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

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)		
[X]	QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SEC SECURITIES EXCHANGE AC	
For the quarterly period ended May 31, 2002.		
	OR	
[]	TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECURITIES EXCHANGE AC	
For the transition period from	to	
	Commission file number <u>001-1</u>	<u>16583</u>
	ACUITY BRANDS, INC (Exact name of registrant as specified	
Delaware (State or other juris incorporation or org	diction of	58-2632672 (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)
1170 Peachtree Street, N.E.,	Atlanta, Georgia	30309
(Address of principal exec		30309 (Zip Code)
	cutive offices)	(Zip Code)
	(404) 853-1400	(Zip Code)
(Address of principal exec	(404) 853-1400 (Registrant's telephone number, includi	(Zip Code) ing area code)
(Address of principal exec	(404) 853-1400 (Registrant's telephone number, including None The Name, Former Address and Former Fiscal Year, 1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section	(Zip Code) ing area code)
(Address of principal execution (Form Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (in preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period)	(404) 853-1400 (Registrant's telephone number, including None The Name, Former Address and Former Fiscal Year, 1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section	(Zip Code) ing area code) if Changed Since Last Report) on 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the s), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past
(Address of principal execution (Form Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period 90 days.	(404) 853-1400 (Registrant's telephone number, including None Her Name, Former Address and Former Fiscal Year, 1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section I that the registrant was required to file such reports	(Zip Code) ing area code) if Changed Since Last Report) on 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the s), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past
(Address of principal execution (Form Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period 90 days.	(404) 853-1400 (Registrant's telephone number, including None Her Name, Former Address and Former Fiscal Year, 1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section I that the registrant was required to file such reports Yes [X] No [Ch of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the section of	(Zip Code) ing area code) if Changed Since Last Report) on 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the s), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past

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CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Unaudited)

ACUITY BRANDS, INC.

(In thousands, except share and per-share data)

	May 31, 2002	August 31, 2001
ASSETS_		
Current Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 976	\$ 10,337
Receivables, less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$9,218 at May 31, 2002 and \$8,195 at August 31, 2001	313,160	297,762
Inventories	213,985	210,783
Deferred income taxes	16,656	16,326
Prepayments and other current assets	19,929	23,908
riepayments and other current assets	19,929	
Total Current Assets	564,706	559,116
Property, Plant, and Equipment, at cost: Land	15,212	16,009
Buildings and leasehold improvements	163,832	161,779
Machinery and equipment	338,357	326,160
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Total Property, Plant, and Equipment	517,401	503,948
Less-Accumulated depreciation and amortization	274,435	255,525
Property, Plant, and Equipment, net	242,966	248,423
Other Assets:	471,009	468,944
Goodwill and other intangibles	·	,
Other	54,671	54,092
Total Other Assets	525,680	523,036
Total Assets	\$1,333,352	\$1,330,575
JABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current Liabilities:		
Current maturities of long-term debt	\$ 298	\$ 357
-	Ψ 250	105,000
Revolving credit facility	122 500	
Short-term secured borrowings	132,500	105,100
Notes payable	13,526	24,666
Accounts payable	136,495	108,380
Accrued salaries, commissions, and bonuses	33,899	36,070
Other accrued liabilities	81,415	62,494
Total Current Liabilities	398,133	442,067
ong-Term Debt, less current maturities	429,251	373,707
Deferred Income Taxes	28,281	31,759
elf-Insurance Reserves, less current portion	15,208	14,350
Other Long-Term Liabilities	71,838	85,394
Commitments and Contingencies (Note 10)		
Stockholders' Equity:		
NSI investment	_	400,296
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value, 50,000,000 shares authorized, none issued	_	
Common stock, \$0.01 par value, 500,000,000 shares authorized, 41,346,730 shares issued and outstanding	413	_
Paid-in capital	395,364	_
	12,730	_
Retained earnings		_
Unearned compensation on restricted stock	(554)	_
Accumulated other comprehensive income items	(17,312)	(16,998)
Total Stockholders' Equity	390,641	383,298
Total Liabilities and Charlibaldons' Equity	ф1 222 2E2	¢1 220 EEE
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	\$1,333,352	\$1,330,575



CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (Unaudited)

ACUITY BRANDS, INC.

(In thousands, except per-share data)

	THREE MONTHS ENDED May 31,		NINE MONTHS ENDED		
			May 31,		
	2002	2001	2002	2001	
Net sales	\$507,576	\$503,132	\$1,457,512	\$1,477,061	
Costs and Expenses:	. ,				
Cost of products sold	300,153	287,962	866,562	845,063	
Selling and administrative expenses	173,304	170,178	498,191	507,967	
Interest expense, net	10,289	11,953	30,993	37,710	
Amortization expense	1,107	4,632	3,300	13,521	
Loss on sale of businesses		14,557	_	14,557	
Other income, net	(783)	(324)	(673)	(245)	
Total Costs and Expenses	484,070	488,958	1,398,373	1,418,573	
Income before Provision for Income Taxes	23,506	14,174	59,139	58,488	
Provision for Income Taxes	8,935	6,658	22,476	24,384	
Net Income	\$ 14,571	\$ 7,516	\$ 36,663	\$ 34,104	
Earnings Per Share:					
Basic Earnings per Share	\$ 0.35	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Basic Weighted Average Number of Shares Outstanding	41,308	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Diluted Earnings per Share	\$ 0.35	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Diluted Weighted Average Number of Shares Outstanding	41,919	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Pro Forma Earnings Per Share:					
Basic Earnings per Share	n/a	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.89	\$ 0.83	
Basic Weighted Average Number of Shares Outstanding	n/a	41,119	41,267	41,039	

 $The\ accompanying\ notes\ to\ the\ consolidated\ financial\ statements\ are\ an\ integral\ part\ of\ these\ statements.$

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Unaudited)

ACUITY BRANDS, INC.

(In thousands)

	NINE MONTHS ENDED	
	MAY 31,	
	2002	2001
Cash Provided by (Used for) Operating Activities:		
Net income	\$ 36,663	\$ 34,104
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by (used for) operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	39,222	48,584
Provision for losses on accounts receivable	2,982	2,471
Gain on the sale of property, plant, and equipment	(124)	(237)
Loss on sale of businesses	· —	14,557
Change in assets and liabilities net of effect of acquisitions and divestitures-		
Receivables	(18,711)	27,899
Inventories, net	8,294	3,007
Deferred income taxes	(3,808)	(2,385)
Prepayments and other current assets	2,671	(4,812)
Accounts payable and other current liabilities	41,711	(17,971)
Other long-term liabilities	(10,873)	(4,400)
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	98,027	100,817
The Guil 110 flace by Operating fleat flace		
ash Provided by (Used for) Investing Activities:		
Purchases of property, plant, and equipment	(23,872)	(38,326)
Sale of property, plant, and equipment	2,382	1,361
Proceeds from the sale of businesses	2,302	1,799
	(24.705)	1,/99
Acquisitions Change in other proofs	(24,765)	4.052
Change in other assets	3,053	4,052
Net Cash Used for Investing Activities	(43,202)	(31,114)
ash Provided by (Used for) Financing Activities:		
Repayments of notes payable, net	(11,140)	(1,595)
Issuances of commercial paper, net (less than 90 days)	_	(107,188)
Issuances of commercial paper (greater than 90 days)	_	1,347
Repayments of commercial paper (greater than 90 days)	_	(10,200)
Repayments of revolving credit facility, net	(46,900)	_
Proceeds from short-term secured borrowings, net	27,400	118,900
Repayments of long-term debt	(2,615)	(826)
Net activity with NSI	(18,633)	(57,176)
Dividends	(12,399)	_
Employee stock purchase plan issuances	415	_
Net Cash Used for Financing Activities	(63,872)	(56,738)
ffect of Exchange Rate Changes on Cash	(314)	(696)
let Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(9,361)	12,269
ash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period	10,337	1,510
asii ana Casii Equivalents at Degiininig of Ferioa	10,55/	1,510
ash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period	\$ 976	\$ 13,779
and a stal Carlo Flora Information		
upplemental Cash Flow Information:	Ф. С.020	ф од сса
Income taxes paid during the period	\$ 6,938	\$ 27,661
Interest paid during the period	\$ 33,137	\$ 33,922

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

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)

ACUITY BRANDS, INC.

(Dollar amounts in thousands, except share and per-share data and as indicated)

1. DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS AND BASIS OF PRESENTATION

Acuity Brands, Inc. ("Acuity Brands" or the "Company") operates in two business segments – lighting equipment and specialty chemicals. The lighting equipment segment of the Company ("Acuity Lighting Group") believes it is the largest manufacturer of lighting equipment in North America. It produces and distributes a variety of fluorescent and non-fluorescent lighting fixtures for markets throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, and overseas. The specialty chemicals segment of Acuity Brands ("Acuity Specialty Products") produces and distributes maintenance, sanitation, and water treatment chemicals and other products for numerous customers throughout the United States, Canada, and Western Europe.

On November 7, 2001, the board of directors of National Service Industries, Inc. ("NSI") approved the spin-off of its lighting equipment and specialty chemicals businesses into a separate publicly traded company (Acuity Brands) with its own management and board of directors. The spin-off was effected on November 30, 2001 through a tax-free distribution ("Distribution" or "Spin-off") of 100% of the outstanding shares of common stock of Acuity Brands, at that time a wholly-owned subsidiary of NSI owning and operating its lighting equipment and specialty chemicals businesses. Each NSI stockholder of record as of November 16, 2001, the record date for the Distribution, received one share of Acuity Brands common stock for each share of NSI common stock held at that date, and on November 30, 2001, Acuity Brands became a separate, stand-alone company which wholly owns all subsidiaries comprising the lighting equipment and specialty chemicals businesses. Upon completion of the Distribution, NSI retained its textile rental and envelope businesses as well as other assets and liabilities not associated with the lighting equipment and specialty chemicals businesses.

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States and for all periods prior to December 1, 2001 present the financial position, results of operations, and cash flows of Acuity Brands as derived from the historical financial statements of NSI. For periods prior to December 1, 2001, Acuity Brands has been allocated certain corporate assets, liabilities, and expenses of NSI based on an estimate of the proportion of such amounts allocable to Acuity Brands, utilizing such factors as total revenues, employee headcount, and other relevant factors. The Company believes these allocations have been made on a reasonable basis. The Company believes all amounts allocated to Acuity Brands are a reasonable representation of the costs that would have been incurred if Acuity Brands had performed these functions as a stand-alone company. All material intercompany transactions between the entities included in the financial statements of Acuity Brands have been eliminated.

