LJ INTERNATIONAL INC Form 20-F March 31, 2009

## U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 FORM 20-F

o REGISTRATION STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OR (g) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

OR

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008

OR

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

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

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

Date of event requiring this shell company report \_\_\_\_\_

Commission file number 0-29620

#### LJ INTERNATIONAL INC.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

## LJ INTERNATIONAL INC.

(Translation of Registrant s name into English)

## **British Virgin Islands**

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

Unit #12, 12/F, Block A Focal Industrial Centre 21 Man Lok Street

## Hung Hom, Kowloon, Hong Kong

(Address of principal executive offices)

Hon Tak Ringo NG, CFO

011-852-2764-3622 (telephone)

ringong@ljintl.com (email)

011-852-2764-3783 (facsimile)

Unit #12, 12/F, Block A

**Focal Industrial Centre** 

21 Man Lok Street

## Hung Hom, Kowloon, Hong Kong

(Name, Telephone, E-mail and/or Facsimile number and Address of Company Contact Person) Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act.

Title of each class

Name of each exchange on which registered

\$.01 Par Value Common Stock

NASDAQ

( Common Stock )

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act.

None

(Title of Class)

Securities for which there is a reporting obligation pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Act.

None

(Title of Class)

Indicate the number of outstanding shares of each of the issuer s classes of capital or common stock as of the close of the period covered by the annual report:

22,911,172 Shares of Common Stock as of December 31, 2008

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.

Yes o No b

If this report is an annual or transition report, indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes o No b

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 b No o

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

Large accelerated filer o

Accelerated filer b

Non-accelerated filer o

Indicate by check mark which basis of accounting the registrant has used to prepare the financial statements included in this filing:

b U.S. GAAP

o International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board o Other

If Other has been checked in response to the previous question, indicate by check mark which financial statement item the registrant has elected to follow.

o Item 17

o Item 18

If this is an annual report, indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes o No b

# (APPLICABLE ONLY TO ISSUERS INVOLVED IN BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has filed all documents and reports required to be filed by Sections 12, 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 subsequent to the distribution of securities under a plan confirmed by a court.

Not Applicable.

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# SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This annual report contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. These include statements about our expectations, plans, objectives, assumptions or future events. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as anticipate, estimate, plans, potential, projects, continuing, ongoing, expects, management believes, we believe, we intend and similar expressions. These statements involve estimates, assumptions and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed for the reasons described in this annual report. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements.

You should be aware that our actual results could differ materially from those contained in the forward-looking statements due to a number of factors, such as but not limited to:

dependence upon certain customers dependence on key personnel control by principal shareholder competitive factors the operation of our business general economic conditions

You should also consider carefully the statements under Risk Factors and other sections of this annual report, which address additional factors that could cause our actual results to differ from those set forth in the forward-looking statements and could materially and adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition. All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to us or persons acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the applicable cautionary statements.

The forward-looking statements speak only as of the date on which they are made, and, except to the extent required by federal securities laws, we undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances after the date on which the statement is made or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. In addition, we cannot assess the impact of each factor on our business or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward looking statements.

We may use data and industry forecasts in this annual report which we have obtained from internal surveys, market research, publicly available information and industry publications. Industry publications generally state that the information they provide has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable but that the accuracy and completeness of such information is not guaranteed. Similarly, we believe that the surveys and market research we or others have performed are reliable, but we have not independently verified this information.

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## **PART I**

## ITEM 1. IDENTITY OF DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND ADVISERS

Not applicable.

## ITEM 2. OFFER STATISTICS AND EXPECTED TIMETABLE

Not applicable.

## **ITEM 3. KEY INFORMATION**

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### A. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA.

## SELECTED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA

(US Dollars in thousands, except per share amounts)

The following selected consolidated financial data with respect to the five-year period ended December 31, 2008 have been derived from our audited consolidated financial statements. The following selected consolidated financial data should be read in conjunction with Operating and Financial Review and Prospects and the Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes included elsewhere in this annual report.

## **Selected Financial Data**

	2000	2004			
	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
Statement of Operations Data:					
Revenues	136,268	152,037	123,791	99,646	77,504
Cost of goods sold	(97,031)	(112,508)	(88,867)	(77,127)	(61,265)
Gross profit	39,237	39,529	34,924	22,519	16,239
Operating expenses					
Selling, general and					
administrative	(34,815)	(30,399)	(23,114)	(15,488)	(11,578)
Net (loss) gain on derivatives	(86)	(4)	(29)	8	199
Depreciation	(3,373)	(3,095)	(2,039)	(1,368)	(1,032)
Amortization and impairment					
loss on goodwill					(698)
Operating income	963	6,031	9,742	5,671	3,130
Other income and expenses		,	,	,	,
Interest income	199	273	282	139	38
Gain on currency translation	1,473				
Gain on sales of securities	49				
Gain on disposal of property held					
for lease	2,210				
Interest expenses	(1,789)	(3,103)	(3,258)	(1,991)	(902)
Operating income before income					
taxes, minority interests, equity in					
results of investment securities					
and extraordinary item	3,105	3,201	6,766	3,819	2,266
Income taxes expense	(569)	(1,711)	(1,403)	(739)	(277)
Income before minority interests,					
equity in results of investment					
securities and extraordinary item	2,536	1,490	5,363	3,080	1,989
Minority interests in consolidated					
subsidiaries	(6)	(1)	(38)	(20)	
Income before equity in results of					
investment securities and					
extraordinary item	2,530	1,489	5,325	3,060	1,989
Equity in results of investment					
securities	2.720	1 100	F 22 F	2 2 2 2	133
Income before extraordinary item	2,530	1,489	5,325	3,060	2,122

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Extraordinary gain on negative goodwill				1,291	
Net income	2,530	1,489	5,325	4,351	2,122
Net income per share:					
Basic	0.11	0.07	0.31	0.32	0.19
Diluted	0.11	0.07	0.29	0.30	0.18
Weighted average number of shares					
Basic	22,246	21,064	17,390	13,439	11,119
Diluted	22,449	22,289	18,303	14,322	12,107
<b>Balance Sheet Data:</b>					
Working capital	72,059	62,786	50,134	35,554	23,617
Total assets	131,190	134,144	124,522	108,230	73,673
Long-term obligation	2,219	1,335	1,640	43	58
Total stockholders equity	78,329	72,668	59,739	45,008	32,790
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Pursuant to the purchase agreement dated January 1, 2005, the Company paid \$2,827,500 for new issuance of 3,900 shares of common stock of Goldleaves International Limited (GIL), in which the Company had 20% equity interests and was classified as investment security as of December 31, 2004. The Company then became the major stockholder holding 98% equity interests in GIL, which became a subsidiary of the Company. As of December 31, 2004, this investment was accounted for using the cost method. As appropriate for a step-acquisition, in the 2005 financial statements, the investment has been restated to account for under the equity method.

#### B. CAPITALIZATION AND INDEBTEDNESS.

Not applicable.

#### C. REASONS FOR THE OFFER AND USE OF PROCEEDS.

Not applicable.

#### D. RISK FACTORS.

We depend upon two customers who each accounts for at least 10% of our sales. We cannot be certain that these sales will continue; if they do not, our revenues will likely decline.

Although we sell to a large number of customers in a variety of markets, two of our customers each accounts for at least 10% of our sales. For the fiscal years ended December 31, 2007 and 2008, these customers accounted for approximately 10% and 8% of our 2007 sales and 11% and 11% of our 2008 sales. Each of these customers is a non-affiliated third party and is not a related party of the Company or any of its subsidiaries. Although we have maintained good and longstanding relationships with these customers, we do not have any long-term contract with either of them and they order only on a purchase order basis. The loss of either of these customers or a significant reduction in their orders would have a materially adverse effect on our revenues.

## We face significant competition from larger competitors in our wholesale and retail operations.

The making and distribution of jewelry is a highly competitive industry characterized by the diversity and sophistication of the product. We compete with major domestic and international companies with substantially greater financial, technical and marketing resources and personnel than us. There can be no assurance that other jewelry makers will not similarly develop low-cost, high-volume production capability or an even better process, providing greater competition for us and materially affecting our business prospects.

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## There are numerous factors relating to the operations of our business that could adversely affect our success and results.

As a maker and merchandiser of low-cost, high-quality gem-set jewelry, our existing and future operations are and will be influenced by several factors, including:

technological developments in the mass production of jewelry

our ability to meet the design and production requirements of our customers efficiently

the market acceptance of our and our customers jewelry

increases in expenses associated with continued sales growth

our ability to control costs

our management s ability to evaluate the public s taste and new orders to target satisfactory profit margins

our capacity to develop and manage the introduction of new designed products

our ability to compete

Quality control is also essential to our operations since customers demand compliance with design and product specifications and consistency of production. We cannot assure that revenue growth will occur on a quarterly or annual basis.

# Our production facilities are located in China. Our results of operations and financial condition may, therefore, be influenced by the economic, political, legal and social conditions in China.

Since 1978, the Chinese government has been reforming, and is expected to continue to reform, China's economic and political systems. Such reforms have resulted in significant social progress. Other political, economic and social factors could also lead to further readjustment of the reform measures. This refinement and readjustment process may not always have a positive effect on our operations in China. At times, we may also be adversely affected by changes in policies of the Chinese government such as changes in laws and regulations or their interpretation, the introduction of additional measures to control inflation, changes in the rate or method of taxation and imposition of additional restrictions on currency conversion and remittances abroad.

## Changes to PRC tax laws may adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations in the future.

The National People s Congress, the Chinese legislature, on March 16, 2007 passed a new enterprise income tax law, which became effective on January 1, 2008. The new law applies a uniform 25% enterprise income tax rate (EIT) to both foreign invested enterprises and domestic enterprises, except that enterprises that were approved to be established prior to March 16, 2007 may continue to enjoy the existing preferential tax treatments until December 31, 2012. Existing companies are required to transition to the new EIT rate over a five-year period starting January 1, 2008.

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Under the New EIT Law, an enterprise established outside of China with de facto management bodies within China is considered a resident enterprise , meaning that it can be treated in a manner similar to a Chinese enterprise for enterprise income tax purposes. The implementing rules of the New EIT Law define de facto management as substantial and overall management and control over the production and operations, personnel, accounting, and properties of the enterprise. Currently, no official interpretation or application of this new resident enterprise classification is available and, therefore, it is unclear how tax authorities will determine tax residency based on the facts of each case.

If the PRC tax authorities determine that our British Virgin Islands holding company is a resident enterprise for PRC enterprise income tax purposes, a number of unfavorable PRC tax consequences could follow. First, we may be subject to enterprise income tax at a rate of 25% on our worldwide taxable income as well as PRC enterprise income tax reporting obligations. In our case, this would mean that non-China source income would be subject to PRC enterprise income tax at a rate of 25%, in comparison to no taxation in the British Virgin Islands. Second, although under the New EIT Law and its implementing rules dividends paid to us from our PRC subsidiaries would qualify as tax-exempt income, we cannot guarantee that such dividends will not be subject to a 10% withholding tax, as the PRC foreign exchange control authorities, which enforce the withholding tax, have not yet issued guidance with respect to the processing of outbound remittances to entities that are treated as resident enterprises for PRC enterprise income tax purposes. Finally, if our British Virgin Islands holding company is deemed to be a PRC tax resident enterprise, a 10% withholding tax shall be imposed on dividends we pay to our non-PRC shareholders and with respect to gains derived from our non-PRC shareholders transferring our shares.

# Our products are currently made at our production facility located in Shenzhen, China. However, our insurance may not adequately cover any losses due to fire, casualty or theft.

We have obtained fire, casualty and theft insurance covering several of our stock in trade, goods and merchandise, furniture and equipment and production facility in China. The proceeds of such insurance may not be sufficient to cover material damage to, or the loss of, our production facility due to fire, severe weather, flood or other cause, and such damage or loss would have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, business and prospects. Consistent with the customary practice among enterprises in China and due to the cost in relation to the benefit, we do not carry any business interruption insurance in China.

# Sales of our jewelry to retailers are generally stronger during the quarter ending December 31 of each year due to the importance of the holiday selling season.

The approximately 33% of our wholesale sales during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008 to our TV shopping channel customers was not seasonal in nature. It has been our management s experience that the remaining 67% of our total wholesale sales is seasonally sensitive and is greater during the quarter ending December 31 of each year.

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## The success of our retail store expansion program in China is dependent upon numerous factors over which we have limited control.

The future success of our ENZO retail stores in China is partially dependent upon general economic conditions in China, competitive developments within the retail jewelry sector in China and consumer attitudes, including changes in consumer preferences for certain jewelry styles and materials. In addition, our retail expansion program is also dependent upon a number of factors relating to our stores, including the availability of property, the location of the mall or shopping centre, the availability of desirable locations within a mall, the terms of leases, our relationship with major landlords, and the design and maintenance of our stores.

## We rely on short-term financing from banks for our daily operation.

We rely on short-term borrowings as part of our financing needs. If we fail to achieve timely rollover, extension or refinancing of our short-term debt, we may be unable to meet our obligations in connection with debt service, accounts payable and/or other liabilities when they become due and payable. In addition, we may be exposed to changes in interest rates. If interest rates increase substantially, our results of operations could be adversely affected.

Certain of our banking facilities that offer short-term borrowings are collateralized by properties owned by Yu Chuan Yih and by his personal guarantee. If Mr. Yih withdraws the properties or his personal guarantee, the banking facilities may no longer remain available for use by us. In that event, our daily operations may be adversely affected. We rely geographically on the US market for the majority of our revenue.

Our wholesale business is our major revenue contributor and accounts for 73% of our total revenue. Geographically, North America is a major market for our wholesale business and contributes 69% of our wholesale revenues. Accordingly, the revenue of our wholesale business in the US market accounts for 51% of our total revenue. Any substantial decline of the US economy may adversely affect the spending patterns of the US consumers which could, in turn, adversely affect our revenue and income from the region.

## Our holding company structure creates restrictions on the payment of dividends.

We have no direct business operations, other than the ownership of our subsidiaries, of which we have control over their operation policies including, among others, payment of dividend. While we have no current intention of paying dividends, should we, as a holding company, decide in the future to do so, our ability to pay dividends and meet other obligations depends upon the receipt of dividends or other payments from our operating subsidiaries and other holdings and investments. In addition, our operating subsidiaries are subject to restrictions on their ability to make distributions to us, including as a result of restrictive covenants and minimum net worth requirements in loan agreements, restrictions on the conversion of local currency into US dollars or other hard currency and other regulatory restrictions.

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# As a foreign private issuer, we are not subject to certain rules promulgated by Nasdaq that other Nasdaq-listed issuers are required to comply with.

Our shares of common stock are currently listed on The Nasdaq Global Market and, for so long as our securities continue to be listed, we will remain subject to the rules and regulations established by Nasdaq applicable to listed companies. As permitted under Nasdaq rules applicable to foreign private issuers, we have determined not to comply with the following Nasdaq rules:

our independent directors do not hold regularly scheduled meetings in executive session

the compensation of our executive officers is not determined by an independent committee of the board or by the independent members of the board of directors, and our CEO may be present and participate in the deliberations concerning his compensation

related party transactions are not required to be reviewed or approved by our audit committee or other independent body of the board of directors

we are not required to solicit shareholder approval of stock plans, including those in which our officers or directors may participate; stock issuances that will result in a change in control; the issuance of our stock in related party transactions or other transactions in which we may issue 20% or more of our outstanding shares; or, below market issuances of 20% or more of our outstanding shares to any person

We may in the future determine to voluntarily comply with one or more of the foregoing provisions.

