue:								
Switching	\$3,489	\$3,435	\$ 54	1.6 %	\$10,510	\$10,919	\$(409)	(3.7)%
Percentage of product revenue	39.3 %	38.7 %			39.4 %	39.4 %		
NGN Routing	2,032	2,074	(42)	(2.0)%	5,938	6,057	(119)	(2.0)%
Percentage of product revenue	22.9 %	23.4 %			22.2 %	21.9 %		
Collaboration	1,022	1,069	(47)	(4.4)%	3,165	3,203	(38)	(1.2)%
Percentage of product revenue	11.5 %	12.1 %			11.9 %	11.5 %		
Data Center	767	811	(44)	(5.4)%	2,391	2,492	(101)	(4.1)%
Percentage of product revenue	8.6 %	9.1 %			9.0 %	9.0 %		
Wireless	703	620	83	13.4 %	1,967	1,882	85	4.5 %
Percentage of product revenue	7.9 %	7.0 %			7.4 %	6.8 %		
Security	527	482	45	9.3 %	1,595	1,429	166	11.6 %
Percentage of product revenue	5.9 %	5.4 %			6.0 %	5.2 %		
Service Provider Video ⁽¹⁾	207	296	(89)	(30.1)%	719	1,482	(763)	(51.5)%
Percentage of product revenue	2.3 %	3.3 %			2.7 %	5.3 %		
Other	138	88	50	56.8 %	393	238	155	65.1 %
Percentage of product revenue	1.6 %	1.0 %			1.4 %	0.9 %		
Total	\$8,885	\$8,875	\$ 10	0.1 %	\$26,678	\$27,702	\$(1,024)	(3.7)%

⁽¹⁾ Includes SP Video CPE Business revenue of \$504 million for the first nine months of fiscal 2016.

Certain reclassifications have been made to the prior period amounts to conform to the current period's presentation.

Switching

Three Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Three Months Ended April 30, 2016

The increase in revenue in our Switching product category of 2%, or \$54 million, was driven by an increase in sales of our Switching products used in data center environments which reflected strength in our Application Centric Infrastructure portfolio. We also experienced a slight increase in sales of Switching products used in campus environments. While we experienced an increase in our Switching revenue, our business momentum with respect to campus switching continues to be impacted by uncertainty in the macro environment which led to a slowdown in customer spending, as well as by a highly competitive landscape.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

In terms of subcategories, the increase was driven by an increase in revenue from LAN fixed-configuration switches of 8%, or \$189 million, driven primarily by higher sales of our Cisco Nexus 9300 Series Switches, Cisco Catalyst 3850 Series Switches and Cisco Catalyst 3650 Series Switches, partially offset by a decrease in sales of certain other products in this portfolio. We experienced a 10%, or \$96 million, decrease in revenue from our modular switches and a 35%, or \$39 million, decrease in sales of storage products. Revenue from our modular switches decreased due primarily to lower sales of most of the Cisco Catalyst Series Switches and Cisco Nexus 7000 Series Switches.

Nine Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Nine Months Ended April 30, 2016

Revenue in our Switching product category decreased by 4%, or \$409 million, driven by a 16%, or \$522 million, decrease in revenue from our modular switches and a 25%, or \$80 million, decrease in sales of storage products. This decline was partially offset by a 3%, or \$193 million increase in revenue from our LAN fixed-configuration switches. Revenue from our modular switches decreased driven by lower sales of most of the Cisco Catalyst Series Switches and Cisco Nexus 7000 Series Switches, partially offset by growth in Cisco Nexus 9500 Series Switches within this product category. Revenue from LAN fixed-configuration switches increased due to higher sales of our Cisco Nexus 9300 Series Switches, Cisco Catalyst 3650 Series Switches and Cisco Catalyst 3850 Series Switches, partially offset by a decrease in sales of certain other products in this portfolio.

NGN Routing

Three Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Three Months Ended April 30, 2016

Revenue in our NGN Routing product category decreased by 2%, or \$42 million, driven by a 5%, or \$54 million, decrease in revenue from our high-end router products and a 2%, or \$12 million, decrease in revenue from our midrange and low-end router products. These decreases were partially offset by an 8%, or \$24 million, increase in revenue from what we categorize as other NGN Routing products. The decrease in revenue from our high-end router products was driven by a decrease in revenue from our mobility products within our Cisco Aggregation Services Router (ASR) products and our Cisco Carrier Routing System (CRS) products. The decrease in revenue from our midrange and low-end router products was driven by lower sales of our Cisco Integrated Services Router (ISR) products. Revenue from other NGN Routing products increased due to higher sales of cable access products and certain optical networking products.

Nine Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Nine Months Ended April 30, 2016

The decrease in revenue in our NGN Routing product category of 2%, or \$119 million, was driven by a 5%, or \$162 million, decrease in revenue from our high-end router products and, a 4%, or \$74 million, decrease in revenue from our midrange and low-end router products. This decline was partially offset by a 13%, or \$117 million, increase in revenue from other NGN Routing products. Revenue from high-end router products decreased due to a decrease in revenue from most of our ASR products and from our CRS products. The decrease in revenue from our midrange and low-end router products was due to lower sales of our Cisco ISR products and certain of our access router products. Revenue from other NGN Routing products increased due to higher sales of cable access products and certain optical networking products.

Collaboration

Three Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Three Months Ended April 30, 2016

Revenue from our Collaboration product category decreased by 4%, or \$47 million, driven by decreases in sales from Cisco Unified Communications and TelePresence products, partially offset by continued growth in Conferencing revenue. The decrease in Unified Communications revenue was driven by decreased revenue from phones. Revenue from Cisco TelePresence products declined due to lower revenue from endpoint products. The growth in Conferencing revenue resulted from higher usage and recurring revenue from WebEx, which we include as product revenue in this category. We continue to increase the amount of deferred revenue and the proportion of recurring revenue related to our Collaboration product category.

Nine Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Nine Months Ended April 30, 2016

Revenue in our Collaboration product category decreased 1%, or \$38 million, driven by decreases in sales from Cisco Unified Communications and TelePresence products, partially offset by continued growth in Conferencing revenue. The decrease in Unified Communications revenue was driven by decreased revenue from phones, partially offset by higher software revenue. Revenue from Cisco TelePresence products declined due to lower revenue from endpoint products. The growth in Conferencing revenue resulted from higher usage and recurring revenue from WebEx.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

Data Center

Three Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Three Months Ended April 30, 2016

The decrease in revenue in our Data Center product category of 5%, or \$44 million, was primarily driven by a decrease in sales of our Cisco Unified Computing System products, with a decline in the enterprise market partially offset by growth in the service provider, public sector and commercial markets. We believe the uncertainty in the macro environment led to a slowdown of customer spending. Additionally, we are seeing a market transition with computing workloads shifting from blade server systems to rack-based systems.

Nine Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Nine Months Ended April 30, 2016

Revenue in our Data Center product category decreased by 4%, or \$101 million, driven by a decrease in sales of our Cisco Unified Computing System products, with declines in the enterprise, commercial and public sector markets partially offset by growth in the service provider market.

Wireless

Three Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Three Months Ended April 30, 2016

Revenue in our Wireless product category increased by 13%, or \$83 million, due primarily to continued growth in sales of Meraki products within this product category, and an increase in sales of our access point products, partially offset by a decrease in sales of our controller products. We continue to increase the amount of deferred revenue and the proportion of recurring revenue related to our Wireless product category.

Nine Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Nine Months Ended April 30, 2016

Revenue in our Wireless product category increased by 5%, or \$85 million, due primarily to an increase in sales from Meraki products and, to a lesser extent, an increase in sales of certain of our access point products. These increases were partially offset by a decrease in sales of our controller products.

Security

Three Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Three Months Ended April 30, 2016

Revenue in our Security product category increased 9%, or \$45 million, driven by higher sales of unified threat management, advanced threat security and web security products. We continue to increase the amount of deferred revenue and the proportion of recurring revenue related to our Security product category.

Nine Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Nine Months Ended April 30, 2016

Revenue in our Security product category increased 12%, or \$166 million, driven by higher sales of advanced threat security, unified threat management and web security products.

Service Provider Video

Three Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Three Months Ended April 30, 2016

The decrease in revenue from our Service Provider Video product category of 30%, or \$89 million, was driven by a decrease in revenue from Service Provider Video software and solutions driven by a decline in China.

Nine Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Nine Months Ended April 30, 2016

Revenue from our Service Provider Video product category decreased by 51%, or \$763 million, due to a \$504 million decrease in sales related to the SP Video CPE Business and a decrease in revenue from Service Provider Video software and solutions.

Other Products

The increase in revenue in our Other Products category for the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2017 as compared to the corresponding periods of fiscal 2016 was in large part due to increased revenue from our Internet of Things ("IoT") products, driven by our fiscal 2016 Jasper acquisition. The acquisition of AppDynamics in the third quarter of fiscal 2017 also contributed to the increase in revenue in this product category.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

Service Revenue by Segment

The following table presents the breakdown of service revenue by segment (in millions, except percentages):

	Three Months Ended				Nine Months Ended			
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	Variance in Dollars	Variance in Percent	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	Variance in Dollars	Variance in Percent
Service revenue:								
Americas	\$1,952	\$2,005	\$ (53)	(2.6)%	\$5,880	\$5,771	\$ 109	1.9 %
Percentage of service revenue	63.9 %	64.2 %			64.0 %	64.8 %		
EMEA	654	685	(31)	(4.5)%	1,976	1,929	47	2.4 %
Percentage of service revenue	21.4 %	21.9 %			21.5 %	21.7 %		
APJC	449	435	14	3.2 %	1,338	1,207	131	10.9 %
Percentage of service revenue	14.7 %	13.9 %			14.5 %	13.5 %		
Total	\$3,055	\$3,125	\$ (70)	(2.2)%	\$9,194	\$8,907	\$ 287	3.2 %

Three Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Three Months Ended April 30, 2016

Service revenue decreased 2%. Excluding the \$200 million of additional revenue in the third quarter of fiscal 2016 as a result of the extra week in the third quarter of fiscal 2016, service revenue grew 4%. Service revenue decreased in the Americas and EMEA segments and increased in the APJC segment. Worldwide technical support services revenue and worldwide advanced services revenue each decreased by 2%. Technical support services revenue experienced declines in the Americas and EMEA segments and growth in the APJC segment. Advanced services revenue, which relates to professional services for specific customer network needs, also decreased in the Americas and EMEA segments and increased in the APJC segment.

Nine Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Nine Months Ended April 30, 2016

Service revenue increased across all geographic segments. Worldwide technical support services revenue increased by 4% and worldwide advanced services increased by 1%. Technical support services revenue had solid growth across all geographic segments. Renewals and technical support service contract initiations associated with product sales provided an installed base of equipment being serviced which, in concert with new service offerings, were the primary factors driving the revenue increases. Advanced services revenue grew in the APJC and EMEA segments and declined in the Americas segment.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

Gross Margin

The following table presents the gross margin for products and services (in millions, except percentages):

	Three Months Ended				Nine Months Ended			
	AMOUNT		PERCENTAGE		AMOUNT		PERCENTAGE	
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016
Gross margin:								
Product	\$5,480	\$5,661	61.7 %	63.8 %	\$16,565	\$17,155	62.1 %	61.9 %
Service	2,038	2,060	66.7 %	65.9 %	6,113	5,830	66.5 %	65.5 %
Total	\$7,518	\$7,721	63.0 %	64.3 %	\$22,678	\$22,985	63.2 %	62.8 %

Product Gross Margin

The following table summarizes the key factors that contributed to the change in product gross margin percentage for the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2017 as compared with the corresponding prior year periods:

	Product Gross Margin Percentage	
	Three Months Ended	Nine Months Ended
Fiscal 2016	63.8 %	61.9 %
Productivity ⁽¹⁾	1.4 %	2.2 %
Product pricing	(2.3)%	(1.8)%
Supplier component remediation charge/adjustment, net	(0.7)%	(0.2)%
Mix of products sold	(0.4)%	(1.0)%
Amortization of purchased intangible assets	(0.1)%	— %
SP Video CPE Business impact	— %	0.9 %
Other	— %	0.1 %
Fiscal 2017	61.7 %	62.1 %

⁽¹⁾ Productivity includes overall manufacturing-related costs, such as component costs, warranty expense, provision for inventory, freight, logistics, shipment volume, and other items not categorized elsewhere.

Three Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Three Months Ended April 30, 2016

Product gross margin decreased by 2.1 percentage points as compared with the third quarter of fiscal 2016. The decrease in product gross margin was largely due to unfavorable impacts from product pricing, which were driven by typical market factors and impacted each of our geographic segments and customer markets. The decrease was also due to the impact of a lower supplier component remediation adjustment and an unfavorable mix of products sold primarily from our NGN Routing and Service Provider Video products.

The various factors contributing to the product gross margin decrease were partially offset by productivity improvements which were driven by value engineering efforts, lower warranty expenses, favorable component pricing, and continued operational efficiency in manufacturing operations. Productivity improvements were adversely impacted by an increase in the cost of certain memory components which are currently constrained. Value engineering is the process by which production costs are reduced through component redesign, board configuration, test processes, and transformation processes.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

Nine Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Nine Months Ended April 30, 2016

Product gross margin increased by 0.2 percentage points as compared with the first nine months of fiscal 2016. The increase was due to productivity improvements driven by similar factors as discussed in the three-month period immediately above. Additionally, gross margin increased due to the sale during the second quarter of fiscal 2016 of our lower margin SP Video CPE Business. These factors were partially offset by the unfavorable impacts from product pricing and the mix of products sold. The unfavorable product mix was driven by negative mix impacts from our NGN Routing, Service Provider Video and Cisco Unified Computing System products. Product gross margin was also negatively impacted by the lower supplier component remediation adjustment.

Service Gross Margin

Three Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Three Months Ended April 30, 2016

Our service gross margin percentage increased by 0.8 percentage points as compared with the third quarter of fiscal 2016, due to decreased delivery costs, decreased headcount-related costs and, to a lesser extent, lower share-based compensation expense. These benefits to service gross margin were partially offset by lower sales volume.

Our service gross margin normally experiences some fluctuations due to various factors such as the timing of contract initiations in our renewals, our strategic investments in headcount, and the resources we deploy to support the overall service business. Other factors include the mix of service offerings, as the gross margin from our advanced services is typically lower than the gross margin from technical support services.

Nine Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Nine Months Ended April 30, 2016

Service gross margin percentage increased by 1.0 percentage points, as compared with the first nine months of fiscal 2016, due to higher sales volume, decreased delivery costs, favorable mix and, to a lesser extent, lower share-based compensation expense. These benefits to service gross margin were partially offset by increased headcount-related costs.

Gross Margin by Segment

The following table presents the total gross margin for each segment (in millions, except percentages):

	Three Months Ended				Nine Months Ended			
	AMOUNT		PERCENTAGE		AMOUNT		PERCENTAGE	
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016
Gross margin:								
Americas	\$4,551	\$4,677	64.6 %	66.3 %	\$13,672	\$14,031	64.6 %	64.5 %
EMEA	1,963	1,970	65.5 %	65.5 %	5,988	5,970	66.0 %	64.9 %
APJC	1,171	1,173	61.8 %	60.5 %	3,496	3,435	61.9 %	60.7 %
Segment total	7,685	7,820	64.4 %	65.2 %	23,156	23,436	64.6 %	64.0 %
Unallocated corporate items ⁽¹⁾	(167)	(99)			(478)	(451)		
Total	\$7,518	\$7,721	63.0 %	64.3 %	\$22,678	\$22,985	63.2 %	62.8 %

⁽¹⁾ The unallocated corporate items include the effects of amortization and impairments of acquisition-related intangible assets, share-based compensation expense, significant litigation and other contingencies, charges related to asset impairments and restructurings, and certain other charges. We do not allocate these items to the gross margin for each segment because management does not include such information in measuring the performance of the operating segments.