In conjunction with the Spin-off, Acuity Brands and NSI entered into various agreements that addressed the allocation of assets and liabilities and that defined the Company's relationship with NSI after the Distribution, including a distribution agreement, a tax disaffiliation agreement, an employee benefits agreement, a transition services agreement, a lease agreement, and a put option agreement. The lease agreement and the put option agreement expired prior to May 31, 2002. Under the tax disaffiliation agreement, Acuity Brands will indemnify NSI for certain taxes and liabilities that may arise related to the Distribution. The agreement also sets out each party's rights and obligations with respect to deficiencies and refunds, if any, of federal, state, local, or foreign taxes for periods before and after the Distribution. The transition services agreement provides that NSI and Acuity Brands will provide each other services in such areas as information management and technology, employee benefits administration, payroll, financial accounting and reporting, claims administration and reporting, legal, and other areas where NSI and Acuity Brands may need transitional assistance and support. In addition, under the transition services agreement, the Company has committed to provide surety in the form of standby letters of credit with certain state regulatory authorities to support self-insurance programs related to certain workers' compensation liabilities of NSI. (See Note 10. Commitments and Contingencies below for a discussion of these surety liabilities.) Management believes the amounts paid or received associated with these services under the transition services agreement are representative of the fair value of the services provided. For additional information related to these agreements, refer to the exhibits filed with the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 14, 2001.

The interim consolidated financial statements included herein have been prepared by the Company without audit and the balance sheet as of August 31, 2001 has been derived from audited statements. These interim consolidated financial statements reflect all normal and recurring adjustments which are, in the opinion of management, necessary to present fairly the consolidated financial position as of May 31, 2002, the consolidated results of operations for the three and nine months ended May 31, 2002 and 2001, and the consolidated cash flows for the nine months ended May 31, 2002 and 2001. Certain reclassifications have been made to the prior year financial statements to conform to the current year presentation. Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States have been condensed or omitted. The Company believes that the disclosures are adequate to make the information presented not misleading. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the combined financial statements of Acuity Brands as

of and for the three years ended August 31, 2001 and notes thereto included in the Company's Registration Statement on Form 10 (the "Form 10") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 9, 2001.

The results of operations for the three and nine months ended May 31, 2002 are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the full fiscal year because the net sales and income of the Company are generally higher in the second half of its fiscal year and because of the continued uncertainty of general economic conditions impacting the key end markets of the Company.

2. RECENT ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

In July 2001, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 141 ("SFAS 141"), "Business Combinations," and Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142 ("SFAS 142"), "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets." SFAS 141 prospectively prohibits the pooling of interests method of accounting for business combinations initiated after June 30, 2001. SFAS 142 requires companies to cease amortizing goodwill that existed at June 30, 2001 and establishes a new method for testing goodwill for impairment on an annual basis (or an interim basis if an event occurs that might reduce the fair value of a reporting unit below its carrying value). Any goodwill resulting from acquisitions completed after June 30, 2001 will not be amortized. SFAS 142 also requires that an identifiable intangible asset which is determined to have an indefinite useful economic life not be amortized, but be separately tested for impairment using a fair value based approach.

The Company adopted SFAS 142 effective September 1, 2001. As a result, the amortization of existing goodwill and intangibles with indefinite useful lives ceased on August 31, 2001, which will result in an estimated decrease in amortization expense of approximately \$11,700 during fiscal 2002.

Summarized information for the Company's acquired intangible assets is as follows:

	May 31, 2002		Augus	t 31, 2001
	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization
Amortized intangible assets:				
Trade names and trademarks	\$13,030	\$ (1,240)	\$13,030	\$ (912)
Distribution network	53,000	(5,006)	53,000	(3,681)
Other	17,083	(7,827)	20,470	(6,889)
Total	\$83,113	\$(14,073)	\$86,500	\$(11,482)
Unamortized intangible assets:				
Trade names	\$65,014		\$62,563	

The Company amortizes trade names with definite lives, trademarks, and the distribution network over their estimated useful lives of 30 years. Other amortized intangible assets consist primarily of patented technology and restrictive covenant agreements, which are amortized over their estimated useful lives of 12 years and 3 years, respectively. The Company recorded amortization expense of \$3,300 and \$4,385 related to intangible assets with definite lives in the first nine months of fiscal 2002 and fiscal 2001, respectively.

The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill during the period are summarized as follows:

	Lighting Equipment	Specialty Chemicals	Total
Balance as of August 31, 2001	\$301,350	\$30,013	\$331,363
Goodwill acquired during the period	2,956	_	2,956
SFAS 141/142 adoption reclassification	2,692	_	2,692
Other	(78)		(56)
Balance as of May 31, 2002	\$306,920	\$30,035	\$336,955

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The lighting equipment and specialty chemicals segments each tested goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite useful lives for impairment during the first quarter of 2002 as required by SFAS 142, utilizing a combination of valuation techniques including the expected present value of future cash flows, a market multiple approach, and a comparable transaction approach. This process did not result in an impairment to be recorded upon the adoption of SFAS 142 as of September 1, 2001.

Prior to the adoption of SFAS 142, \$3,460 of goodwill associated with a 1969 acquisition was not amortized. Remaining amounts of goodwill (\$327,903 at August 31, 2001) were amortized over estimated useful lives ranging from 10 years to 40 years. Had the Company accounted for goodwill consistent with the provisions of SFAS 142 in prior periods, the Company's net income would have been affected as follows:

		Three months ended May 31		nths ended ny 31
	2002	2001	2002	2001
Reported net income	\$14,571	\$ 7,516	\$36,663	\$34,104
Add back: Goodwill amortization	_	2,519	_	7,758
Add back: Trade name amortization	_	161	_	743
Adjusted net income	\$14,571	\$10,196	\$36,663	\$42,605
Basic earnings per share*:				
Reported net income	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.89	\$ 0.83
Add back: Goodwill amortization	_	0.06	_	0.19
Add back: Trade name amortization	_	_	_	0.01
Adjusted net income	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.89	\$ 1.03

^{*}Earnings per share for the nine months ended May 31, 2002 and all periods in 2001 are pro forma. See Note 5 for additional information.

The Company is required to test its goodwill and intangibles with indefinite useful lives for impairment on an annual basis, which could have an adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial statements if these assets are deemed impaired.

3. BUSINESS SEGMENT INFORMATION

Three Months Ended May 31, 2002	Net Sales	Operating Profit	Depreciation and Amortization	Capital Expenditures and Acquisitions
Lighting Equipment	\$375,960	\$24,290	\$11,034	\$3,865
Specialty Chemicals	131,616	13,695	2,052	3,225
Corporate	_	(4,190)	206	326
Total	\$507,576	\$33,795	\$13,292	\$7,416
Three Months Ended May 21, 2001	Net Sales	Operating Profit	Depreciation and	Capital Expenditures and
Three Months Ended May 31, 2001	Net Sales	Operating Profit	Depreciation and Amortization	
Three Months Ended May 31, 2001 Lighting Equipment		Operating Profit		Expenditures and
	Sales		Amortization	Expenditures and Acquisitions
Lighting Equipment	\$367,721	\$32,056	Amortization \$13,304	Expenditures and Acquisitions \$7,336
Lighting Equipment Specialty Chemicals	\$367,721	\$32,056 (637)	\$13,304 2,924	Expenditures and Acquisitions \$7,336 2,192
Lighting Equipment Specialty Chemicals	\$367,721	\$32,056 (637)	\$13,304 2,924	Expenditures and Acquisitions \$7,336 2,192

Nine Months Ended May 31, 2002	Net Sales	Operating Profit	Depreciation and Amortization	Capital Expenditures and Acquisitions
Lighting Equipment	\$1,092,858	\$71,384	\$32,522	\$42,560
Specialty Chemicals	364,654	28,712	6,106	5,709
Corporate	_	(9,964)	594	368
Total	\$1,457,512	\$90,132	\$39,222	\$48,637
		_		_

Net Sales	Operating Profit	Depreciation and Amortization	Capital Expenditures and Acquisitions
\$1,094,211	\$ 93,670	\$39,436	\$31,031
382,850	16,250	8,690	6,689
_	(13,722)	458	606
\$1,477,061	\$ 96,198	\$48,584	\$38,326
	\$1,094,211 382,850	Sales Operating Profit \$1,094,211 \$ 93,670 382,850 16,250 — (13,722)	Sales Operating Profit Amortization \$1,094,211 \$ 93,670 \$39,436 382,850 16,250 8,690 — (13,722) 458

	Tota	Total Assets	
	May 31, 2002	August 31, 2001	
Lighting Equipment	\$1,081,378	\$1,082,676	
Specialty Chemicals	221,103	211,579	
Corporate	30,871	36,320	
Total	\$1,333,352	\$1,330,575	

4. INVENTORIES

Major classes of inventory as of May 31, 2002 and August 31, 2001 were as follows:

	May 31, 2002	August 31, 2001
Raw Materials and Supplies	\$ 78,388	\$ 85,208
Work-in-Process	24,106	18,262
Finished Goods	111,491	107,313
Total	\$213,985	\$210,783

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost (as determined on a first-in, first-out basis) or market.

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5. EARNINGS PER SHARE AND PRO FORMA EARNINGS PER SHARE

The Company computes earnings per share in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 128, "Earnings per Share." Under this statement, basic earnings per share is computed by dividing net earnings available to common stockholders by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings per share is computed similarly but reflects the potential dilution that would occur if dilutive options were exercised and restricted stock awards were vested.

Pro forma basic earnings per share is calculated as net income divided by the pro forma weighted average number of common shares outstanding. Pro forma weighted average shares outstanding has been computed by applying the distribution ratio of one share of Acuity Brands common stock to the historical NSI weighted average shares outstanding for the same period presented. Public trading of Acuity Brands stock did not commence until December 3, 2001; therefore, no historical market share prices exist for the calculation of the potential dilutive effect of stock options for periods prior to the second quarter of fiscal 2002. As a result, pro forma diluted earnings per share are not presented.