## It may be difficult to serve us with legal process or enforce judgments against us or our management.

We are a British Virgin Islands holding company, and substantially all of our assets are located in China and Hong Kong. In addition, all but one of our directors and officers are non-residents of the United States, and all or substantial portions of the assets of such non-residents are located outside the United States. As a result, it may not be possible to effect service of process within the United States upon such persons. Moreover, there is doubt as to whether the courts of the British Virgin Islands, China or Hong Kong would enforce:

judgments of United States courts against us, our directors or our officers based on the civil liability provisions of the securities laws of the United States or any state; or

in original actions brought in the British Virgin Islands, China or Hong Kong, liabilities against us or non-residents based upon the securities laws of the United States or any state.

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Some information about us may be unavailable due to exemptions under the Exchange Act for a foreign private issuer.

We are a foreign private issuer within the meaning of the rules under the Exchange Act. As such, we are exempt from certain provisions applicable to United States domestic public companies, including:

the rules under the Exchange Act requiring the filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission of quarterly reports on Form 10-Q or current reports on Form 8-K

the provisions of Regulation FD aimed at preventing issuers from making selective disclosures of material information

the sections of the Exchange Act regulating the solicitation of proxies, consents or authorizations applicable to a security registered under the Exchange Act

the sections of the Exchange Act requiring insiders to file public reports of their stock ownership and trading activities and establishing insider liability for profits realized from any short-swing trading transaction. Because of these exemptions, investors are not provided with the same information which is generally available about domestic public companies organized in the United States.

Since we are a British Virgin Islands company, the rights of our shareholders may be more limited than those of shareholders of a company organized in the United States.

Under the laws of most jurisdictions in the United States, majority and controlling shareholders generally have certain fiduciary responsibilities to the minority shareholders. Shareholder action must be taken in good faith, and actions by controlling shareholders which are obviously unreasonable may be declared null and void. British Virgin Islands law protecting the interests of minority shareholders may not be as protective in all circumstances as the law protecting minority shareholders in US jurisdictions. In addition, the circumstances in which a shareholder of a BVI company may sue the company derivatively, and the procedures and defenses that may be available to the company, may result in the rights of shareholders of a BVI company being more limited than those of shareholders of a company organized in the US.

Furthermore, our directors have the power to take certain actions without shareholder approval which would require shareholder approval under the laws of most US jurisdictions. The directors of a BVI corporation, subject in certain cases to court approval but without shareholder approval, may implement a reorganization, merger or consolidation, the sale of any assets, property, part of the business, or securities of the corporation. Our ability to amend our Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association without shareholder approval could have the effect of delaying, deterring or preventing a change in our control without any further action by the shareholders, including a tender offer to purchase our common stock at a premium over then current market prices.

Legal proceedings related to our historical reporting of financial results and other issues may significantly harm our business.

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Several lawsuits have been filed against us and certain officers and members of the Board of Directors, alleging false representations and material omissions in connection with press releases, SEC filings and other statements that purportedly overstated the Company s business prospects and financial results. These lawsuits are described more fully in Part I, Item 8.A. and in Part III, Item 18, Note 11 to our consolidated financial statements contained in this Form 20-F. Defending these lawsuits has and may continue to result in significant expenditures and the diversion of our management s time and attention from the operation of our business, which could have a negative effect on our business operations. From time to time, we may become involved in other litigation or other proceedings. Matters arising out of or related to the outcome of litigation could possibly harm our future results of operations or financial condition due to expenses we may incur to defend ourselves or the ramifications of an adverse decision.

## **ITEM 4. INFORMATION ON THE COMPANY**

### A. HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMPANY.

LJ International Inc. ( we or the Company ) was incorporated as an international business company under the International Business Companies Act of the British Virgin Islands on January 30, 1997. As of December 31, 2008, we owned all of the issued share capital in the following significant subsidiaries except Goldleaves Gems (Shenzhen) Co., Ltd.:

Lorenzo Jewelry Limited ( Lorenzo Jewelry ), a company incorporated in Hong Kong on February 20, 1987

Lorenzo Jewellery (Shenzhen) Co., Ltd.

Lorenzo (Shenzhen) Co., Ltd.

Wonderful (Shenzhen) Ltd.

Goldleaves Gems (Shenzhen) Co., Ltd. (98% equity ownership)

Our principal place of business and our principal executive office is located at Unit #12, 12/F, Block A, Focal Industrial Centre, 21 Man Lok Street, Hung Hom, Kowloon, Hong Kong, telephone: (011) 852-2764-3622. We have designated CT Corporation, 111 Eighth Avenue, New York, New York 10011 as our agent for service of process in the United States.

During our last three fiscal years, we have made the following significant capital expenditures:

we spent \$1,105,000 on capital expenditures, excluding inventory, for ENZO retail store openings during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006

we spent \$1,977,000 on capital expenditures, excluding inventory, for ENZO retail store openings during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007

we spent \$1,199,000 on capital expenditures, excluding inventory, for ENZO retail store openings during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008

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#### **B. BUSINESS OVERVIEW.**

We are a vertically integrated company that designs, brands, markets, distributes and retails a complete range of fine jewelry. While we specialize in the colored jewelry segment, we also offer high-end pieces set in yellow gold, white gold, platinum or sterling silver and adorned with colored stones, diamonds, pearls and precious stones. We distribute to fine jewelers, department stores, national jewelry chains and electronic and specialty retailers throughout North America and Western Europe; and we conduct our jewelry retail business through the ENZO brand in the Asia Pacific region, with the primary focus in the PRC market, which we regard as having one of the largest and fastest growing consumer demands for luxury items. Our product lines incorporate all major categories sought by major retailers, including earrings, necklaces, pendants, rings and bracelets.

We believe that our vertically integrated structure provides significant advantages over our competitors. All profits from value added processes are captured internally, rather than shared with third party manufacturers. This results in very competitive pricing for the retailer and enhanced profits for us. Innovative processes in stone cutting and production further enhance our competitive position.

We employ an international design team and all of our designs and merchandising strategies are proprietary. The exclusive and innovative concepts that we create offer brand potential. Our primary marketing focus has been in North America where we have sold directly to certain high volume customers that need specialized product development services, and through a marketing relationship with International Jewelry Connection for those customers that need higher levels of service and training.

We organize our marketing and distribution strategies by retail distribution channels. Concepts are developed for the specific needs of different market segments. We have identified the following as prime retail targets:

fine jewelers

national jewelry chains

department stores

TV shopping channels

discount chain stores

For the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2008, approximately 53% and 51% of our sales were in North America.

In addition to our wholesale line of business involving direct sales to retailers, we have expanded into the retail sales line of business involving direct sales to consumers in China through company-owned retail stores under the brand name ENZO. In March 2004, we opened our first retail store in Hong Kong and opened our flagship store in Shanghai in November 2004. As of March 19, 2009, we currently operate 94 ENZO retail stores across Hong Kong, China and Macau.

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The following is a breakdown of our total revenues by geographic market for each of our past three financial years:

	Year ended December 31,				
(in thousands)	2008	2007	2006		
	US\$	US\$	US\$		
US & Canada	69,232	80,572	76,889		
Europe and other countries	27,455	32,597	24,452		
Japan	989	2,206	2,454		
PRC (including Hong Kong and Macau)	38,592	36,662	19,996		
	136,268	152,037	123,791		

## **Our Industry**

The US jewelry industry is a highly fragmented \$65 billion market, with no single entity having more than 5% market share. The industry consists primarily of three retail sectors:

specialty retailers account for \$33 billion in sales

mass merchants and department stores account for \$21 billion in sales

direct avenues (television shopping, e-commerce, catalogs) account for \$11 billion

The US jewelry industry is comprised of two major groups that distribute finished jewelry to retailers in the United States:

a small number of producers that make and distribute their own jewelry directly to retailers

a large number of wholesalers and distributors who purchase products or portions of products from third parties and resell those items to retailers

We believe that vertically integrated companies that control costs by performing all value added processes enjoy a distinct competitive advantage over wholesalers and distributors who pay premium acquisition prices for items that they intend to resell. We further believe that large retailers want to rely upon prime producers because they believe that prime producers are reliable and low cost producers who can accommodate the large quantities of production that large retailers commonly purchase.

The Chinese jewelry industry has experienced rapid development due to a series of major reforms, including the liberalization of China s gold market, the lowering of tariff rates, and the decision of the Chinese Government to open up the retail sector to international companies.

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In addition, rising income levels coupled with the growing urban population in China have helped the jewelry market record double-digit growth annually. The continuing acceleration of the urbanization trend in China will likely result in improved income levels, thereby increasing private consumption. The Chinese Government has also encouraged consumer spending by instituting longer national holidays and increasing the salary of civil servants.

Management believes that China is the largest consumer of platinum and jade in the world for the past three years, the largest consumer of diamonds in Asia, and the second largest consumer of gold in the world.

## **Our Business Strategy**

Our business strategy is to:

increase our market share of moderately priced high-quality gem-set colored and precious jewelry by capitalizing on our vertically integrated production processes to produce diamond and high-end precious stone jewelry in addition to high volume, high-quality colored products

further develop our existing customer relationships with our specialized services

expand into new distribution channels, particularly in the United States, China, Western Europe, Japan, Russia, South Africa and Australia

We are developing new product lines in exotic stones, which have high perceived values among colored stones. We continue to expand into new product categories by:

marketing a line of sterling silver jewelry. These are typically merchandised with a retail price range of \$30 to \$150.

adding more lines into our LORENZO branded products with a retail price range of \$199 to \$999

offering diamond jewelry and expanding this business to our current client base by adding diamonds to some of our settings, as well as offering newly designed jewelry

#### **Our China Retail Sales Strategy**

In 2004, we initiated a retail sales strategy aimed at gaining market share in the rapidly growing consumer market in China. We opened three ENZO stores, two in China (including a flagship store in Shanghai) and one in Hong Kong. We believe that China represents an excellent retail sales opportunity for several reasons:

significant retail market China's retail sales exceed \$732 billion annually, making China the third largest market in the world.

large and growing jewelry market we estimate that China s jewelry sales totaled nearly \$26 billion in 2007 and \$32 billion in 2008.

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large pool of consumers China has a population of more than 1.3 billion people. We estimate that roughly 173 million Chinese have enough income to purchase luxury goods.

favorable regulatory changes as a member of the World Trade Organization, China is eliminating many restrictions on foreign ownership and operation of retail stores. Tariffs on colored gemstones, gold, silver and pearls have been sharply reduced, and economic and trade relationships between China and Hong Kong have been liberalized.

changing consumer preferences Chinese consumers are no longer purchasing jewelry solely as an investment. More Chinese consumers are embracing a more Western view of jewelry as a fashion accessory and now demand more contemporary, colorful designs.

We are expanding into China by means of Company-owned and -operated retail stores and supplier relationships with leading retailers, such as Carrefour.

We intend to implement our business strategy by:

expanding our retail jewelry market in China by planning to selectively open additional ENZO stores in China during 2009

promoting visits with customers to coordinate and cater to their particular promotional sales needs and monitoring their on-hand inventory in order to promote more active sell-through

expanding our distribution channels and further developing business with retail jewelry chains in the US **Our Production Capability** 

We have established a sophisticated facility in China that performs stone cutting and polishing and jewelry production. The facility is located in the city of Shenzhen in Guangdong Province, China. Our production facility in Shenzhen has been operating for ten years and has more than 14,000 square meters of production space. We currently employ approximately 2,000 skilled gemstone cutters and production personnel and turned out approximately 1.8 million pieces of finished fine jewelry during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008.

We purchase imported choice gemstone material, which are from mines located in Africa, China and South America, especially those concentrated in Brazil. We source our diamonds mainly from suppliers in India and Africa. Gemstone craftsmen are trained to ensure that the highest levels of cutting and polishing quality are achieved. The professional skills possessed by our cutters are applied to a wide variety of shapes and sizes, maximizing the yield and value of the gemstone material that we purchase. By performing internally the value-added processes of cutting and polishing our colored gemstones, we maximize quality control and improve our profitability. We specialize in a wide range of popular and exotic colored gemstones ranging from amethyst, aquamarine and peridot to tanzanite and tourmaline.

**Sales and Marketing** 

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#### Wholesale

Our merchandising strategy is to provide unique and differentiated products that are enhanced by the favorable pricing that results from our vertically integrated structure. We invest significant effort in design and model making to produce items which are distinctly different from those of our competitors. We continue to devote our efforts towards brand development and utilize marketing concepts to enhance the saleability of our products. We recognize that retailers favor certain price points. As part of our product development strategy, we strive to align our wholesale prices to match retailers target prices as a means of achieving these popular price targets.

Our sales and marketing team is located in our executive office in Shenzhen, China. Our marketing and distribution strategy is to identify the strongest retail customers in each distribution channel and to focus design and sales efforts towards the largest and fastest growing retailers. We maintain a broad base of customers and concentrate our efforts on five major jewelry market segments:

fine jewelers

national jewelry chains

department stores

TV shopping channels

discount chain stores

Our sales promotion efforts include attendance by our representatives at US and international trade shows and conventions, including Las Vegas, Orlando, New York, Basel, Switzerland, Hong Kong and Japan. In addition, we advertise actively in trade journals and related industry publications.

#### Retail

Our retail brand, ENZO, focuses on brand building strategy that differentiates itself from the many mass market local competitors. This is the result of continuous marketing programs that built an unique image and identity for ENZO.

ENZO has combined its product, sales and marketing programs that align with the strategic direction of reinforcing the brand as one of the most recognized foreign jewelry brands in China.

With 94 retail points covering strategic locations in major cities as of March 19, 2009, ENZO is the foreign jewelry brand with the highest number of retail points in China. This perfect retail platform provides the most effective touch points for the consumers, in particular the fast growing middle class segment in China.

In 2008, total jewelry retail sales in China reached \$32 billion and is expected to grow over the next few years.

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#### **Design and Product Development**

We have 20 internationally trained designers who work in our Shenzhen, China office. Our designers create styles that have been accepted by our various clients worldwide. Our design teams attend trade fairs worldwide to gather product ideas and monitor the latest product trends.

We provide our customers with a broad selection of high-quality 10, 14 and 18 karat gold, platinum and sterling silver jewelry products that incorporate traditional yet fashionable styles and designs. We currently offer more than 50,000 different styles of rings, bracelets, necklaces, earrings, pendants and matching sets that are contemporary and desired in the market.

We study product trends that are emerging in the international market and adapt these trends to the needs of our retail customers. The jewelry offered for sale considers colored, fabric and fashion trends, which are projected over a two-year period. We market our products as lifestyle inspired.

