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

FORM 10-Q

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

For the quarterly period ended October 27, 2012

OR

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number: 001-33261

AEROVIRONMENT, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

95-2705790

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

181 W. Huntington Drive, Suite 202

Monrovia, California

(Address of principal executive offices)

91016

(Zip Code)

(626) 357-9983

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

N/A

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

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

Smaller reporting company

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

As of November 23, 2012, the number of shares outstanding of the registrant's common stock, \$0.0001 par value, was 22,416,677.

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AeroVironment, Inc.
Consolidated Balance Sheets
(In thousands except share and per share data)

	October 27, 2012 (Unaudited)	April 30, 2012
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 70,770	\$ 64,220
Short-term investments	64,694	77,152
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$1,185 at October 27, 2012 and \$921 at April 30, 2012	48,330	56,417
Unbilled receivables and retentions	21,064	27,034
Inventories, net	44,747	43,539
Deferred income taxes	9,508	9,377
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	4,837	4,030
Total current assets	263,950	281,769
Long-term investments	64,798	58,457
Property and equipment, net	22,137	23,515
Deferred income taxes	5,191	5,209
Other assets	230	201
Total assets	\$ 356,306	\$ 369,151
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 15,430	\$ 20,213
Wages and related accruals	13,405	19,076
Income taxes payable	1,485	8,788
Customer advances	4,079	5,124
Other current liabilities	6,129	9,898
Liability for uncertain tax positions	606	606
Total current liabilities	41,134	63,705
Wages and other accruals	—	1,203
Deferred rent	909	1,019
Liability for uncertain tax positions	4,026	4,026
Commitments and contingencies		

Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.0001 par value:		
Authorized shares — 10,000,000; none issued or outstanding	—	—
Common stock, \$0.0001 par value:		
Authorized shares — 100,000,000		
Issued and outstanding shares — 22,417,977 at October 27, 2012 and 22,243,903 at April 30, 2012	2	2
Additional paid-in capital	128,614	124,954
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(667)	(694)
Retained earnings	182,288	174,936
Total stockholders' equity	<u>310,237</u>	<u>299,198</u>
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	<u>\$ 356,306</u>	<u>\$ 369,151</u>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements (unaudited).

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AeroVironment, Inc.
Consolidated Statements of Income (Unaudited)
(In thousands except share and per share data)

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011
Revenue:				
Product sales	\$ 52,415	\$ 47,858	\$ 81,105	\$ 77,157
Contract services	27,863	32,514	57,850	65,212
	<u>80,278</u>	<u>80,372</u>	<u>138,955</u>	<u>142,369</u>
Cost of sales:				
Product sales	28,215	28,499	48,774	46,371
Contract services	16,427	21,243	35,040	43,653
	<u>44,642</u>	<u>49,742</u>	<u>83,814</u>	<u>90,024</u>
Gross margin	35,636	30,630	55,141	52,345
Selling, general and administrative	13,176	12,240	26,797	25,940
Research and development	9,386	8,816	17,522	16,402
Income from operations	13,074	9,574	10,822	10,003
Other income:				
Interest income	162	106	334	184
Income before income taxes	13,236	9,680	11,156	10,187
Provision for income taxes	4,498	3,093	3,804	3,274
Net income	<u>\$ 8,738</u>	<u>\$ 6,587</u>	<u>\$ 7,352</u>	<u>\$ 6,913</u>
Earnings per share data:				
Basic	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.33	\$ 0.32
Diluted	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.33	\$ 0.31
Weighted average shares outstanding:				
Basic	22,030,330	21,763,927	21,980,453	21,743,990
Diluted	22,383,791	22,255,943	22,353,434	22,244,697

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements (unaudited).

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AeroVironment, Inc.
Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Unaudited)
(In thousands)

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011
Net income	\$ 8,738	\$ 6,587	\$ 7,352	\$ 6,913
Other comprehensive (loss) income:				
Unrealized (loss) gain on investments, net of tax	(10)	41	27	43
Total comprehensive income	<u>\$ 8,728</u>	<u>\$ 6,628</u>	<u>\$ 7,379</u>	<u>\$ 6,956</u>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements (unaudited).