The following table calculates basic earnings per common share and diluted earnings per common share for the three months ended May 31, 2002 and pro forma basic earnings per common share for the nine months ended May 31, 2002 and the three and nine months ended May 31, 2001:

		PRO FORMA		
	Three Months Ended May 31, 2002		Nine Months Ended	
		Three Months Ended May 31, 2001	May 31, 2002	May 31, 2001
Basic earnings per common share:				
Net income	\$14,571	\$ 7,516	\$36,663	\$34,104
Basic weighted average shares outstanding (in thousands)	41,308	41,119	41,267	41,039
Basic earnings per common share	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.89	\$ 0.83
• .				
Diluted earnings per common share:				
Net income	\$14,571			
Basic weighted average shares outstanding (in thousands)	41,308			
Add – Shares of common stock issuable upon assumed exercise of				
dilutive stock options (in thousands)	581			
Add – Unvested restricted stock (in thousands)	30			
Diluted weighted average shares outstanding (in thousands)	41,919			
Diluted earnings per common share	\$ 0.35			

6. COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

The Company accounts for comprehensive income as prescribed by Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 130 ("SFAS 130"), "Reporting Comprehensive Income." SFAS 130 requires the reporting of a measure of all changes in equity that result from recognized transactions and other economic events other than transactions with owners in their capacity as owners. Other comprehensive income (loss) for the three and nine months ended May 31, 2002 and 2001 includes only foreign currency translation adjustments. The calculation of comprehensive income is as follows:

	Three Months Ended Nine Months Ended May 31, Nine Months Ended May 31,			
	2002	2001	2002	2001
Net income	\$14,571	\$7,516	\$36,663	\$34,104
Foreign currency translation adjustments	2,135	1,241	(314)	(1,776)
Reclassification adjustment for foreign currency translation loss				
realized in net income as a result of the sale of a foreign entity	_	913	_	913
Comprehensive Income	\$16,706	\$9,670	\$36,349	\$33,241

7. STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

Upon completion of the Distribution on November 30, 2001, Acuity Brands became an independent company owned by the NSI shareholders of record as of November 16, 2001. Prior to November 30, 2001, Acuity Brands (previously and temporarily named L & C Spinco, Inc.) and the subsidiaries comprising the lighting equipment and specialty chemicals businesses were wholly owned by NSI. Accordingly, prior to November 30, 2001, stockholders' equity was comprised of NSI's investment in these subsidiaries. Beginning on November 30, 2001 stockholders' equity reflects the outstanding stock, paid-in capital, and other stockholders' equity items of Acuity Brands and its wholly owned subsidiaries.

Pursuant to the employee benefits agreement, NSI stock options held by employees of Acuity Brands were converted to, and replaced by, Acuity Brands stock options at the time of the Distribution. Acuity Brands multiplied the number of shares purchasable under each converted stock option by a ratio determined at the time of the Distribution, based on the respective trading prices of NSI and Acuity Brand shares, and divided the exercise price per share of each option by the same ratio. Fractional shares were rounded down to the nearest whole number of shares. All other terms of the converted stock options remain the same as those in effect immediately prior to the Distribution. Accordingly, no compensation expense will result from the replacement of the options. At May 31, 2002, employees and directors of Acuity Brands held 7,256,378 stock options with exercise prices ranging from \$13.80 to \$39.83.

On June 26, 2002, the board of directors of Acuity Brands declared a quarterly dividend of 15 cents per share payable on August 1, 2002 to shareholders of record on July 17, 2002.

8. SECURED BORROWINGS

In May 2001, NSI entered into a three-year agreement (the "Receivables Facility") to borrow, on an ongoing basis, up to \$150.0 million secured by undivided interests in a defined pool of trade accounts receivable of the lighting equipment and specialty chemicals segments. Effective November 30, 2001, Acuity Brands assumed all of the outstanding borrowings and other obligations under the Receivables Facility. Net trade accounts receivable pledged as security for borrowings under the Receivables Facility totaled \$239.4 million at May 31, 2002. Borrowings at May 31, 2002 under the Receivables Facility totaled \$132.5 million. Interest rates under the Receivables Facility vary with commercial paper rates plus an applicable margin.

9. ACQUISITION

During fiscal 2002, Acuity Brands acquired certain assets and assumed certain liabilities of the American Electric Lighting® and Dark-to-Light® product lines of the Thomas & Betts Corporation for approximately \$24.8 million in cash. The preliminary allocation of the purchase price resulted in goodwill of approximately \$3.0 million. Additionally, the Company recorded \$2.5 million related to the trade names American Electric Lighting® and Dark-to-Light®. The Company will not amortize these trade names as the Company believes the useful lives are indefinite. The Company believes that the acquisition will provide the lighting equipment segment with greater presence in the utility and transportation infrastructure markets and will add breadth to Acuity Brands' current utility offerings in high-end decorative street and area lighting.

10. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Litigation

Acuity Brands is subject to various legal claims arising in the normal course of business, including patent infringement and product liability claims. Based on information currently available, it is the opinion of management that the ultimate resolution of pending and threatened legal proceedings will not have a material adverse effect on the financial condition or results of operations of Acuity Brands. However, in the event of unexpected future developments, it is possible that the ultimate resolution of such matters, if unfavorable, could have a material adverse effect on the results of operations of Acuity Brands in future periods. Acuity Brands establishes reserves for legal claims when payments associated with the claims become probable and the costs can be reasonably estimated. The actual costs of resolving legal claims may be substantially higher than the amounts reserved for such claims.

Environmental Matters

The operations of the Company, like similar operations of other companies, are subject to comprehensive laws and regulations relating to the generation, storage, handling, transportation, and disposal of hazardous substances and solid and hazardous wastes and to the remediation of contaminated sites. Permits and environmental controls are required for certain of the Company's operations to limit air and water pollution, and these permits are subject to modification, renewal, and revocation by issuing authorities. Acuity Brands believes that it is in substantial compliance with all material environmental laws, regulations, and permits. On an ongoing basis, Acuity Brands incurs capital and operating costs relating to environmental compliance. Environmental laws and regulations have generally become stricter in recent years, and the cost of responding to future changes may be substantial.

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Acuity Brands establishes reserves for known environmental claims when payments associated with the claims become probable and the costs can be reasonably estimated. The environmental reserves of Acuity Brands, for all periods presented, are immaterial. The actual cost of environmental issues may be higher than that reserved due to difficulty in estimating such costs and potential changes in the status of government regulations.

Certain environmental laws can impose liability regardless of fault. The federal Superfund law is an example of such an environmental law. However, management believes that the liability under Superfund is mitigated by the presence of other parties who will share in the costs associated with the clean up of sites. The extent of liability is determined on a case-by-case basis taking into account many factors, including the number of other parties whose status or activities also subjects them to liability regardless of fault.

Acuity Brands is currently a party to, or otherwise involved in, legal proceedings in connection with state and federal Superfund sites. Based on information currently available, the Company believes its liability is de minimis at each of the currently active sites which it does not own where it has been named as a responsible party or a potentially responsible party ("PRP") due to its limited involvement at the site and/or the number of viable PRPs. For example, the preliminary allocation among 48 PRPs at the Crymes Landfill site in Georgia indicates that Acuity Brands' liability is not significant, and there are more than 1,000 PRPs at the M&J Solvents site in Georgia. For property which Acuity Brands owns on Seaboard Industrial Boulevard in Atlanta, Georgia, the Company has conducted an investigation on its properties and adjoining properties and submitted a Compliance Status Report ("CSR") to the State of Georgia Environmental Protection Division ("EPD") pursuant to the Georgia Hazardous Site Response Act. Until the EPD responds to the CSR and Acuity Brands evaluates the necessity for and scope of any appropriate clean-up action, Acuity Brands will not be able to determine whether clean up will be required and what the costs of clean up will be.

Standby Letters of Credit

In conjunction with the separation of their businesses, Acuity Brands and NSI entered into various agreements that addressed the allocation of assets and liabilities and that defined the future relationships between Acuity Brands and NSI after the Distribution, including a transition services agreement. In addition to other services described in the agreement, the transition services agreement provides that Acuity Brands will, for a fee, provide surety in the form of standby letters of credit with certain state regulatory authorities to support self-insurance programs related to certain workers' compensation liabilities of NSI as follows:

Pe	eriod	
Beginning	Ending	Letters of Credit
0///0004	0.04.0000	
9/1/2001	8/31/2002	\$10.4 million
9/1/2002	8/31/2003	\$8.0 million
9/1/2003	8/31/2004	\$5.0 million
9/1/2004	8/31/2005	\$2.0 million

Standby letters of credit provided to state regulatory authorities to support self-insurance programs for workers' compensation liabilities decrease the amount of credit available on revolving credit facilities. Currently, \$10.4 million in availability on the Revolving Credit Facility of Acuity Brands related to these standby letters of credit is unavailable for use by Acuity Brands. Beginning September 1, 2002, this amount will be reduced to \$8.0 million. The management of Acuity Brands believes it has sufficient capacity under its Revolving Credit Facility to accommodate this requirement under the transition services agreement.

In the event NSI is unable to fulfill its obligations under certain of its workers' compensation programs, the standby letters of credit could be drawn upon and Acuity Brands would be required to fund the drawn amount. In such event, NSI would be obligated to reimburse Acuity Brands for such amounts. The management of Acuity Brands believes it is unlikely that these letters of credit will be drawn upon.

Risks and Uncertainties Related to the Distribution

For a discussion of certain risks and uncertainties related to the Distribution (including, without limitation, the risk that the Distribution could be challenged in court by creditors of NSI), see the disclosure under the caption "Risk Factors" set forth on pages 9 to 18 of the Information Statement attached as an exhibit to the Form 10, which disclosure is incorporated herein by reference.

On November 7, 2001, the NSI board of directors made a determination, based on information provided by management and financial experts, that the Distribution was permissible under applicable dividend and solvency laws. There is no certainty, however, that a court would find the decision of the NSI board to be binding on creditors of NSI and Acuity or that a court would reach the same conclusions as the NSI board in determining whether NSI or Acuity was solvent and adequately capitalized at the time of, or after giving effect to, the Distribution. If a court in a lawsuit by an unpaid creditor or representative of creditors, such as a trustee in bankruptcy, were to

find that at the time NSI effected the Distribution, NSI or Acuity (1) was insolvent; (2) was rendered insolvent by reason of the Distribution; (3) was engaged in a business or transaction for which their respective remaining assets constituted unreasonably small capital; or (4) intended to incur, or believed it would incur, debts beyond its ability to pay as such debts matured, such court may be asked to void the Distribution (in whole or in part) as a fraudulent conveyance and require that the stockholders return the Acuity shares (in whole or in part) to NSI or require Acuity to fund certain liabilities for the benefit of creditors. The measure of insolvency for purposes of the foregoing will vary depending upon the jurisdiction whose law is being applied. Generally, however, NSI or Acuity would be considered insolvent if the fair value of their respective assets was less than the amount of their respective liabilities or if either incurred debt beyond its ability to repay such debt as it matures. Management believes the probability that the Distribution could be successfully challenged by creditors of NSI is remote.

Various legal claims are pending or may be instituted against NSI or its various operating subsidiaries. Because Acuity Brands and its subsidiaries are separate corporations which did not engage in the activities giving rise to these legal claims, the management of Acuity Brands believes the risk that the assets of the Company could be subject to these claims and liabilities (except those claims and liabilities expressly assumed in the distribution agreement entered into in connection with the Spin-off) is remote.