#### **Production Process**

We produce our jewelry at our facility in Shenzhen, China. Our production processes combine vertical integration, modern technology, mechanization and handcraftsmanship to turn out contemporary and fashionable jewelry. Our production operations basically involve:

cutting and polishing colored gemstones

combining pure gold, platinum or sterling silver with gemstones or diamonds to produce jewelry

finishing operations such as cleaning and polishing, resulting in high quality finished jewelry

## **Supply**

We cut our own colored stones. We purchase imported gemstones which are from South America, Africa and China. South America is the major source of ametrine, amethyst, aquamarine, imperial topaz, tourmaline and white topaz, and Africa is the main source of tanzanite, mandarine garnet, aquamarine and topaz. We also purchase imported aquamarine, peridot and topaz from China. We source our diamonds mainly from suppliers in India and Africa. We believe that we have good relationships with our suppliers, most of whom have supplied us for many years.

We maintain our supply of inventory at our warehouse. The amount of our inventory of a particular gemstone determines the extent and size of our marketing program for that product. We purchase our gemstones and diamonds in advance and in anticipation of orders resulting from our marketing programs.

We purchase our gold from banks, gold refiners and commodity dealers who supply substantially all of our gold needs, which we believe is sufficient to meet our requirements.

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Gold acquired for production is at least .995 fine and is combined with other metals to produce 10, 14 and 18 karat gold. The term karat refers to the gold content of alloyed gold, measured from a maximum of 24 karats, which is 100% fine gold. Varying quantities of metals such as silver, copper, nickel and zinc are combined with fine gold to produce 14 karat gold of different colors. These alloys are in abundant supply and are readily available to us.

We purchase our gold requirements within a reasonable period after each significant purchase order is received. We purchase supplies and raw materials from a variety of suppliers and we do not believe the loss of any of the suppliers would have a material adverse effect on our business. Alternative sources of supply for raw materials for production of jewelry are readily available.

### **Security**

We have installed certain measures at our Shenzhen, China, production and our Hong Kong facilities to protect against loss, including multiple alarm systems, infrared motion detectors and a system of closed circuit television cameras, which provide surveillance of all critical areas of our premises.

We carefully inspect all materials sent and received from outside suppliers, monitor the location and status of all inventory, and have strict internal control procedures of all jewelry as it proceeds through the production process. A complete physical inventory of gold and gemstones is taken at our production and facilities on a quarterly basis.

#### **Insurance**

We maintain primary all-risk insurance, with limits which may be less than our current inventory levels, to cover thefts and damage to inventory located on our premises. We also maintain insurance covering thefts and damage to our owned inventory located off-site. The amount of coverage available under such policies is limited and may vary by location, but is generally in excess of the value of the gold, diamonds and gemstones supplied by us. We carry transit insurance, the coverage of which includes the transportation of jewelry outside of our office.

## Competition

The jewelry production industry is highly competitive, and our competitors include domestic and foreign jewelry manufacturers, wholesalers, and importers who may operate on a national, regional and local scale. Our competitive strategy is to provide competitively priced, high-quality products to the high-volume retail jewelry market. According to our management, competition is based on pricing, quality, service and established customer relationships. We believe that we have positioned ourselves as a low-cost producer without compromising our

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quality. Our ability to conceive, design and develop products consistent with the requirements of each retail distribution channel represents a competitive advantage.

We believe that few competitors have the capacity and production skills to be effective competitors. We believe that our vertically integrated production capabilities distinguish us from most of our competitors and enable us to produce very competitively priced, high quality and consistent products.

The North American market is highly fragmented but does contain a number of major competitors, many of whom import much of their product from the Far East and many of whom sell higher priced items. The key United States competitor is E.E.A.C. Inc. International competitors include Pranda International and Beauty Gems Limited. Most of these manufacturers/wholesalers have been successful vendors for many years and enjoy good relations with their clients. Although it may be difficult for a newcomer to break into established relationships, we have already made substantial inroads in the North American jewelry market and we believe we can remain competitive, based on our vertically integrated, low-cost, high-volume and high-quality production process.

Regarding the China retail jewelry market, there are many Hong Kong, local and foreign competitors. Those competitors may have product type, price range, market segment, target customer, size, history, strategy and background similar to or different from ENZO. Hong Kong competitors include Hong Kong-listed chain store operators such as Chow Sang Sang, Tse Sui Luen and Luk Fook; the local Chinese retail competitor is Laofengxiang; and foreign competitors include Tiffany, Cartier and Bylgari.

## C. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2008.

The following chart provides a listing of our significant subsidiaries. The respective country of organization/incorporation is shown in brackets.

#### L.I INTERNATIONAL INC.

(British Virgin Islands)

100%

**Lorenzo Jewelry Limited** (Hong Kong)

Lorenzo Jewellery (Shenzhen) Co., Ltd. (PRC)

Lorenzo (Shenzhen) Co., Ltd. (PRC)

Wonderful (Shenzhen) Ltd. (PRC)

98%

Goldleaves Gems (Shenzhen) Co., Ltd. (PRC)

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#### D. PROPERTY, PLANTS AND EQUIPMENT.

Our principal executive office is located at Unit #12, 12/F, Block A, Focal Industrial Centre, 21 Man Lok Street, Hung Hom, Kowloon, Hong Kong. We own and lease approximately 11,100 square feet of office and showroom at this location.

Our jewelry production facility in Shenzhen, China consists of 14,080 square meters of building space located inside of and close to the Shatoujiao Free Trade Zone, Shenzhen. We own approximately 6,893 square meters of this space. We also currently lease:

1,751 square meters for a term of five years expiring June 30, 2011 from an unaffiliated third party at a rental rate of \$3,817 per month;

1,751 square meters for a term of two years expiring August 31, 2010 from an unaffiliated third party at a rental rate of \$5,868 per month;

1,799 square meters for a term of three years expiring March 31, 2009 from an unaffiliated third party at a rental rate of \$4,978 per month, renewal of lease is under negotiation; and

1,886 square meters for a term of three years expiring September 30, 2009 from an unaffiliated third party at a rental rate of \$5,219 per month.

We own two warehouse facilities in Hung Hom and Aberdeen consisting of 5,432 square feet and 5,200 square feet. We also own an additional property in Hung Hom. We lease all three of these properties to non-affiliated third parties. We have pledged all of our land and buildings to collateralize general banking facilities granted to us.

Our production facilities are currently utilized for one shift per day but are capable of being expanded to accommodate three shifts per day as necessary.

## **ITEM 4A. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS**

Not applicable.

#### ITEM 5. OPERATING AND FINANCIAL REVIEW AND PROSPECTS

The following discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with our financial statements and notes to the financial statements appearing elsewhere in this Form 20-F. See Special Note Regarding Forward-looking Statements.

LJ International Inc., through its operating subsidiaries, designs, manufactures, distributes and markets a full range of fine jewelry through both wholesale and retail channels

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under the tradenames of LORENZO and ENZO, respectively. In terms of sales revenue, geographically the United States and China are the two major contributors.

Our product types include ring, bracelet, necklace, earring and pendant, and we are one of the prominent companies in colored gemstones that employ the mine-to-market strategy for cost minimization and ease of quality and production lead time control. Our colored gemstones are mainly imported from Brazil and Africa which supply, in terms of color, size and quality, the best colored gemstones in the world, the choices of which to customers are many and diversified and include, among others, ametrine, amethyst, aquamarine, imperial topaz, tourmaline, white topaz, tanzanite, mandarine garnet, topaz, ruby, sapphire and emerald.

Our wholesale customers comprise fine jewellers, national jewelry chain stores, department stores and television shopping networks in North America, Western Europe, Japan and China. To keep in touch with our customers and to ensure that they are updated with our latest designs and products, we exhibited at the following international jewelry shows in 2008:

Show Name	<b>Show Date</b>
Vicenza Winter	Jan 13 - 20
HKJJMA Jewelry Trade Show	Jan 26 - 28
Hong Kong Int 1 Jewellery Show March 2008	Mar 4 - 8
JA Winter Show	Mar 9 - 11
Basel 2008	Apr 3 - 10
Vicenza Spring	May 17 - 21
JCK Las Vegas 08	May 30 - Jun 3
JA Summer Show	Jul 27 - 30
Vicenza Autumn	Sept 6 - 10
Hong Kong Jewellery & Watch Fair September 2008	Sept 15 - 21
JANY Special Show	Oct 26 - 28

Our retail operation is mainly concentrated in China where we serve individual consumers throughout 30 cities. For 2008, we temporarily suspended our ENZO Signature line, which contributed approximately \$13 million sales for 2007, because of the economic downturn and market situation as the Signature line is a luxury premium line of jewelry. In our ENZO retail shops, we offer fashionable and affordable jewelry items. Excluding the Signature line sales of \$13 million in 2007, our 2008 sales at retail shop level increased by 70% as compared to our 2007 retail shop sales. As at December 31, 2008, there were 97 ENZO stores throughout PRC, Hong Kong and Macau compared to the same number of stores as at December 31, 2007.

During 2008, we concentrated on improving our individual ENZO store performance by finding better locations for some of our stores and by continuing to expand our product lines. Besides introducing new colored gemstone jewelry, we were also successful in introducing various types of diamond jewelry which contributed to 46% of total retail revenue for 2008 compared to 38% of total retail revenue for 2007.

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The revenue mix of the two streams of business of LORENZO (wholesale) and ENZO (retail) were roughly in the ratio of 73% to 27% for the year ended December 31, 2008.

The wholesale business focuses on the US market with sales made to those \$100 Million Supersellers such as Sterling Jewelers Inc, ShopNBC, Zale Corporation, QVC and Wal-Mart. The turnover of our sales to those Supersellers in the US and Canada amounted to \$69.2 million for 2008 compared to \$80.6 million in 2007, a decrease of 14%.

Employing the ENZO brand name, the retail business focuses on the PRC market. ENZO has stores in Macau, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Beijing, Harbin, Qingdao, Shenyang, Ningbo, Chengdu, Changsha, Wuxi, Tianjin, Dalian, Shenzhen, Changchun, Tangshan, Guiyang, Xian, Anshan, Changzhou, Hefei, Shijiazhuang, Zhengzhou, Nanchang, Chongqing, Kunming, Jinan, Suzhou, Wuhan and Hengyang. Our ENZO stores in the PRC operate in department stores and shopping malls.

## **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

The preparation of our consolidated financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of our assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses. These estimates are based on our historical experience and on various other assumptions that we believe to be reasonable. Estimates are evaluated on an ongoing basis, but actual results may differ from these estimates.

Critical accounting policies are those that, in management s view, are most important in the portrayal of our financial condition and results of operations. Those that require significant judgments and estimates include:

Collectibility of Accounts Receivable. Our management has a credit policy in place and the exposure to credit risk is monitored on an ongoing basis. Credit evaluations are performed on all customers requiring credit over a certain amount. Our international sales are settled via letter of credit or open account. For export sales on open account, we purchased trade credit insurance to cover the risk of collectibility, the insured percentage is 85% on the invoiced amount to customers. Past due balances over 90 days and over a specified amount are reviewed individually for collectibility.

We make specific allowance for doubtful accounts based on our best estimate of the amount of losses that could result from the inability or intention of our existing customers not to make the required payments. We generally review the allowance by taking into account factors such as historical experience, age of the accounts receivable balances and economic conditions that may affect a customer sability to pay.

Stock-based Compensation. We account for share-based compensation in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (revised 2004) (SFAS No. 123R), Share-

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*Based Payment.* SFAS No. 123R requires us to use a fair-value based method to account for share-based compensation. Accordingly, share-based compensation cost is measured at the grant date, based on the fair value of the award, and is recognized as expense over the requisite service period. Our option plans are described more fully in Note 14 to our consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this annual report.

Goodwill Impairment. Goodwill is tested for impairment at least annually based on a two-step approach. The first step is conducted by comparing the fair value of each reporting unit to its carrying amount. If the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount, the second step requires a comparison of the implied fair value of goodwill to its carrying value. The excess of the fair value of the reporting unit over the amounts assigned to the assets and liabilities is the implied fair value of goodwill. This allocation process is only performed for purposes of evaluating goodwill impairment and does not result in an entry to adjust the value of any assets or liabilities. An impairment loss is recognized for any excess in the carrying value of goodwill over its implied fair value.

We have determined that iBBC Inc., a subsidiary of the Company in the US, is the reporting unit for goodwill impairment testing. The fair value of iBBC Inc. is determined based on the discounted expected cash flow method. The discount rate was based on the subsidiary s weighted average cost of capital. The use of discounted cash flow methodology requires significant judgments including estimation of future revenues and costs, industry economic factors, future profitability, determination of iBBC Inc. s weighted average cost of capital and other variables. Although we believe that the assumptions adopted in our discounted cash flow model are reasonable, those assumptions are inherently unpredictable and uncertain.

We had goodwill of US\$1,521,000 as of December 31, 2007 and 2008. The estimated fair value of the reporting unit exceeded its carrying value at December 31, 2008. Consequently, no goodwill impairment has been recognized. *Allowance for Obsolete Inventories*. We established inventory allowance for unmarketable inventory in an amount equal to the difference between the cost of inventory and its estimated net realizable value based upon assumptions about future demand and market conditions. Management records a write-down against inventory based on several factors, including expected sales price of the item and the length of time the item has been in inventory. If actual demand and market conditions are less favorable than those projected by management, additional inventory allowance could be required. In that event, our gross margin would be reduced.

Fair value of financial instruments. The Company follows Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 107 (SFAS No. 107), Disclosures about Fair Value of Financial Instruments, for its financial instruments. The fair value of a financial instrument is the amount at which the instrument could be exchanged in a current transaction between willing parties. The carrying amounts of financial assets and liabilities, such as cash and cash equivalents, accounts

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receivable, prepayments and other current assets, notes payable, capital lease obligations, accounts payable, refundable customer deposits, income taxes payable, and accrued expenses and other current liabilities, approximate their fair values because of the short maturity of these instruments and market rates of interest.

#### A. OPERATING RESULTS.

#### Reclassifications

Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current year presentation.

#### **Revenues**

	<b>V</b> 7	ended Decemb	21	Years ended December	Years ended December	
	Year	31,	31,			
(in thousands)	2008	2007	2006	2008-2007	2007-2006	
Revenues						
Wholesale	\$ 99,840	\$ 117,689	\$ 108,679	-15%	8%	
Retail	\$ 36,428	\$ 34,348	\$ 15,112	6%	127%	
	\$ 136,268	\$ 152,037	\$ 123,791	-10%	23%	

The decrease in revenue of jewelry product for wholesale of \$17,849,000 or 15% to \$99,840,000 for the year ended December 31, 2008, compared to the year ended December 31, 2007, was primarily attributable to the decrease in order quantity of 12%,

The increase in revenue of jewelry product for wholesale of \$9,010,000 or 8% to \$117,689,000 for the year ended December 31, 2007, compared to the year ended December 31, 2006, was primarily attributable to the increase in average selling price of 4% and the increase in order quantity of 8%.