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AeroVironment, Inc.
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited)
(In thousands)

	Six Months Ended	
	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011
Operating activities		
Net income	\$ 7,352	\$ 6,913
Adjustments to reconcile net income to cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	5,937	4,141
Provision for doubtful accounts	566	246
Deferred income taxes	(130)	(296)
Stock-based compensation	1,642	1,535
Tax benefit from exercise of stock options	1,529	376
Excess tax benefit from stock-based compensation	—	(90)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	7,521	18,559
Unbilled receivables and retentions	5,970	290
Inventories	(1,208)	(3,298)
Other assets	(836)	(607)
Accounts payable	(4,783)	(11,517)
Other liabilities	(18,772)	(6,481)
Net cash provided by operating activities	4,788	9,771
Investing activities		
Acquisitions of property and equipment	(4,559)	(5,484)
Net sales of held-to-maturity investments	5,911	31,623
Net sales of available-for-sale investments	250	225
Net cash provided by investing activities	1,602	26,364
Financing activities		
Excess tax benefit from stock-based compensation	—	90
Exercise of stock options	160	323
Net cash provided by financing activities	160	413
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	6,550	36,548
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	64,220	62,041
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 70,770	\$ 98,589
Supplemental disclosure:		
Unrealized gains on long-term investments recorded in other comprehensive (loss) income, net of deferred taxes of \$17 and \$30, respectively	\$ 27	\$ 43
Reclassification from share-based liability compensation to equity	\$ 401	\$ —

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements (unaudited).

AeroVironment, Inc.
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)

1. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

Organization

AeroVironment, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the “Company”), is engaged in the design, development, production, support and operation of unmanned aircraft systems and efficient energy systems for various industries and governmental agencies.

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States for interim financial information and with the instructions of Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring adjustments necessary for a fair presentation with respect to the interim financial statements have been included. The results of operations for the three and six months ended October 27, 2012 are not necessarily indicative of the results for the full year ending April 30, 2013. For further information, refer to the consolidated financial statements and footnotes thereto for the year ended April 30, 2012, included in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions, including estimates of anticipated contract costs and revenue utilized in the revenue recognition process, that affect the reported amounts in the consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

The Company's consolidated financial statements include the assets, liabilities and operating results of wholly-owned subsidiaries. All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated.

Segments

The Company's products are sold and divided among two reportable segments to reflect the Company's strategic goals. Operating segments are defined as components of an enterprise from which separate financial information is available that is evaluated regularly by the Chief Operating Decision Maker ("CODM") in deciding how to allocate resources and in assessing performance. The Company's CODM is the Chief Executive Officer, who reviews the revenue and gross margin results for each of these segments in order to make resource allocation decisions, including the focus of research and development ("R&D") activities and assessing performance. The Company's reportable segments are business units that offer different products and services and are managed separately.

Investments

The Company's investments are accounted for as held-to-maturity and available-for-sale and reported at amortized cost and fair value, respectively.

Fair Values of Financial Instruments

Fair values of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, unbilled receivables, retentions and accounts payable approximate cost due to the short period of time to maturity.

Government Contracts

Payments to the Company on government cost reimbursable contracts are based on provisional, or estimated indirect rates, which are subject to an annual audit by the Defense Contract Audit Agency ("DCAA"). The cost audits result in the negotiation and determination of the final indirect cost rates that the Company may use for the period(s) audited. The final rates, if different from the provisional billing rates, may create an additional receivable or liability for the Company.

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AeroVironment, Inc. Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)

For example, during the course of its audits, the DCAA may question the Company's incurred project costs, and if the DCAA believes the Company has accounted for such costs in a manner inconsistent with the requirements under Federal Acquisition Regulations, the DCAA auditor may recommend to the Company's administrative contracting officer to disallow such costs. The Company can provide no assurance that the DCAA or other government audits will not result in material disallowances for incurred costs in the future.

Earnings Per Share

Basic earnings per share is computed using the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding, excluding shares of unvested restricted stock. The dilutive effect of potential common shares outstanding is included in diluted earnings per share and excludes any anti-dilutive effects of options, shares of unvested restricted stock and restricted stock units.