For additional information related to the businesses retained by NSI and the financial position, results of operations, and litigation of NSI, investors should consult the periodic filings of NSI with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

11. LONG-TERM DEBT

During the third quarter of 2002, Acuity Brands entered into a new financing agreement ("Revolving Credit Facility"), which replaced the Company's \$240.0 million, 364-day committed credit facility which was due to mature in October 2002. This Revolving Credit Facility, which has two components, allows for borrowings of up to \$210.0 million. The first component is a 364-day committed credit facility of \$105.0 million, which is scheduled to mature in April 2003. The second component is a three-year credit facility of \$105.0 million and is scheduled to mature in April 2005. At May 31, 2002, the Company had \$58.1 million in outstanding borrowings under the Revolving Credit Facility, which are classified as long-term in the accompanying "Consolidated Balance Sheet". The Revolving Credit Facility contains financial covenants including a leverage ratio of total indebtedness to EBITDA and an interest coverage ratio. Interest rates under the Revolving Credit Facility are based on the LIBOR rate plus a margin contingent on the Company's credit rating for unsecured long-term public debt and a leverage ratio. Acuity Brands will pay an annual fee on the commitment based on the Company's credit rating for unsecured long-term public debt. None of the Company's existing debt instruments include provisions that would require an acceleration of repayments based solely on changes in the Company's credit ratings.

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MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and related notes.

Acuity Brands, Inc. ("Acuity Brands" or the "Company") operates in two business segments – lighting equipment and specialty chemicals. The lighting equipment segment of the Company ("Acuity Lighting Group") believes it is the largest manufacturer of lighting equipment in North America. It produces and distributes a variety of fluorescent and non-fluorescent lighting fixtures for markets throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, and overseas. The specialty chemicals segment of Acuity Brands ("Acuity Specialty Products") produces and distributes maintenance, sanitation, and water treatment chemicals and other products for customers throughout the United States, Canada, and Western Europe.

Separation from National Service Industries, Inc. (NSI)

On November 7, 2001, the board of directors of National Service Industries, Inc. ("NSI") approved the spin-off of its lighting equipment and specialty chemicals businesses into a separate publicly traded company with its own management and board of directors. The spin-off was effected on November 30, 2001 through a tax-free distribution ("Distribution") of 100% of the outstanding shares of common stock of Acuity Brands, at that time a wholly-owned subsidiary of NSI owning and operating the lighting equipment and specialty chemicals businesses. Each NSI stockholder of record as of November 16, 2001, the record date for the Distribution, received one share of Acuity Brands common stock for each share of NSI common stock held at that date.

The financial statements of Acuity Brands have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, and reflect the historical financial position, results of operations, and cash flows of the businesses transferred to Acuity Brands from NSI as part of the Distribution. The financial information included in this filing, however, is not necessarily indicative of what Acuity Brands' results of operations or financial position would have been had it operated as an independent company during the periods prior to the second quarter of fiscal 2002, nor is it necessarily indicative of its future performance as an independent company.

All material intercompany transactions between the entities included in Acuity Brands' consolidated financial statements have been eliminated. For all periods prior to December 1, 2001, Acuity Brands has been allocated certain NSI corporate assets, liabilities, and expenses based on an estimate of the proportion of such amounts allocable to Acuity Brands, utilizing such factors as total revenues, employee headcount, and other relevant factors. Acuity Brands believes these allocations have been made on a reasonable basis. Acuity Brands believes all amounts allocated to Acuity Brands are a reasonable representation of the costs that would have been incurred if Acuity Brands had performed these functions as a stand-alone company.

In conjunction with the separation of their businesses, Acuity Brands and NSI entered into various agreements that addressed the allocation of assets and liabilities and that defined Acuity Brands' relationship with NSI after the Distribution, including a distribution agreement, a tax disaffiliation agreement, an employee benefits agreement, a transition services agreement, a lease agreement, and a put option agreement. As part of the transition services agreement, the Company committed to provide surety to support NSI's self-insurance of certain workers' compensation programs. The lease agreement and the put option agreement expired prior to May 31, 2002.

Critical Accounting Policies

The financial statements of Acuity Brands have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The preparation of the financial statements requires the Company to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenses, and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Acuity Brands reviews its estimates on a regular basis including, but not limited to, those related to product returns, bad debts, inventories, long-lived and intangible assets and goodwill, self-insurance, litigation, and environmental matters. Estimates made by the Company are based on historical experience and other assumptions management believes are reasonable under current circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or circumstances.

Acuity Brands believes the following represent its critical accounting policies:

Revenue Recognition

The Company recognizes revenue in accordance with SEC Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 101 ("SAB 101"), "Revenue Recognition in Financial Statements." SAB 101 generally requires that the following four basic criteria must be met before revenue can be recognized: (1) persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists; (2) delivery has occurred or services have been rendered; (3) the seller's price is fixed or determinable; and (4) collectibility is reasonably assured.

SAB 101 requires management to reliably estimate product returns and future collections. Acuity Brands monitors product returns and records a provision for the estimated amount of future returns based on historical experience and specific notification of pending returns. Although historical product returns have been within expectations, there can be no assurance that future product returns will not exceed historical amounts. A significant increase in product returns could have a material adverse impact on our operating results in future periods.

Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

Acuity Brands monitors accounts receivable, historical bad debts, and changes in customer payment trends to evaluate the adequacy of our allowance for doubtful accounts. Although historical credit losses have been within expectations, there can be no assurance that future credit losses will not exceed historical amounts. A significant increase in credit losses could have a material adverse impact on our operating results in future periods.

Inventories

Acuity Brands records inventory at the lower of cost (on a first-in, first-out basis) or market. Management reviews inventory quantities on hand and records a provision for excess or obsolete inventory primarily based on estimated future demand and current market conditions. A significant change in customer demand or market conditions could render certain inventory obsolete and thus could have a material adverse impact on our operating results in the period the change occurs.

Long-lived and Intangible Assets and Goodwill

Acuity Brands reviews its long-lived assets for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. An impairment loss would be recognized based on the difference between the carrying value of the asset and its estimated fair value, which would be determined based on either discounted future cash flows or other appropriate fair value methods.

In July 2001, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142 ("SFAS 142"), "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets." SFAS 142 requires companies to cease amortizing goodwill that existed at June 30, 2001 and establishes a new method for testing goodwill for impairment on an annual basis (or an interim basis if an event occurs that might reduce the fair value of a reporting unit below its carrying value). SFAS 142 also requires that an identifiable intangible asset that is determined to have an indefinite useful economic life not be amortized, but separately tested for impairment using a fair value based approach. The evaluation of goodwill and intangibles with indefinite useful lives for impairment requires management to use significant judgments and estimates including, but not limited to, projected future revenue and cash flow of each of our businesses. Acuity Brands is required to test its goodwill and intangibles with indefinite useful lives for impairment on an annual basis, which could have a material adverse effect on the consolidated financial statements of the Company if these assets are deemed impaired.

Self-Insurance

It is the policy of the Company to self insure for certain insurable risks consisting primarily of: physical loss to property; business interruptions resulting from such loss; and workers' compensation, comprehensive general, and auto liability. Insurance coverage is obtained for catastrophic property and casualty exposures as well as those risks required to be insured by law or contract. Based on an independent actuary's estimate of the aggregate liability for claims incurred, a provision for claims under the self-insured program is recorded and revised annually. The actuarial estimates are subject to uncertainty from various sources, including, among others, changes in claim reporting patterns, claim settlement patterns, judicial decisions, legislation, and economic conditions. Although Acuity Brands believes that the actuarial estimates are reasonable, significant differences related to the items noted above could materially affect the Company's self-insurance obligations and future expense.

Litigation

Acuity Brands reserves for legal claims when payments associated with the claims become probable and the costs can be reasonably estimated. Due to the difficulty in estimating costs of resolving legal claims, actual costs may be substantially higher than the amounts reserved.

Environmental Matters

The Company reserves for known environmental claims when payments associated with the claims become probable and the costs can be reasonably estimated. Acuity Brands' environmental reserves, for all periods presented, are immaterial. The actual cost of resolving environmental issues may be higher than that reserved primarily due to difficulty in estimating such costs and potential changes in the status of government regulations.

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Results of Operations

Acuity Brands generated sales of \$507.6 million and \$1,457.5 million in the three and nine months ended May 31, 2002, respectively, compared to sales of \$503.1 million and \$1,477.1 million, respectively, reported in the same periods in the prior year. Excluding sales associated with the acquisition of the American Electric Lighting® and Dark-to-Light® product lines, which was completed in October 2001, and sales associated with the French and Australian operations of the specialty chemicals segment, which were divested in the third quarter of fiscal 2001, sales decreased 1.5 percent and 3.6 percent for the three and nine months ended May 31, 2002, respectively from the year ago period. The decreases in sales were primarily due to lower product shipments in certain commercial and industrial markets and pricing pressure caused by the continued weak economic environment, partially offset by an increase in sales to home improvement centers.

Excluding the impact of the divested French and Australian specialty chemicals operations in the third quarter of fiscal 2001, operating profit of \$33.8 million and \$90.1 million for the three and nine months ended May 31, 2002, respectively, was down from \$40.7 million and \$111.4 million, respectively, from the same periods in the prior year. The decline in operating profit was primarily due to lost contribution margin on lower sales, continued pricing pressure primarily in the lighting equipment segment, changes in product mix, higher spending for non-discretionary expenses such as medical and property insurance, and greater expenses associated with investments in certain sales and marketing programs. These items were partially offset by previously implemented cost containment programs, profit improvement initiatives, and the adoption of a new accounting standard that eliminated the amortization of goodwill and certain intangibles.

Net income increased 94.0 percent to \$14.6 million (\$0.35 per share) during the third quarter of fiscal 2002 from \$7.5 million (\$0.18 per share) earned during the third quarter of fiscal 2001. For the first nine months of 2002, net income increased \$2.6 million to \$36.7 million from \$34.1 million reported in the same period in the prior year. Excluding the loss on the sale of the divested specialty chemicals operations in 2001, net income would have declined approximately 19 percent for the three and nine months ended May 31, 2002 when compared to the respective periods one year earlier. The decline in net income was primarily due to the decline in operating profit noted above, partially offset by lower interest expense. Net interest expense decreased by \$1.7 million and \$6.7 million for the three and nine months ended May 31, 2002, respectively, from the respective prior year periods primarily due to lower interest rates.