The Company s retail business increased by \$2,080,000, or 6% to \$36,428,000 for the year ended December 31, 2008, compared to the year ended December 31, 2007. Considering the fact of suspension of the Signature line operation in 2008, retail revenue at retail store level actually increased by \$15,031,000 or 70% for the year ended December 31, 2008 as compared to the year ended December 31, 2007. This increase was primarily due to the implementation of the Company s strategy of consolidation of its ENZO retail stores. The Company opened 22 new stores, which are in better locations with better quality customers, and closed 20 of its less profitable stores. In effect, that was a total of 97 ENZO retail stores in full operation for the year ended December 31, 2008 compared to the same number of retail stores at December 31, 2007, but some of which did not operate for the full year.

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The Company s retail business increased by \$19,236,000, or 127% to \$34,348,000 for the year ended December 31, 2007, compared to the year ended December 31, 2006. This increase was primarily due to the successful launch of the ENZO Signature line of high-end jewelry which accounted for \$12,951,000 of the Company s retail business. The remaining increase was due to the Company s new ENZO retail store openings and the continued operation of its existing 51 ENZO retail stores, that is, a total of 95 ENZO retail stores in full operation compared to a total of 44 ENZO retail stores at December 31, 2006.

## **Cost of Sales and Gross Profit**

			% Change		
				Years ended December	Years ended December
	Year e	nded December	31,	31,	31,
(in thousands) Cost of sales and gross profit	2008	2007	2006	2008-2007	2007-2006
Cost of sales Wholesale	\$ 79,729	\$ 95,528	\$ 83,387	-17%	15%
% of revenues	80%	81%	77%		
Retail	\$ 17,302	\$ 16,980	\$ 5,480	2%	210%
% of revenues	47%	49%	36%		
Total	\$ 97,031	\$ 112,508	\$ 88,867	-14%	27%
% of revenues	71%	74%	72%		
Gross profit Wholesale	\$ 20,111	\$ 22,161	\$ 25,292	-9%	-12%
% of revenues	20%	19%	23%		
Retail	\$ 19,126	\$ 17,368	\$ 9,632	10%	80%
% of revenues	53%	51%	64%		
Total	\$ 39,237	\$ 39,529	\$ 34,924	-1%	13%
% of revenues	29%	26%	28%		

The gross profit margin of wholesale increased to 20% for the year ended December 31, 2008 from 19% for the year ended December 31, 2007. This was attributable to more effective procurement of sourced raw materials at lower costs and consumption of inventory whose original costs were lower than market.

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The gross profit margin of wholesale decreased to 19% for the year ended December 31, 2007 from 23% for the year ended December 31, 2006 and was attributable to the sales of product which had a lower gross profit margin.

The gross profit margin of ENZO retail operation increased to 53% for the year ended December 31, 2008 compared to 51% for the year ended December 31, 2007 and was attributable to more effective procurement of sourced raw materials and finished products at lower costs.

The gross profit margin of ENZO retail operation decreased to 51% for the year ended December 31, 2007 compared to 64% for the year ended December 31, 2006. The gross profit margin of 64% in 2006 was attributable to the service income from launch of the ENZO Signature line of jewelry products which substantially increased the retail division s gross profit margins. Excluding the contribution from service income, the gross profit margin of retail operation remained at 51% for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006.

## Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

				% Change		
	Voor	ended Decembe	on 21	Years ended December 31,	Years ended December	
(in thousands)	2008	2007	2006	2008-2007	31, 2007-2006	
Selling, general and administrative expenses						
Wholesale	\$ 14,087	\$ 13,072	\$ 13,324	8%	-2%	
Retail	\$ 17,820	\$ 15,251	\$ 7,562	17%	102%	
Corporate	\$ 2,908	\$ 2,076	\$ 2,228	40%	-7%	
	\$ 34,815	\$ 30,399	\$ 23,114	15%	32%	
% of revenues	26%	20%	19%			

Selling, general and administrative expenses increased by 15% for the year ended December 31, 2008, compared to the year ended December 31, 2007. For the wholesale business, the selling, general and administrative expenses increased by 8% for the year ended December 31, 2008, compared to the year ended December 31, 2007. The increase was mainly attributable to the allowance for doubtful accounts of \$1,223,000 because the debtors filed for bankruptcy protection. Excluding the allowance for doubtful accounts, the selling, general and administrative expenses of the wholesale business was \$12,864,000, a decrease of 2% for the year ended December 31, 2008, compared to the year ended December 31, 2007. The expenses incurred by the retail business of \$17,820,000, or 17% increase of the same for the year ended December 31, 2007, comprised advertising cost of \$686,000, rental cost of \$8,361,000, staff cost of \$4,920,000 and other expenses of \$3,853,000. The increase was mainly in the rental cost area

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which was a result of higher sales. The rental costs of more than 90% in number of retail stores were based on percentage of sales of which 44% in number of stores did not have any minimum rentals. The corporate expenses included items of corporate overheads, such as charges for legal and professional advisory services, and non-recurring litigation expenses of \$1,311,000.

Selling, general and administrative expenses increased by 32% for the year ended December 31, 2007, compared to the year ended December 31, 2006. For the wholesale business, the selling, general and administrative expenses decreased by 2% for the year ended December 31, 2007, compared to the same of year 2006. The decrease was mainly attributable to a decrease in development cost of new products, designs and markets. The expenses incurred by the retail business of \$15,251,000, or 102% increase of the same for the year ended December 31, 2006, comprised advertising cost of \$2,058,000, rental cost of \$5,367,000, staff cost of \$4,933,000 and other expenses of \$2,893,000 as a result of higher sales and increased store counts. The corporate expenses included items of corporate overheads, such as charges for legal and professional advisory services.

## Net gain (loss) on derivatives

					% Change			
(in thousands)	2	Year e 2008		Decemb		l, 2006	Years ended December 31, 2008-2007	Years ended December 31, 2007-2006
Unrealized (loss) gain on derivatives	\$	(483)	\$	(349)	\$	190	38%	-284%
% of revenues		0%		0%		0%		
(With the hedging mechanism in place, we	have	the realiz	ed ga	ain on hed	ging	activities	s)	
Realized gain (loss) on hedging activities	\$	397	\$	345	\$	(219)	15%	-258%
% of revenues		0%		0%		0%		
Net loss on derivatives and hedging activities	\$	(86)	\$	(4)	\$	(29)	2050%	-86%
% of revenues		0%		0%		0%		

We have secured gold loan facilities with various banks in Hong Kong, which typically bear a below-market interest rate. Under the gold loan arrangements, we may defer the purchase until such time as we decide appropriate, the price to be paid being the current market price at time of payment. The gold loan, however, does expose us to certain market risks associated with potential future increases in the price of gold. In the past, we did not hedge against such risks and at the close of each reporting period, the gold loan was valued at fair value with changes reflected on the income statement.

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Since 2003, we have commenced hedging the fluctuations in the price of gold related to the gold loans by entering into contracts with financial institutions for the future purchase of gold. With the hedging mechanism in place, we have incurred realized loss of \$483,000 and \$349,000 for each of the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively, and an unrealized gain of \$190,000 for the year ended December 31, 2006; and a realized gain of \$397,000 and \$345,000 for each of the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, and a realized loss of \$219,000 on derivatives for the year ended December 31, 2006.

The hedging mechanism has been in place since 2003. We secured position of a net loss of \$86,000, \$4,000 and \$29,000 for each of the years ended December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006, respectively, on derivative hedging activities. **Depreciation** 

				% Change		
	Vaara	nded Decemb	an 21	Years ended December	Years ended December	
(in thousands)	2008	nded December 2007	2006	31, 2008-2007	31, 2007-2006	
Depreciation Wholesale	\$ 1,877	\$ 1,995	\$ 1,425	-6%	40%	
% of revenues	2%	2%	1%			
Retail	\$ 1,496	\$ 1,100	\$ 614	36%	79%	
% of revenues	4%	3%	4%			
Total	\$ 3,373	\$ 3,095	\$ 2,039	9%	52%	
% of revenues	2%	2%	2%			

Depreciation of wholesale business decreased by 6% to \$1,877,000 for the year ended December 31, 2008 from \$1,995,000 for the year ended December 31, 2007, which reflected part of the on-going capital expenditures which were fully amortized during the year. Depreciation of retail business increased by 36% to \$1,496,000 for the year ended December 31, 2008 from \$1,100,000 for the year ended December 31, 2007, which reflected the amortization of the capital expenditures of renovation on the increased number of retail stores during the year.

Depreciation of wholesale business increased by 40% to \$1,995,000 for the year ended December 31, 2007 from \$1,425,000 for the year ended December 31, 2006, which reflected the amortization on the on-going capital expenditures, and a full year s amortization on cost of renovation and motor vehicles incurred in 2006. Depreciation of retail business increased by 79% to \$1,100,000 for the year ended December 31, 2007 from \$614,000 for the year ended December 31, 2006, which reflected the amortization of the capital expenditures of renovation on the increased number of retail stores during the year.

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#### **Interest cost**

		% Change			
				Years ended December	Years ended December
	Year e	nded Decemb	31,	31,	
(in thousands)	2008	2007	2006	2008-2007	2007-2006
Interest expenses	\$ 1,789	\$ 3,103	\$ 3,258	-42%	-5%
% of revenues	1%	2%	3%		

Interest expenses decreased by \$1,314,000 or 42% to \$1,789,000 for the year ended December 31, 2008, compared to the year ended December 31, 2007, and was primarily attributable to the decrease in interest rates and the decrease in utilization level of credit lines of letters of credit and gold loans due to the suspension or cancellation imposed by the banking facilities.

Interest expenses decreased by \$155,000 or 5% to \$3,103,000 for the year ended December 31, 2007, compared to the year ended December 31, 2006, and was primarily attributable to the decrease in interest rates and the decrease in utilization level of credit lines of letters of credit.

#### **Income taxes**

				% Change	
	Vear e	ended Decembo	e <b>r 31</b> .	Years ended December 31,	Years ended December 31,
(in thousands)	2008	2007	2006	2008-2007	2007-2006
Income taxes expense Wholesales	\$ 569	\$ 1,015	\$ 682	-44%	49%
% of revenues	1%	1%	1%		
Retail	\$ 0	\$ 696	\$ 721	-100%	-3%
% of revenues	0%	2%	5%		
Total	\$ 569	\$ 1,711	\$ 1,403	-67%	22%
% of revenues	0%	1%	1%		

We are incorporated in the British Virgin Islands and, under current laws of the British Virgin Islands, are not subject to tax on income or on capital gains.

For our subsidiaries in Hong Kong, the prevailing corporate income tax rate is 16.5%.

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Three of our subsidiaries in China are registered to be qualified as Foreign Investment Enterprises in China and are eligible for certain tax holidays and concessions. Accordingly, certain of our Chinese subsidiaries are exempt from Chinese income tax for two years starting from their first profit-making year, followed by a 50% reduction of tax for the next three years.

One of our subsidiaries in China is enjoying the tax holiday as its first profit-making year in 2004 and another subsidiary in China is enjoying the tax holiday as its first profit-making year in 2005. PRC income tax is calculated at the applicable rates relevant to these subsidiaries which currently are 18%.

For other subsidiaries in China, the prevailing corporate income tax rate is 25%. The prevailing corporate income rate is 18% for companies operating in special economic zones of China.

Income taxes included tax under provision adjustment of \$1,000, \$195,000 and \$72,000 for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006, respectively, after the finalization of tax assessment for prior years.

#### Inflation

We do not consider inflation to have had a material impact on our results of operations over the last three years.

## Foreign Exchange

Approximately 72% of our sales are denominated in US Dollars whereas the other sales are basically denominated in Hong Kong Dollars and Renminbi. The largest portion of our expenses are denominated in Hong Kong Dollars, followed by US Dollars and Renminbi. The exchange rate of the Hong Kong Dollar is currently pegged to the US Dollar, but during the past several years the market exchange rate has fluctuated within a narrow range. The Chinese government principally sets the exchange rate between the Renminbi and all other currencies. As a result, the exchange rates between the Renminbi and the US Dollar and the Hong Kong Dollar have fluctuated in the past and may fluctuate in the future. If the value of the Renminbi or the Hong Kong Dollar depreciates relative to the US Dollar, such fluctuation may have a positive effect on the results of our operations. If the value of the Renminbi or the Hong Kong Dollar appreciates relative to the US Dollar, such fluctuation may have a negative effect on the results of our operations. We do not currently hedge our foreign exchange positions.

## Governmental economic and political policies and factors

For information regarding governmental economic, fiscal, monetary and political policies that could materially affect our operations, directly or indirectly, please refer to the Risk Factors section on pages 4 to 10.

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## **B. LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES.**

We have no direct business operations other than the ownership of our subsidiaries and investment securities. Our ability to pay dividends and meet other obligations depends upon our receipt of dividends or other payments from our operating subsidiaries and investment securities. Our operating subsidiaries are subject to restrictions on their ability to make distributions to us, including as a result of restrictive covenants and minimum net worth requirements in loan agreements, restrictions on the conversion of local currency into US dollars or other hard currency and other regulatory restrictions.

## **Cash Flows**

Yea	Years ended December 31,		
2008	2007	2006	
\$8,746	\$ 2,203	\$ (6,200)	
(801)	(1,806)	(3,829)	
(533)	(1,309)	11,096	
985			
8,397	(912)	1,067	
	2008 \$8,746 (801) (533) 985	2008 2007 \$8,746 \$ 2,203 (801) (1,806) (533) (1,309) 985	

## **Operating Activities:**

	Years ended December 31,		
(in thousands)	2008	2007	2006
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net income	\$ 2,530	\$ 1,489	\$ 5,325
Adjustments to reconcile income to net cash provided by (used in)	Ψ 2,330	ψ 1,402	Ψ 5,323
operating activities:			
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment and properties held for			
lease	3,373	3,095	2,039
Unrealized (gain) loss on derivatives	3,373	3,073	(48)
Gain on sales of securities	(49)		(10)
Gain on saies of securities	(47)		
Gain on disposal of property held for lease	(2,210)		
Loss on disposal and write-off of property, plant and equipment	45	45	3
Gain on currency translation	(1,473)		
Allowance for (Reversal of) doubtful debts	1,223	(2)	(40)
Minority interests	6	1	37
Compensation costs for warrants granted	39	157	158
Compensation expenses recognized during the year	361	330	213
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Trade receivables	1,401	702	1,106
Inventories	5,375	(13,261)	(12,810)
Prepayments and other current assets	496	596	(580)
Due from related parties		21	463
Trade payables	(775)	9,487	(2,955)
Accrued expenses and other payables	(1,318)	(1,432)	272
Income taxes payable and deferred taxation	(278)	975	617
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	8,746	2,203	(6,200)

Net cash provided by and used in operating activities was net income adjusted for certain non-cash items and changes in assets and liabilities.

For the year ended December 31, 2008, net cash provided by operating activities was comprised of net income of \$2,530,000, non-cash adjustment of \$1,315,000 including adjustment of \$3,373,000 and 1,223,000 for depreciation and allowance for doubtful debts, respectively,

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gain of \$2,210,000 on disposal of property held for lease and gain of \$1,473,000 on valuation of loans dominated in HK dollars and US dollars.

For the year ended December 31, 2007, net cash provided by operating activities was comprised of net income of \$1,489,000 and non-cash adjustment of \$3,626,000 including adjustment of \$3,095,000 for depreciation.