The reconciliation of basic to diluted shares is as follows:

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011
Denominator for basic earnings per share:				
Weighted average common shares outstanding, excluding unvested restricted stock	22,030,330	21,763,927	21,980,453	21,743,990
Dilutive effect of employee stock options, unvested restricted stock and restricted stock units	353,461	492,016	372,981	500,707
Denominator for diluted earnings per share	<u>22,383,791</u>	<u>22,255,943</u>	<u>22,353,434</u>	<u>22,244,697</u>

During the three and six months ended October 27, 2012 and October 29, 2011, certain shares reserved for issuance upon exercise of stock options, shares of unvested restricted stock and restricted stock units were not included in the computation of diluted earnings per share because their inclusion would have been anti-dilutive. The number of shares reserved for issuance upon exercise of stock options, shares of unvested restricted stock and restricted stock units that met this anti-dilutive criterion for the three months ended October 27, 2012 and October 29, 2011 was approximately 10,000 and 1,000, respectively. The number of shares reserved for issuance upon exercise of stock options, shares of unvested restricted stock and restricted stock units that met this anti-dilutive criterion for the six months ended October 27, 2012 and October 29, 2011 was approximately 5,000 and 2,000, respectively.

Recently Issued Accounting Standards

On May 1, 2012, the Company adopted changes in accordance with guidance issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB"), which requires companies to present the total of comprehensive income, the components of net income, and the components of other comprehensive income either in a single continuous statement of comprehensive income, or in two separate but consecutive statements. The Company elected to adopt the two-statement option. The new guidance eliminated the option to present the components of other comprehensive income as part of the statement of equity. Other than the change in presentation, the adoption of these changes had no material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements. The new guidance also required entities to present reclassification adjustments from accumulated other comprehensive income by component in both the statement in which net income is presented and the statement in which other comprehensive income is presented. However, in December 2011, the FASB issued guidance that indefinitely defers the guidance related to the presentation of reclassification adjustments.

On May 1, 2012, the Company adopted changes in accordance with guidance issued by the FASB to provide a consistent definition of fair value and to ensure that the fair value measurement and disclosure requirements are similar between U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and International Financial Reporting Standards. The new guidance changed certain fair value measurement principles and enhanced the disclosure requirements, particularly for Level 3 fair value measurements. The adoption of these changes did not have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

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AeroVironment, Inc.
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)

2. Investments

Investments consist of the following (in thousands):

	October 27, 2012	April 30, 2012
Short-term investments:		
Held-to-maturity securities:		
Municipal securities	\$ 63,694	\$ 49,263
U.S. government securities	1,000	27,889
Total short-term investments	\$ 64,694	\$ 77,152
Long-term investments:		
Held-to-maturity securities:		
Municipal securities	\$ 58,808	\$ 52,261
Available-for-sale securities:		
Auction rate securities	5,990	6,196
Total long-term investments	\$ 64,798	\$ 58,457

Held-To-Maturity Securities

At October 27, 2012 and April 30, 2012, the balance of held-to-maturity securities consisted of state and local government municipal securities and U.S. Treasury bills and notes. Interest earned from these investments is recorded in interest income.

The amortized cost, gross unrealized gains, gross unrealized losses, and estimated fair value of the held-to-maturity investments as of October 27, 2012, were as follows (in thousands):

	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
Municipal securities	\$ 122,502	\$ 51	\$ (25)	\$ 122,528
U.S. government securities	1,000	—	—	1,000
Total held-to-maturity investments	\$ 123,502	\$ 51	\$ (25)	\$ 123,528

The amortized cost, gross unrealized gains, gross unrealized losses, and estimated fair value of the held-to-maturity investments as of April 30, 2012, were as follows (in thousands):

	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
Municipal securities	\$ 101,524	\$ 48	\$ (24)	\$ 101,548
U.S. government securities	27,889	—	(1)	27,888
Total held-to-maturity investments	\$ 129,413	\$ 48	\$ (25)	\$ 129,436

The amortized cost and fair value of the Company's held-to-maturity securities by contractual maturity at October 27, 2012, were as follows (in thousands):

	Cost	Fair Value
Due within one year	\$ 64,694	\$ 64,709
Due after one year through three years	58,808	58,819
Total	\$ 123,502	\$ 123,528

Available-For-Sale Securities

As of October 27, 2012, the entire balance of available-for-sale securities consisted of four investment grade auction rate municipal bonds with maturities ranging from 7 to 22 years. These investments have characteristics similar to short-term investments, because at pre-determined intervals, generally ranging from 30 to 35 days, there is a new auction process at which the interest rates for these securities are reset to current interest rates. At the end of such period, the Company chooses to roll-over its holdings or redeem the investments for cash. A market maker facilitates the redemption of the securities and the underlying issuers are not required to redeem the investment within 365 days. Interest earned from these investments is recorded in interest income.