Three Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Three Months Ended April 30, 2016

The Americas segment experienced a gross margin percentage decrease due to negative impacts from pricing, an unfavorable product mix and, to a lesser extent, lower productivity. The unfavorable mix of products sold was driven by negative mix impacts from our Data Center, Other and NGN Routing product categories.

The gross margin percentage in our EMEA segment was flat as productivity improvements offset the negative impact from pricing.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

Our APJC segment gross margin percentage increased primarily due to productivity improvements, partially offset by the unfavorable impacts from pricing. We also experienced a higher service gross margin in this segment.

The gross margin percentage for a particular segment may fluctuate, and period-to-period changes in such percentages may or may not be indicative of a trend for that segment.

Nine Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Nine Months Ended April 30, 2016

We experienced a gross margin percentage increase in our Americas segment due to productivity improvements and the sale of the lower margin SP Video CPE Business, partially offset by unfavorable impacts from pricing and product mix. The unfavorable mix impact in this geographic segment was driven by unfavorable mix from our NGN Routing, Other, and Switching product categories.

The gross margin percentage increase in our EMEA segment was due primarily to the impact of productivity improvements, the sale of the lower margin SP Video CPE Business and a favorable product mix. Partially offsetting these favorable impacts to gross margin were negative impacts from pricing. Higher service gross margin also contributed to the increase in the overall gross margin in this segment.

The APJC segment gross margin percentage increased due primarily to higher service gross margin. Product gross margin in this segment also increased due to productivity improvements, partially offset by unfavorable impacts from pricing and product mix. The unfavorable mix impact was driven by our Cisco Unified Computing System products.

Research and Development ("R&D"), Sales and Marketing, and General and Administrative ("G&A") Expenses
R&D, sales and marketing, and G&A expenses are summarized in the following table (in millions, except percentages):

	Three Months Ended				Nine Months Ended			
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	Variance in Dollars	Variance in Percent	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	Variance in Dollars	Variance in Percent
Research and development	\$ 1,507	\$ 1,626	\$ (119)	(7.3)%	\$ 4,560	\$ 4,695	\$ (135)	(2.9)%
Percentage of revenue	12.6 %	13.6 %			12.7 %	12.8 %		
Sales and marketing	2,226	2,447	(221)	(9.0)%	6,866	7,176	(310)	(4.3)%
Percentage of revenue	18.6 %	20.4 %			19.1 %	19.6 %		
General and administrative	487	566	(79)	(14.0)%	1,498	1,281	217	16.9 %
Percentage of revenue	4.1 %	4.7 %			4.2 %	3.5 %		
Total	\$ 4,220	\$ 4,639	\$ (419)	(9.0)%	\$ 12,924	\$ 13,152	\$ (228)	(1.7)%
Percentage of revenue	35.3 %	38.7 %			36.0 %	35.9 %		

Our third quarter of fiscal 2017 had one less week compared with the corresponding period of fiscal 2016 which had an extra week. We estimate that the extra week contributed approximately \$116 million of the year-over-year decrease in total operating expenses (not including share-based compensation expense discussed below) during the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2017.

R&D Expenses

R&D expenses decreased for the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2017, as compared with the corresponding periods of fiscal 2016, primarily due to lower discretionary spending, lower contracted services, lower acquisition-related costs and lower headcount-related expenses, partially offset by higher share-based compensation expense. Lower headcount related expenses were due to efficiencies related to our restructuring actions and the extra week in the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2016.

We continue to invest in R&D in order to bring a broad range of products to market in a timely fashion. If we believe that we are unable to enter a particular market in a timely manner with internally developed products, we may purchase or license technology from other businesses, or we may partner with or acquire businesses as an alternative to internal R&D.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

Sales and Marketing Expenses

Sales and marketing expenses decreased for the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2017, compared with the corresponding periods of fiscal 2016, due to lower headcount-related expenses, lower contracted services, lower discretionary spending, lower acquisition-related costs and lower share-based compensation expense. Lower headcount related expenses were due to efficiencies related to our restructuring actions. The extra week in the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2016 also contributed to the decrease in headcount-related expenses.

G&A Expenses

G&A expenses decreased in the third quarter of fiscal 2017, as compared with the third quarter of fiscal 2016, primarily due to lower headcount-related expenses and lower contracted services partially offset by higher share-based compensation expense. The extra week in the third quarter of fiscal 2016 also contributed to the decrease in headcount-related expenses.

G&A expenses increased in the first nine months of fiscal 2017, as compared with the first nine months of fiscal 2016, primarily due to the \$285 million pre-tax gain from the sale of our SP Video CPE Business recorded during fiscal 2016 and, to a lesser extent, higher share-based compensation expense. The G&A expense increase was partially offset by lower headcount-related expenses and lower contracted services. The extra week in the first nine months of fiscal 2016 also contributed to the headcount-related expense decrease.

Effect of Foreign Currency

In the third quarter of fiscal 2017, foreign currency fluctuations, net of hedging, decreased the combined R&D, sales and marketing, and G&A expenses by approximately \$2 million compared with the third quarter of fiscal 2016.

In the first nine months of fiscal 2017, foreign currency fluctuations, net of hedging, decreased the combined R&D, sales and marketing, and G&A expenses by approximately \$62 million, or approximately 0.5%, compared with the first nine months of fiscal 2016.

Headcount

Our headcount as of April 29, 2017 was 73,390, which represents an increase of 1,431 employees in the third quarter of fiscal 2017 and a decrease of 321 employees in the first nine months of fiscal 2017, each as compared with the total headcount at the end of fiscal 2016. The increase in headcount for third quarter of fiscal 2017 was primarily due to headcount additions from our acquisition of AppDynamics. The decrease in headcount for first nine months of fiscal 2017 was driven by our fiscal 2017 restructuring actions that began in the first quarter, partially offset by headcount additions from our investments in key growth areas and from our AppDynamics acquisition.

Share-Based Compensation Expense

The following table presents share-based compensation expense (in millions):

	Three Months		Nine Months	
	Ended		Ended	
	April 29,	April 30,	April 29,	April 30,
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Cost of sales—product	\$22	\$ 21	\$62	\$ 50
Cost of sales—service	34	37	101	110
Share-based compensation expense in cost of sales	56	58	163	160
Research and development	137	130	392	351
Sales and marketing	133	148	398	413
General and administrative	79	59	173	163
Restructuring and other charges	(5)	—	(2)	14
Share-based compensation expense in operating expenses	344	337	961	941

Total share-based compensation expense \$400 \$ 395 \$1,124 \$ 1,101

The increase in share-based compensation expense in the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2017, as compared with the corresponding periods of fiscal 2016, was due primarily to higher expense related to equity awards assumed with respect to our recent acquisitions, partially offset by the impact of extra week in the third quarter of fiscal 2016.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

Amortization of Purchased Intangible Assets

The following table presents the amortization of purchased intangible assets including impairment charges related to purchased intangible assets (in millions):

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016
Amortization of purchased intangible assets:				
Cost of sales	\$ 141	\$ 134	\$ 394	\$ 419
Operating expenses:				
Amortization of purchased intangible assets	59	81	201	221
Restructuring and other charges	—	—	38	—
Total	\$200	\$ 215	\$633	\$ 640

Amortization of purchased intangible assets decreased for the third quarter of fiscal 2017, as compared with the third quarter of fiscal 2016, due to certain purchased intangible assets having become fully amortized or impaired, partially offset by amortization of purchased intangible assets from our recent acquisitions.

Amortization of purchased intangible assets decreased for the first nine months of fiscal 2017, as compared with the first nine months of fiscal 2016, due to certain purchased intangible assets having become fully amortized, partially offset by higher impairment charges and amortization of purchased intangible assets from our recent acquisitions.

Restructuring and Other Charges

In the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2017, we incurred restructuring and other charges of approximately \$70 million and \$614 million, respectively, which were related primarily to employee severance charges for employees impacted by the restructuring action announced in August 2016. In May 2017, we extended the restructuring action to include an additional 1,100 employees and \$150 million of additional estimated pretax charges. Our estimated aggregate pretax charges pursuant to the restructuring action are expected to be approximately \$850 million, and we expect the restructuring action to be substantially completed by the end of the first quarter of fiscal 2018. We expect to reinvest substantially all of the cost savings from the restructuring action in our key priority areas such as security, IoT, collaboration, next generation data center and cloud. As a result, the overall cost savings from the restructuring action are not expected to be material for future periods.

In the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2016, we incurred restructuring and other charges of approximately \$17 million and \$253 million net of a \$2 million credit to cost of sales, respectively. These charges were related primarily to employee severance charges for employees impacted by the restructuring action announced in August 2014. We completed this restructuring action in fiscal 2016.

Operating Income

The following table presents our operating income and our operating income as a percentage of revenue (in millions, except percentages):

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016
Operating income	\$3,169	\$2,984	\$8,939	\$9,357
Operating income as a percentage of revenue	26.5 %	24.9 %	24.9 %	25.6 %

For the third quarter of fiscal 2017, as compared with the third quarter of fiscal 2016, operating income increased by 6% and as a percentage of revenue operating income increased by 1.6 percentage points. These increases were due primarily to decrease in operating expenses.

For the first nine months of fiscal 2017, as compared with the first nine months of fiscal 2016, operating income decreased by 4%, and as a percentage of revenue operating income decreased by 0.7 percentage points. The decrease resulted from the \$285 million pre-tax gain from the sale of our SP Video CPE Business recorded during fiscal 2016 and an increase in restructuring and other charges related to the restructuring action announced in August 2016.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

Interest and Other Income (Loss), Net

Interest Income (Expense), Net The following table summarizes interest income and interest expense (in millions):

	Three Months Ended			Nine Months Ended		
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	Variance in Dollars	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	Variance in Dollars
Interest income	\$354	\$ 270	\$ 84	\$978	\$ 732	\$ 246
Interest expense	(219)	(175)	(44)	(639)	(496)	(143)
Interest income (expense), net	\$135	\$ 95	\$ 40	\$339	\$ 236	\$ 103

For the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2017, interest income increased compared with the corresponding periods of fiscal 2016, driven by an increase in our portfolio of cash, cash equivalents, and fixed income investments as well as higher yields on our portfolio. Interest expense in the third quarter and first nine months of fiscal 2017, as compared with the corresponding periods of fiscal 2016, was higher driven by higher average debt balances and the impact of higher effective interest rates on both floating-rate senior notes and interest rate swaps associated with fixed-rate senior notes.

Other Income (Loss), Net The components of other income (loss), net, are summarized as follows (in millions):

	Three Months Ended			Nine Months Ended		
	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	Variance in Dollars	April 29, 2017	April 30, 2016	Variance in Dollars
Gains (losses) on investments, net:						
Publicly traded equity securities	\$(59)	\$ 25	\$(84)	\$(50)	\$ 18	\$(68)
Fixed income securities	(17)	(31)	14	(41)	(44)	3
Total available-for-sale investments	(76)	(6)	(70)	(91)	(26)	(65)
Privately held companies	—	22	(22)	(53)	(25)	(28)
Net gains (losses) on investments	(76)	16	(92)	(144)	(51)	(93)
Other gains (losses), net	(37)	(12)	(25)	(27)	(16)	(11)
Other income (loss), net	\$(113)	\$ 4	\$(117)	\$(171)	\$ (67)	\$(104)

Three Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Three Months Ended April 30, 2016

The change in total net gains (losses) on available-for-sale investments in the third quarter of fiscal 2017, as compared with the third quarter of fiscal 2016, was driven by \$73 million of impairment charges on publicly traded equity securities.

The change in net gains (losses) on investments in privately held companies for the third quarter of fiscal 2017, as compared with the third quarter of fiscal 2016, was primarily due to higher impairment charges on investments in privately held companies, partially offset by higher realized gains on investments in privately held companies.

The change in other gains (losses), net in the third quarter of fiscal 2017, as compared with the third quarter of fiscal 2016, was driven by impacts from net unfavorable foreign exchange and customer lease terminations, and higher donation expenses.

Nine Months Ended April 29, 2017 Compared with Nine Months Ended April 30, 2016

The change in total net gains (losses) on available-for-sale investments in the first nine months of fiscal 2017, as compared with the first nine months of fiscal 2016, was driven by the \$73 million of impairment charges on publicly traded equity securities.

The change in net gains (losses) on investments in privately held companies for the first nine months of fiscal 2017, as compared with the first nine months of fiscal 2016, was primarily due to higher impairment charges on investments in privately held companies, partially offset by higher realized gains on investments in privately held companies.

The change in other gains (losses), net in the first nine months of fiscal 2017, as compared with the first nine months of fiscal 2016, was driven by impacts from equity derivatives and customer lease terminations.

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Provision for Income Taxes

Our provision for income taxes is subject to volatility and could be adversely impacted by earnings being lower than anticipated in countries that have lower tax rates, higher than anticipated in countries that have higher tax rates, and expiration of or lapses in tax incentives. Our provision for income taxes does not include provisions for U.S. income taxes and foreign withholding taxes associated with the repatriation of undistributed earnings of certain foreign subsidiaries that we intend to reinvest indefinitely in our foreign subsidiaries. If these earnings were distributed from the foreign subsidiaries to the United States in the form of dividends or otherwise, or if the shares of the relevant foreign subsidiaries were sold or otherwise transferred, we would be subject to additional U.S. income taxes (subject to an adjustment for foreign tax credits) and foreign withholding taxes. Further, as a result of certain of our ongoing employment and capital investment actions and commitments, our income in certain countries is subject to reduced tax rates. Our failure to meet these commitments could adversely impact our provision for income taxes.

The provision for income taxes resulted in an effective tax rate of 21.2% for the third quarter of fiscal 2017 compared with 23.8% for the third quarter of fiscal 2016, a net 2.6 percentage point decrease in the effective tax rate for the third quarter of fiscal 2017 as compared with the third quarter of fiscal 2016. The decrease in the effective tax rate was primarily due to an increase in foreign income taxed at lower than U.S. rates for the third quarter of fiscal 2017 as compared with the third quarter of fiscal 2016.

The provision for income taxes resulted in an effective tax rate of 21.1% for the first nine months of fiscal 2017 as compared with 16.8% for the first nine months of fiscal 2016, a net 4.3 percentage point increase in the effective tax rate for the first nine months of fiscal 2017 as compared with the first nine months of fiscal 2016. The increase in the effective tax rate was primarily due to the recognition of a net benefit to the provision for income taxes in the second quarter of fiscal 2016 related to our settlement with the IRS of all outstanding items covering fiscal 2008 through fiscal 2010 and reinstatement of the U.S. federal research and development ("R&D") tax credit on December 18, 2015.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

The following sections discuss the effects of changes in our balance sheet, our capital allocation strategy including stock repurchase program and dividends, our contractual obligations, and certain other commitments and activities on our liquidity and capital resources.

Balance Sheet and Cash Flows

Cash and Cash Equivalents and Investments The following table summarizes our cash and cash equivalents and investments (in millions):

	April 29, July 30, Increase		
	2017	2016	(Decrease)
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 8,116	\$ 7,631	\$ 485
Fixed income securities	58,152	56,621	1,531
Publicly traded equity securities	1,706	1,504	202
Total	\$ 67,974	\$ 65,756	\$ 2,218

The net increase in cash and cash equivalents and investments in the first nine months of fiscal 2017 was primarily driven by cash provided by operating activities of \$9.9 billion and a net increase in debt of \$4.1 billion. These sources of cash were partially offset by cash returned to shareholders in the form of cash dividends of \$4.1 billion and repurchases of common stock of \$2.5 billion under the stock repurchase program; net cash paid for acquisitions of \$3.2 billion, the timing of settlements and the change in fair value of investments of \$1.0 billion and capital expenditures of \$0.8 billion.