Significant changes in assets and liabilities were as follows:

Trade receivables decreased by \$1,401,000 and \$702,000 for the year ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

Inventory balance decreased by \$5,375,000 for the year ended December 31, 2008 due to utilization of old inventory for special promotion programs with certain customers and the enforcement of strict control on inventory purchases. Inventory balance was increased by \$13,261,000 for the year ended December 31, 2007. It was the accumulation of inventory of gemstones in anticipation of a significant increase in sales for the new fiscal year, and the build up of inventory for the retail business, the rise in the cost of gold and rough gemstones, the build-up of more sample lines of jewelry and the maintaining of sufficient inventory for block-orders.

Trade payables decreased by \$775,000 for the year ended December 31, 2008 due to a reduced level of material purchases which was in line with sales expectation for the year. Trade payables increased by \$9,487,000 for the year ended December 31, 2007 due to increased level of material purchases during last quarter of the year.

## **Investing Activities:**

For the year ended December 31, 2008, net cash used in investing activities was for capital expenditures and increase in restricted cash, which was offset by the proceeds on disposal of investment property. Capital expenditures were mainly for on-going improvements of the existing production facilities in Shenzhen, and other business necessities, and renovation of new stores for the retail business.

For the year ended December 31, 2007, net cash used in investing activities was for capital expenditures and was partially offset by the deduction in restricted cash. Capital expenditures were mainly for renovation of our headquarters office in Hong Kong, on-going improvements of the existing production facilities in Shenzhen, and other business necessities, and renovation of new stores for the retail business.

Our capital expenditures by category for the periods presented were:

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	Years ended December 31,					
(in thousands)	2008	2007	2006			
Land & buildings	\$	\$	\$			
Leasehold improvement	\$ 1,199	\$ 2,156	\$ 2,852			
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	\$ 294	\$ 660	\$ 690			
Plant and machinery	\$ 81	\$ 322	\$ 260			
Motor vehicles	\$ 61	\$ 1	\$ 381			
Total	\$ 1,635	\$ 3,139	\$ 4,183			

#### **Financing Activities:**

Net cash used in financing activities for the year ended December 31, 2008 was \$533,000, which included proceeds of \$3,406,000 from the issuance of shares upon exercise of stock options, sales proceeds of derivatives and an increase of new loans and was offset by the repayment of matured bank loans, change in letter of credit and factoring and decrease in bank overdrafts utilization level.

Net cash used in financing activities for the year ended December 31, 2007 was \$1,309,000, which included proceeds of \$10,576,000 from the issuance of shares upon exercise of stock options and warrants, sales proceeds of derivatives and an increase of new loans and was offset by the repayment of matured bank loans, change in letter of credit and factoring and increase in bank overdrafts utilization level.

Our cash and cash equivalents are mainly held in US dollars and HK dollars and Renminbi.

## **Financing Sources**

## **Banking Facilities and Notes Payables**

We have various letters of credit, factoring facilities and overdrafts under banking facilities. The banking facilities are collateralized by land and buildings, investment properties, restricted cash deposits, factored receivables and personal guarantees of and properties owned by one of our directors.

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Letters of Credit, overdrafts and others:

	Years ended December 31,			
(in thousands)	2008	2007	2006	
Granted:				
Letters of credit	\$ 24,085	\$ 38,957	\$41,046	
Overdraft	\$ 2,923	\$ 4,141	\$ 3,564	
	27,008	43,098	44,610	
Utilized:				
Letters of credit utilized	\$ 13,384	\$ 16,653	\$ 22,344	
Overdraft utilized	\$ 2,724	\$ 2,977	\$ 1,591	
	16,108	19,630	23,935	

The letters of credit and bank overdrafts are denominated in HK dollars and US dollars, bear interest at the floating commercial bank lending rates in Hong Kong, and are renewable annually with the consent of the relevant banks. The factoring facilities granted are limited to the extent of accounts receivable collateralized to the banks. Notes payable:

	Years ended December 31,				
(in thousands)	2008	2007	2006		
Notes payable, current portion	\$ 9,194	\$ 4,047	\$ 3,987		
Notes payable, non-current portion	\$ 2,115	\$ 1,154	\$ 1,378		
	11,309	5,201	5,365		

We have term loans classified under notes payable which are related to the Group s properties. These loans are denominated in HK dollars and Renminbi and bear interest at pre-fixed rates in Hong Kong and China upon renewal.

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#### **Gold Loan Facilities:**

	Years ended December 31,			
(in thousands)	2008	2007	2006	
Gold loans outstanding (in \$)	\$	\$ 4,883	\$ 11,079	
Gold loans outstanding (in troy ounces)		11,150	26,920	
Gold loan interest rate		3.1%-3.3%	2.6%-3.1%	

We have also secured gold loan facilities with various banks in Hong Kong, which bear a below-market interest rate. Due to lower interest rates charged for gold loans, our cost through our gold loan program has been substantially less than the costs that would have been incurred if we were to finance the purchase of all of our gold requirements with borrowings under our letter of credit facility or other credit arrangements. The gold loan, however, does expose us to certain market risks associated with potential future increases in the price of gold, so in 2003, we have put in place mechanisms to hedge against such risks. Under the gold loan arrangements, we may defer the purchase until such time as we deem appropriate, the price to be paid being the current market price at time of payment. At the close of each reporting period, the gold loan is valued at fair value with changes reflected on the income statement. As of December 31, 2008, we do not have any gold loan outstanding.

## **Looking Forward:**

We anticipate that cash flow from operations, borrowings available under our existing credit line and our gold loan arrangement will be sufficient to satisfy our capital needs for 2009.

### Impact of recently issued US GAAP accounting standards

SFAS No. 141R. In December 2007, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 141R (SFAS No. 141R), *Business Combinations*, which is a revision of SFAS No. 141, Business Combinations. This statement establishes principles and requirements for how an acquirer recognizes and measures in its financial statements the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed and any non-controlling interest in the acquiree; recognizes and measures the goodwill acquired in the business combination or a gain from a bargain purchase; and determines what information to disclose to enable users of the financial statements to evaluate the nature and financial effects of the business combination. We are required to apply this new standard prospectively to business combinations for which the acquisition date is on or after the beginning of the annual reporting period beginning on or after December 15, 2008. Early adoption is prohibited. We are currently evaluating the impact of the adoption of SFAS No. 141R on our consolidated financial statements.

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SFAS No. 160. In December 2007, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 160 (SFAS No. 160), Non-controlling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements. SFAS No. 160 establishes accounting and reporting standards for ownership interests in subsidiaries held by parties other than the parent, the amount of consolidated net income attributable to the parent and to the non-controlling interest, changes in a parent s ownership interest and the valuation of retained non-controlling equity investments when a subsidiary is deconsolidated. SFAS No. 160 also establishes disclosure requirements that clearly identify and distinguish between the interests of the parent and the interests of the non-controlling owners. We are required to adopt this new standard for fiscal years, and interim periods within those fiscal years, beginning on or after December 15, 2008. We are currently evaluating the impact of the adoption of SFAS No. 160 on our consolidated financial statements.

*EITF 07-1.* In December 2007, the FASB ratified EITF Issue 07-1 (EITF 07-1), *Accounting for Collaborative Arrangements*. EITF 07-1 focuses on defining a collaborative arrangement as well as the accounting for transactions between participants in a collaborative arrangement and between the participants in the arrangement and third parties. EITF 07-1 concluded that both types of transactions should be reported in each participant s respective income statement. EITF 07-1 is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008, and interim periods within those fiscal years and should be applied retrospectively to all prior periods presented for all collaborative arrangements existing as of the effective date. We are currently evaluating the impact of EITF 07-1 on our consolidated financial statements.

SFAS No. 161. In March 2008, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 161 (SFAS No. 161), Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities An Amendment of FASB Statement No. 133. SFAS No. 161 requires enhanced disclosures on derivative and hedging activities by requiring objectives to be disclosed for using derivative instruments in terms of underlying risk and accounting designation. This statement requires disclosures on the need of using derivative instruments, accounting of derivative instruments and related hedged items, if any, under SFAS No. 133 and the effect of such instruments and related hedge items, if any, on the financial position, financial performance and cash flows. We are required to adopt this new statement for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2008. We are currently evaluating the impact of the adoption of SFAS No. 161 on our consolidated financial statements.

EITF 08-7. In November 2008, the FASB ratified EITF Issue No. 08-7 (EITF 08-7), Accounting for Defensive Intangible Assets. EITF 08-7 applies to defensive intangible assets, which are acquired intangible assets that the acquirer does not intend to actively use but intends to hold to prevent its competitors from obtaining access to them. As these assets are separately identifiable, EITF 08-7 requires an acquiring entity to account for defensive intangible assets as a separate unit of accounting, which should be amortized to expense over the period the asset diminished in value. Defensive intangible assets must be recognized at fair value in accordance with SFAS No. 141R and SFAS No. 157. EITF 08-7 is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008. We are currently evaluating the impact of

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EITF 07-1, but do not expect the adoption to have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

#### C. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, PATENTS AND LICENSES, ETC.

During each of the last three fiscal years, we did not spend any significant amounts on company-sponsored research and development activities.

#### D. TREND INFORMATION.

Other than as disclosed elsewhere in this annual report, we are not aware of any known trends, uncertainties, demands, commitments or events for the period from January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008 that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on our net sales or revenues, income, profitability, liquidity or capital resources, or that caused the disclosed financial information to be not necessarily indicative of future operating results or financial conditions.

#### E. OFF-BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS.

Except for those arrangements which are disclosed in the Consolidated Financial Statements, we do not have any off-balance sheet arrangements that have or are reasonably likely to have a current or future effect on our financial condition, changes in financial condition, revenues or expenses, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures or capital resources that is material to investors.

#### F. TABULAR DISCLOSURE OF CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS.

As of December 31, 2008, we had the following known contractual obligations:

	Payments due by period				
	Less than			3-5	More than
	Total US\$	I year US\$	1-3 years US\$	years US\$	5 years US\$
Long-Term Debt Obligations					
Capital (Finance) Lease Obligations	193	87	106		
Operating Lease Obligations	2,501	1,698	756	47	
Total	2,694	1,785	862	47	
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We had entered into finance lease agreements for the purchase of motor vehicles in 2003 and 2006. The financed amounts were \$95,000 and \$366,000, bearing interest at 5%-6% and 3.25%-3.5% per annum, and repayable in 60 monthly installments beginning in 2003 and 2006, respectively. A minimum finance charge may be charged if we pay off all the balances early. As of December 31, 2008, the finance lease entered in 2003 has been retired.

#### ITEM 6. DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND EMPLOYEES

#### A. DIRECTORS AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT.

Our senior management and directors are as follows:

Name	Age	Position
Yu Chuan Yih	69	Chairman of the Board of Directors, President and Chief Executive
		Officer
Ka Man Au	44	Chief Operating Officer, Secretary and Director
Hon Tak Ringo Ng	49	Chief Financial Officer and Director
Andrew N. Bernstein	56	Independent Non-Executive Director
Xiang Xiong Deng	44	Independent Non-Executive Director
Jin Wang	38	Independent Non-Executive Director
Jieyun Yu	43	Independent Non-Executive Director

None of our directors and officers was selected due to any agreement or understanding with any other person. There is no family relationship between any of our directors or executive officers and any other director or executive officer.

**Mr.** Yih established the business of Lorenzo Jewelry Ltd. and has served as president and managing director since 1987. Mr. Yih is primarily responsible for business development and overall company management. He has over 20 years of experience in colored stone production and marketing. Mr. Yih had been a gemstone trader in Brazil and has extensive experience and relationships in gem sourcing and jewelry design. Mr. Yih is also the Founding Sponsor of the Hong Kong branch of the Gemological Institute of America (GIA), the non-profit educational organization for the jewelry industry.

**Ms.** Au has served as a director of Lorenzo Jewelry Ltd. since its incorporation in 1987. Ms. Au has been our chief operating officer since January 1, 2002 and is primarily responsible for our general administration, human resources, operations and management.

**Mr.** Ng has served as our chief financial officer since September 1997 and as one of our directors since May 1, 2001. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from the University of London in 1984 and his Master of Commerce in accounting and commercial administration from the University of New South Wales in 1994. From July 1994

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through September 1997, he was an audit senior with Moores Rowland C.A., Certified Public Accountants. Mr. Ng is a certified practicing accountant of the Australian Society of CPAs.

**Mr. Bernstein** joined us as an independent non-executive director in July 2005. He serves on the compensation and nominating committees. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Cornell University in 1974 and his Juris Doctor degree from Boston College Law School in 1977. Since 1978, Mr. Bernstein has been engaged in the private practice of law in Denver, Colorado, with emphasis on the representation of private and public companies and their transactional, corporate and securities matters. Mr. Bernstein has served as our US securities counsel since March 1997.

**Mr. Deng** was appointed as an independent non-executive director effective October 29, 2007. He serves on the audit and nominating committees. Mr. Deng graduated from Shenzhen University (Bachelor of Law) and Shanghai Jiao Tong University (MBA). He is a member of the Shenzhen Board of Arbitration and formerly the General Manager of a number of state-owned and private enterprises. He is experienced in both capital management and investment banking.

Mr. Wang was appointed as an independent non-executive director effective October 29, 2007. He serves as chair of the audit committee and a member of the nominating and compensation committees. He is currently Vice President of the Shenzhen Shengwei Taxation Co. Ltd. and has held that position since January 2006. Before that, he served in a number of posts with responsibilities for financial management and auditing. These include Project Manager of the Audit Department at the accounting firm Shenzhen Changcheng (2004-2005), Assistant Financial Manager at Shenzhen Jinggong Design and Decoration Co. Ltd. (2003-2004) and Manager of the Finance Department at Jiaguo Trading (Shenzhen) Co. Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of Bank of China Group Investment Co. Ltd (1997-2003).

**Ms. Yu** was appointed as an independent non-executive director effective October 29, 2007. She serves on the audit and compensation committees. She is currently Assistant Manager of Finance at the headquarters of the Bank of China Group Insurance Co. Ltd. and General Manager of Finance at the company s Shenzhen Branch Office. She has held these positions since June 2003. Earlier, she served in finance management positions for Midland Realty (Shenzhen) Co. Ltd. (2001-2002), Intermost Corp. (1998-2001) and Guanghua Zhaori Production Co. Ltd. (1992-1998). Prior to these positions, she was a statistician and auditor (1998-2002) at the Shenzhen Culture Bureau. **B. COMPENSATION.** 

The aggregate compensation paid by us to all of our directors and executive officers as a group for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008 on an accrual basis, for services in all capacities, was \$1,376,000. During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008, we contributed an aggregate amount of \$50,000 toward the pension plans of our directors and executive officers.

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We entered into an employment agreement with Mr. Yu Chuan Yih, effective January 1, 2007, for a period of three years at an annual salary of \$308,000. Mr. Yih s remuneration package includes benefits with respect to an automobile. In addition, Mr. Yih is entitled to an annual management bonus of a sum to be determined by the compensation committee of the board of directors at its discretion, having regard for our operating results and the performance of Mr. Yih during the relevant financial year.