Acuity Lighting Group

Net sales at Acuity Lighting Group increased 2.2 percent to \$376.0 million for the third quarter of 2002, when compared to \$367.7 million generated in the same period in the prior year. For the first nine months of 2002, Acuity Lighting Group reported net sales of \$1,092.9 million, which were essentially flat when compared to \$1,094.2 million generated in the first nine months of 2001. Excluding sales associated with the acquisition of the American Electric Lighting® and Dark-to-Light® product lines, which was completed in October 2001, sales would have declined 2.7 percent for the third quarter of 2002 and 4.9 percent for the nine months ended May 31, 2002 when compared to the respective periods in the prior year. In general, the drop in sales of Acuity Lighting Group was primarily due to continued weakness in the non-residential construction market. This resulted in reduced shipments to certain commercial and industrial markets and lower selling prices for certain key products due to substantial competition for available business.

Operating profit for the Acuity Lighting Group was \$24.3 million and \$71.4 million for the three and nine months ended May 31, 2002, respectively, compared to \$32.1 million and \$93.7 million, respectively, for the same periods in the prior year. The decline in operating profit was primarily due to reduced sales volumes noted above, product mix changes, lower selling prices for certain products, increased non-discretionary costs such as medical and property insurance, and greater investments in certain sales and marketing programs. These items were partially offset by reduced costs resulting from numerous profit improvement initiatives. Operating profit was not materially impacted in the quarter by the addition of the American Electric Lighting and Dark-to-Light product lines. Additionally, operating profit in the third quarter of 2002 benefited by approximately \$2.5 million as a result of the adoption of a new accounting standard related to the amortization of goodwill and certain intangibles.

Acuity Specialty Products

Net sales at Acuity Specialty Products were \$131.6 million and \$364.7 million for the three and nine months ended May 31, 2002, respectively, down 2.8 percent and 4.8 percent, respectively, from the same period in the prior year. Excluding sales associated with the French and Australian operations that were divested in the third quarter of fiscal 2001, sales increased 1.9 percent for the third quarter and were essentially flat for the nine months ended May 31, 2002 when compared to the respective periods in the prior year. The increase in sales was primarily due to increased sales in the retail channel, partially offset by decreased sales in the industrial and institutional channels that continued to be impacted by the weak economic environment. Sales to the retail channel increased primarily due to greater penetration of mass retailers and greater sales to hardware stores.

Excluding the impact of divested operations, operating profit at Acuity Specialty Products of \$13.7 million and \$28.7 million for the three and nine months ended May 31, 2002, respectively, was essentially flat and down \$2.8 million, respectively, compared to the year ago period. Cost reduction initiatives in the segment were more than offset by increased costs for certain non-discretionary expenses, unfavorable product mix changes, and greater expenses associated with investments made to enhance the segment's sales force capabilities in selected strategic markets.

Corporate

For the three and nine months ended May 31, 2002, corporate expenses declined \$1.1 million and \$3.8 million, respectively, from the prior year due to various items, including the reorganization of the corporate staff.

Outlook

Although management remains confident about the long-term potential of the businesses that comprise Acuity Brands, management is cautious about predicting near term results of the Company due to uncertainty in the economic environment. Accordingly, management continues to expect the full year earnings of the Company to be in the range of \$1.10 to \$1.30 per share. While the uncertainty of the economic vitality of its key markets makes it possible that full year earnings per share could be toward the bottom of this range, management anticipates that total year earnings per share is more likely to be near the midpoint of this range. Acuity Brands will continue to aggressively pursue initiatives that are expected to enhance performance. These activities include efforts to reduce costs, improve profits, enhance customer service, increase manufacturing efficiency, reduce debt, and expand product offerings and brands in the market through a variety of channels.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

The primary sources of liquidity at Acuity Brands during the nine months ended May 31, 2002 and 2001 were available cash balances, cash flows from operations, and borrowings under the Company's various credit facilities. The primary uses of cash during these periods were to fund the operations of the Company, make investments in property, plant and equipment and to fund transactions with NSI. During fiscal 2002, Acuity Brands also used funds to acquire the American Electric Lighting® and Dark-to-Light® product lines of the Thomas & Betts Corporation ("American Electric"), make dividend payments, and reduce outstanding borrowings.

Operating cash flow of \$98.0 million during the first nine months of fiscal 2002 was essentially flat when compared to the prior year as improvements in working capital were essentially offset by a decrease in net income adjusted for the divested specialty chemicals operations and lower amortization expense. Improvements in working capital, excluding the impact of the acquisition of American Electric, were primarily due to a reduction of inventory and higher accounts payable and other current liabilities, partially offset by an increase in accounts receivable. Inventory decreased primarily as a result of more efficient production at certain facilities. The increase in accounts payable and other current liabilities primarily related to extended payment terms from certain vendors. Accounts receivable increased primarily due to the acquisition of American Electric and slightly higher sales in certain channels that generally have more lenient payment terms.

Investing activities at Acuity Brands in the first nine months of 2002 used cash of \$43.2 million versus \$31.1 million consumed in the prior year. The increase in investing cash flows was primarily due to cash used for the acquisition of American Electric, partially offset by a decrease in purchases of property, plant, and equipment. Capital expenditures during the first nine months of fiscal 2002 totaled \$23.9 million compared to \$38.3 million spent during the first nine months of last year. The decrease in capital expenditures was primarily due to the elimination or delay of certain projects as a result of decreased demand caused by the softness in the current economic environment. Capital expenditures in the lighting equipment segment related primarily to manufacturing upgrades and improvements. In the specialty chemicals segment, capital expenditures were primarily associated with manufacturing equipment.

Debt as of May 31, 2002 was \$575.6 million, down \$33.3 million from August 31, 2001 and down \$33.2 million from the end of the second quarter of this year. The decrease in borrowings during the third quarter and the first nine months of 2002 were primarily related to improvements in operating cash flow as a result of the reductions in working capital noted above and the use of available cash balances for debt reduction.

In the third quarter of 2002, Acuity Brands entered into a new financing agreement ("Revolving Credit Facility") which replaced the Company's current \$240.0 million, 364-day committed credit facility due to mature in October 2002. The Revolving Credit Facility, which has two components, allows for borrowings of up to \$210.0 million. The first component is a 364-day committed credit facility of \$105.0 million, which is scheduled to mature in April 2003. The second component is a three-year credit facility of \$105.0 million and is scheduled to mature in April 2005. At May 31, 2002, the Company had \$58.1 million in outstanding borrowings under the Revolving Credit Facility, which are classified as long-term in the accompanying "Consolidated Balance Sheet". The Revolving Credit Facility contains financial covenants including a leverage ratio of total indebtedness to EBITDA and an interest

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coverage ratio. Interest rates under the new facility are based on the LIBOR rate plus a margin contingent on the Company's credit rating for unsecured long-term public debt and leverage ratio. Acuity Brands will pay an annual fee on the commitment based on Acuity Brands' credit rating for unsecured long-term public debt. None of the Company's existing debt instruments include provisions that would require an acceleration of repayments based solely on changes in the Company's credit ratings.

The Company's ongoing liquidity will depend upon a number of factors including available cash resources and cash flows from operations. The Company believes it has sufficient liquidity including availability under its current financing arrangements. The Company may enter into additional long-term financing arrangements in order to provide the Company additional liquidity. Proceeds generated from any additional long-term financing arrangements will be used to reduce outstanding borrowings under the Revolving Credit Facility.

Legal Proceedings

Acuity Brands is subject to various legal claims arising in the normal course of business, including patent infringement and product liability claims. Based on information currently available, it is the opinion of management that the ultimate resolution of pending and threatened legal proceedings will not have a material adverse effect on the financial condition or results of operations of Acuity Brands. However, in the event of unexpected future developments, it is possible that the ultimate resolution of such matters, if unfavorable, could have a material adverse effect on the results of operations of Acuity Brands in future periods. Acuity Brands establishes reserves for legal claims when payments associated with the claims become probable and the costs can be reasonably estimated. The actual costs of resolving legal claims may be substantially higher than the amounts reserved for such claims.

Environmental Matters

The operations of the Company, like similar operations of other companies, are subject to comprehensive laws and regulations relating to the generation, storage, handling, transportation, and disposal of hazardous substances and solid and hazardous wastes and to the remediation of contaminated sites. Permits and environmental controls are required for certain of the Company's operations to limit air and water pollution, and these permits are subject to modification, renewal, and revocation by issuing authorities. Acuity Brands believes that it is in substantial compliance with all material environmental laws, regulations, and permits. On an ongoing basis, Acuity Brands incurs capital and operating costs relating to environmental compliance. Environmental laws and regulations have generally become stricter in recent years, and the cost of responding to future changes may be substantial.

Acuity Brands establishes reserves for known environmental claims when payments associated with the claims become probable and the costs can be reasonably estimated. The environmental reserves of Acuity Brands, for all periods presented, are immaterial. The actual cost of environmental issues may be higher than that reserved due to difficulty in estimating such costs and potential changes in the status of government regulations.

Certain environmental laws can impose liability regardless of fault. The federal Superfund law is an example of such an environmental law. However, management believes that the liability under Superfund is mitigated by the presence of other parties who will share in the costs associated with the clean up of sites. The extent of liability is determined on a case-by-case basis taking into account many factors, including the number of other parties whose status or activities also subjects them to liability regardless of fault.

Acuity Brands is currently a party to, or otherwise involved in, legal proceedings in connection with state and federal Superfund sites. Based on information currently available, the Company believes its liability is de minimis at each of the currently active sites which it does not own where it has been named as a responsible party or a potentially responsible party ("PRP") due to its limited involvement at the site and/or the number of viable PRPs. For example, the preliminary allocation among 48 PRPs at the Crymes Landfill site in Georgia indicates that Acuity Brands' liability is not significant, and there are more than 1,000 PRPs at the M&J Solvents site in Georgia. For property which Acuity Brands owns on Seaboard Industrial Boulevard in Atlanta, Georgia, the Company has conducted an investigation on its properties and adjoining properties and submitted a Compliance Status Report ("CSR") to the State of Georgia Environmental Protection Division ("EPD") pursuant to the Georgia Hazardous Site Response Act. Until the EPD responds to the CSR and Acuity Brands evaluates the necessity for and scope of any appropriate clean-up action, Acuity Brands will not be able to determine whether clean up will be required and what the costs of clean up will be.

Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information

This filing contains forward-looking statements, within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, that involve risks and uncertainties. Consequently, actual results may differ materially from those indicated by the forward-looking statements. Statements made herein that may be considered forward looking include statements concerning: (a) future earnings; (b) the impact on the Company's performance of initiatives that are expected to reduce costs, improve profits, enhance customer service, increase manufacturing efficiency, reduce debt, and expand product offerings and brands in the market through a variety of channels; (c) the Company's ongoing liquidity; and (d) the outcome of pending or future legal or regulatory proceedings. A variety of risks and uncertainties could cause the Company's actual results to differ materially from the anticipated results or other expectations expressed in the Company's forward-looking statements. The risks and uncertainties include without limitation the following: (a) the uncertainty of general business and economic conditions, including the potential for a more severe slowdown in non-residential construction, interest rate changes, and fluctuations in commodity and raw material prices or foreign currency rates; (b) unexpected developments and outcomes in the Company's legal and environmental proceedings; (c) the risk that projected future cash flows from operations are not realized; (d) the impact of competition; (e) the risk that underlying assumptions or expectations related to the Distribution prove to be inaccurate or unrealized; and (f) the Company's ability to realize the anticipated benefits of initiatives expected to reduce costs, improve profits, enhance customer service, increase manufacturing efficiency, reduce debt, and expanded product offerings and brands in the market through a variety of channels.

QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

The Company is exposed to market risks that may impact its "Consolidated Balance Sheets", "Statements of Income", and "Statements of Cash Flows" due to changing interest rates and foreign exchange rates. The Company does not currently participate in any significant hedging activities, nor does it currently utilize any significant derivative financial instruments. The following discussion provides additional information regarding the Company's market risks.

Interest Rates-Interest rate fluctuations expose the Company's variable-rate debt to changes in interest expense and cash flows. The Company's variable-rate debt, primarily short-term secured borrowings and amounts outstanding under Acuity Brands' Revolving Credit Facility, amounted to \$215.3 million at May 31, 2002. Based on outstanding borrowings at quarter end, a 10 percent adverse change in effective market interest rates at May 31, 2002 would result in additional annual after-tax interest expense of approximately \$0.3 million. Although a fluctuation in interest rates would not affect interest expense or cash flows related to the publicly traded notes, the Company's primary fixed-rate debt, a 10 percent increase in effective market interest rates at May 31, 2002 would decrease the fair value of these notes to approximately \$361.0 million.

Foreign Exchange Rates-The majority of the Company's revenue, expense, and capital purchases are transacted in U.S. dollars. Acuity Brands does not believe a 10 percent fluctuation in average foreign currency rates would have a material effect on its consolidated financial statements or results of operations. To the extent possible, Acuity Brands mitigates its exposure to unfavorable foreign currency translation adjustments through the use of foreign-currency denominated debt instruments.

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PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

Acuity Brands is subject to various legal claims arising in the normal course of business, including patent infringement and product liability claims. Based on information currently available, it is the opinion of management that the ultimate resolution of pending and threatened legal proceedings will not have a material adverse effect on the financial condition or results of operations of Acuity Brands. However, in the event of unexpected future developments, it is possible that the ultimate resolution of such matters, if unfavorable, could have a material adverse effect on the results of operations of Acuity Brands in future periods. Acuity Brands establishes reserves for legal claims when payments associated with the claims become probable and the costs can be reasonably estimated. The actual costs of resolving legal claims may be substantially higher than the amounts reserved for such claims.

Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

None.

Item 6. Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K

- (a) Exhibits are listed on the Index to Exhibits (page 22).
- (b) An 8-K/A was filed on May 1, 2002 related to the change in independent accountant from Arthur Andersen LLP to Ernst & Young LLP.

SIGNATURES

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

ACUITY BRANDS, INC. REGISTRANT

DATE: July 12, 2002 /s/ James S. Balloun

JAMES S. BALLOUN CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFFICER

DATE: July 12, 2002 /s/ Vernon J. Nagel

VERNON J. NAGEL EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

EXHIBIT 10(i)A

(1) Assignment Agreement and Amendment to Increase Aggregate
Commitment to 364-Day Revolving Credit Agreement, dated as of May 14,
2002, by and among Bank One, NA and Wachovia Bank, N.A., Dresdner
Bank AG New York & Grand Cayman Branches, Acuity Brands, Inc.,
Acuity Lighting Group, Inc. and Acuity Specialty Products Group, Inc., and
Bank One, NA, in its capacity as Administrative Agent.

Filed with the Commission as part of this Form 10-

(2) Assignment Agreement and Amendment to Increase Aggregate
Commitment to 3-Year Revolving Credit Agreement, dated as of May 14,
2002, by and among Bank One, NA and Wachovia Bank, N.A., Dresdner
Bank AG New York & Grand Cayman Branches, Acuity Brands, Inc.,
Acuity Lighting Group, Inc. and Acuity Specialty Products Group, Inc., and
Bank One, NA, in its capacity as Administrative Agent.

Filed with the Commission as part of this Form 10-

ASSIGNMENT AGREEMENT AND AMENDMENT TO INCREASE AGGREGATE COMMITMENT

This Assignment Agreement and Amendment to Increase Aggregate Commitment (this "Agreement") by and among Bank One, NA and Wachovia Bank, N.A. (each an "Assignor"), Dresdner Bank AG New York & Grand Cayman Branches (the "Assignee" or the "New Lender"), Acuity Brands, Inc., Acuity Lighting Group, Inc. and Acuity Specialty Products Group, Inc. (collectively, the "Borrowers"), and Bank One, NA, in its capacity as Administrative Agent under the Credit Agreement (as defined below) is dated as of May 14, 2002. The parties hereto agree as follows:

- PRELIMINARY STATEMENT. Each Assignor is a party to a Credit Agreement (which, as it may be amended, modified, renewed or extended from time to time is herein called the "Credit Agreement") described in Item 1 of Schedule 1 attached hereto ("Schedule 1"). Capitalized terms used herein and not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings attributed to them in the Credit Agreement.
- 2. ASSIGNMENT AND ASSUMPTION. Each Assignor hereby sells and assigns to the Assignee, and the Assignee hereby purchases and assumes from each Assignor, an interest in and to each Assignor's rights and obligations under the Credit Agreement and the other Loan Documents, such that after giving effect to such assignment the Assignee shall have purchased from each Assignor pursuant to this Agreement the percentage interest specified in Item 3 of Schedule 1 of all of such Assignor's outstanding rights and obligations under the Credit Agreement and the other Loan Documents relating to the facilities listed in Item 3 of Schedule 1. The aggregate amount of the Commitment (or Outstanding Credit Exposure, if the applicable Commitment has been terminated) purchased by the Assignee hereunder is set forth in Item 4(a) of Schedule 1.
- 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. The effective date of this Agreement (the "Effective Date") shall be the later of the date specified in Item 5 of Schedule 1 or two (2) Business Days (or such shorter period agreed to by the Administrative Agent) after this Agreement, together with any consents required under the Credit Agreement, are delivered to the Administrative Agent. In no event will the Effective Date occur if the payments required to be made by the Assignee to the Assignors on the Effective Date are not made on the proposed Effective Date.
- 4. PAYMENT OBLIGATIONS. In consideration for the sale and assignment of the Commitment and/or Outstanding Credit Exposure hereunder, the Assignee shall pay each Assignor, on the Effective Date, the amount agreed to by the Assignors and the Assignee. On and after the Effective Date, the Assignee shall be entitled to receive from the Administrative Agent all payments of principal, interest and fees with respect to the interest assigned hereby. The Assignee will promptly remit to the applicable Assignor any interest on Outstanding Credit Exposure and fees received from the Administrative Agent which relate to the portion of the Commitment or Outstanding Credit Exposure assigned to the Assignee by such Assignor hereunder for periods prior to the Effective Date and not previously paid by the Assignee to such Assignor. In the event that any party hereto receives any payment to which any other party hereto is entitled under this

Agreement, then the party receiving such amount shall promptly remit it to the applicable party hereto.

- RECORDATION FEE. The recordation fee required to be paid to the Administrative Agent in connection with this Agreement is hereby waived.
- 6. REPRESENTATIONS OF EACH ASSIGNOR; LIMITATIONS ON THE ASSIGNOR'S LIABILITY. Each Assignor, individually and not jointly, represents and warrants that (i) it is the legal and beneficial owner of the interest being assigned by it hereunder, (ii) such interest is free and clear of any adverse claim created by such Assignor and (iii) the execution and delivery of this Agreement by such Assignor is duly authorized. It is understood and agreed that the assignment and assumption hereunder are made without recourse to any Assignor and that no Assignor makes any other representation or warranty of any kind to the Assignee. Neither any Assignor nor any of their respective officers, directors, employees, agents or attorneys shall be responsible for (i) the due execution, legality, validity, enforceability, genuineness, sufficiency or collectability of any Loan Document, including, without limitation, documents granting such Assignor and the other Lenders a security interest in assets of the Borrowers or any guarantor, (ii) any representation, warranty or statement made in or in connection with any of the Loan Documents, (iii) the financial condition or creditworthiness of the Borrowers or any guarantor, (iv) the performance of or compliance with any of the terms or provisions of any of the Loan Documents, (v) inspecting any of the property, books or records of the Borrowers, (vi) the validity, enforceability, perfection, priority, condition, value or sufficiency of any collateral securing or purporting to secure the Loans or (vii) any mistake, error of judgment, or action taken or omitted to be taken in connection with the Loans or the Loan Documents.
- REPRESENTATIONS AND UNDERTAKINGS OF THE ASSIGNEE. The Assignee (i) 7. confirms that it has received a copy of the Credit Agreement, together with copies of the financial statements requested by the Assignee and such other documents and information as it has deemed appropriate to make its own credit analysis and decision to enter into this Agreement, (ii) agrees that it will, independently and without reliance upon any Agent, the Arranger, any Assignor or any other Lender and based on such documents and information at it shall deem appropriate at the time, continue to make its own credit decisions in $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right) +\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left(1\right) +\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left($ taking or not taking action under the Loan Documents, (iii) appoints and authorizes each Agent to take such action as agent on its behalf and to exercise such powers under the Loan Documents as are delegated to such Agent by the terms thereof, together with such powers as are reasonably incidental thereto, (iv) confirms that the execution and $\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1$ delivery of this Agreement by the Assignee is duly authorized, (v) agrees that it will perform in accordance with their terms all of the obligations which by the terms of the Loan Documents are required to be performed by it as a Lender, (vi) agrees that its payment instructions and notice instructions are as set forth in the attachment to Schedule 1, (vii) confirms that none of the funds, monies, assets or other consideration being used to make the purchase and assumption hereunder are "plan assets" as defined under ERISA and that its rights, benefits and interests in and under the Loan Documents will not be "plan assets" under ERISA, (viii) agrees to indemnify and hold each Assignor harmless against all losses, costs and expenses (including, but not limited to, reasonable

attorneys' fees) and liabilities incurred by such Assignor in connection with or arising in any manner from the Assignee's non-performance of the obligations assumed under this Agreement, and (ix) if applicable, attaches the forms prescribed by the Internal Revenue Service of the United States certifying that the Assignee is entitled to receive payments under the Loan Documents without deduction or withholding of any United States federal income taxes.