Our total in cash and cash equivalents and investments held by various foreign subsidiaries was \$65.1 billion and \$59.8 billion as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016, respectively. Under current tax laws and regulations, if these assets were to be distributed from the foreign subsidiaries to the United States in the form of dividends or otherwise, we would be subject to additional U.S. income taxes (subject to an adjustment for foreign tax credits) and foreign withholding taxes. The balance of cash and cash equivalents and investments available in the United States as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016 was \$2.9 billion and \$5.9 billion, respectively.

We maintain an investment portfolio of various holdings, types, and maturities. We classify our investments as short-term investments based on their nature and their availability for use in current operations. We believe the overall credit quality of our portfolio is strong, with our cash equivalents and our fixed income investment portfolio consisting primarily of high quality investment-grade securities. We believe that our strong cash and cash equivalents and investments position allows us to use our cash resources for strategic investments to gain access to new technologies, for acquisitions, for customer financing activities, for working capital needs, and for the repurchase of shares of common stock and payment of dividends as discussed below.

Free Cash Flow and Capital Allocation As part of our capital allocation strategy, we intend to return a minimum of 50% of our free cash flow annually to our shareholders through cash dividends and repurchases of common stock. We define free cash flow as net cash provided by operating activities less cash used to acquire property and equipment. The following table reconciles our net cash provided by operating activities to free cash flow (in millions):

	Nine Months Ended		
	April 29, April 30,	April 29, April 30,	
	2017	2016	
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$9,875	\$9,752	
Acquisition of property and equipment	(756)	(880)	
Free cash flow	\$9,119	\$8,872	

We expect that cash provided by operating activities may fluctuate in future periods as a result of a number of factors, including fluctuations in our operating results, the rate at which products are shipped during the quarter (which we refer to as shipment linearity), the timing and collection of accounts receivable and financing receivables, inventory

and supply chain management, deferred revenue, excess tax benefits resulting from share-based compensation, and the timing and amount of tax and other payments. For additional discussion, see “Part II, Item 1A. Risk Factors” in this report.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

We consider free cash flow to be a liquidity measure that provides useful information to management and investors because of our intent to return a stated percentage of free cash flow to shareholders in the form of dividends and stock repurchases. We further regard free cash flow as a useful measure because it reflects cash that can be used to, among other things, invest in our business, make strategic acquisitions, repurchase common stock, and pay dividends on our common stock, after deducting capital investments. A limitation of the utility of free cash flow as a measure of financial performance and liquidity is that the free cash flow does not represent the total increase or decrease in our cash balance for the period. In addition, we have other required uses of cash, including repaying the principal of our outstanding indebtedness. Free cash flow is not a measure calculated in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and should not be regarded in isolation or as an alternative for net income provided by operating activities or any other measure calculated in accordance with such principles, and other companies may calculate free cash flow in a different manner than we do.

The following table summarizes the dividends paid and stock repurchases (in millions, except per-share amounts):

Quarter Ended	DIVIDENDS		STOCK REPURCHASE PROGRAM		Amount	TOTAL
	Per Share	Amount	Shares	Weighted-Average Price per Share		
Fiscal 2017						
April 29, 2017	\$0.29	\$ 1,451	15	\$ 33.71	\$ 503	\$ 1,954
January 28, 2017	\$0.26	\$ 1,304	33	\$ 30.33	\$ 1,001	\$ 2,305
October 29, 2016	\$0.26	\$ 1,308	32	\$ 31.12	\$ 1,001	\$ 2,309

Fiscal 2016

July 30, 2016	\$0.26	\$ 1,309	28	\$ 28.70	\$ 800	\$ 2,109
April 30, 2016	\$0.26	\$ 1,308	27	\$ 24.08	\$ 649	\$ 1,957
January 23, 2016	\$0.21	\$ 1,065	48	\$ 26.12	\$ 1,262	\$ 2,327
October 24, 2015	\$0.21	\$ 1,068	45	\$ 26.83	\$ 1,207	\$ 2,275

Any future dividends are subject to the approval of our Board of Directors.

Accounts Receivable, Net The following table summarizes our accounts receivable, net (in millions):

	April 29, July 30, Increase		
	2017	2016	(Decrease)
Accounts receivable, net	\$ 4,635	\$ 5,847	\$ (1,212)

Our accounts receivable net, as of April 29, 2017 decreased by approximately 21%, as compared with the end of fiscal 2016, primarily due to product and service billings being more linear in the third quarter of fiscal 2017 compared with the fourth quarter of fiscal 2016.

Inventory Supply Chain The following table summarizes our inventories and purchase commitments with contract manufacturers and suppliers (in millions, except annualized inventory turns):

	April 29, July 30, Increase		
	2017	2016	(Decrease)
Inventories	\$ 1,366	\$ 1,217	\$ 149
Annualized inventory turns	13.5	14.6	(1.1)
Purchase commitments with contract manufacturers and suppliers	\$ 4,720	\$ 3,896	\$ 824

Inventory as of April 29, 2017 increased by 12% from our inventory balance at the end of fiscal 2016, and for the same period purchase commitments with contract manufacturers and suppliers increased by approximately 21%. On a combined basis, inventories and purchase commitments with contract manufacturers and suppliers increased by 19% compared with the end of fiscal 2016. The increase in inventory and purchase commitments with contract manufacturers and suppliers was due to securing memory supply which is currently constrained and procuring key

components for specific product areas.

We believe our inventory and purchase commitments levels are in line with our current demand forecasts.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

Our finished goods consist of distributor inventory and deferred cost of sales and manufactured finished goods. Distributor inventory and deferred cost of sales are related to unrecognized revenue on shipments to distributors and retail partners as well as shipments to customers. Manufactured finished goods consist primarily of build-to-order and build-to-stock products.

We purchase components from a variety of suppliers and use several contract manufacturers to provide manufacturing services for our products. During the normal course of business, in order to manage manufacturing lead times and help ensure adequate component supply, we enter into agreements with contract manufacturers and suppliers that allow them to procure inventory based upon criteria as defined by us or that establish the parameters defining our requirements and our commitment to securing manufacturing capacity. A significant portion of our reported purchase commitments arising from these agreements are firm, noncancelable, and unconditional commitments. In certain instances, these agreements allow us the option to cancel, reschedule, and adjust our requirements based on our business needs prior to firm orders being placed. Our purchase commitments are for short-term product manufacturing requirements as well as for commitments to suppliers to secure manufacturing capacity.

We record a liability, included in other current liabilities, for firm, noncancelable, and unconditional purchase commitments for quantities in excess of our future demand forecasts consistent with the valuation of our excess and obsolete inventory. The purchase commitments for inventory are expected to be primarily fulfilled within one year. Inventory and supply chain management remain areas of focus as we balance the need to maintain supply chain flexibility to help ensure competitive lead times with the risk of inventory obsolescence because of rapidly changing technology and customer requirements. We believe the amount of our inventory and purchase commitments is appropriate for our revenue levels.

Financing Receivables and Guarantees We measure our net balance sheet exposure position related to our financing receivables and financing guarantees by reducing the total of gross financing receivables and financing guarantees by the associated allowances for credit loss and deferred revenue. As of April 29, 2017, our net balance sheet exposure position related to financing receivables and financing guarantees was as follows (in millions):

	FINANCING RECEIVABLES				FINANCING GUARANTEES			
	Lease Receivables	Loan Receivables	Financed Service Contracts and Other	Total	Channel Partner	End-User Customers	Total	TOTAL
April 29, 2017								
Financing receivables and guarantees	\$2,967	\$ 2,659	\$ 4,096	\$9,722	\$260	\$ 83	\$343	\$10,065
Unearned income	(146)	—	—	(146)	—	—	—	(146)
Allowance for credit loss	(220)	(117)	(32)	(369)	—	—	—	(369)
Deferred revenue	(12)	(16)	(1,965)	(1,993)	(83)	(57)	(140)	(2,133)
Net balance sheet exposure	\$2,589	\$ 2,526	\$ 2,099	\$7,214	\$177	\$ 26	\$203	\$7,417

Financing Receivables Financing receivables less unearned income increased by 9% compared with the end of fiscal 2016. The change was due to a 25% increase in loan receivables and a 22% increase in financed service contracts and other, partially offset by a 15% decrease in lease receivables. We provide financing to certain end-user customers and channel partners to enable sales of our products, services, and networking solutions. These financing arrangements include leases, financed service contracts, and loans. Arrangements related to leases are generally collateralized by a security interest in the underlying assets. Lease receivables include sales-type and direct-financing leases. We also provide certain qualified customers financing for long-term service contracts, which primarily relate to technical support services. Our loan financing arrangements may include not only financing the acquisition of our products and services but also providing additional funds for other costs associated with network installation and integration of our products and services. We expect to continue to expand the use of our financing programs in the near term.

Financing Guarantees In the normal course of business, third parties may provide financing arrangements to our customers and channel partners under financing programs. The financing arrangements to customers provided by third parties are related to leases and loans and typically have terms of up to three years. In some cases, we provide guarantees to third parties for these lease and loan arrangements. The financing arrangements to channel partners consist of revolving short-term financing provided by third parties, generally with payment terms ranging from 60 to 90 days. In certain instances, these financing arrangements result in a transfer of our receivables to the third party. The receivables are derecognized upon transfer, as these transfers qualify as true sales, and we receive payments for the receivables from the third party based on our standard payment terms.

The volume of channel partner financing was \$19.7 billion and \$19.8 billion for the first nine months of fiscal 2017 and 2016, respectively. These financing arrangements facilitate the working capital requirements of the channel partners, and in some cases, we guarantee a portion of these arrangements. The balance of the channel partner financing subject to guarantees was \$0.9 billion and \$1.1 billion as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016, respectively.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

We could be called upon to make payments under these guarantees in the event of nonpayment by the channel partners or end-user customers. Historically, our payments under these arrangements have been immaterial. Where we provide a guarantee, we defer the revenue associated with the channel partner and end-user financing arrangement in accordance with revenue recognition policies, or we record a liability for the fair value of the guarantees. In either case, the deferred revenue is recognized as revenue when the guarantee is removed.

Deferred Revenue Related to Financing Receivables and Guarantees The majority of the deferred revenue in the preceding table is related to financed service contracts. The majority of the revenue related to financed service contracts, which primarily relates to technical support services, is deferred as the revenue related to financed service contracts is recognized ratably over the period during which the related services are to be performed. A portion of the revenue related to lease and loan receivables is also deferred and included in deferred product revenue based on revenue recognition criteria not currently having been met.

Borrowings

Senior Notes The following table summarizes the principal amount of our senior notes (in millions):

	Maturity Date	April 29, 2017	July 30, 2016
Senior notes:			
Floating-rate notes:			
Three-month LIBOR plus 0.28%	March 3, 2017	(1)\$ —	\$1,000
Three-month LIBOR plus 0.60%	February 21, 2018	1,000	1,000
Three-month LIBOR plus 0.31%	June 15, 2018	900	900
Three-month LIBOR plus 0.50%	March 1, 2019	500	500
Three-month LIBOR plus 0.34%	September 20, 2019 (2)	500	—
Fixed-rate notes:			
1.10%	March 3, 2017	(1)—	2,400
3.15%	March 14, 2017	(1)—	750
1.40%	February 28, 2018	1,250	1,250
1.65%	June 15, 2018	1,600	1,600
4.95%	February 15, 2019	2,000	2,000
1.60%	February 28, 2019	1,000	1,000
2.125%	March 1, 2019	1,750	1,750
1.40%	September 20, 2019 (2)	1,500	—
4.45%	January 15, 2020	2,500	2,500
2.45%	June 15, 2020	1,500	1,500
2.20%	February 28, 2021	2,500	2,500
2.90%	March 4, 2021	500	500
1.85%	September 20, 2021 (2)	2,000	—
3.00%	June 15, 2022	500	500
2.60%	February 28, 2023	500	500
2.20%	September 20, 2023 (2)	750	—
3.625%	March 4, 2024	1,000	1,000
3.50%	June 15, 2025	500	500
2.95%	February 28, 2026	750	750
2.50%	September 20, 2026 (2)	1,500	—
5.90%	February 15, 2039	2,000	2,000
5.50%	January 15, 2040	2,000	2,000
Total		\$ 30,500	\$ 28,400

- (1) In March 2017, we repaid senior notes with an aggregate principal amount of \$4.15 billion upon maturity.
- (2) In September 2016, we issued senior notes with an aggregate principal amount of \$6.25 billion.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

Interest is payable semiannually on each class of the senior fixed-rate notes, each of which is redeemable by us at any time, subject to a make-whole premium. Interest is payable quarterly on the floating-rate notes. We were in compliance with all debt covenants as of April 29, 2017.

Other Debt Other debt as of July 30, 2016 included secured borrowings associated with customer financing arrangements. The amount of borrowings outstanding under these arrangements was \$1 million as of July 30, 2016.

Commercial Paper Effective March 31, 2017, we increased our borrowing capacity under our commercial paper program from \$3.0 billion to \$10.0 billion. We use the proceeds from the issuance of commercial paper notes for general corporate purposes. We had \$2.0 billion and no commercial paper notes outstanding as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016, respectively.

Credit Facilities On May 15, 2015, we entered into a credit agreement with certain institutional lenders that provides for a \$3.0 billion unsecured revolving credit facility that is scheduled to expire on May 15, 2020. Any advances under the credit agreement will accrue interest at rates that are equal to, based on certain conditions, either (i) the highest of (a) the Federal Funds rate plus 0.50%, (b) Bank of America's "prime rate" as announced from time to time, or (c) LIBOR, or a comparable or successor rate that is approved by the Administrative Agent ("Eurocurrency Rate"), for an interest period of one month plus 1.00%, or (ii) the Eurocurrency Rate, plus a margin that is based on our senior debt credit ratings as published by Standard & Poor's Financial Services, LLC and Moody's Investors Service, Inc., provided that in no event will the Eurocurrency Rate be less than zero. We may also, upon the agreement of either the then-existing lenders or additional lenders not currently parties to the agreement, increase the commitments under the credit facility by up to an additional \$2.0 billion and/or extend the expiration date of the credit facility up to May 15, 2022.

In addition, on March 30, 2017 we entered into a 364-Day credit agreement with certain institutional lenders that provides for a \$2.0 billion unsecured revolving credit facility that is scheduled to expire on March 29, 2018. The credit agreement also provides us the option to, for a fee, convert any borrowings outstanding thereunder on March 29, 2018 to a term loan maturing no later than March 29, 2019. The interest rate applicable to outstanding balances under the credit agreement will be based on either (i) the higher of (a) the rates on overnight Federal Funds transactions with members of the Federal Reserve System (i.e., Federal Funds rate) plus 0.50%, (b) Bank of America's "prime rate" as announced from time to time or (c) LIBOR for an interest period of one month plus 1.00%, or (ii) LIBOR plus a margin that is based on our senior debt credit ratings as published by S&P Global Rating, a business unit of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC, and Moody's Investors Service, Inc.

These credit agreements require that we comply with certain covenants, including that we maintain interest coverage ratios as defined in these agreements. As of April 29, 2017, we were in compliance with the required interest coverage ratios and the other covenants, and we had not borrowed any funds under these credit facilities.

Deferred Revenue The following table presents the breakdown of deferred revenue (in millions):

	April 29, 2017	July 30, 2016	Increase (Decrease)
Service	\$ 10,532	\$ 10,621	\$ (89)
Product:			
Deferred revenue related to recurring software and subscription businesses	4,352	3,308	1,044
Deferred revenue 311 related to two-tier		377	(66)

distributors				
Other product deferred revenue	2,127	2,166	(39)
Total product deferred revenue	6,790	5,851	939	
Total	\$ 17,322	\$ 16,472	\$ 850	
Reported as:				
Current	\$ 10,344	\$ 10,155	\$ 189	
Noncurrent	6,978	6,317	661	
Total	\$ 17,322	\$ 16,472	\$ 850	

Deferred product revenue increased 16% primarily due to increased deferrals related to recurring software and subscription businesses. The portion of product deferred revenue related to recurring software and subscription businesses grew 57% on a year-over-year basis to \$4.4 billion as of April 29, 2017, which includes recurring deferred revenue from the acquisition of AppDynamics.