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006, we did not grant any options to any of our directors or executive officers.

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007, we did not grant any options to any of our directors or executive officers, except as follows: on January 5, 2007, we granted Mr. Yih, Ms. Au and Mr. Ng options exercisable to acquire 500,000 shares, 100,000 shares and 100,000 shares, respectively, at \$4.50 per share at any time through February 4, 2007.

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008, we did not grant any options to any of our directors or executive officers, except as follows: on October 28, 2008, we granted the following executive officers and directors an aggregate of 1,100,000 options exercisable to acquire 1,100,000 shares subject to various vesting schedules at \$0.40 per share at any time on or after January 28, 2009 through October 28, 2013 Mr. Yih 500,000; Ms. Au 200,000; Mr. Ng 200,000; Mr. Bernstein 50,000; Mr. Deng 50,000; Mr. Wang 50,000; and Ms. Yu 50,000. **C. BOARD PRACTICES.** 

Each of our seven current directors was elected at our last annual meeting of shareholders held on November 14, 2008 to serve a one-year term or until his/her successor is elected and qualified.

There are no directors service contracts with us or any of our subsidiaries providing for benefits upon termination of employment.

#### **Audit Committee**

We have established an audit committee, which currently consists of Xiang Xiong Deng, Jin Wang and Jieyun Yu. Its functions are to:

recommend annually to the board of directors the appointment of our independent public accountants

discuss and review the scope and the fees of the prospective annual audit and review the results with the independent public accountants

review and approve non-audit services of the independent public accountants

review compliance with our existing accounting and financial policies

review the adequacy of our financial organization

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review our management s procedures and policies relative to the adequacy of our internal accounting controls and compliance with US federal and state laws relating to financial reporting

## **Nominating Committee**

We have established a nominating committee, which currently consists of Xiang Xiong Deng, Jin Wang and Andrew N. Bernstein. Its purpose and functions are to:

assess the size and composition of the board of directors in light of our operating requirements and existing social attitudes and trends

develop membership qualifications for the board of directors and all board committees

monitor compliance with board of director and board committee membership criteria

review and recommend directors for continued service as required based on our evolving needs

coordinate and assist management and the board of directors in recruiting new members to the board of directors

investigate suggestions for candidates for membership on the board of directors and recommend prospective directors, as required, to provide an appropriate balance of knowledge, experience and capability on the board of directors, including stockholder nominations for the board of directors

#### **Compensation Committee**

We have established a compensation committee, which currently consists of Andrew N. Bernstein, Jieyun Yu and Jin Wang. Its purpose and functions are to:

review and approve corporate goals and objectives relevant to the compensation of the chief executive officer and other executive officers

evaluate the chief executive officer s performance in light of such goals and objectives at least annually and communicate the results to the chief executive officer and the board of directors

set the chief executive officer s compensation levels based on the foregoing evaluation (including annual salary, bonus, stock options and other direct and indirect benefits), with ratification by the independent directors of the full board of directors

set the other executive officers compensation levels (including annual salary, bonus, stock options and other direct and indirect benefits)

#### **Nasdaq Requirements**

Our shares of common stock are currently listed on The Nasdaq Global Market and, for so long as our securities continue to be listed, we will remain subject to the rules and regulations established by Nasdaq as being applicable to listed companies. Nasdaq has adopted amendments to its Rule 4350 to impose various corporate governance requirements on listed securities.

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Section (a)(1) of Rule 4350 provides that foreign private issuers such as our company are required to comply with certain specific requirements of Rule 4350, but, as to the balance of Rule 4350, foreign private issuers are not required to comply if the laws of their home country do not otherwise require compliance.

We currently comply with the specifically mandated provisions of Rule 4350. In addition, we have elected to voluntarily comply with certain other requirements of Rule 4350, notwithstanding that our home country does not mandate compliance; although we may in the future determine to cease voluntary compliance with those provisions of Rule 4350. However, we have determined not to comply with the following provisions of Rule 4350 since the laws of the British Virgin Islands do not require compliance:

our independent directors do not hold regularly scheduled meetings in executive session

the compensation of our executive officers is not determined by an independent committee of the board or by the independent members of the board of directors, and our CEO may be present and participate in the deliberations concerning his compensation

related party transactions are not required to be reviewed or approved by our audit committee or other independent body of the board of directors

we are not required to solicit shareholder approval of stock plans, including those in which our officers or directors may participate; stock issuances that will result in a change in control; the issuance of our stock in related party transactions or other transactions in which we may issue 20% or more of our outstanding shares; or, below market issuances of 20% or more of our outstanding shares to any person

We may in the future determine to voluntarily comply with one or more of the foregoing provisions of Rule 4350. **D. EMPLOYEES.** 

As of December 31, 2008, we employed approximately 3,000 persons on a full-time basis for our production of jewelry, gemstone cutting and polishing, and retailing. Approximately 100 of these people were our management and executive staff in Hong Kong, Macau and China. None of our employees is represented by a labor union and we believe that our employee relations are good.

#### E. SHARE OWNERSHIP.

The following table sets forth certain information regarding the beneficial ownership of our shares of common stock as of March 19, 2009 by:

each person who is known by us to own beneficially more than 5% of our outstanding common stock;

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each of our current executive officers and directors; and

all executive officers and directors as a group.

As of March 19, 2009, we had 22,911,172 shares of our common stock issued and outstanding.

This information gives effect to securities deemed outstanding pursuant to Rule 13d-3(d)(l) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

The address for each person named below is c/o LJ International Inc., Unit #12, 12/F, Block A, Focal Industrial Centre, 21 Man Lok Street, Hung Hom, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

Name of Beneficial Holder	Number Shares Beneficial	Percent ly Owned
Yu Chuan Yih	2,534,353(1)	10.8
Ka Man Au	454,000(2)	2.0
Hon Tak Ringo Ng	475,000(3)	2.0
Andrew N. Bernstein	50,000(4)	*
Xiang Xiong Deng	0	0
Jin Wang	0	0
Jieyun Yu	0	0
All directors and executive officers as a group (7 persons)	3,513,353	14.5

<sup>\*</sup> Represents less than 1% beneficial ownership

(1) Includes options currently exercisable to acquire:

500,000 shares of common stock at \$0.40 per share at any time on or after January 28, 2009 through October 28, 2013

(2) Includes options currently exercisable to acquire:

150,000 shares of common stock at \$2.00 per share at any time until June 30, 2013

200,000 shares of common stock at \$0.40 per share at any time on or after January 28, 2009 through October 28, 2013

(3) Includes options currently exercisable to acquire:

150,000 shares of common stock at \$2.00 per share at any time until June 30, 2013

200,000 shares of common stock at \$0.40 per share at any time on or after January 28, 2009 through October 28, 2013

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(4) Represents options currently exercisable to acquire:

50,000 shares of common stock at \$0.40 per share at any time on or after January 28, 2009 through October 28, 2013

## The 1998 Stock Compensation Plan

Effective June 1, 1998, we adopted and approved the 1998 Stock Compensation Plan, which our shareholders approved on December 9, 1998. The purpose of the plan is to:

encourage ownership of our common stock by our officers, directors, employees and advisors

provide additional incentive for them to promote our success and our business

encourage them to remain in our employ by providing them with an opportunity to benefit from any appreciation of our common stock through the issuance of stock options

Options constitute either incentive stock options within the meaning of Section 422 of the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or options which constitute nonqualified options at the time of issuance of such options. The plan provides that incentive stock options and/or nonqualified stock options may be granted to our officers, directors, employees and advisors selected by the compensation committee. A total of 4,000,000 shares of common stock are authorized and reserved for issuance during the term of the plan, which expires in June 2008. The compensation committee has the sole authority to interpret the plan and make all determinations necessary or advisable for administering the plan. The exercise price for any incentive option must be at least equal to the fair market value of the shares as of the date of grant. Upon the exercise of the option, the exercise price must be paid in full either in cash, shares of our stock or a combination. If any option is not exercised for any reason, such shares shall again become available for the purposes of the plan.

On October 17, 2000, the Company offered each option holder the opportunity to cancel all or some of the stock options previously granted in exchange for the granting on April 30, 2001 of options to acquire an equal number of shares with an exercise price equal to the then last sale price of the stock on April 30, 2001, for a new term of seven years expiring April 30, 2008.

As of March 19, 2009, 3,980,000 options had been exercised and the following options to purchase shares of our common stock under the plan were outstanding:

a total of 20,000 stock options to purchase 20,000 shares at \$2.00 per share through June 30, 2013, of which no stock options are held by our directors and executive officers as a group.

#### The 2003 Stock Compensation Plan

Effective July 1, 2003, we adopted and approved the 2003 Stock Compensation Plan, which our shareholders approved on December 5, 2003. The purpose of the plan is to:

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encourage ownership of our common stock by our officers, directors, employees and advisors

provide additional incentive for them to promote our success and our business

encourage them to remain in our employ by providing them with an opportunity to benefit from any appreciation of our common stock through the issuance of stock options

Options constitute either incentive stock options within the meaning of Section 422 of the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or options which constitute nonqualified options at the time of issuance of such options. The plan provides that incentive stock options and/or nonqualified stock options may be granted to our officers, directors, employees and advisors selected by the compensation committee. A total of 4,000,000 shares of common stock are authorized and reserved for issuance during the term of the plan, which expires in June 2013. The compensation committee has the sole authority to interpret the plan and make all determinations necessary or advisable for administering the plan. The exercise price for any incentive option or nonqualified option may be less than the fair market value of the shares as of the date of grant. Upon the exercise of the option, the exercise price must be paid in full either in cash, shares of our stock or a combination. If any option is not exercised for any reason, such shares shall again become available for the purposes of the plan.

As of March 19, 2009, 3,420,000 options had been exercised and the following options to purchase shares of our common stock under the plan were outstanding:

a total of 408,000 stock options to purchase 408,000 shares at \$2.00 per share through June 30, 2013, of which 300,000 stock options are held by our directors and executive officers as a group.

#### The 2005 Stock Compensation Plan

Effective July 1, 2005, we adopted and approved the 2005 Stock Compensation Plan, which our shareholders approved on September 26, 2005. The purpose of the plan is to:

encourage ownership of our common stock by our officers, directors, employees and advisors

provide additional incentive for them to promote our success and our business

encourage them to remain in our employ by providing them with an opportunity to benefit from any appreciation of our common stock through the issuance of stock options

Options constitute either incentive stock options within the meaning of Section 422 of the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or options which constitute nonqualified options at the time of issuance of such options. The plan provides that incentive stock options and/or nonqualified stock options may be granted to our officers, directors,

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employees and advisors selected by the compensation committee. A total of 4,000,000 shares of common stock are authorized and reserved for issuance during the term of the plan, which expires in June 2015. The compensation committee has the sole authority to interpret the plan and make all determinations necessary or advisable for administering the plan. The exercise price for any incentive option or nonqualified option may be less than the fair market value of the shares as of the date of grant. Upon the exercise of the option, the exercise price must be paid in full either in cash, shares of our stock or a combination. If any option is not exercised for any reason, such shares shall again become available for the purposes of the plan.

As of March 19, 2009, 2,000,000 options had been exercised and the following options to purchase shares of our common stock under the plan were outstanding:

a total of 2,000,000 stock options to purchase 2,000,000 shares at \$0.40 per share through various expiration dates, of which 1,100,000 stock options are held by our directors and executive officers as a group.

## **The 2008 Stock Compensation Plan**

Effective August 8, 2008, we adopted and approved the 2008 Stock Compensation Plan, which our shareholders approved on November 14, 2008. The purpose of the plan is to:

encourage ownership of our common stock by our officers, directors, employees and advisors

provide additional incentive for them to promote our success and our business

encourage them to remain in our employ by providing them with an opportunity to benefit from any appreciation of our common stock through the issuance of stock options

Options constitute either incentive stock options within the meaning of Section 422 of the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or options which constitute nonqualified options at the time of issuance of such options. The plan provides that incentive stock options and/or nonqualified stock options may be granted to our officers, directors, employees and advisors selected by the compensation committee. A total of 4,000,000 shares of common stock are authorized and reserved for issuance during the term of the plan, which expires in August 2018. The compensation committee has the sole authority to interpret the plan and make all determinations necessary or advisable for administering the plan. The exercise price for any incentive option or nonqualified option may be less than the fair market value of the shares as of the date of grant. Upon the exercise of the option, the exercise price must be paid in full either in cash, shares of our stock or a combination. If any option is not exercised for any reason, such shares shall again become available for the purposes of the plan.

As of March 19, 2009, no options had been granted or exercised and, therefore, no options to purchase shares of our common stock under the plan were outstanding.

**Other Options and Warrants Outstanding** 

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As of March 19, 2009, the following additional options and warrants to purchase shares of our common stock were outstanding:

warrants to purchase an aggregate of 170,451 shares at \$2.98 per share through September 3, 2009 which we sold to a group of investors as part of a private placement offering on September 1, 2004

On September 25, 2006, we issued, and 11 institutional investors purchased, an aggregate of 1,466,668 shares of our common stock at \$3.75 per share, as well as an aggregate of 236,909 warrants to purchase 236,909 shares at an exercise price of \$4.221 per share (the Short Term Warrants) and 366,668 warrants to purchase 366,668 shares at an exercise price of \$4.50 per share (the Long Term Warrants). In addition, our placement agent received 29,333 Long Term Warrants with identical terms to the Long Term Warrants issued to the investors (the Placement Agent Warrants). The Short Term Warrants were exercisable at any time through February 5, 2007. The Long Term Warrants are exercisable at any time on or after March 25, 2007 for a term of five years thereafter.

As of March 19, 2009, the following warrants remained outstanding: 300,001 Long Term Warrants

29,333 Placement Agent Warrants

## ITEM 7. MAJOR SHAREHOLDERS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS A. MAJOR SHAREHOLDERS.

Please see Item 6.E. for share ownership information regarding our major shareholders. Our major shareholders do not have different voting rights.

As of March 18, 2009, we had 251 record holders of our common stock. Of the 22,911,172 shares outstanding as of March 18, 2009, 21,339,721 shares were held by CEDE & Co.

To the extent known to us, we are not directly or indirectly owned or controlled by another corporation, by any foreign government or by any other natural or legal persons severally or jointly.

To our knowledge, there are no arrangements the operation of which may at a subsequent date result in a change in control of our company.

#### **B. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS.**

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Certain of our banking facilities are collateralized by properties owned by Yu Chuan Yih and his personal guarantee to the extent of \$34,835,000, \$28,772,000 and \$23,095,000 as of December 31, 2006, 2007 and 2008, respectively. Mr. Yih has not received any additional compensation or consideration from us in return for his personal guarantees.

During the fiscal year ended April 30, 1999, we provided a guarantee to a bank in respect of mortgage loans granted to Yu Chuan Yih to the extent of \$632,000. As of December 31, 2008, the balance of the mortgage loans amounted to \$0.

We paid Andrew N. Bernstein, P.C., the law firm of which Andrew N. Bernstein, one of our directors, is the sole shareholder, less than \$200,000 for legal services rendered to us during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008.