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AeroVironment, Inc.
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)

During the fourth quarter of the fiscal year ended April 30, 2008, the Company began experiencing failed auctions on some of its auction rate securities. A failed auction occurs when a buyer for the securities cannot be obtained and the market maker does not buy the security for its own account. The Company continues to earn interest on the investments that failed to settle at auction, at the maximum contractual rate until the next auction occurs. In the event the Company needs to access funds invested in these auction rate securities, the Company may not be able to liquidate these securities at the fair value recorded on October 27, 2012 until a future auction of these securities is successful or a buyer is found outside of the auction process.

As a result of the failed auctions, the fair values of these securities are estimated utilizing a discounted cash flow analysis as of October 27, 2012. The analysis considers, among other items, the collateralization underlying the security investments, the creditworthiness of the counterparty, the timing of expected future cash flows, and the estimated date upon which the security is expected to have a successful auction.

Based on the Company's ability to access its cash and cash equivalents, expected operating cash flows, and other sources of cash, the Company does not anticipate the current lack of liquidity of these investments will affect its ability to operate the business in the ordinary course. The Company believes the current lack of liquidity of these investments is temporary and expects that the securities will be redeemed or refinanced at some point in the future. The Company will continue to monitor the value of its auction rate securities at each reporting period for a possible impairment if a further decline in fair value occurs. The auction rate securities have been in an unrealized loss position for more than 12 months. The Company has the ability and the intent to hold these investments until a recovery of fair value, which may be at maturity and as of October 27, 2012, the Company did not consider these investments to be other-than-temporarily impaired.

The amortized cost, gross unrealized gains, gross unrealized losses, and estimated fair value of the available-for-sale investments as of October 27, 2012, were as follows (in thousands):

	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
Auction rate securities	\$ 7,100	\$ —	\$ (1,110)	\$ 5,990
Total available-for-sale investments	\$ 7,100	\$ —	\$ (1,110)	\$ 5,990

The amortized cost, gross unrealized gains, gross unrealized losses, and estimated fair value of the available-for-sale investments as of April 30, 2012, were as follows (in thousands):

	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
Auction rate securities	\$ 7,350	\$ —	\$ (1,154)	\$ 6,196
Total available-for-sale investments	\$ 7,350	\$ —	\$ (1,154)	\$ 6,196

The amortized cost and fair value of the Company's auction rate securities by contractual maturity at October 27, 2012, were as follows (in thousands):

	Cost	Fair Value
Due after five through 10 years	\$ 1,700	\$ 1,565
Due after 10 years	5,400	4,425
Total	\$ 7,100	\$ 5,990

3. Inventories, net

Inventories consist of the following (in thousands):

	October 27, 2012	April 30, 2012
Raw materials	\$ 14,331	\$ 13,969
Work in process	5,830	7,390
Finished goods	28,026	24,934
Inventories, gross	48,187	46,293
Reserve for inventory obsolescence	(3,440)	(2,754)
Inventories, net	\$ 44,747	\$ 43,539

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AeroVironment, Inc.
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)

4. Fair Value Measurements

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. The fair value hierarchy contains three levels as follows:

- Level 1 — Inputs to the valuation based upon quoted prices (unadjusted) for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that are accessible as of the measurement date.