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

Product deferred revenue related to recurring software and subscription businesses not including AppDynamics grew 51% on a year-over-year basis. Wireless, Security, and Collaboration were the key product category contributors of this product deferred revenue growth during the period. The 1% decrease in deferred service revenue was driven by the timing of multiyear arrangements and the impact of ongoing amortization of deferred service revenue.

Contractual Obligations

Operating Leases

We lease office space in many U.S. locations. Outside the United States, larger leased sites include sites in Belgium, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Israel, Japan, Poland and the United Kingdom. We also lease equipment and vehicles. The future minimum lease payments under all of our noncancelable operating leases with an initial term in excess of one year as of April 29, 2017 were \$1.2 billion.

Other Commitments

In connection with our acquisitions, we have agreed to pay certain additional amounts contingent upon the achievement of certain agreed-upon technology, development, product, or other milestones or the continued employment with us of certain employees of the acquired entities. See Note 12 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Insieme Networks, Inc. In the third quarter of fiscal 2012, we made an investment in Insieme, an early stage company focused on research and development in the data center market. As set forth in the agreement between Cisco and Insieme, this investment included \$100 million of funding and a license to certain of our technology. Immediately prior to the call option exercise and acquisition described below, we owned approximately 83% of Insieme as a result of these investments and have consolidated the results of Insieme in our Consolidated Financial Statements. In connection with this investment, we entered into a put/call option agreement that provided us with the right to purchase the remaining interests in Insieme. In addition, the noncontrolling interest holders could require us to purchase their shares upon the occurrence of certain events.

During the first quarter of fiscal 2014, we exercised our call option and entered into an agreement to purchase the remaining interests in Insieme. The acquisition closed in the second quarter of fiscal 2014, at which time the former noncontrolling interest holders became eligible to receive up to two milestone payments, which will be determined using agreed-upon formulas based primarily on revenue for certain of Insieme's products. During the nine months ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016, we recorded compensation expense of \$41 million and \$136 million, respectively, related to the fair value of the vested portion of amounts that were earned or are expected to be earned by the former noncontrolling interest holders. Continued vesting will result in additional compensation expense in future periods. Based on the terms of the agreement, we have determined that the maximum amount that could be recorded as compensation expense by us is approximately \$831 million (which includes the \$824 million that has been expensed to date), net of forfeitures. The former noncontrolling interest holders earned the maximum amount related to these two milestone payments and were paid approximately \$436 million and \$375 million during the first nine months of fiscal 2017 and fiscal 2016, respectively. As of April 29, 2017, we paid a total of approximately \$825 million pursuant to these two milestone payments.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We consider our investments in unconsolidated variable interest entities to be off-balance sheet arrangements. In the ordinary course of business, we have investments in privately held companies including venture funds and provide financing to certain customers. Certain of these investments are considered to be variable interest entities.

We also have certain funding commitments primarily related to these variable interest entities, some of which are based on the achievement of certain agreed-upon milestones, and some of which are required to be funded on demand. The funding commitments were \$170 million as of April 29, 2017.

On an ongoing basis, we reassess our investments in privately held companies and customer financings to determine if they are variable interest entities and if we would be regarded as the primary beneficiary pursuant to the applicable

accounting guidance. As a result of this ongoing assessment, we may be required to make additional disclosures or consolidate these entities. Because we may not control these entities, we may not have the ability to influence these events.

We provide financing guarantees, which are generally for various third-party financing arrangements extended to our channel partners and end-user customers. We could be called upon to make payments under these guarantees in the event of nonpayment by the channel partners or end-user customers. See the previous discussion of these financing guarantees under “Financing Receivables and Guarantees.”

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CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

Securities Lending

We periodically engage in securities lending activities with certain of our available for sale investments. These transactions are accounted for as a secured lending of the securities, and the securities are typically loaned only on an overnight basis. The average daily balance of securities lending for the nine months ended April 29, 2017 and April 30, 2016 was \$0.8 billion and \$0.6 billion, respectively. We require collateral equal to at least 102% of the fair market value of the loaned security and that the collateral be in the form of cash or liquid, high-quality assets. We engage in these secured lending transactions only with highly creditworthy counterparties, and the associated portfolio custodian has agreed to indemnify us against collateral losses. As of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016, we had no outstanding securities lending transactions. We believe these arrangements do not present a material risk or impact to our liquidity requirements.

Liquidity and Capital Resource Requirements

Based on past performance and current expectations, we believe our cash and cash equivalents, investments, cash generated from operations, and ability to access capital markets and committed credit lines will satisfy, through at least the next 12 months, our liquidity requirements, both in total and domestically, including the following: working capital needs, capital expenditures, investment requirements, stock repurchases, cash dividends, contractual obligations, commitments, principal and interest payments on debt, pending acquisitions, future customer financings, and other liquidity requirements associated with our operations. There are no other transactions, arrangements, or relationships with unconsolidated entities or other persons that are reasonably likely to materially affect the liquidity and the availability of, as well as our requirements for, capital resources.

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Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Our financial position is exposed to a variety of risks, including interest rate risk, equity price risk, and foreign currency exchange risk.

Interest Rate Risk

Fixed Income Securities We maintain an investment portfolio of various holdings, types, and maturities. Our primary objective for holding fixed income securities is to achieve an appropriate investment return consistent with preserving principal and managing risk. At any time, a sharp rise in market interest rates could have a material adverse impact on the fair value of our fixed income investment portfolio. Conversely, declines in interest rates, including the impact from lower credit spreads, could have a material adverse impact on interest income for our investment portfolio. We may utilize derivative instruments designated as hedging instruments to achieve our investment objectives. We had no outstanding hedging instruments for our fixed income securities as of April 29, 2017. Our fixed income investments are held for purposes other than trading. Our fixed income investments are not leveraged as of April 29, 2017. We monitor our interest rate and credit risks, including our credit exposures to specific rating categories and to individual issuers. We believe the overall credit quality of our portfolio is strong.

Financing Receivables As of April 29, 2017, our financing receivables had a carrying value of \$9.2 billion, compared with \$8.4 billion as of July 30, 2016. As of April 29, 2017, a hypothetical 50 basis points (“BPS”) increase or decrease in market interest rates would change the fair value of our financing receivables by a decrease or increase of approximately \$0.1 billion, respectively.

Debt As of April 29, 2017, we had \$30.5 billion in principal amount of senior notes outstanding, which consisted of \$2.9 billion floating-rate notes and \$27.6 billion fixed-rate notes. The carrying amount of the senior notes was \$30.5 billion, and the related fair value based on market prices was \$32.0 billion. As of April 29, 2017, a hypothetical 50 BPS increase or decrease in market interest rates would change the fair value of the fixed-rate debt, excluding the \$6.8 billion of hedged debt, by a decrease or increase of approximately \$0.6 billion, respectively. However, this hypothetical change in interest rates would not impact the interest expense on the fixed-rate debt that is not hedged.

Equity Price Risk

The fair value of our equity investments in publicly traded companies is subject to market price volatility. We may hold equity securities for strategic purposes or to diversify our overall investment portfolio. Our equity portfolio consists of securities with characteristics that most closely match the Standard & Poor’s 500 Index or NASDAQ Composite Index. These equity securities are held for purposes other than trading. To manage our exposure to changes in the fair value of certain equity securities, we may enter into equity derivatives designated as hedging instruments.

Publicly Traded Equity Securities The following tables present the hypothetical fair values of publicly traded equity securities as a result of selected potential decreases and increases in the price of each equity security in the portfolio, excluding hedged equity securities, if any. Potential fluctuations in the price of each equity security in the portfolio of plus or minus 10%, 20%, and 30% were selected based on potential near-term changes in those security prices. The hypothetical fair values as of April 29, 2017 and July 30, 2016 are as follows (in millions):

	VALUATION OF SECURITIES GIVEN AN X% DECREASE IN EACH STOCK’S PRICE			FAIR VALUE AS OF APRIL 29, 2017	VALUATION OF SECURITIES GIVEN AN X% INCREASE IN EACH STOCK’S PRICE		
	(30)%	(20)%	(10)%		10%	20%	30%
Publicly traded equity securities	\$1,194	\$1,365	\$1,535	\$ 1,706	\$1,877	\$2,047	\$2,218

	VALUATION OF SECURITIES GIVEN AN X% DECREASE IN	FAIR VALUE AS OF JULY 30, 2016	VALUATION OF SECURITIES GIVEN AN X% INCREASE IN
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	EACH STOCK'S PRICE	EACH STOCK'S PRICE
Publicly traded equity securities	\$30.73 \$20.73 \$10.74 \$ 1,504	\$0.654 \$0.805 \$0.955

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Investments in Privately Held Companies We have also invested in privately held companies. These investments are recorded in other assets in our Consolidated Balance Sheets and are accounted for using primarily either the cost or the equity method. As of April 29, 2017, the total carrying amount of our investments in privately held companies was \$950 million, compared with \$1,003 million at July 30, 2016. Some of the privately held companies in which we invested are in the startup or development stages. These investments are inherently risky because the markets for the technologies or products these companies are developing are typically in the early stages and may never materialize. We could lose our entire investment in these companies. Our evaluation of investments in privately held companies is based on the fundamentals of the businesses invested in, including, among other factors, the nature of their technologies and potential for financial return.

Foreign Currency Exchange Risk

Our foreign exchange forward and option contracts outstanding as of respective period-ends are summarized in U.S. dollar equivalents as follows (in millions):

	April 29, 2017		July 30, 2016	
	Notional Amount	Fair Value	Notional Amount	Fair Value
Forward contracts:				
Purchased	\$2,696	\$ (11)	\$3,079	\$ (41)
Sold	\$757	\$ —	\$651	\$ —
Option contracts:				
Purchased	\$541	\$ 10	\$688	\$ 4
Sold	\$493	\$ (3)	\$620	\$ (10)

We conduct business globally in numerous currencies. The direct effect of foreign currency fluctuations on revenue has not been material because our revenue is primarily denominated in U.S. dollars. However, if the U.S. dollar strengthens relative to other currencies, such strengthening could have an indirect effect on our revenue to the extent it raises the cost of our products to non-U.S. customers and thereby reduces demand. A weaker U.S. dollar could have the opposite effect. However, the precise indirect effect of currency fluctuations is difficult to measure or predict because our revenue is influenced by many factors in addition to the impact of such currency fluctuations.

Approximately 70% of our operating expenses are U.S.-dollar denominated. In the first nine months of fiscal 2017, foreign currency fluctuations, net of hedging, decreased our combined R&D, sales and marketing, and G&A expenses by approximately \$62 million, or approximately 0.5%, compared with the first nine months of fiscal 2016. To reduce variability in operating expenses and service cost of sales caused by non-U.S.-dollar denominated operating expenses and costs, we hedge certain forecasted foreign currency transactions with currency options and forward contracts.

These hedging programs are not designed to provide foreign currency protection over long time horizons. In designing a specific hedging approach, we consider several factors, including offsetting exposures, significance of exposures, costs associated with entering into a particular hedge instrument, and potential effectiveness of the hedge. The gains and losses on foreign exchange contracts mitigate the effect of currency movements on our operating expenses and service cost of sales.

We also enter into foreign exchange forward and option contracts to reduce the short-term effects of foreign currency fluctuations on receivables and payables that are denominated in currencies other than the functional currencies of the entities. The market risks associated with these foreign currency receivables, investments, and payables relate primarily to variances from our forecasted foreign currency transactions and balances. We do not enter into foreign exchange forward or option contracts for speculative purposes.

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Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures. Based on our management's evaluation (with the participation of our principal executive officer and principal financial officer), as of the end of the period covered by this report, our principal executive officer and principal financial officer have concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, (the "Exchange Act")) are effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in Securities and Exchange Commission rules and forms and is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Changes in internal control over financial reporting. There was no change in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act) during our third quarter of fiscal 2017 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

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PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

Brazil Brazilian authorities have investigated our Brazilian subsidiary and certain of its former employees, as well as a Brazilian importer of our products, and its affiliates and employees, relating to alleged evasion of import taxes and alleged improper transactions involving the subsidiary and the importer. Brazilian tax authorities have assessed claims against our Brazilian subsidiary based on a theory of joint liability with the Brazilian importer for import taxes, interest, and penalties. In addition to claims asserted by the Brazilian federal tax authorities in prior fiscal years, tax authorities from the Brazilian state of Sao Paulo have asserted similar claims on the same legal basis in prior fiscal years.

The asserted claims by Brazilian federal tax authorities that remain are for calendar years 2003 through 2007, and the asserted claims by the tax authorities from the state of Sao Paulo are for calendar years 2005 through 2007. The total asserted claims by Brazilian state and federal tax authorities aggregate to \$255 million for the alleged evasion of import and other taxes, \$1.5 billion for interest, and \$1.2 billion for various penalties, all determined using an exchange rate as of April 29, 2017. We have completed a thorough review of the matters and believe the asserted claims against our Brazilian subsidiary are without merit, and we are defending the claims vigorously. While we believe there is no legal basis for the alleged liability, due to the complexities and uncertainty surrounding the judicial process in Brazil and the nature of the claims asserting joint liability with the importer, we are unable to determine the likelihood of an unfavorable outcome against our Brazilian subsidiary and are unable to reasonably estimate a range of loss, if any. We do not expect a final judicial determination for several years.

SRI International On September 4, 2013, SRI International, Inc. (“SRI”) asserted patent infringement claims against us in the U.S. District Court for the District of Delaware, accusing our products and services in the area of network intrusion detection of infringing two U.S. patents. SRI sought monetary damages of at least a reasonable royalty and enhanced damages. On May 12, 2016, the jury returned a verdict finding willful infringement of the asserted patents. The jury awarded SRI damages of \$23.7 million and the Court will decide whether to award enhanced damages and attorneys’ fees and whether an ongoing royalty should be awarded through the expiration of the patents in 2018. In June 2016, we filed post-trial motions. We also intend to pursue an appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit on various grounds. We believe we have strong arguments to overturn the jury verdict and/or reduce the damages award. While the ultimate outcome of the case may still result in a loss, we do not expect it to be material.

SSL SSL Services, LLC (“SSL”) has asserted claims for patent infringement against us in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas. The proceeding was instituted on March 25, 2015. SSL alleges that our AnyConnect products that include Virtual Private Networking functions infringed a U.S. patent owned by SSL. SSL seeks money damages from us. On August 18, 2015, Cisco petitioned the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (“PTAB”) of the United States Patent and Trademark Office to review whether the patent SSL has asserted against us is valid over prior art. On February 23, 2016, a PTAB multi-judge panel found a reasonable likelihood that we would prevail in showing that SSL’s patent claims are unpatentable and instituted proceedings. On June 28, 2016, in light of the PTAB’s decision to review the patent’s validity, the district court issued an order staying the district court case pending the final written decision from the PTAB. On February 22, 2017, following a hearing, the PTAB issued its Final Written Decision that the patent’s claims are unpatentable. SSL has filed a notice that intends to appeal this decision to the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. We believe we have strong arguments that our products do not infringe and the patent is invalid. If we do not prevail and a jury were to find that our AnyConnect products infringe, we believe damages, as appropriately measured, would be immaterial. Due to uncertainty surrounding patent litigation processes, however, we are unable to reasonably estimate the ultimate outcome of this litigation at this time.