8. INCREASE OF AGGREGATE COMMITMENT; REALLOCATION OF OUTSTANDING LOANS.

- (A) Effective as of the Effective Date and subject to the Administrative Agent's receipt of duly executed copies of this Agreement from each of the parties hereto, the Credit Agreement is hereby amended pursuant to Section 2.24 thereof to increase the Aggregate Commitment to \$105,000,000, and the Commitment of the New Lender (after giving effect to such increase of the Aggregate Commitment and the assignments from the Assignors to the Assignee contemplated in this Agreement) shall be \$12,500,000. From and after the Effective Date, the New Lender shall be deemed to be a Lender for all purposes under the Credit Agreement.
- On the Effective Date, the Administrative Agent shall administer the reallocation of any outstanding Loans ratably among the Lenders after giving effect to the increase in the Aggregate Commitment contemplated by this Agreement. In connection with such reallocation, on the Effective Date, (a) each Lender party to the Credit Agreement prior to the effectiveness of this Agreement (each an "Existing Lender") shall be deemed to sell, grant, assign and convey to the New Lender, without recourse, warranty, or representation of any kind, except as specifically provided herein, an undivided percentage in such Existing Lender's right, title and interest in and to its outstanding Loans in the respective dollar amounts and percentages necessary so that, from and after such sale, each such Existing Lender's outstanding Loans shall equal such Existing Lender's Pro Rata Share (calculated after giving effect to the increase in the Aggregate Commitment contemplated by this Agreement) of the outstanding Loans, and (b) the New Lender hereby purchases and accepts such grant, assignment and conveyance from the Existing Lenders. The New Lender hereby agrees that its respective purchase price for the portion of the outstanding Loans purchased hereby shall equal the respective dollar amount necessary so that, from and after such payments, the New Lender's outstanding Loans shall equal the New Lender's Pro Rata Share (calculated after giving effect to the increase in the Aggregate Commitment contemplated by this Agreement) of the outstanding Loans. The New Lender shall pay such amount on the Effective Date by wire transfer of immediately available funds to the Administrative Agent, for the account of the Existing Lenders. The New Lender hereby acknowledges and agrees that the New Lender has entered into this Agreement and the Credit Agreement on the basis of its own independent investigation and has not relied upon, and will not rely upon, any explicit or implicit written or oral representation, warranty or other statement of the Lenders or the Administrative Agent concerning the authorization, execution, legality, validity, effectiveness, genuineness, enforceability or sufficiency of this Agreement or the other Loan Documents.

- 9. REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES OF THE BORROWERS. The Borrowers hereby represent and warrant that (i) this Agreement and the Credit Agreement as previously executed and as modified hereby, constitute legal, valid and binding obligations of the Borrowers and are enforceable against the Borrowers in accordance with their terms and (ii) no Default or Unmatured Default has occurred and is continuing. Upon the effectiveness of this Agreement and after giving effect hereto, the Borrowers hereby reaffirm all covenants, representations and warranties made in the Credit Agreement as modified hereby, and agree that all such covenants, representations and warranties shall be deemed to have been remade as of the Effective Date (except to the extent any such representation or warranty is stated to relate solely to an earlier date, in which case such representation or warranty shall have been true and correct in all material respects on and as of such earlier date).
- 10. GOVERNING LAW. This Agreement shall be governed by the internal law, including 735 ILCS 105/5-1 et seq., but otherwise without regard to the law of conflicts, of the State of Illinois.
- 11. NOTICES. Notices shall be given under this Agreement in the manner set forth in the Credit Agreement. For the purpose hereof, the addresses of the parties hereto (until notice of a change is delivered) shall be the addresses set forth in the Credit Agreement, and, in the case of the Assignee, on the attachment to Schedule 1 hereto.
- 12. COUNTERPARTS; DELIVERY BY FACSIMILE. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts. Transmission by facsimile of an executed counterpart of this Agreement shall be deemed to constitute due and sufficient delivery of such counterpart and such facsimile shall be deemed to be an original counterpart of this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the duly authorized officers of the parties hereto have executed this Agreement by executing Schedule 1 hereto as of the date first above written.

SCHEDULE I to Agreement

- 1. Description and Date of Credit Agreement: 364-Day Revolving Credit Agreement, dated April 8, 2002, among Acuity Brands, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), the Subsidiary Borrowers from time to time parties thereto, the Lenders named therein, and Bank One, NA (Main Office -- Chicago), as the Administrative Agent, as the same may be amended, restated, supplemented or otherwise modified from time to time
- 2. Date of Agreement: May 14, 2002
- 3. Amounts (As of Date of Item 2 above):
 - a. Assignee's percentage of the Aggregate Commitment

Percentage purchased by the Assignee under the Agreement (before giving effect to the increase in the Aggregate Commitment by Section 8 contemplated Agreement) Total percentage of Assignee (after giving effect to the assignments and increase in the Aggregate Commitment contemplated by the of the Agreement)

9.7560976%

11.9047619%

B. Amount of the Aggregate
Commitment purchased under the
Agreement

Amount Purchased From Bank One, NA Amount Purchased From Wachovia Bank, N.A.

\$5,000,000

\$5,000,000

4. Assignee's Commitment:

After giving effect to the assignments contemplated by the Agreement

After giving effect to the assignments and increase in the Aggregate Commitment contemplated by

the Agreement

\$10,000,000

\$12,500,000

5. Proposed Effective Date:

May 14, 2002

Non-standard Recordation Fee Arrangement

The recordation fee has been waived.

Accepted and Agreed:	
BANK ONE, NA, as an Assignor	DRESDNER BANK AG NEW YORK & GRAND CAYMAN BRANCHES, as the Assignee
By: /s/ Timothy J. King	By: /s/ Frank Fiorito
Title: Director	Title: Director
WACHOVIA BANK, N.A., as an Assignor	
By: /s/ Karin E. Reel	
Title: Vice President	
ACCEPTED AND CONSENTED TO	ACCEPTED AND CONSENTED TO
BY:	BY:
ACUITY BRANDS, INC.	BANK ONE, NA (MAIN OFFICE CHICAGO), as Administrative Agent
By: /s/ Vernon J. Nagel	By: /s/ Timothy J. King
Title: EVP & CFO	Title: Director
ACUITY LIGHTING GROUP, INC.	
By: /s/ Vernon J. Nagel	
Title: EVP & CFO	
ACUITY SPECIALTY PRODUCTS GROUP, INC.	
By: /s/ Vernon J. Nagel	
Title: EVD & CEO	

Attachment to SCHEDULE 1 to ASSIGNMENT AGREEMENT AND AMENDMENT TO INCREASE AGGREGATE COMMITMENT

ASSIGNEE'S ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION SHEET (ATTACHED)

BANK ONE INFORMATION

Assignee will be called promptly upon receipt of the signed agreement.

INITIAL FUNDING CONTACT: SUBSEQUENT OPERATIONS CONTACT:

Name: Name:

Telephone No.: (312) Telephone No.: (312)

Fax No.: (312) Fax No.: (312)

Bank One Telex No.: 190201 (Answerback: FNBC UT)

INITIAL FUNDING STANDARDS:

Libor - Fund 2 days after rates

are set.

BANK ONE WIRE INSTRUCTIONS: Bank One, NA, ABA # 071000013

.

LS2 Incoming Account # 481152860000

Ref: Acuity Brands, Inc.

ADDRESS FOR NOTICES FOR BANK ONE:

1 Bank One Plaza, Chicago, IL 60670

Attn: Agency Compliance Division, Suite IL1-0353

Fax No. (312) 732-2038 or (312) 732-4339

ASSIGNMENT AGREEMENT AND AMENDMENT TO INCREASE AGGREGATE COMMITMENT

This Assignment Agreement and Amendment to Increase Aggregate Commitment (this "Agreement") by and among Bank One, NA and Wachovia Bank, N.A. (each an "Assignor"), Dresdner Bank AG New York & Grand Cayman Branches (the "Assignee" or the "New Lender"), Acuity Brands, Inc., Acuity Lighting Group, Inc. and Acuity Specialty Products Group, Inc. (collectively, the "Borrowers"), and Bank One, NA, in its capacity as Administrative Agent under the Credit Agreement (as defined below) is dated as of May 14, 2002. The parties hereto agree as follows:

- PRELIMINARY STATEMENT. Each Assignor is a party to a Credit Agreement (which, as it may be amended, modified, renewed or extended from time to time is herein called the "Credit Agreement") described in Item 1 of Schedule 1 attached hereto ("Schedule 1"). Capitalized terms used herein and not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings attributed to them in the Credit Agreement.
- 2. ASSIGNMENT AND ASSUMPTION. Each Assignor hereby sells and assigns to the Assignee, and the Assignee hereby purchases and assumes from each Assignor, an interest in and to each Assignor's rights and obligations under the Credit Agreement and the other Loan Documents, such that after giving effect to such assignment the Assignee shall have purchased from each Assignor pursuant to this Agreement the percentage interest specified in Item 3 of Schedule 1 of all of such Assignor's outstanding rights and obligations under the Credit Agreement and the other Loan Documents relating to the facilities listed in Item 3 of Schedule 1. The aggregate amount of the Commitment (or Outstanding Credit Exposure, if the applicable Commitment has been terminated) purchased by the Assignee hereunder is set forth in Item 4(a) of Schedule 1.
- 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. The effective date of this Agreement (the "Effective Date") shall be the later of the date specified in Item 5 of Schedule 1 or two (2) Business Days (or such shorter period agreed to by the Administrative Agent) after this Agreement, together with any consents required under the Credit Agreement, are delivered to the Administrative Agent. In no event will the Effective Date occur if the payments required to be made by the Assignee to the Assignors on the Effective Date are not made on the proposed Effective Date.
- 4. PAYMENT OBLIGATIONS. In consideration for the sale and assignment of the Commitment and/or Outstanding Credit Exposure hereunder, the Assignee shall pay each Assignor, on the Effective Date, the amount agreed to by the Assignors and the Assignee. On and after the Effective Date, the Assignee shall be entitled to receive from the Administrative Agent all payments of principal, interest and fees with respect to the interest assigned hereby. The Assignee will promptly remit to the applicable Assignor any interest on Outstanding Credit Exposure and fees received from the Administrative Agent which relate to the portion of the Commitment or Outstanding Credit Exposure assigned to the Assignee by such Assignor hereunder for periods prior to the Effective Date and not previously paid by the Assignee to such Assignor. In the event that any party hereto receives any payment to which any other party hereto is entitled under this

Agreement, then the party receiving such amount shall promptly remit it to the applicable party hereto.