#### C. INTERESTS OF EXPERTS AND COUNSEL.

Not applicable.

#### **ITEM 8. FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

#### A. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INFORMATION.

The Consolidated Financial Statements are filed in this Annual Report as Item 18.

Export sales constitute a substantial majority of our total sales volume.

Securities Litigation. In September 2007, several shareholder class actions were filed in the United States District Court for the Central District of California against the Company and certain officers and directors of the Company, entitled Apple v. LJ International Inc., et al. (No. 07-06076), Cooper v. LJ International, Inc., et al. (No. 07/06213), and Lieben v. LJ International Inc., et. al. (No. 07-06216). On February 8, 2008, the judge to whom the cases were referred consolidated the cases and appointed lead plaintiff and lead counsel. On April 8, 2008, the lead plaintiff filed an amended and consolidated complaint (the Complaint .)

The Complaint alleges that the defendants violated Sections 10(b) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder. It seeks an unspecified amount of damages on behalf of all persons who purchased LJ common stock during the period from February 15, 2007, to September 6, 2007 (the Class Period). The Complaint alleges that the Company s February 15, 2007 press release, which provided financial guidance for the Company s fourth quarter and year-end 2006 net income and earnings, contained materially false and misleading statements. The Complaint alleges that the defendants overstated the Company s fiscal 2006 financial results, and thereby artificially inflated the market price of LJ s common stock throughout the Class Period.

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On May 27, 2008, the Company (the only defendant served with the Complaint) moved to dismiss the Complaint pursuant to Rule 12(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

On January 14, 2009, the Company entered into a settlement agreement with the lead plaintiff pursuant to which the Company will create a settlement fund of \$2,000,000 in cash, to be funded entirely by the Company s insurer. As part of the settlement agreement, all claims alleged in the lawsuit will be dismissed with prejudice. The settlement agreement is subject to preliminary approval and final approval by the Court.

On February 23, 2009, the Court held a hearing on the parties request for preliminary approval of the settlement. Subject to minor changes in the settlement documents, the Court indicated that it would preliminarily approve the settlement, and set a final approval hearing for the summer of 2009. The parties have lodged an Amended Stipulation of Settlement with the court for its preliminary approval.

Derivative Litigation. Two purported shareholder derivative lawsuits, Vaughn v. Yih, et al. (Los Angeles Superior Court No. BC 378903) and Cooke vs. Yih, et al. (Los Angeles Superior Court No. BC 380214), were filed in California in Los Angeles County Superior Court on October 10 and November 5, 2007, respectively.

The complaints in the derivative actions allege, among other things, that various officers and directors of the Company caused the Company to issue a series of press releases, Securities and Exchange Commission filings, and other statements that significantly overstated the Company s business prospects and financial results. They further allege that, as a result of these statements, the Company s share price traded at artificially inflated levels, and that defendants actions led to a delay in the release of the Company s financial statements for the fiscal fourth quarter of 2006 and the fiscal first quarter of 2007. The plaintiffs purport to state causes of action for breach of fiduciary duty, waste of corporate assets, and unjust enrichment. By their complaints, they seek, among other relief, unspecified damages to be paid to the Company, corporate governance reforms, and equitable and injunctive relief, including restitution and the creation of a constructive trust.

On May 9, 2008, the court in the *Vaughn* action sustained the defendants—demurrer without leave to amend on the ground that the plaintiff failed to obtain the required leave from the High Court of the British Virgin Islands to file the derivative action. The *Vaughn* action was dismissed pursuant to the order sustaining the demurrer. On May 15, 2008, the plaintiff filed a notice of appeal from the order of dismissal. The parties filed their appellate briefs, and the California Court of Appeal heard oral argument on February 25, 2009. A decision is expected by May 29, 2009.

In May 2008, the *Cooke* action was reassigned to the same judge that presided over the *Vaughn* action. The parties stipulated and the Court ordered that the *Cooke* action be stayed pending resolution of the *Vaughn* appeal.

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Shao v. Yih, et al. On October 28, 2007, the former chief executive officer of Lorenzo USA, Inc. (a wholly-owned subsidiary of LJ), sued LJ, Lorenzo USA, Inc., and LJ s Chief Executive Officer Yu Chuan Yih in Los Angeles Superior Court, Shao v, Yih, et al., Case No. BC379851. The plaintiff claimed that the defendants wrongfully refused to honor his valid exercise of options for the purchase of LJ stock. On April 25, 2008, the parties agreed to settle the dispute at mediation. The plaintiff has filed a Request for Dismissal in May 2008, which was subsequently granted and dismissed on May 12, 2008.

#### **B. SIGNIFICANT CHANGES.**

We believe that no significant changes have occurred since the date of the annual financial statements included in this annual report.

## **ITEM 9. THE OFFER AND LISTING**

#### A. OFFER AND LISTING DETAILS.

Our common stock is listed and quoted for trading on The Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol JADE. The following table sets forth, during the periods indicated, the high and low last sale prices for the common stock as reported by Nasdaq:

Period	High	Low
Year ended December 31, 2004	\$ 5.74	\$2.21
Year ended December 31, 2005	\$ 3.95	\$2.03
Year ended December 31, 2006	\$ 4.60	\$3.08
Year ended December 31, 2007	\$12.86	\$2.18
Year ended December 31, 2008	\$ 5.45	\$0.37
Quarter ended March 31, 2007	\$12.00	\$4.42
Quarter ended June 30, 2007	\$12.86	\$8.93
Quarter ended September 30, 2007	\$12.37	\$3.99
Quarter ended December 31, 2007	\$ 6.15	\$2.18
Quarter ended March 31, 2008	\$ 5.45	\$2.47
Quarter ended June 30, 2008	\$ 3.90	\$2.56
Quarter ended September 30, 2008	\$ 2.53	\$1.01
Quarter ended December 31, 2008	\$ 1.02	\$0.37
Quarter ended March 31, 2009*	\$ 0.81	\$0.47
Month ended September 30, 2008	\$ 1.66	\$1.01
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Period	High	Low
Month ended October 31, 2008	\$1.02	\$0.37
Month ended November 30, 2008	\$0.58	\$0.46
Month ended December 31, 2008	\$0.93	\$0.53
Month ended January 31, 2009	\$0.81	\$0.66
Month ended February 28, 2009	\$0.71	\$0.52
Month ended March 31, 2009*	\$0.51	\$0.47

<sup>\*</sup> Through

March 19, 2009

## **B. PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION.**

Not applicable.

## C. MARKETS.

Our common stock has been listed and quoted for trading on The Nasdaq Global Market (formerly The Nasdaq National Market) since April 15, 1998.

## D. SELLING SHAREHOLDERS.

Not applicable.

## E. DILUTION.

Not applicable.

## F. EXPENSES OF THE ISSUE.

Not applicable.

## **ITEM 10. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

#### A. SHARE CAPITAL.

Not applicable.

## B. MEMORANDUM AND ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION.

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Corporate Powers. We have been registered in the British Virgin Islands since January 30, 1997, under British Virgin Islands International Business Companies number 216796. Clause 4 of our Memorandum of Association states that the objects for which we are established are to engage in any businesses which are not prohibited by law in force in the British Virgin Islands.

Directors. A director who is materially interested in any transaction with us shall declare the material facts of and nature of his interest at the meeting of the Board of Directors. A director may vote or be counted as the quorum on any resolution of the Board in respect of any transaction in which he is materially interested. With the prior or subsequent approval by a resolution of directors, the directors may fix the emoluments of directors with respect to services to be rendered in any capacity to us. The directors may, by a resolution of directors, exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow money. There is no age limit requirement for retirement or non-retirement of directors. A director shall not require a share qualification.

Share Rights, Preferences and Restrictions. Our authorized share capital is US\$1 million divided into 100 million shares of par value US\$0.01 per share. All dividends unclaimed for three years after having been declared may be forfeited by resolution of the directors for our benefit. All shares vote as one class and each whole share has one vote. Directors stand for reelection on an annual basis. Cumulative voting for directors is not authorized. We may redeem any of our own shares for such fair value as we by a resolution of directors determine. All shares have the same rights with regard to dividends and distributions upon our liquidation.

Changing Share Rights. The rights of each class and series of shares that we are authorized to issue shall be fixed by the resolution of directors. If the authorized capital is divided into different classes, the rights attached to any class may be varied with the consent in writing of the holders of not less than three-fourths of the issued shares of that class and of the holders of not less than three-fourths of the issued shares of any other class which may be affected by such variation.

Shareholder Meetings. The directors may convene meetings of our members at such times and in such manner and places as the directors consider necessary or desirable. The directors shall convene such a meeting upon the written request of members holding 10 percent or more of our outstanding voting shares. At least seven days notice of the meeting shall be given to the members whose names appear on the share register.

Restrictions on Rights to Own Securities. There are no limitations on the rights to own our securities.

Change in Control Provisions. There are no provisions of our Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association that would have an effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in our control and that would have operate only with respect to a merger, acquisition or corporate restructuring involving us.

Disclosure of Share Ownership. There are no bylaw provisions governing the ownership threshold above which shareholder ownership must be disclosed.

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Applicable Law. Under the laws of most jurisdictions in the US, majority and controlling shareholders generally have certain fiduciary responsibilities to the minority shareholders. Shareholder action must be taken in good faith and actions by controlling shareholders which are obviously unreasonable may be declared null and void. BVI law protecting the interests of minority shareholders may not be as protective in all circumstances as the law protecting minority shareholders in US jurisdictions.

While BVI law does permit a shareholder of a BVI company to sue its directors derivatively, that is, in the name of, and for the benefit of, our company and to sue a company and its directors for his benefit and for the benefit of others similarly situated, the circumstances in which any such action may be brought, and the procedures and defenses that may be available in respect of any such action, may result in the rights of shareholders of a BVI company being more limited than those of shareholders of a company organized in the US.

Our directors have the power to take certain actions without shareholder approval, including an amendment of our Memorandum of Association or Articles of Association or an increase or reduction in our authorized capital, which would require shareholder approval under the laws of most US jurisdictions. In addition, the directors of a BVI corporation, subject in certain cases to court approval but without shareholder approval, may, among other things, implement a reorganization, certain mergers or consolidations, the sale, transfer, exchange or disposition of any assets, property, part of the business, or securities of the corporation, or any combination, if they determine it is in the best interests of the corporation, its creditors, or its shareholders. Our ability to amend our Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association without shareholder approval could have the effect of delaying, deterring or preventing a change in our control without any further action by the shareholders, including a tender offer to purchase our common stock at a premium over then current market prices.

The International Business Companies Act of the British Virgin Islands permits the creation in our Memorandum and Articles of Association of staggered terms of directors, cumulative voting, shareholder approval of corporate matters by written consent, and the issuance of preferred shares. Currently, our Memorandum and Articles of Association only provide for shareholder approval of corporate matters by written consent, but not for staggered terms of directors, cumulative voting or the issuance of preferred shares.

As in most US jurisdictions, the board of directors of a BVI corporation is charged with the management of the affairs of the corporation. In most US jurisdictions, directors owe a fiduciary duty to the corporation and its shareholders, including a duty of care, under which directors must properly apprise themselves of all reasonably available information, and a duty of loyalty, under which they must protect the interests of the corporation and refrain from conduct that injures the corporation or its shareholders or that deprives the corporation or its shareholders of any profit or advantage. Many US jurisdictions have enacted various statutory provisions which permit the monetary liability of directors to be eliminated or limited.

Under BVI law, liability of a corporate director to the corporation is primarily limited to cases of willful malfeasance in the performance of his duties or to cases where the director has not acted honestly and in good faith and with a view to the best interests of the corporation.

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However, under our Articles of Association, we are authorized to indemnify any director or officer who is made or threatened to be made a party to a legal or administrative proceeding by virtue of being one of our directors or officers, provided such person acted honestly and in good faith and with a view to our best interests and, in the case of a criminal proceeding, such person had no reasonable cause to believe that his conduct was unlawful. Our Articles of Association also enable us to indemnify any director or officer who was successful in such a proceeding against expense and judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement and reasonably incurred in connection with the proceeding.

The above description of certain differences between BVI and US corporate laws is only a summary and does not purport to be complete or to address every applicable aspect of such laws. However, we believe that all material differences are disclosed above.

Changes in Capital. Requirements to effect changes in capital are not more stringent than is required by law.

## C. MATERIAL CONTRACTS.

None.

#### D. EXCHANGE CONTROLS.

There are no material British Virgin Islands laws, decrees, regulations or other legislation that impose foreign exchange controls on us or that affect our payment of dividends, interest or other payments to non-resident holders of our capital stock. British Virgin Islands law and our Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association impose no limitations on the right of non-resident or foreign owners to hold or vote our common stock.

#### E. TAXATION.

The following is a summary of anticipated material US federal income and British Virgin Islands tax consequences of an investment in our common stock. The summary does not deal with all possible tax consequences relating to an investment in our common stock and does not purport to deal with the tax consequences applicable to all categories of investors, some of which, such as dealers in securities, insurance companies and tax-exempt entities, may be subject to special rules. In particular, the discussion does not address the tax consequences under state, local and other non-US and non-British Virgin Islands tax laws. Accordingly, each prospective investor should consult its own tax advisor regarding the particular tax consequences to it of an investment in the common stock. The discussion below is based upon laws and relevant interpretations in effect as of the date of this annual report, all of which are subject to change.

**United States Federal Income Taxation** 

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The following discussion addresses only the material US federal income tax consequences to a US person, defined as a US citizen or resident, a US corporation, or an estate or trust subject to US federal income tax on all of its income regardless of source, making an investment in the common stock. For taxable years beginning after December 31, 1996, a trust will be a US person only if:

a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over its administration; and

one or more United States persons have the authority to control all of its substantial decisions.

In addition, the following discussion does not address the tax consequences to a person who holds or will hold, directly or indirectly, 10% or more of our common stock, which we refer to as a 10% Shareholder . Non-US persons and 10% Shareholders are advised to consult their own tax advisors regarding the tax considerations incident to an investment in our common stock.

A US investor receiving a distribution of our common stock will be required to include such distribution in gross income as a taxable dividend, to the extent of our current or accumulated earnings and profits as determined under US federal income tax principles. Any distributions in excess of our earnings and profits will first be treated, for US federal income tax purposes, as a nontaxable return of capital, to the extent of the US investor s adjusted tax basis in our common stock, and then as gain from the sale or exchange of a capital asset, provided that our common stock constitutes a capital asset in the hands of the US investor. US corporate shareholders will not be entitled to any deduction for distributions received as dividends on our common stock.

Gain or loss on the sale or exchange of our common stock will be treated as capital gain or loss if our common stock is held as a capital asset by the US investor. Such capital gain or loss will be long-term capital gain or loss if the US investor has held our common stock for more than one year at the time of the sale or exchange.

A holder of common stock may be subject to backup withholding at the rate of 31% with respect to dividends paid on our common stock if the dividends are paid by a paying agent, broker or other intermediary in the United States or by a US broker or certain United States-related brokers to the holder outside the United States. In addition, the proceeds of the sale, exchange or redemption of common stock may be subject to backup withholding, if such proceeds are paid by a paying agent, broker or other intermediary in the United States.