In addition, we are subject to legal proceedings, claims, and litigation arising in the ordinary course of business, including intellectual property litigation. While the outcome of these matters is currently not determinable, we do not expect that the ultimate costs to resolve these matters will have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial position, results of operations, or cash flows. For additional information regarding intellectual property litigation, see “Part II, Item 1A. Risk Factors-We may be found to infringe on intellectual property rights of others” herein.

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Item 1A. Risk Factors

Set forth below and elsewhere in this report and in other documents we file with the SEC are descriptions of the risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to differ materially from the results contemplated by the forward-looking statements contained in this report. The descriptions below include any material changes to and supersede the description of the risk factors affecting our business previously disclosed in “Part I, Item 1A. Risk Factors” of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended July 30, 2016.

OUR OPERATING RESULTS MAY FLUCTUATE IN FUTURE PERIODS, WHICH MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR STOCK PRICE

Our operating results have been in the past, and will continue to be, subject to quarterly and annual fluctuations as a result of numerous factors, some of which may contribute to more pronounced fluctuations in an uncertain global economic environment. These factors include:

- Fluctuations in demand for our products and services, especially with respect to service providers and Internet businesses, in part due to changes in the global economic environment
- Changes in sales and implementation cycles for our products and reduced visibility into our customers’ spending plans and associated revenue
 - Our ability to maintain appropriate inventory levels and purchase commitments
- Price and product competition in the communications and networking industries, which can change rapidly due to technological innovation and different business models from various geographic regions
- The overall movement toward industry consolidation among both our competitors and our customers
- The introduction and market acceptance of new technologies and products and our success in new and evolving markets, including in our newer product categories such as data center and collaboration and in emerging technologies, as well as the adoption of new standards
- New business models for our offerings, such as other-as-a-service, where costs are borne up front while revenue is recognized over time
- Variations in sales channels, product costs, mix of products sold, or mix of direct sales and indirect sales
- The timing, size, and mix of orders from customers
- Manufacturing and customer lead times
 - Fluctuations in our gross margins, and the factors that contribute to such fluctuations, as described below

- The ability of our customers, channel partners, contract manufacturers and suppliers to obtain financing or to fund
- capital expenditures, especially during a period of global credit market disruption or in the event of customer, channel partner, contract manufacturer or supplier financial problems
 - Share-based compensation expense
 - Actual events, circumstances, outcomes, and amounts differing from judgments, assumptions, and estimates used in determining the values of certain assets (including the amounts of related valuation allowances), liabilities, and other items reflected in our Consolidated Financial Statements
 - How well we execute on our strategy and operating plans and the impact of changes in our business model that could result in significant restructuring charges
 - Our ability to achieve targeted cost reductions
 - Benefits anticipated from our investments in engineering, sales, service, and marketing
 - Changes in tax laws or accounting rules, or interpretations thereof

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As a consequence, operating results for a particular future period are difficult to predict, and, therefore, prior results are not necessarily indicative of results to be expected in future periods. Any of the foregoing factors, or any other factors discussed elsewhere herein, could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, and financial condition that could adversely affect our stock price.

OUR OPERATING RESULTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY UNFAVORABLE ECONOMIC AND MARKET CONDITIONS AND THE UNCERTAIN GEOPOLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

Challenging economic conditions worldwide have from time to time contributed, and may continue to contribute, to slowdowns in the communications and networking industries at large, as well as in specific segments and markets in which we operate, resulting in:

- Reduced demand for our products as a result of continued constraints on IT-related capital spending by our customers, particularly service providers, and other customer markets as well
- Increased price competition for our products, not only from our competitors but also as a consequence of customers disposing of unutilized products
- Risk of excess and obsolete inventories
- Risk of supply constraints
- Risk of excess facilities and manufacturing capacity
- Higher overhead costs as a percentage of revenue and higher interest expense

The global macroeconomic environment has been challenging and inconsistent. Instability in the global credit markets, the impact of uncertainty regarding global central bank monetary policy, the instability in the geopolitical environment in many parts of the world including as a result of the recent United Kingdom “Brexit” referendum to withdraw from the European Union, the current economic challenges in China, including global economic ramifications of Chinese economic difficulties, and other disruptions may continue to put pressure on global economic conditions. If global economic and market conditions, or economic conditions in key markets, remain uncertain or deteriorate further, we may experience material impacts on our business, operating results, and financial condition. Our operating results in one or more segments may also be affected by uncertain or changing economic conditions particularly germane to that segment or to particular customer markets within that segment. For example, emerging countries in the aggregate experienced a decline in product orders during the first nine months of fiscal 2017, the fourth quarter of fiscal 2016 and also in fiscal 2015.

In addition, reports of certain intelligence gathering methods of the U.S. government could affect customers’ perception of the products of IT companies which design and manufacture products in the United States. Trust and confidence in us as an IT supplier is critical to the development and growth of our markets. Impairment of that trust, or foreign regulatory actions taken in response to reports of certain intelligence gathering methods of the U.S. government, could affect the demand for our products from customers outside of the United States and could have an adverse effect on our operating results.

WE HAVE BEEN INVESTING AND EXPECT TO CONTINUE TO INVEST IN KEY PRIORITY AND GROWTH AREAS AS WELL AS MAINTAINING LEADERSHIP IN ROUTING, SWITCHING AND SERVICES, AND IF THE RETURN ON THESE INVESTMENTS IS LOWER OR DEVELOPS MORE SLOWLY THAN WE EXPECT, OUR OPERATING RESULTS MAY BE HARMED

We expect to realign and dedicate resources into key priority and growth areas, such as security, IoT, collaboration, next generation data center, cloud and software, while also focusing on maintaining leadership in routing, switching and services. However, the return on our investments may be lower, or may develop more slowly, than we expect. If we do not achieve the benefits anticipated from these investments (including if our selection of areas for investment does not play out as we expect), or if the achievement of these benefits is delayed, our operating results may be adversely affected.

OUR REVENUE FOR A PARTICULAR PERIOD IS DIFFICULT TO PREDICT, AND A SHORTFALL IN REVENUE MAY HARM OUR OPERATING RESULTS

As a result of a variety of factors discussed in this report, our revenue for a particular quarter is difficult to predict, especially in light of a challenging and inconsistent global macroeconomic environment and related market uncertainty.

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Our revenue may grow at a slower rate than in past periods or decline as it did in the first nine months of fiscal 2017 and in fiscal 2014 on a year-over-year basis. Our ability to meet financial expectations could also be adversely affected if the nonlinear sales pattern seen in some of our past quarters recurs in future periods. We have experienced periods of time during which shipments have exceeded net bookings or manufacturing issues have delayed shipments, leading to nonlinearity in shipping patterns. In addition to making it difficult to predict revenue for a particular period, nonlinearity in shipping can increase costs, because irregular shipment patterns result in periods of underutilized capacity and periods in which overtime expenses may be incurred, as well as in potential additional inventory management-related costs. In addition, to the extent that manufacturing issues and any related component shortages result in delayed shipments in the future, and particularly in periods in which our contract manufacturers are operating at higher levels of capacity, it is possible that revenue for a quarter could be adversely affected if such matters occur and are not remediated within the same quarter.

The timing of large orders can also have a significant effect on our business and operating results from quarter to quarter, primarily in the United States and in emerging countries. From time to time, we receive large orders that have a significant effect on our operating results in the period in which the order is recognized as revenue. The timing of such orders is difficult to predict, and the timing of revenue recognition from such orders may affect period to period changes in revenue. As a result, our operating results could vary materially from quarter to quarter based on the receipt of such orders and their ultimate recognition as revenue.

Inventory management remains an area of focus. We have experienced longer than normal manufacturing lead times in the past which have caused some customers to place the same order multiple times within our various sales channels and to cancel the duplicative orders upon receipt of the product, or to place orders with other vendors with shorter manufacturing lead times. Such multiple ordering (along with other factors) or risk of order cancellation may cause difficulty in predicting our revenue and, as a result, could impair our ability to manage parts inventory effectively. In addition, our efforts to improve manufacturing lead-time performance may result in corresponding reductions in order backlog. A decline in backlog levels could result in more variability and less predictability in our quarter-to-quarter revenue and operating results. In addition, when facing component supply-related challenges, we have increased our efforts in procuring components in order to meet customer expectations which in turn contribute to an increase in purchase commitments. Increases in our purchase commitments to shorten lead times could also lead to excess and obsolete inventory charges if the demand for our products is less than our expectations.

We plan our operating expense levels based primarily on forecasted revenue levels. These expenses and the impact of long-term commitments are relatively fixed in the short term. A shortfall in revenue could lead to operating results being below expectations because we may not be able to quickly reduce these fixed expenses in response to short-term business changes.

Any of the above factors could have a material adverse impact on our operations and financial results.

WE EXPECT GROSS MARGIN TO VARY OVER TIME, AND OUR LEVEL OF PRODUCT GROSS MARGIN MAY NOT BE SUSTAINABLE

Our product gross margins declined in the third quarter of fiscal 2017 and in certain other prior periods, and could decline in future quarters due to adverse impacts from various factors, including:

- Changes in customer, geographic, or product mix, including mix of configurations within each product group
 - Introduction of new products, including products with price-performance advantages, and new business models for our offerings such as XaaS
- Our ability to reduce production costs
 - Entry into new markets or growth in lower margin markets, including markets with different pricing and cost structures, through acquisitions or internal development
- Sales discounts
 - Increases in material, labor or other manufacturing-related costs, which could be significant especially during periods of supply constraints
- Excess inventory and inventory holding charges
- Obsolescence charges
- Changes in shipment volume

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- The timing of revenue recognition and revenue deferrals
- Increased cost, loss of cost savings or dilution of savings due to changes in component pricing or charges incurred
- due to inventory holding periods if parts ordering does not correctly anticipate product demand or if the financial health of either contract manufacturers or suppliers deteriorates
- Lower than expected benefits from value engineering
- Increased price competition, including competitors from Asia, especially from China
- Changes in distribution channels
- Increased warranty costs
- Increased amortization of purchased intangible assets, especially from acquisitions
- How well we execute on our strategy and operating plans

Changes in service gross margin may result from various factors such as changes in the mix between technical support services and advanced services, as well as the timing of technical support service contract initiations and renewals and the addition of personnel and other resources to support higher levels of service business in future periods.

SALES TO THE SERVICE PROVIDER MARKET ARE ESPECIALLY VOLATILE, AND WEAKNESS IN ORDERS FROM THIS INDUSTRY MAY HARM OUR OPERATING RESULTS AND FINANCIAL CONDITION

Sales to the service provider market have been characterized by large and sporadic purchases, especially relating to our router sales and sales of certain products in our newer product categories such as Data Center, Collaboration, and Service Provider Video, in addition to longer sales cycles. Product orders from the service provider market decreased in the first nine months of fiscal 2017 and in fiscal 2015, and at various times in the past, including in fiscal 2014, we experienced significant weakness in product orders from service providers. Product orders from the service provider market could continue to decline and, as has been the case in the past, such weakness could persist over extended periods of time given fluctuating market conditions. Sales activity in this industry depends upon the stage of completion of expanding network infrastructures; the availability of funding; and the extent to which service providers are affected by regulatory, economic, and business conditions in the country of operations. Weakness in orders from this industry, including as a result of any slowdown in capital expenditures by service providers (which may be more prevalent during a global economic downturn, or periods of economic, political or regulatory uncertainty), could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, and financial condition. Such slowdowns may continue or recur in future periods. Orders from this industry could decline for many reasons other than the competitiveness of our products and services within their respective markets. For example, in the past, many of our service provider customers have been materially and adversely affected by slowdowns in the general economy, by overcapacity, by changes in the service provider market, by regulatory developments, and by constraints on capital availability, resulting in business failures and substantial reductions in spending and expansion plans. These conditions have materially harmed our business and operating results in the past, and some of these or other conditions in the service provider market could affect our business and operating results in any future period. Finally, service provider customers typically have longer implementation cycles; require a broader range of services, including design services; demand that vendors take on a larger share of risks; often require acceptance provisions, which can lead to a delay in revenue recognition; and expect financing from vendors. All these factors can add further risk to business conducted with service providers.

DISRUPTION OF OR CHANGES IN OUR DISTRIBUTION MODEL COULD HARM OUR SALES AND MARGINS

If we fail to manage distribution of our products and services properly, or if our distributors' financial condition or operations weaken, our revenue and gross margins could be adversely affected.

A substantial portion of our products and services is sold through our channel partners, and the remainder is sold through direct sales. Our channel partners include systems integrators, service providers, other resellers, and distributors. Systems integrators and service providers typically sell directly to end users and often provide system installation, technical support, professional services, and other support services in addition to network equipment sales. Systems integrators also typically integrate our products into an overall solution, and a number of service providers are also systems integrators. Distributors stock inventory and typically sell to systems integrators, service providers, and other resellers. We refer to sales through distributors as our two-tier system of sales to the end

customer. Revenue from distributors is generally recognized based on a sell-through method using information provided by them. These distributors are generally given business terms that allow them to return a portion of inventory, receive credits for changes in selling prices, and participate in various cooperative marketing programs. If sales through indirect channels

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increase, this may lead to greater difficulty in forecasting the mix of our products and, to a degree, the timing of orders from our customers.

Historically, we have seen fluctuations in our gross margins based on changes in the balance of our distribution channels. Although variability to date has not been significant, there can be no assurance that changes in the balance of our distribution model in future periods would not have an adverse effect on our gross margins and profitability. Some factors could result in disruption of or changes in our distribution model, which could harm our sales and margins, including the following:

- We compete with some of our channel partners, including through our direct sales, which may lead these channel partners to use other suppliers that do not directly sell their own products or otherwise compete with them
- Some of our channel partners may demand that we absorb a greater share of the risks that their customers may ask them to bear
- Some of our channel partners may have insufficient financial resources and may not be able to withstand changes and challenges in business conditions
- Revenue from indirect sales could suffer if our distributors' financial condition or operations weaken

In addition, we depend on our channel partners globally to comply with applicable regulatory requirements. To the extent that they fail to do so, that could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, and financial condition. Further, sales of our products outside of agreed territories can result in disruption to our distribution channels.

THE MARKETS IN WHICH WE COMPETE ARE INTENSELY COMPETITIVE, WHICH COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR ACHIEVEMENT OF REVENUE GROWTH

The markets in which we compete are characterized by rapid change, converging technologies, and a migration to networking and communications solutions that offer relative advantages. These market factors represent a competitive threat to us. We compete with numerous vendors in each product category. The overall number of our competitors providing niche product solutions may increase. Also, the identity and composition of competitors may change as we increase our activity in newer product categories such as data center and collaboration and in key priority and growth areas. For example, as products related to network programmability, such as software-defined-networking products, become more prevalent, we expect to face increased competition from companies that develop networking products based on commoditized hardware, referred to as "white box" hardware, to the extent customers decide to purchase those product offerings instead of ours. In addition, the growth in demand for technology delivered as a service enables new competitors to enter the market.

As we continue to expand globally, we may see new competition in different geographic regions. In particular, we have experienced price-focused competition from competitors in Asia, especially from China, and we anticipate this will continue. Our competitors include Amazon Web Services LLC; Arista Networks, Inc.; ARRIS Group, Inc.; Avaya Inc.; Blue Jeans Networks, Brocade Communications Systems, Inc.; Check Point Software Technologies Ltd.; Dell Inc.; Extreme Networks, Inc.; F5 Networks, Inc.; FireEye, Inc.; Fortinet, Inc.; Hewlett-Packard Enterprise Company; Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd.; International Business Machines Corporation; Juniper Networks, Inc.; Lenovo Group Limited; LogMeIn, Inc.; Microsoft Corporation; Nokia Corporation; Palo Alto Networks, Inc.; Polycom, Inc.; Riverbed Technology, Inc.; Symantec Corporation; Ubiquiti Networks and VMware, Inc.; among others.