- RECORDATION FEE. The recordation fee required to be paid to the Administrative Agent in connection with this Agreement is hereby waived.
- 6. REPRESENTATIONS OF EACH ASSIGNOR; LIMITATIONS ON THE ASSIGNOR'S LIABILITY. Each Assignor, individually and not jointly, represents and warrants that (i) it is the legal and beneficial owner of the interest being assigned by it hereunder, (ii) such interest is free and clear of any adverse claim created by such Assignor and (iii) the execution and delivery of this Agreement by such Assignor is duly authorized. It is understood and agreed that the assignment and assumption hereunder are made without recourse to any Assignor and that no Assignor makes any other representation or warranty of any kind to the Assignee. Neither any Assignor nor any of their respective officers, directors, employees, agents or attorneys shall be responsible for (i) the due execution, legality, validity, enforceability, genuineness, sufficiency or collectability of any Loan Document, including, without limitation, documents granting such Assignor and the other Lenders a security interest in assets of the Borrowers or any guarantor, (ii) any representation, warranty or statement made in or in connection with any of the Loan Documents, (iii) the financial condition or creditworthiness of the Borrowers or any guarantor, (iv) the performance of or compliance with any of the terms or provisions of any of the Loan Documents, (v) inspecting any of the property, books or records of the Borrowers, (vi) the validity, enforceability, perfection, priority, condition, value or sufficiency of any collateral securing or purporting to secure the Loans or (vii) any mistake, error of judgment, or action taken or omitted to be taken in connection with the Loans or the Loan Documents.
- REPRESENTATIONS AND UNDERTAKINGS OF THE ASSIGNEE. The Assignee (i) 7. confirms that it has received a copy of the Credit Agreement, together with copies of the financial statements requested by the Assignee and such other documents and information as it has deemed appropriate to make its own credit analysis and decision to enter into this Agreement, (ii) agrees that it will, independently and without reliance upon any Agent, the Arranger, any Assignor or any other Lender and based on such documents and information at it shall deem appropriate at the time, continue to make its own credit decisions in $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right) +\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left(1\right) +\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left($ taking or not taking action under the Loan Documents, (iii) appoints and authorizes each Agent to take such action as agent on its behalf and to exercise such powers under the Loan Documents as are delegated to such Agent by the terms thereof, together with such powers as are reasonably incidental thereto, (iv) confirms that the execution and $\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1$ delivery of this Agreement by the Assignee is duly authorized, (v) agrees that it will perform in accordance with their terms all of the obligations which by the terms of the Loan Documents are required to be performed by it as a Lender, (vi) agrees that its payment instructions and notice instructions are as set forth in the attachment to Schedule 1, (vii) confirms that none of the funds, monies, assets or other consideration being used to make the purchase and assumption hereunder are "plan assets" as defined under ERISA and that its rights, benefits and interests in and under the Loan Documents will not be "plan assets" under ERISA, (viii) agrees to indemnify and hold each Assignor harmless against all losses, costs and expenses (including, but not limited to, reasonable

attorneys' fees) and liabilities incurred by such Assignor in connection with or arising in any manner from the Assignee's non-performance of the obligations assumed under this Agreement, and (ix) if applicable, attaches the forms prescribed by the Internal Revenue Service of the United States certifying that the Assignee is entitled to receive payments under the Loan Documents without deduction or withholding of any United States federal income taxes.

8. INCREASE OF AGGREGATE COMMITMENT; REALLOCATION OF OUTSTANDING LOANS.

- (A) Effective as of the Effective Date and subject to the Administrative Agent's receipt of duly executed copies of this Agreement from each of the parties hereto, the Credit Agreement is hereby amended pursuant to Section 2.23 thereof to increase the Aggregate Commitment to \$105,000,000, and the Commitment of the New Lender (after giving effect to such increase of the Aggregate Commitment and the assignments from the Assignors to the Assignee contemplated in this Agreement) shall be \$12,500,000. From and after the Effective Date, the New Lender shall be deemed to be a Lender for all purposes under the Credit Agreement.
- On the Effective Date, the Administrative Agent shall administer the reallocation of any outstanding Loans ratably among the Lenders after giving effect to the increase in the Aggregate Commitment contemplated by this Agreement. In connection with such reallocation, on the Effective Date, (a) each Lender party to the Credit Agreement prior to the effectiveness of this Agreement (each an "Existing Lender") shall be deemed to sell, grant, assign and convey to the New Lender, without recourse, warranty, or representation of any kind, except as specifically provided herein, an undivided percentage in such Existing Lender's right, title and interest in and to its outstanding Loans in the respective dollar amounts and percentages necessary so that, from and after such sale, each such Existing Lender's outstanding Loans shall equal such Existing Lender's Pro Rata Share (calculated after giving effect to the increase in the Aggregate Commitment contemplated by this Agreement) of the outstanding Loans, and (b) the New Lender hereby purchases and accepts such grant, assignment and conveyance from the Existing Lenders. The New Lender hereby agrees that its respective purchase price for the portion of the outstanding Loans purchased hereby shall equal the respective dollar amount necessary so that, from and after such payments, the New Lender's outstanding Loans shall equal the New Lender's Pro Rata Share (calculated after giving effect to the increase in the Aggregate Commitment contemplated by this Agreement) of the outstanding Loans. The New Lender shall pay such amount on the Effective Date by wire transfer of immediately available funds to the Administrative Agent, for the account of the Existing Lenders. The New Lender hereby acknowledges and agrees that the New Lender has entered into this Agreement and the Credit Agreement on the basis of its own independent investigation and has not relied upon, and will not rely upon, any explicit or implicit written or oral representation, warranty or other statement of the Lenders or the Administrative Agent concerning the authorization, execution, legality, validity, effectiveness, genuineness, enforceability or sufficiency of this Agreement or the other Loan Documents.

- REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES OF THE BORROWERS. The Borrowers hereby 9. represent and warrant that (i) this Agreement and the Credit Agreement as previously executed and as modified hereby, constitute legal, valid and binding obligations of the Borrowers and are enforceable against the Borrowers in accordance with their terms and (ii) no Default or Unmatured Default has occurred and is continuing. Upon the effectiveness of this Agreement and after giving effect hereto, the Borrowers hereby reaffirm all covenants, representations and warranties made in the Credit Agreement as modified hereby, and agree that all such covenants, representations and warranties shall be deemed to have been remade as of the Effective Date (except to the extent any such representation or warranty is stated to relate solely to an earlier date, in which case such representation or warranty shall have been true and correct in all material respects on and as of such earlier date).
- 10. GOVERNING LAW. This Agreement shall be governed by the internal law, including 735 ILCS 105/5-1 et seq., but otherwise without regard to the law of conflicts, of the State of Illinois.
- 11. NOTICES. Notices shall be given under this Agreement in the manner set forth in the Credit Agreement. For the purpose hereof, the addresses of the parties hereto (until notice of a change is delivered) shall be the addresses set forth in the Credit Agreement, and, in the case of the Assignee, on the attachment to Schedule 1 hereto.
- 12. COUNTERPARTS; DELIVERY BY FACSIMILE. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts. Transmission by facsimile of an executed counterpart of this Agreement shall be deemed to constitute due and sufficient delivery of such counterpart and such facsimile shall be deemed to be an original counterpart of this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the duly authorized officers of the parties hereto have executed this Agreement by executing Schedule 1 hereto as of the date first above written.

SCHEDULE I to Agreement

- Description and Date of Credit Agreement: 3-Year Revolving Credit Agreement, dated April 8, 2002, among Acuity Brands, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), the Subsidiary Borrowers from time to time parties thereto, the Lenders named therein, and Bank One, NA (Main Office -- Chicago), as the Administrative Agent, as the same may be amended, restated, supplemented or otherwise modified from time to time
- Date of Agreement: May 14, 2002
- Amounts (As of Date of Item 2 above): 3.
 - a. Assignee's percentage of the Aggregate Commitment

Percentage purchased by the Assignee under the Agreement (before giving effect to the increase in the Aggregate Commitment contemplated by Section 8 of the Agreement)

Total percentage of Assignee (after giving effect to the assignments and increase in the Aggregate Commitment contemplated by the Agreement)

9.7560976%

11.9047619%

В. Amount of the Aggregate Commitment purchased under the Agreement

Amount Purchased From Bank One, NA

Amount Purchased From Wachovia Bank, N.A.

\$5,000,000

\$5,000,000

Assignee's Commitment:

4.

After giving effect to the assignments contemplated by the Agreement

After giving effect to the assignments and increase in the Aggregate Commitment contemplated by the Agreement

\$10,000,000

\$12,500,000

Proposed Effective Date:

May 14, 2002

Non-standard Recordation Fee Arrangement

The recordation fee has been waived.

Accepted and Agreed:	
BANK ONE, NA, as an Assignor	DRESDNER BANK AG NEW YORK & GRAND CAYMAN BRANCHES, as the Assignee
By: /s/ Timothy J. King	By: /s/ Frank Fiorito
Title: Director	Title:
WACHOVIA BANK, N.A., as an Assignor	
By: /s/ Karin E. Reel	
Title: Vice President	
ACCEPTED AND CONSENTED TO	ACCEPTED AND CONSENTED TO
BY:	BY:
ACUITY BRANDS, INC.	BANK ONE, NA (MAIN OFFICE CHICAGO), as Administrative Agent
By: /s/ Vernon J. Nagel	By: /s/ Timothy J. King
Title: EVP & CFO	Title: Director
ACUITY LIGHTING GROUP, INC.	
By: /s/ Vernon J. Nagel	
Title: EVP & CFO	
ACUITY SPECIALTY PRODUCTS GROUP, INC.	
By: /s/ Vernon J. Nagel	
Title: EVP & CFO	

Attachment to SCHEDULE 1 to ASSIGNMENT AGREEMENT AND AMENDMENT TO INCREASE AGGREGATE COMMITMENT

ASSIGNEE'S ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION SHEET (ATTACHED)

BANK ONE INFORMATION

Assignee will be called promptly upon receipt of the signed agreement.

INITIAL FUNDING CONTACT: SUBSEQUENT OPERATIONS CONTACT:

Name: Name:

Telephone No.: (312) Telephone No.: (312)

Fax No.: (312) Fax No.: (312)

Bank One Telex No.: 190201 (Answerback: FNBC UT)

INITIAL FUNDING STANDARDS:

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Libor - Fund 2 days after rates

are set.

BANK ONE WIRE INSTRUCTIONS: Bank One, NA, ABA # 071000013

LS2 Incoming Account # 481152860000

Ref: Acuity Brands, Inc.

ADDRESS FOR NOTICES FOR BANK ONE: 1 Bank One Plaza, Chicago, IL 60670

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Attn: Agency Compliance Division,

Suite IL1-0353

Fax No. (312) 732-2038 or (312) 732-4339