Backup withholding may be avoided by the holder of common stock if such holder:

is a corporation or comes within other exempt categories; or

provides a correct taxpayer identification number, certifies that such holder is not subject to backup withholding and otherwise complies with the backup withholding rules.

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In addition, holders of common stock who are not US persons are generally exempt from backup withholding, although they may be required to comply with certification and identification procedures in order to prove their exemption.

Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules from a payment to a holder will be refunded or credited against the holder s US federal income tax liability, if any, provided that amount withheld is claimed as federal taxes withheld on the holder s US federal income tax return relating to the year in which the backup withholding occurred. A holder who is not otherwise required to file a US income tax return must generally file a claim for refund or, in the case of non-US holders, an income tax return in order to claim refunds of withheld amounts.

## **British Virgin Islands Taxation**

Under the International Business Companies Act of the British Virgin Islands as currently in effect, a holder of common stock who is not a resident of BVI is exempt from BVI income tax on dividends paid with respect to the common stock and all holders of common stock are not liable for BVI income tax on gains realized during that year on sale or disposal of such shares; BVI does not impose a withholding tax on dividends paid by a company incorporated under the International Business Companies Act.

There are no capital gains, gift or inheritance taxes levied by BVI on companies incorporated under the International Business Companies Act. In addition, the common stock is not subject to transfer taxes, stamp duties or similar charges.

There is no income tax treaty or convention currently in effect between the United States and the British Virgin Islands.

#### F. DIVIDENDS AND PAYING AGENTS.

Not applicable.

#### G. STATEMENT BY EXPERTS.

Not applicable.

#### H. DOCUMENTS ON DISPLAY.

The documents concerning our company, which are referred to in this annual report, may be inspected at our principal executive offices at Unit #12, 12/F, Block A, Focal Industrial Centre, 21 Man Lok Street, Hung Hom, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

## I. SUBSIDIARY INFORMATION.

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Not applicable.

#### ITEM 11. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

We do not believe that we have any material exposures to market risk associated with activities in derivative financial instruments, other financial instruments, derivative commodity instruments, and other market risk sensitive instruments, positions and transactions.

#### ITEM 12. DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES OTHER THAN EQUITY SECURITIES

Not applicable.

#### **PART II**

#### ITEM 13, DEFAULTS, DIVIDEND ARREARAGES AND DELINQUENCIES

None

## ITEM 14. MATERIAL MODIFICATIONS TO THE RIGHTS OF SECURITY HOLDERS AND USE OF PROCEEDS

None.

#### **ITEM 15. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

## (a) Disclosure Controls and Procedures.

As of the end of the period covered by this report, our management, with the participation of our chief executive officer and chief financial officer, has performed an evaluation of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures within the meaning of Rules 13a-15(e) of the Exchange Act.

Based upon that evaluation, our management has concluded that, as of December 31, 2008, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective.

(b) Management s annual report on internal control over financial reporting.

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Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) under the Exchange Act. Our management evaluated the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting based on criteria established in the framework in *Internal Control-Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Based on this evaluation, our management has concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2008.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. In addition, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies and procedures may deteriorate.

Our independent registered public accounting firm, Gruber & Company, LLC, has audited our management s assessment of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2008, as stated in its report, which appears on page F-2 of this Annual Report on Form 20-F.

## (c) Attestation report of the registered public accounting firm.

Our independent registered public accounting firm, Gruber & Company, LLC, has audited our management s assessment of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2008, as stated in its report, which appears on page F-2 of this Annual Report on Form 20-F.

## (d) Changes in internal control over financial reporting.

There were no changes in our internal controls over financial reporting identified in connection with the evaluation that occurred during the period covered by this Annual Report on Form 20-F that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

#### **ITEM 16. [RESERVED]**

## ITEM 16A. AUDIT COMMITTEE FINANCIAL EXPERT

Our Board of Directors has determined that it considers Jin Wang as the audit committee financial expert serving on our audit committee. Mr. Wang is an independent non-executive director as defined in The Nasdaq Stock Market s listing standards.

#### **ITEM 16B. CODE OF ETHICS**

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We have adopted a code of ethics that applies to all of our employees, including our chief executive officer and our chief financial officer.

## ITEM 16C. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES

#### (a) Audit Fees.

Gruber & Company, LLC was our principal accountant for the audit of our financial statements for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2007 and 2008.

The aggregate fees billed for each of the last two fiscal years for professional services rendered by our principal accountant for the audit of our annual financial statements or services that are normally provided by the accountant in connection with statutory and regulatory filings or engagements for those fiscal years were \$210,000 for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007 and \$260,000 for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008. The aggregate fees billed for the audit of our internal control over financial reporting were \$35,000 for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007 and \$25,000 for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008.

#### (b) Audit Related Fees.

No fees were billed in each of the last two fiscal years for assurance and related services by our principal accountants that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit or review of our financial statements and are not reported under paragraph (a) of this Item for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2007 and 2008.

#### (c) Tax Fees.

The aggregate fees billed in each of the last two fiscal years for professional services rendered by our principal accountants for tax compliance, tax advice, and tax planning were \$nil for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007 and \$ nil for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008.

#### (d) All Other Fees.

No fees were billed in each of the last two fiscal years for products and services provided by our principal accountant, other than the services reported in paragraphs (a) through (c) of this Item for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2007 and 2008.

#### (e) Audit Committee Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures.

To ensure continuing auditor objectivity and to safeguard the independence of our auditors, our audit committee has determined a framework for the type and authorization of non-audit services which our current auditor, Gruber & Company, LLC, may provide.

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The audit committee has adopted policies for the pre-approval of specific services that may be provided by our principal auditors. These policies are kept under review and amended as necessary to meet the dual objectives of ensuring that we benefit in a cost effective manner from the cumulative knowledge and experience of our auditors whilst also ensuring that the auditors maintain the necessary degree of independence and objectivity.

Our audit committee approved the engagement of Gruber & Company, LLC as our principal accountant to render audit and non-audit services before Gruber & Company, LLC was engaged by us.

All of the services described in each of paragraphs (b) through (d) of this Item were approved by the audit committee pursuant to paragraph (c)(7)(i)(C) of Rule 2-01 of Regulation S-X. **(f).** Not applicable.

## ITEM 16D. EXEMPTIONS FROM THE LISTING STANDARDS FOR AUDIT COMMITTEES

Not applicable.

## ITEM 16E. PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES BY THE ISSUER AND AFFILIATED PURCHASERS

In September 2001, we announced a common stock repurchase program pursuant to which we may repurchase up to 1,000,000 shares of common stock from time to time in the open market and in negotiated transactions, including block transactions, and may be discontinued at any time without prior notice.

We did not repurchase any of our shares of common stock during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008.

## ITEM 16F. CHANGE IN REGISTRANT S CERTIFYING ACCOUNTANT

Not applicable.

#### ITEM 16G. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Our shares of common stock are currently listed on The Nasdaq Global Market and, for so long as our securities continue to be listed, we will remain subject to the rules and regulations established by Nasdaq as being applicable to listed companies. Nasdaq has adopted amendments to its Rule 4350 to impose various corporate governance requirements on listed securities. Section (a)(1) of Rule 4350 provides that foreign private issuers such as our company are

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required to comply with certain specific requirements of Rule 4350, but, as to the balance of Rule 4350, foreign private issuers are not required to comply if the laws of their home country do not otherwise require compliance.

We currently comply with the specifically mandated provisions of Rule 4350. In addition, we have elected to voluntarily comply with certain other requirements of Rule 4350, notwithstanding that our home country does not mandate compliance; although we may in the future determine to cease voluntary compliance with those provisions of Rule 4350. However, we have determined not to comply with the following provisions of Rule 4350 since the laws of the British Virgin Islands do not require compliance:

our independent directors do not hold regularly scheduled meetings in executive session

the compensation of our executive officers is not determined by an independent committee of the board or by the independent members of the board of directors, and our CEO may be present and participate in the deliberations concerning his compensation

related party transactions are not required to be reviewed or approved by our audit committee or other independent body of the board of directors

we are not required to solicit shareholder approval of stock plans, including those in which our officers or directors may participate; stock issuances that will result in a change in control; the issuance of our stock in related party transactions or other transactions in which we may issue 20% or more of our outstanding shares; or, below market issuances of 20% or more of our outstanding shares to any person

We may in the future determine to voluntarily comply with one or more of the foregoing provisions of Rule 4350.

#### **PART III**

## **ITEM 17. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Not applicable.

#### **ITEM 18. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The following financial statements, together with the report of the independent registered public accounting firm Gruber & Company, LLC, for the years ended December 31, 2006, 2007 and 2008 are being filed as part of this Annual Report on Form 20-F.

Consolidated statements of operations for the years ended December 31, 2006, 2007 and 2008.

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Consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2007 and 2008.

Consolidated statements of shareholders equity for the years ended December 31, 2006, 2007 and 2008.

Consolidated statements of cash flows for the years ended December 31, 2006, 2007 and 2008.

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements.

Schedule II Valuation and Qualifying Accounts for the year ended December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006 All other schedules are omitted, as required information is inapplicable or the information is presented in the consolidated financial statements or related notes.

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## LJ INTERNATIONAL INC.

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#### **Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of LJ International Inc.

In our opinion the consolidated balance sheets and the related consolidated statements of operations, shareholders equity and comprehensive income and cash flows present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of LJ International Inc. and its subsidiaries at December 31, 2008 and December 31, 2007, and the results of their consolidated operations and their consolidated cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2008 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. In addition, in our opinion, the financial statement Schedule II presents fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein when read in conjunction with the related consolidated financial statements. Also in our opinion, the Company maintained in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2008, based on criteria established in *Internal Control* Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). The Company s management is responsible for these financial statements and the financial statement Schedule II, for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting appearing under Item 15(b) Management s Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting of the Annual Report on Form 20-F-2008. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements, on the financial statement Schedule II, and on the Company s internal control over financial reporting based on our integrated audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement and whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audits of the financial statements included examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audits also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinions.

A company s internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company s internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (i) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (ii) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (iii) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention of timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company s assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

/s/ Gruber & Company, LLC Gruber & Company, LLC Lake Saint Louis, Missouri March 9, 2009

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# LJ INTERNATIONAL INC. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(Amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

	Notes	Year ended December 31, 2008 US\$	Year ended December 31, 2007 US\$	Year ended December 31, 2006 US\$
Operating revenue Costs of goods sold (Exclusive of depreciation	2(c)	136,268	152,037	123,791
shown separately below)		(97,031)	(112,508)	(88,867)
Gross profit		39,237	39,529	34,924
Operating expenses Selling, general and administrative expenses Net loss on derivatives Depreciation		(34,815) (86) (3,373)	(30,399) (4) (3,095)	(23,114) (29) (2,039)
Operating income		963	6,031	9,742
Other income and expense Interest income Gain on currency translation Gain on sales of securities	2(c)	199 1,473 49	273	282
Gain on disposal of property held for lease Interest expenses		2,210 (1,789)	(3,103)	(3,258)
Income before income taxes and minority interests Income taxes expense	9	3,105 (569)	3,201 (1,711)	6,766 (1,403)
Income before minority interests Minority interests in consolidated subsidiaries		2,536 (6)	1,490 (1)	5,363 (38)
Net income		2,530	1,489	5,325
Numerator: Net income used in computing basic earnings per share		2,530	1,489	5,325

Denominator:				
Weighted average number of shares used in				
calculating basic earnings per share		22,245,626	21,064,253	17,390,093
Effect of dilutive potential ordinary shares:				
Warrants		6,131	248,945	118,717
Stock options		196,838	975,904	794,467
Weighted average number of shares used in calculating diluted earnings per share		22,448,595	22,289,102	18,303,277
Earnings per share:				
Basic	<i>2(g)</i>	0.11	0.07	0.31
	(0)			
Diluted	2(g)	0.11	0.07	0.29
See accompanying r	notes to consol	idated financial stat	ements.	

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# LJ INTERNATIONAL INC. CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(Amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

	<b>3.</b> 7	As of December 31,	
	Notes	2008 US\$	2007 US\$
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		13,348	4,951
Restricted cash	8(a)	6,493	4,161
Trade receivables, net of allowance for doubtful accounts		20.550	22.10.4
(December 31, 2008: US\$1,705; December 31, 2007: US\$1)		20,570	23,194
Derivatives Available-for-sale securities	2(n)	2,288	2,947 2,973
Inventories	$\frac{2(n)}{4}$	76,637	82,012
Prepayments and other current assets	7	2,609	2,522
repayments and other current assets		2,007	2,322
Total current assets		121,945	122,760
Properties held for lease, net	5	750	1,292
Property, plant and equipment, net	6	6,863	8,460
Deferred tax assets		111	111
Goodwill, net	7	1,521	1,521
Total assets		131,190	134,144
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY			
Current liabilities	_		
Bank overdrafts	8	2,724	2,977
Notes payable	8	9,194	4,047
Capitalized lease obligation, current portion	10 8	78 13 384	92
Letters of credit, gold loans and others Derivatives	o	13,384	21,536 4,444
Trade payables		17,925	18,700
Accrued payroll and staff benefits		1,753	2,686
Accrued expenses and other payables		3,049	3,434
Income taxes payable		1,441	1,719
Deferred taxation	9	339	339
Total current liabilities		49,887	59,974
Notes payable, non-current portion		2,115	1,154
Capitalized lease obligation, non-current portion	10	103	181

Total liabilities	52,105	61,309					
Minority interests	756	167					
Commitments and contingencies 11	1						
Shareholders equity							
Common stocks, par value US\$0.01 each, Authorized 100 million							
shares; Issued 22,911,172 shares as of December 31, 2008 and 21,437,172 shares as of December 31, 2007	2 229	214					
Additional paid-in capital	55,286	51,495					
Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income	(354)	321					
Retained earnings	23,168	20,638					
Total shareholders equity	78,329	72,668					
Total liabilities and shareholders equity	131,190	134,144					
See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.  F-4							
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# LJ INTERNATIONAL INC. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

(Amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

		Accumulated						
		Common stock Additional other						
		Number	Par	paid-inco	omprehensive	Unearned	Retained	
		income						
	Notes	of shares	value	capital		mpensation	earnings	Total
			US\$	US\$	US\$ (Note	US\$	US\$	US\$
					2(x)			
					$\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$			
Balance as of								
January 1, 2006		15,521,203	155	31,204	(156)	(19)	13,824	45,008
Comprehensive								
income, net of tax:								
Net income							5,325	5,325
Unrealized holding								
gain on investment in available-for-sale								
securities	2(n)				100			100
Securities	2(11)				100			100
								5,425
Issuance of common								
stock on private								
placement	12(a)(ii)	1,466,668	15	4,176				4,191
Issuance of common								
stock upon exercise of stock options	12(a)(iii)	1,489,500	15	2,989				3,004
Issuance of common	12(a)(III)	1,409,500	13	2,909				3,004
stock upon exercise								
of warrants	12(a)(iii)	500,000	5	1,735				1,740
Elimination of		,		,				•
unearned								
compensation	2(q)			(19)		19		
Compensation costs								
for warrants granted								