Some of our competitors compete across many of our product lines, while others are primarily focused in a specific product area. Barriers to entry are relatively low, and new ventures to create products that do or could compete with our products are regularly formed. In addition, some of our competitors may have greater resources, including technical and engineering resources, than we do. As we expand into new markets, we will face competition not only from our existing competitors but also from other competitors, including existing companies with strong technological, marketing, and sales positions in those markets. We also sometimes face competition from resellers and distributors of our products. Companies with which we have strategic alliances in some areas may be competitors in other areas, and in our view this trend may increase.

For example, the enterprise data center is undergoing a fundamental transformation arising from the convergence of technologies, including computing, networking, storage, and software, that previously were segregated. Due to several

factors, including the availability of highly scalable and general purpose microprocessors, application-specific integrated circuits (ASICs) offering advanced services, standards based protocols, cloud computing and virtualization, the convergence of technologies within the enterprise data center is spanning multiple, previously independent, technology segments. Also, some of our current and potential competitors for enterprise data center business have made acquisitions, or announced new strategic alliances, designed to position them to provide end-to-end technology solutions for the enterprise data center. As a result of all of these developments, we face

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greater competition in the development and sale of enterprise data center technologies, including competition from entities that are among our long-term strategic alliance partners. Companies that are strategic alliance partners in some areas of our business may acquire or form alliances with our competitors, thereby reducing their business with us. The principal competitive factors in the markets in which we presently compete and may compete in the future include:

- The ability to provide a broad range of networking and communications products and services
- Product performance
- Price
- The ability to introduce new products, including products with price-performance advantages
- The ability to reduce production costs
 - The ability to provide value-added features such as security, reliability, and investment protection
- Conformance to standards
- Market presence
- The ability to provide financing
- Disruptive technology shifts and new business models

We also face competition from customers to which we license or supply technology and suppliers from which we transfer technology. The inherent nature of networking requires interoperability. As such, we must cooperate and at the same time compete with many companies. Any inability to effectively manage these complicated relationships with customers, suppliers, and strategic alliance partners could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, and financial condition and accordingly affect our chances of success.

OUR INVENTORY MANAGEMENT RELATING TO OUR SALES TO OUR TWO-TIER DISTRIBUTION CHANNEL IS COMPLEX, AND EXCESS INVENTORY MAY HARM OUR GROSS MARGINS

We must manage our inventory relating to sales to our distributors effectively, because inventory held by them could affect our results of operations. Our distributors may increase orders during periods of product shortages, cancel orders if their inventory is too high, or delay orders in anticipation of new products. They also may adjust their orders in response to the supply of our products and the products of our competitors that are available to them, and in response to seasonal fluctuations in end-user demand. Revenue to our distributors generally is recognized based on a sell-through method using information provided by them, and they are generally given business terms that allow them to return a portion of inventory, receive credits for changes in selling price, and participate in various cooperative marketing programs. Inventory management remains an area of focus as we balance the need to maintain strategic inventory levels to ensure competitive lead times against the risk of inventory obsolescence because of rapidly changing technology and customer requirements. When facing component supply-related challenges, we have increased our efforts in procuring components in order to meet customer expectations. If we ultimately determine that we have excess inventory, we may have to reduce our prices and write down inventory, which in turn could result in lower gross margins.

SUPPLY CHAIN ISSUES, INCLUDING FINANCIAL PROBLEMS OF CONTRACT MANUFACTURERS OR COMPONENT SUPPLIERS, OR A SHORTAGE OF ADEQUATE COMPONENT SUPPLY OR MANUFACTURING CAPACITY THAT INCREASED OUR COSTS OR CAUSED A DELAY IN OUR ABILITY TO FULFILL ORDERS, COULD HAVE AN ADVERSE IMPACT ON OUR BUSINESS AND OPERATING RESULTS, AND OUR FAILURE TO ESTIMATE CUSTOMER DEMAND PROPERLY MAY RESULT IN EXCESS OR OBSOLETE COMPONENT SUPPLY, WHICH COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR GROSS MARGINS

The fact that we do not own or operate the bulk of our manufacturing facilities and that we are reliant on our extended supply chain could have an adverse impact on the supply of our products and on our business and operating results:

- Any financial problems of either contract manufacturers or component suppliers could either limit supply or increase costs

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- Reservation of manufacturing capacity at our contract manufacturers by other companies, inside or outside of our industry, could either limit supply or increase costs
- Industry consolidation occurring within one or more component supplier markets, such as the semiconductor market, could either limit supply or increase costs

A reduction or interruption in supply; a significant increase in the price of one or more components; a failure to adequately authorize procurement of inventory by our contract manufacturers; a failure to appropriately cancel, reschedule, or adjust our requirements based on our business needs; or a decrease in demand for our products could materially adversely affect our business, operating results, and financial condition and could materially damage customer relationships. Furthermore, as a result of binding price or purchase commitments with suppliers, we may be obligated to purchase components at prices that are higher than those available in the current market. In the event that we become committed to purchase components at prices in excess of the current market price when the components are actually used, our gross margins could decrease. We have experienced longer than normal lead times in the past. Although we have generally secured additional supply or taken other mitigation actions when significant disruptions have occurred, if similar situations occur in the future, they could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, and financial condition. See the risk factor above entitled “Our revenue for a particular period is difficult to predict, and a shortfall in revenue may harm our operating results.”

Our growth and ability to meet customer demands depend in part on our ability to obtain timely deliveries of parts from our suppliers and contract manufacturers. We have experienced component shortages in the past, including shortages caused by manufacturing process issues, that have affected our operations. We may in the future experience a shortage of certain component parts as a result of our own manufacturing issues, manufacturing issues at our suppliers or contract manufacturers, capacity problems experienced by our suppliers or contract manufacturers including capacity or cost problems resulting from industry consolidation, or strong demand in the industry for those parts. Growth in the economy is likely to create greater pressures on us and our suppliers to accurately project overall component demand and component demands within specific product categories and to establish optimal component levels and manufacturing capacity, especially for labor-intensive components, components for which we purchase a substantial portion of the supply, or the re-ramping of manufacturing capacity for highly complex products. During periods of shortages or delays the price of components may increase, or the components may not be available at all, and we may also encounter shortages if we do not accurately anticipate our needs. We may not be able to secure enough components at reasonable prices or of acceptable quality to build new products in a timely manner in the quantities or configurations needed. Accordingly, our revenue and gross margins could suffer until other sources can be developed. Our operating results would also be adversely affected if, anticipating greater demand than actually develops, we commit to the purchase of more components than we need, which is more likely to occur in a period of demand uncertainties such as we are currently experiencing. There can be no assurance that we will not encounter these problems in the future. Although in many cases we use standard parts and components for our products, certain components are presently available only from a single source or limited sources, and a global economic downturn and related market uncertainty could negatively impact the availability of components from one or more of these sources, especially during times such as we have recently seen when there are supplier constraints based on labor and other actions taken during economic downturns. We may not be able to diversify sources in a timely manner, which could harm our ability to deliver products to customers and seriously impact present and future sales.

We believe that we may be faced with the following challenges in the future:

- New markets in which we participate may grow quickly, which may make it difficult to quickly obtain significant component capacity
- As we acquire companies and new technologies, we may be dependent, at least initially, on unfamiliar supply chains or relatively small supply partners
- We face competition for certain components that are supply-constrained, from existing competitors, and companies in other markets

Manufacturing capacity and component supply constraints could continue to be significant issues for us. We purchase components from a variety of suppliers and use several contract manufacturers to provide manufacturing services for our products. During the normal course of business, in order to improve manufacturing lead-time performance and to

help ensure adequate component supply, we enter into agreements with contract manufacturers and suppliers that either allow them to procure inventory based upon criteria as defined by us or that establish the parameters defining our requirements. In certain instances, these agreements allow us the option to cancel, reschedule, and adjust our requirements based on our business needs prior to firm orders being placed. When facing component supply-related challenges, we have increased our efforts in procuring components in order to meet customer expectations which in turn contributes to an increase in purchase commitments. Increases in our purchase commitments to shorten lead times could also lead to excess and obsolete inventory charges if the demand for our products is less than our expectations.

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If we fail to anticipate customer demand properly, an oversupply of parts could result in excess or obsolete components that could adversely affect our gross margins. For additional information regarding our purchase commitments with contract manufacturers and suppliers, see Note 12 to the Consolidated Financial Statements. WE DEPEND UPON THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW PRODUCTS AND ENHANCEMENTS TO EXISTING PRODUCTS, AND IF WE FAIL TO PREDICT AND RESPOND TO EMERGING TECHNOLOGICAL TRENDS AND CUSTOMERS' CHANGING NEEDS, OUR OPERATING RESULTS AND MARKET SHARE MAY SUFFER

The markets for our products are characterized by rapidly changing technology, evolving industry standards, new product introductions, and evolving methods of building and operating networks. Our operating results depend on our ability to develop and introduce new products into existing and emerging markets and to reduce the production costs of existing products. Many of our strategic initiatives and investments we have made, and our architectural approach, are designed to enable the increased use of the network as the platform for automating, orchestrating, integrating, and delivering an ever-increasing array of IT-based products and services. For example, several years ago we launched our Cisco Unified Computing System (UCS), our next-generation enterprise data center platform architected to unite computing, network, storage access and virtualization resources in a single system, which is designed to address the fundamental transformation occurring in the enterprise data center. While our Cisco UCS offering remains a significant focus area for us, several market transitions are also shaping our strategies and investments. One such market transition we are focusing on is the move towards more programmable, flexible and virtual networks. We believe the successful products and solutions in this market will combine ASICs, hardware and software elements together. Other examples include our focus on security; the market transition related to digital transformation and IoT; and the transition in cloud.

The process of developing new technology, including technology related to more programmable, flexible and virtual networks and technology related to other market transitions such as security, digital transformation and IoT, and cloud, is complex and uncertain, and if we fail to accurately predict customers' changing needs and emerging technological trends our business could be harmed. We must commit significant resources, including the investments we have been making in our priorities to developing new products before knowing whether our investments will result in products the market will accept. In particular, if our model of the evolution of networking does not emerge as we believe it will, or if the industry does not evolve as we believe it will, or if our strategy for addressing this evolution is not successful, many of our strategic initiatives and investments may be of no or limited value. For example, if we do not introduce products related to network programmability, such as software-defined-networking products, in a timely fashion, or if product offerings in this market that ultimately succeed are based on technology, or an approach to technology, that differs from ours, such as, for example, networking products based on "white box" hardware, our business could be harmed. Similarly, our business could be harmed if we fail to develop, or fail to develop in a timely fashion, offerings to address other transitions, or if the offerings addressing these other transitions that ultimately succeed are based on technology, or an approach to technology, different from ours.

Our strategy is to lead our customers in their digital transition with solutions including pervasive, industry-leading security that intelligently connect nearly everything that can be connected. Over the last few years, we have been transforming our business to move from selling individual products and services to selling products and services integrated into architectures and solutions. As a part of this transformation, we continue to make changes to how we are organized and how we build and deliver our technology. If our strategy for addressing our customer needs, or the architectures and solutions we develop do not meet those needs, or the changes we are making in how we are organized and how we build and deliver or technology is incorrect or ineffective, our business could be harmed. Furthermore, we may not execute successfully on our vision or strategy because of challenges with regard to product planning and timing, technical hurdles that we fail to overcome in a timely fashion, or a lack of appropriate resources. This could result in competitors, some of which may also be our strategic alliance partners, providing those solutions before we do and loss of market share, revenue, and earnings. In addition, the growth in demand for technology delivered as a service enables new competitors to enter the market. The success of new products depends on several factors, including proper new product definition, component costs, timely completion and introduction of these products, differentiation of new products from those of our competitors, and market acceptance of these products. There can be no assurance that we will successfully identify new product opportunities, develop and bring new

products to market in a timely manner, or achieve market acceptance of our products or that products and technologies developed by others will not render our products or technologies obsolete or noncompetitive. The products and technologies in our other product categories and key priority and growth areas may not prove to have the market success we anticipate, and we may not successfully identify and invest in other emerging or new products.

CHANGES IN INDUSTRY STRUCTURE AND MARKET CONDITIONS COULD LEAD TO CHARGES RELATED TO DISCONTINUANCES OF CERTAIN OF OUR PRODUCTS OR BUSINESSES, ASSET IMPAIRMENTS AND WORKFORCE REDUCTIONS OR RESTRUCTURINGS

In response to changes in industry and market conditions, we may be required to strategically realign our resources and to consider restructuring, disposing of, or otherwise exiting businesses. Any resource realignment, or decision to limit investment in or dispose

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of or otherwise exit businesses, may result in the recording of special charges, such as inventory and technology-related write-offs, workforce reduction or restructuring costs, charges relating to consolidation of excess facilities, or claims from third parties who were resellers or users of discontinued products. Our estimates with respect to the useful life or ultimate recoverability of our carrying basis of assets, including purchased intangible assets, could change as a result of such assessments and decisions. Although in certain instances our supply agreements allow us the option to cancel, reschedule, and adjust our requirements based on our business needs prior to firm orders being placed, our loss contingencies may include liabilities for contracts that we cannot cancel with contract manufacturers and suppliers. Further, our estimates relating to the liabilities for excess facilities are affected by changes in real estate market conditions. Additionally, we are required to perform goodwill impairment tests on an annual basis and between annual tests in certain circumstances, and future goodwill impairment tests may result in a charge to earnings. In August 2016, we announced a restructuring plan under which we began taking action in the first quarter of fiscal 2017. In May 2017, we extended the restructuring plan to include additional employees. The implementation of this restructuring plan may be disruptive to our business, and following completion of the restructuring plan our business may not be more efficient or effective than prior to implementation of the plan. Our restructuring activities, including any related charges and the impact of the related headcount restructurings, could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, and financial condition.

OVER THE LONG TERM WE INTEND TO INVEST IN ENGINEERING, SALES, SERVICE AND MARKETING ACTIVITIES, AND THESE INVESTMENTS MAY ACHIEVE DELAYED, OR LOWER THAN EXPECTED, BENEFITS WHICH COULD HARM OUR OPERATING RESULTS

While we intend to focus on managing our costs and expenses, over the long term, we also intend to invest in personnel and other resources related to our engineering, sales, service and marketing functions as we realign and dedicate resources on key priority and growth areas, such as security, IoT, collaboration, next generation data center, cloud, and software, and we also intend to focus on maintaining leadership in routing, switching and services. We are likely to recognize the costs associated with these investments earlier than some of the anticipated benefits, and the return on these investments may be lower, or may develop more slowly, than we expect. If we do not achieve the benefits anticipated from these investments, or if the achievement of these benefits is delayed, our operating results may be adversely affected.

OUR BUSINESS SUBSTANTIALLY DEPENDS UPON THE CONTINUED GROWTH OF THE INTERNET AND INTERNET-BASED SYSTEMS

A substantial portion of our business and revenue depends on growth and evolution of the Internet, including the continued development of the Internet and the anticipated market transitions, and on the deployment of our products by customers who depend on such continued growth and evolution. To the extent that an economic slowdown or uncertainty and related reduction in capital spending adversely affect spending on Internet infrastructure, including spending or investment related to anticipated market transitions, we could experience material harm to our business, operating results, and financial condition.

Because of the rapid introduction of new products and changing customer requirements related to matters such as cost-effectiveness and security, we believe that there could be performance problems with Internet communications in the future, which could receive a high degree of publicity and visibility. Because we are a large supplier of networking products, our business, operating results, and financial condition may be materially adversely affected, regardless of whether or not these problems are due to the performance of our own products. Such an event could also result in a material adverse effect on the market price of our common stock independent of direct effects on our business.

WE HAVE MADE AND EXPECT TO CONTINUE TO MAKE ACQUISITIONS THAT COULD DISRUPT OUR OPERATIONS AND HARM OUR OPERATING RESULTS

Our growth depends upon market growth, our ability to enhance our existing products, and our ability to introduce new products on a timely basis. We intend to continue to address the need to develop new products and enhance existing products through acquisitions of other companies, product lines, technologies, and personnel. Acquisitions involve numerous risks, including the following:

- Difficulties in integrating the operations, systems, technologies, products, and personnel of the acquired companies, particularly companies with large and widespread operations and/or complex products

- Diversion of management's attention from normal daily operations of the business and the challenges of managing larger and more widespread operations resulting from acquisitions
- Potential difficulties in completing projects associated with in-process research and development intangibles
- Difficulties in entering markets in which we have no or limited direct prior experience and where competitors in such markets have stronger market positions

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- Initial dependence on unfamiliar supply chains or relatively small supply partners
- Insufficient revenue to offset increased expenses associated with acquisitions
- The potential loss of key employees, customers, distributors, vendors and other business partners of the companies we acquire following and continuing after announcement of acquisition plans

Acquisitions may also cause us to:

- Issue common stock that would dilute our current shareholders' percentage ownership
- Use a substantial portion of our cash resources, or incur debt
- Significantly increase our interest expense, leverage and debt service requirements if we incur additional debt to pay for an acquisition
- Assume liabilities
- Record goodwill and intangible assets that are subject to impairment testing on a regular basis and potential periodic impairment charges
- Incur amortization expenses related to certain intangible assets
- Incur tax expenses related to the effect of acquisitions on our intercompany R&D cost sharing arrangement and legal structure
- Incur large and immediate write-offs and restructuring and other related expenses
- Become subject to intellectual property or other litigation

Mergers and acquisitions of high-technology companies are inherently risky and subject to many factors outside of our control, and no assurance can be given that our previous or future acquisitions will be successful and will not materially adversely affect our business, operating results, or financial condition. Failure to manage and successfully integrate acquisitions could materially harm our business and operating results. Prior acquisitions have resulted in a wide range of outcomes, from successful introduction of new products and technologies to a failure to do so. Even when an acquired company has already developed and marketed products, there can be no assurance that product enhancements will be made in a timely fashion or that pre-acquisition due diligence will have identified all possible issues that might arise with respect to such products.

From time to time, we have made acquisitions that resulted in charges in an individual quarter. These charges may occur in any particular quarter, resulting in variability in our quarterly earnings. In addition, our effective tax rate for future periods is uncertain and could be impacted by mergers and acquisitions. Risks related to new product development also apply to acquisitions. See the risk factors above, including the risk factor entitled "We depend upon the development of new products and enhancements to existing products, and if we fail to predict and respond to emerging technological trends and customers' changing needs, our operating results and market share may suffer" for additional information.

ENTRANCE INTO NEW OR DEVELOPING MARKETS EXPOSES US TO ADDITIONAL COMPETITION AND WILL LIKELY INCREASE DEMANDS ON OUR SERVICE AND SUPPORT OPERATIONS

As we focus on new market opportunities and key priority and growth areas, we will increasingly compete with large telecommunications equipment suppliers as well as startup companies. Several of our competitors may have greater resources, including technical and engineering resources, than we do. Additionally, as customers in these markets complete infrastructure deployments, they may require greater levels of service, support, and financing than we have provided in the past, especially in emerging countries. Demand for these types of service, support, or financing contracts may increase in the future. There can be no assurance that we can provide products, service, support, and financing to effectively compete for these market opportunities.

Further, provision of greater levels of services, support and financing by us may result in a delay in the timing of revenue recognition. In addition, entry into other markets has subjected and will subject us to additional risks, particularly to those markets, including the effects of general market conditions and reduced consumer confidence. For example, as we add direct selling capabilities globally to meet changing customer demands, we will face increased legal and regulatory requirements.

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INDUSTRY CONSOLIDATION MAY LEAD TO INCREASED COMPETITION AND MAY HARM OUR OPERATING RESULTS

There has been a trend toward industry consolidation in our markets for several years. We expect this trend to continue as companies attempt to strengthen or hold their market positions in an evolving industry and as companies are acquired or are unable to continue operations. For example, some of our current and potential competitors for enterprise data center business have made acquisitions, or announced new strategic alliances, designed to position them with the ability to provide end-to-end technology solutions for the enterprise data center. Companies that are strategic alliance partners in some areas of our business may acquire or form alliances with our competitors, thereby reducing their business with us. We believe that industry consolidation may result in stronger competitors that are better able to compete as sole-source vendors for customers. This could lead to more variability in our operating results and could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, and financial condition. Furthermore, particularly in the service provider market, rapid consolidation will lead to fewer customers, with the effect that loss of a major customer could have a material impact on results not anticipated in a customer marketplace composed of more numerous participants.

PRODUCT QUALITY PROBLEMS COULD LEAD TO REDUCED REVENUE, GROSS MARGINS, AND NET INCOME

We produce highly complex products that incorporate leading-edge technology, including both hardware and software. Software typically contains bugs that can unexpectedly interfere with expected operations. There can be no assurance that our pre-shipment testing programs will be adequate to detect all defects, either ones in individual products or ones that could affect numerous shipments, which might interfere with customer satisfaction, reduce sales opportunities, or affect gross margins. From time to time, we have had to replace certain components and provide remediation in response to the discovery of defects or bugs in products that we had shipped. There can be no assurance that such remediation, depending on the product involved, would not have a material impact. An inability to cure a product defect could result in the failure of a product line, temporary or permanent withdrawal from a product or market, damage to our reputation, inventory costs, or product reengineering expenses, any of which could have a material impact on our revenue, margins, and net income. For example, in the second quarter of fiscal 2017 we recorded a charge to product cost of sales of \$125 million related to the expected remediation costs for anticipated failures in future periods of a widely-used component sourced from a third party which is included in several of our products, and in the second quarter of fiscal 2014 we recorded a pre-tax charge of \$655 million related to the expected remediation costs for certain products sold in prior fiscal years containing memory components manufactured by a single supplier between 2005 and 2010.

DUE TO THE GLOBAL NATURE OF OUR OPERATIONS, POLITICAL OR ECONOMIC CHANGES OR OTHER FACTORS IN A SPECIFIC COUNTRY OR REGION COULD HARM OUR OPERATING RESULTS AND FINANCIAL CONDITION

We conduct significant sales and customer support operations in countries around the world. As such, our growth depends in part on our increasing sales into emerging countries. We also depend on non-U.S. operations of our contract manufacturers, component suppliers and distribution partners. Emerging countries in the aggregate experienced a decline in orders during the first nine months of fiscal 2017, the fourth quarter of fiscal 2016 and also in fiscal 2015. We continue to assess the sustainability of any improvements in these countries and there can be no assurance that our investments in these countries will be successful. Our future results could be materially adversely affected by a variety of political, economic or other factors relating to our operations inside and outside the United States, including impacts from global central bank monetary policy; issues related to the political relationship between the United States and other countries that can affect the willingness of customers in those countries to purchase products from companies headquartered in the United States; and the challenging and inconsistent global macroeconomic environment, any or all of which could have a material adverse effect on our operating results and financial condition, including, among others, the following:

- Foreign currency exchange rates
- Political or social unrest

- Economic instability or weakness or natural disasters in a specific country or region, including the current economic challenges in China and global economic ramifications of Chinese economic difficulties; instability as a result of
- Brexit; environmental and trade protection measures and other legal and regulatory requirements, some of which may affect our ability to import our products, to export our products from, or sell our products in various countries
 - Political considerations that affect service provider and government spending patterns
 - Health or similar issues, such as a pandemic or epidemic

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- Difficulties in staffing and managing international operations
- Adverse tax consequences, including imposition of withholding or other taxes on our global operations

WE ARE EXPOSED TO THE CREDIT RISK OF SOME OF OUR CUSTOMERS AND TO CREDIT EXPOSURES IN WEAKENED MARKETS, WHICH COULD RESULT IN MATERIAL LOSSES

Most of our sales are on an open credit basis, with typical payment terms of 30 days in the United States and, because of local customs or conditions, longer in some markets outside the United States. We monitor individual customer payment capability in granting such open credit arrangements, seek to limit such open credit to amounts we believe the customers can pay, and maintain reserves we believe are adequate to cover exposure for doubtful accounts.

Beyond our open credit arrangements, we have also experienced demands for customer financing and facilitation of leasing arrangements. We expect demand for customer financing to continue, and recently we have been experiencing an increase in this demand as the credit markets have been impacted by the challenging and inconsistent global macroeconomic environment, including increased demand from customers in certain emerging countries.

We believe customer financing is a competitive factor in obtaining business, particularly in serving customers involved in significant infrastructure projects. Our loan financing arrangements may include not only financing the acquisition of our products and services but also providing additional funds for other costs associated with network installation and integration of our products and services.

Our exposure to the credit risks relating to our financing activities described above may increase if our customers are adversely affected by a global economic downturn or periods of economic uncertainty. Although we have programs in place that are designed to monitor and mitigate the associated risk, including monitoring of particular risks in certain geographic areas, there can be no assurance that such programs will be effective in reducing our credit risks.

In the past, there have been significant bankruptcies among customers both on open credit and with loan or lease financing arrangements, particularly among Internet businesses and service providers, causing us to incur economic or financial losses. There can be no assurance that additional losses will not be incurred. Although these losses have not been material to date, future losses, if incurred, could harm our business and have a material adverse effect on our operating results and financial condition. A portion of our sales is derived through our distributors. These distributors are generally given business terms that allow them to return a portion of inventory, receive credits for changes in selling prices, and participate in various cooperative marketing programs. We maintain estimated accruals and allowances for such business terms. However, distributors tend to have more limited financial resources than other resellers and end-user customers and therefore represent potential sources of increased credit risk, because they may be more likely to lack the reserve resources to meet payment obligations. Additionally, to the degree that turmoil in the credit markets makes it more difficult for some customers to obtain financing, those customers' ability to pay could be adversely impacted, which in turn could have a material adverse impact on our business, operating results, and financial condition.

WE ARE EXPOSED TO FLUCTUATIONS IN THE MARKET VALUES OF OUR PORTFOLIO INVESTMENTS AND IN INTEREST RATES; IMPAIRMENT OF OUR INVESTMENTS COULD HARM OUR EARNINGS

We maintain an investment portfolio of various holdings, types, and maturities. These securities are generally classified as available-for-sale and, consequently, are recorded on our Consolidated Balance Sheets at fair value with unrealized gains or losses reported as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax. Our portfolio includes fixed income securities and equity investments in publicly traded companies, the values of which are subject to market price volatility to the extent unhedged. If such investments suffer market price declines, as we experienced with some of our investments in the past, we may recognize in earnings the decline in the fair value of our investments below their cost basis when the decline is judged to be other than temporary. For information regarding the sensitivity of and risks associated with the market value of portfolio investments and interest rates, refer to the section titled "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk." Our investments in private companies are subject to risk of loss of investment capital. These investments are inherently risky because the markets for the technologies or products they have under development are typically in the early stages and may never materialize. We could lose our entire investment in these companies.

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WE ARE EXPOSED TO FLUCTUATIONS IN CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATES THAT COULD NEGATIVELY IMPACT OUR FINANCIAL RESULTS AND CASH FLOWS

Because a significant portion of our business is conducted outside the United States, we face exposure to adverse movements in foreign currency exchange rates. These exposures may change over time as business practices evolve, and they could have a material adverse impact on our financial results and cash flows. Historically, our primary exposures have related to nondollar-denominated sales in Japan, Canada, and Australia and certain nondollar-denominated operating expenses and service cost of sales in Europe, Latin America, and Asia, where we sell primarily in U.S. dollars. Additionally, we have exposures to emerging market currencies, which can have extreme currency volatility. An increase in the value of the dollar could increase the real cost to our customers of our products in those markets outside the United States where we sell in dollars and a weakened dollar could increase the cost of local operating expenses and procurement of raw materials to the extent that we must purchase components in foreign currencies.

Currently, we enter into foreign exchange forward contracts and options to reduce the short-term impact of foreign currency fluctuations on certain foreign currency receivables, investments, and payables. In addition, we periodically hedge anticipated foreign currency cash flows. Our attempts to hedge against these risks may result in an adverse impact on our net income.

OUR PROPRIETARY RIGHTS MAY PROVE DIFFICULT TO ENFORCE

We generally rely on patents, copyrights, trademarks, and trade secret laws to establish and maintain proprietary rights in our technology and products. Although we have been issued numerous patents and other patent applications are currently pending, there can be no assurance that any of these patents or other proprietary rights will not be challenged, invalidated, or circumvented or that our rights will, in fact, provide competitive advantages to us.

Furthermore, many key aspects of networking technology are governed by industrywide standards, which are usable by all market entrants. In addition, there can be no assurance that patents will be issued from pending applications or that claims allowed on any patents will be sufficiently broad to protect our technology. In addition, the laws of some foreign countries may not protect our proprietary rights to the same extent as do the laws of the United States. The outcome of any actions taken in these foreign countries may be different than if such actions were determined under the laws of the United States. Although we are not dependent on any individual patents or group of patents for particular segments of the business for which we compete, if we are unable to protect our proprietary rights to the totality of the features (including aspects of products protected other than by patent rights) in a market, we may find ourselves at a competitive disadvantage to others who need not incur the substantial expense, time, and effort required to create innovative products that have enabled us to be successful.

WE MAY BE FOUND TO INFRINGE ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS OF OTHERS

Third parties, including customers, have in the past and may in the future assert claims or initiate litigation related to exclusive patent, copyright, trademark, and other intellectual property rights to technologies and related standards that are relevant to us. These assertions have increased over time as a result of our growth and the general increase in the pace of patent claims assertions, particularly in the United States. Because of the existence of a large number of patents in the networking field, the secrecy of some pending patents, and the rapid rate of issuance of new patents, it is not economically practical or even possible to determine in advance whether a product or any of its components infringes or will infringe on the patent rights of others. The asserted claims and/or initiated litigation can include claims against us or our manufacturers, suppliers, or customers, alleging infringement of their proprietary rights with respect to our existing or future products or components of those products. Regardless of the merit of these claims, they can be time-consuming, result in costly litigation and diversion of technical and management personnel, or require us to develop a non-infringing technology or enter into license agreements. Where claims are made by customers, resistance even to unmeritorious claims could damage customer relationships. There can be no assurance that licenses will be available on acceptable terms and conditions, if at all, or that our indemnification by our suppliers will be adequate to cover our costs if a claim were brought directly against us or our customers. Furthermore, because of the potential for high court awards that are not necessarily predictable, it is not unusual to find even arguably unmeritorious claims settled for significant amounts. If any infringement or other intellectual property claim made against us by any third party is successful, if we are required to indemnify a customer with respect to a claim against

the customer, or if we fail to develop non-infringing technology or license the proprietary rights on commercially reasonable terms and conditions, our business, operating results, and financial condition could be materially and adversely affected. For additional information regarding our indemnification obligations, see Note 12(g) to the Consolidated Financial Statements contained in this report.

Our exposure to risks associated with the use of intellectual property may be increased as a result of acquisitions, as we have a lower level of visibility into the development process with respect to such technology or the care taken to safeguard against infringement risks. Further, in the past, third parties have made infringement and similar claims after we have acquired technology that had not been asserted prior to our acquisition.

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WE RELY ON THE AVAILABILITY OF THIRD-PARTY LICENSES

Many of our products are designed to include software or other intellectual property licensed from third parties. It may be necessary in the future to seek or renew licenses relating to various aspects of these products. There can be no assurance that the necessary licenses would be available on acceptable terms, if at all. The inability to obtain certain licenses or other rights or to obtain such licenses or rights on favorable terms, or the need to engage in litigation regarding these matters, could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, and financial condition. Moreover, the inclusion in our products of software or other intellectual property licensed from third parties on a nonexclusive basis could limit our ability to protect our proprietary rights in our products.

OUR OPERATING RESULTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND DAMAGE TO OUR REPUTATION MAY OCCUR DUE TO PRODUCTION AND SALE OF COUNTERFEIT VERSIONS OF OUR PRODUCTS

As is the case with leading products around the world, our products are subject to efforts by third parties to produce counterfeit versions of our products. While we work diligently with law enforcement authorities in various countries to block the manufacture of counterfeit goods and to interdict their sale, and to detect counterfeit products in customer networks, and have succeeded in prosecuting counterfeiters and their distributors, resulting in fines, imprisonment and restitution to us, there can be no guarantee that such efforts will succeed. While counterfeiters often aim their sales at customers who might not have otherwise purchased our products due to lack of verifiability of origin and service, such counterfeit sales, to the extent they replace otherwise legitimate sales, could adversely affect our operating results.

OUR OPERATING RESULTS AND FUTURE PROSPECTS COULD BE MATERIALLY HARMED BY UNCERTAINTIES OF REGULATION OF THE INTERNET

Currently, few laws or regulations apply directly to access or commerce on the Internet. We could be materially adversely affected by regulation of the Internet and Internet commerce in any country where we operate. Such regulations could include matters such as voice over the Internet or using IP, encryption technology, sales or other taxes on Internet product or service sales, and access charges for Internet service providers. The adoption of regulation of the Internet and Internet commerce could decrease demand for our products and, at the same time, increase the cost of selling our products, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, and financial condition.

CHANGES IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS REGULATION AND TARIFFS COULD HARM OUR PROSPECTS AND FUTURE SALES

Changes in telecommunications requirements, or regulatory requirements in other industries in which we operate, in the United States or other countries could affect the sales of our products. In particular, we believe that there may be future changes in U.S. telecommunications regulations that could slow the expansion of the service providers' network infrastructures and materially adversely affect our business, operating results, and financial condition, including "net neutrality" rules to the extent they impact decisions on investment in network infrastructure.

Future changes in tariffs by regulatory agencies or application of tariff requirements to currently untariffed services could affect the sales of our products for certain classes of customers. Additionally, in the United States, our products must comply with various requirements and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission and other regulatory authorities. In countries outside of the United States, our products must meet various requirements of local telecommunications and other industry authorities. Changes in tariffs or failure by us to obtain timely approval of products could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, and financial condition.

FAILURE TO RETAIN AND RECRUIT KEY PERSONNEL WOULD HARM OUR ABILITY TO MEET KEY OBJECTIVES

Our success has always depended in large part on our ability to attract and retain highly skilled technical, managerial, sales, and marketing personnel. Competition for these personnel is intense, especially in the Silicon Valley area of Northern California. Stock incentive plans are designed to reward employees for their long-term contributions and provide incentives for them to remain with us. Volatility or lack of positive performance in our stock price or equity incentive awards, or changes to our overall compensation program, including our stock incentive program, resulting from the management of share dilution and share-based compensation expense or otherwise, may also adversely affect our ability to retain key employees. As a result of one or more of these factors, we may increase our hiring in

geographic areas outside the United States, which could subject us to additional geopolitical and exchange rate risk. The loss of services of any of our key personnel; the inability to retain and attract qualified personnel in the future; or delays in hiring required personnel, particularly engineering and sales personnel, could make it difficult to meet key objectives, such as timely and effective product introductions. In addition, companies in our industry whose employees accept positions with competitors frequently claim that competitors have engaged in improper hiring practices. We have received these claims in the past and may receive additional claims to this effect in the future.

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ADVERSE RESOLUTION OF LITIGATION OR GOVERNMENTAL INVESTIGATIONS MAY HARM OUR OPERATING RESULTS OR FINANCIAL CONDITION

We are a party to lawsuits in the normal course of our business. Litigation can be expensive, lengthy, and disruptive to normal business operations. Moreover, the results of complex legal proceedings are difficult to predict. For example, Brazilian authorities have investigated our Brazilian subsidiary and certain of its former employees, as well as a Brazilian importer of our products, and its affiliates and employees, relating to alleged evasion of import taxes and alleged improper transactions involving the subsidiary and the importer. Brazilian tax authorities have assessed claims against our Brazilian subsidiary based on a theory of joint liability with the Brazilian importer for import taxes, interest, and penalties. The asserted claims by Brazilian federal tax authorities which remain are for calendar years 2003 through 2007, and the asserted claims by the tax authorities from the state of Sao Paulo are for calendar years 2005 through 2007. The total asserted claims by Brazilian state and federal tax authorities aggregate to \$255 million for the alleged evasion of import and other taxes, \$1.5 billion for interest, and \$1.2 billion for various penalties, all determined using an exchange rate as of April 29, 2017. We have completed a thorough review of the matters and believe the asserted claims against our Brazilian subsidiary are without merit, and we are defending the claims vigorously. While we believe there is no legal basis for the alleged liability, due to the complexities and uncertainty surrounding the judicial process in Brazil and the nature of the claims asserting joint liability with the importer, we are unable to determine the likelihood of an unfavorable outcome against our Brazilian subsidiary and are unable to reasonably estimate a range of loss, if any. We do not expect a final judicial determination for several years. An unfavorable resolution of lawsuits or governmental investigations could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, or financial condition. For additional information regarding certain of the matters in which we are involved, see Item 1, "Legal Proceedings," contained in Part II of this report.

CHANGES IN OUR PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES OR ADVERSE OUTCOMES RESULTING FROM EXAMINATION OF OUR INCOME TAX RETURNS COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR RESULTS

Our provision for income taxes is subject to volatility and could be adversely affected by earnings being lower than anticipated in countries that have lower tax rates and higher than anticipated in countries that have higher tax rates; by changes in the valuation of our deferred tax assets and liabilities; by changes to domestic manufacturing deduction laws, regulations, or interpretations thereof; by expiration of or lapses in tax incentives; by transfer pricing adjustments, including the effect of acquisitions on our intercompany R&D cost sharing arrangement and legal structure; by tax effects of nondeductible compensation; by tax costs related to intercompany realignments; by changes in accounting principles; or by changes in tax laws and regulations, treaties, or interpretations thereof, including possible changes to the taxation of earnings of our foreign subsidiaries, the deductibility of expenses attributable to foreign income, or the foreign tax credit rules. Significant judgment is required to determine the recognition and measurement attribute prescribed in the accounting guidance for uncertainty in income taxes. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), an international association comprised of 35 countries, including the United States, has recently made changes to numerous long-standing tax principles. There can be no assurance that these changes, once adopted by countries, will not have an adverse impact on our provision for income taxes. Further, as a result of certain of our ongoing employment and capital investment actions and commitments, our income in certain countries is subject to reduced tax rates. Our failure to meet these commitments could adversely impact our provision for income taxes. In addition, we are subject to the continuous examination of our income tax returns by the Internal Revenue Service and other tax authorities. We regularly assess the likelihood of adverse outcomes resulting from these examinations to determine the adequacy of our provision for income taxes. There can be no assurance that the outcomes from these continuous examinations will not have an adverse effect on our operating results and financial condition.

OUR BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS ARE ESPECIALLY SUBJECT TO THE RISKS OF EARTHQUAKES, FLOODS, AND OTHER NATURAL CATASTROPHIC EVENTS

Our corporate headquarters, including certain of our research and development operations are located in the Silicon Valley area of Northern California, a region known for seismic activity. Additionally, a certain number of our facilities are located near rivers that have experienced flooding in the past. Also certain of our suppliers and logistics centers are located in regions that have been or may be affected by earthquake, tsunami and flooding activity which in

the past has disrupted, and in the future could disrupt, the flow of components and delivery of products. A significant natural disaster, such as an earthquake, a hurricane, volcano, or a flood, could have a material adverse impact on our business, operating results, and financial condition.

MAN-MADE PROBLEMS SUCH AS CYBER-ATTACKS, DATA PROTECTION BREACHES, COMPUTER VIRUSES OR TERRORISM MAY DISRUPT OUR OPERATIONS, HARM OUR OPERATING RESULTS AND DAMAGE OUR REPUTATION, AND CYBER-ATTACKS OR DATA PROTECTION BREACHES ON OUR CUSTOMERS' NETWORKS, OR IN CLOUD-BASED SERVICES PROVIDED BY OR ENABLED BY US, COULD RESULT IN LIABILITY FOR US, DAMAGE OUR REPUTATION OR OTHERWISE HARM OUR BUSINESS

Despite our implementation of network security measures, the products and services we sell to customers, and our servers, data centers and the cloud-based solutions on which our data, and data of our customers, suppliers and business partners are stored, are

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vulnerable to cyber-attacks, data protection breaches, computer viruses, and similar disruptions from unauthorized tampering or human error. Any such event could compromise our networks or those of our customers, and the information stored on our networks or those of our customers could be accessed, publicly disclosed, lost or stolen, which could subject us to liability to our customers, suppliers, business partners and others, and could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, and financial condition and may cause damage to our reputation. Efforts to limit the ability of malicious third parties to disrupt the operations of the Internet or undermine our own security efforts may be costly to implement and meet with resistance, and may not be successful. Breaches of network security in our customers' networks, or in cloud-based services provided by or enabled by us, regardless of whether the breach is attributable to a vulnerability in our products or services, could result in liability for us, damage our reputation or otherwise harm our business.

In addition, the continued threat of terrorism and heightened security and military action in response to this threat, or any future acts of terrorism, may cause further disruptions to the economies of the United States and other countries and create further uncertainties or otherwise materially harm our business, operating results, and financial condition. Likewise, events such as loss of infrastructure and utilities services such as energy, transportation, or telecommunications could have similar negative impacts. To the extent that such disruptions or uncertainties result in delays or cancellations of customer orders or the manufacture or shipment of our products, our business, operating results, and financial condition could be materially and adversely affected.

IF WE DO NOT SUCCESSFULLY MANAGE OUR STRATEGIC ALLIANCES, WE MAY NOT REALIZE THE EXPECTED BENEFITS FROM SUCH ALLIANCES AND WE MAY EXPERIENCE INCREASED COMPETITION OR DELAYS IN PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

We have several strategic alliances with large and complex organizations and other companies with which we work to offer complementary products and services and have established a joint venture to market services associated with our Cisco Unified Computing System products. These arrangements are generally limited to specific projects, the goal of which is generally to facilitate product compatibility and adoption of industry standards. There can be no assurance we will realize the expected benefits from these strategic alliances or from the joint venture. If successful, these relationships may be mutually beneficial and result in industry growth. However, alliances carry an element of risk because, in most cases, we must compete in some business areas with a company with which we have a strategic alliance and, at the same time, cooperate with that company in other business areas. Also, if these companies fail to perform or if these relationships fail to materialize as expected, we could suffer delays in product development or other operational difficulties. Joint ventures can be difficult to manage, given the potentially different interests of joint venture partners.

OUR STOCK PRICE MAY BE VOLATILE

Historically, our common stock has experienced substantial price volatility, particularly as a result of variations between our actual financial results and the published expectations of analysts and as a result of announcements by our competitors and us. Furthermore, speculation in the press or investment community about our strategic position, financial condition, results of operations, business, security of our products, or significant transactions can cause changes in our stock price. In addition, the stock market has experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations that have affected the market price of many technology companies, in particular, and that have often been unrelated to the operating performance of these companies. These factors, as well as general economic and political conditions and the announcement of proposed and completed acquisitions or other significant transactions, or any difficulties associated with such transactions, by us or our current or potential competitors, may materially adversely affect the market price of our common stock in the future. Additionally, volatility, lack of positive performance in our stock price or changes to our overall compensation program, including our stock incentive program, may adversely affect our ability to retain key employees, virtually all of whom are compensated, in part, based on the performance of our stock price.

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THERE CAN BE NO ASSURANCE THAT OUR OPERATING RESULTS AND FINANCIAL CONDITION WILL NOT BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY OUR INCURRENCE OF DEBT

As of the end of the third quarter of fiscal 2017, we have senior unsecured notes outstanding in an aggregate principal amount of \$30.5 billion that mature at specific dates from calendar year 2018 through 2040. We have also established a commercial paper program under which we may issue short-term, unsecured commercial paper notes on a private placement basis up to a maximum aggregate amount outstanding at any time of \$10.0 billion, and we had \$2.0 billion in commercial paper notes outstanding under this program as of April 29, 2017. The outstanding senior unsecured notes bear fixed-rate interest payable semiannually, except \$2.9 billion of the notes which bears interest at a floating rate payable quarterly. The fair value of the long-term debt is subject to market interest rate volatility. The instruments governing the senior unsecured notes contain certain covenants applicable to us and our wholly-owned subsidiaries that may adversely affect our ability to incur certain liens or engage in certain types of sale and leaseback transactions. In addition, we will be required to have available in the United States sufficient cash to service the interest on our debt and repay all of our notes on maturity. There can be no assurance that our incurrence of this debt or any future debt will be a better means of providing liquidity to us than would our use of our existing cash resources, including cash currently held offshore. Further, we cannot be assured that our maintenance of this indebtedness or incurrence of future indebtedness will not adversely affect our operating results or financial condition. In addition, changes by any rating agency to our credit rating can negatively impact the value and liquidity of both our debt and equity securities, as well as the terms upon which we may borrow under our commercial paper program or future debt issuances.

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

(a) None.

(b) None.

(c) Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities (in millions, except per-share amounts):

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	Approximate Dollar Value of Shares That May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs
January 29, 2017 to February 25, 2017	1	\$ 34.05	1	\$ 13,360
February 26, 2017 to March 25, 2017	6	\$ 34.20	6	\$ 13,156
March 26, 2017 to April 29, 2017	8	\$ 33.27	8	\$ 12,898
Total	15	\$ 33.71	15	

On September 13, 2001, we announced that our Board of Directors had authorized a stock repurchase program. As of April 29, 2017, our Board of Directors had authorized the repurchase of up to \$112 billion of common stock under this program. As of April 29, 2017, we had repurchased and retired 4.7 billion shares of our common stock at an average price of \$21.21 per share for an aggregate purchase price of \$99.1 billion since inception of the stock repurchase program, and the remaining authorized amount for stock repurchases under this program was \$12.9 billion with no termination date.

For the majority of restricted stock units granted, the number of shares issued on the date the restricted stock units vest is net of shares withheld to meet applicable tax withholding requirements. Although these withheld shares are not issued or considered common stock repurchases under our stock repurchase program and therefore are not included in the preceding table, they are treated as common stock repurchases in our financial statements as they reduce the number of shares that would have been issued upon vesting (see Note 13 to the Consolidated Financial Statements).

Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

None.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not applicable.

Item 5. Other Information

None.

Item 6. Exhibits

The information required by this Item is set forth in the Exhibit Index that follows the signature page of this Report.

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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.

Cisco Systems, Inc.

Date: May 23, 2017 By: Kelly A. Kramer
Kelly A. Kramer
Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial Officer and duly authorized signatory)

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number	Exhibit Description	Incorporated by Reference			Filed Herewith
		Form	File No.	Exhibit Filing Date	
10.1	<u>364-Day Credit Agreement dated as of March 30, 2017, by and among Cisco Systems, Inc., the Lenders party thereto, and Bank of America, N.A., as administration agent and a Lender</u>	8-K	000-18225	10.1 3/31/2017	
31.1	<u>Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of Principal Executive Officer</u>				X
31.2	<u>Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of Principal Financial Officer</u>				X
32.1	<u>Section 1350 Certification of Principal Executive Officer</u>				X
32.2	<u>Section 1350 Certification of Principal Financial Officer</u>				X
101.INS	XBRL 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