- Level 2 — Inputs to the valuation include quoted prices in either markets that are not active, or in active markets for similar assets or liabilities, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable, and inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data.
- Level 3 — Inputs to the valuation that are unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

The Company's financial assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis at October 27, 2012, were as follows (in thousands):

Description	Fair Value Measurement Using			Total
	Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets (Level 1)	Significant other observable inputs (Level 2)	Significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)	
Auction rate securities	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 5,990	\$ 5,990
Total	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 5,990	\$ 5,990

Due to the auction failures of the Company's auction rate securities that began in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2008, there are still no quoted prices in active markets for identical assets as of October 27, 2012. Therefore, the Company has classified its auction rate securities as Level 3 financial assets. The following table provides a reconciliation between the beginning and ending balances of items measured at fair value on a recurring basis in the table above that used significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) (in thousands):

Description	Fair Value Measurements Using Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	
	Auction Rate Securities	
Balance at April 30, 2012	\$	6,196
Transfers to Level 3		—
Total gains (realized or unrealized)		—
Included in earnings		—
Included in other comprehensive income		44
Purchases, issuances and settlements, net		(250)
Balance at October 27, 2012	\$	5,990
The amount of total gains or (losses) for the period included in earnings (or change in net assets) attributable to the change in unrealized gains or losses relating to assets still held at October 27, 2012	\$	—

The auction rate securities are valued using a discounted cash flow model. The analysis considers, among other items, the collateralization underlying the security investments, the creditworthiness of the counterparty, the timing of expected future cash flows, and the estimated date upon which the security is expected to have a successful auction. As of October 27, 2012, the inputs used in the Company's discounted cash flow analysis included current coupon rates ranging from 0.3% to 0.6%, estimated redemption periods of 7 to 22 years and discount rates of 7.7% to 18.9%. The discount rates were based on market rates for municipal bond securities, as adjusted for a risk premium to reflect the lack of liquidity of these investments. Assuming a higher discount rate, a longer estimated redemption period and lower coupon rates would result in a lower fair market value. Conversely, assuming a lower discount rate, a shorter estimated redemption period and higher coupon rates would result in a higher fair market value.

Based on the Company's ability to access its cash and cash equivalents, expected operating cash flows, and other sources of cash, the Company does not anticipate the current lack of liquidity on these investments will affect its ability to operate the business in the ordinary course. The Company believes the current lack of liquidity of these investments is temporary and expects that the securities will be redeemed or refinanced at some point in the future, allowing the Company to recover the cost of \$7.1 million. The Company will continue to monitor the value of its auction rate securities at each reporting period for a possible other-than-temporary impairment.

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AeroVironment, Inc.
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)

5. Warranty Reserves

The Company accrues an estimate of its exposure to warranty claims based upon both current and historical product sales data and warranty costs incurred. The warranty reserve is included in other current liabilities. The related expense is included in cost of sales. Warranty reserve activity is summarized as follows for the three and six months ended October 27, 2012 and October 29, 2011 (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011
Beginning balance	\$ 2,633	\$ 1,046	\$ 2,872	\$ 1,127
Warranty expense	678	900	1,208	1,252
Warranty claims settled	(2,052)	(602)	(2,821)	(1,035)
Ending balance	\$ 1,259	\$ 1,344	\$ 1,259	\$ 1,344

6. Customer-Funded Research & Development

Customer-funded R&D costs are incurred pursuant to contracts (revenue arrangements) to perform R&D activities according to customer specifications. These costs are direct contract costs and are expensed to cost of sales when the corresponding revenue is recognized, which is generally as the R&D services are performed. Revenue from customer-funded R&D was approximately \$10.4 million and \$17.0 million for the three and six months ended October 27,

2012, respectively. Revenue from customer-funded R&D was approximately \$4.0 million and \$9.2 million for the three and six months ended October 29, 2011, respectively.

7. Income Taxes

For the three and six months ended October 27, 2012, the Company recorded a provision for income taxes of \$4.5 million and \$3.8 million, respectively, yielding an effective tax rate of 34.0% and 34.1%, respectively. For the three and six months ended October 29, 2011, the Company recorded a provision for income taxes of \$3.1 million and \$3.3 million, respectively, yielding an effective tax rate of 32.0% and 32.1%, respectively. The variance from statutory rates for the three and six months ended October 29, 2011 was primarily due to research and development tax credits.

8. Segment Data

The Company's product segments are as follows:

- Unmanned Aircraft Systems ("UAS") — The UAS segment focuses primarily on the design, development, production, support and operation of innovative UAS that provide situational awareness and other mission effects to increase the security and operational effectiveness of the Company's customers.
- Efficient Energy Systems ("EES") — The EES segment focuses primarily on the design, development, production, support and operation of innovative efficient electric energy systems that address the growing demand for electric transportation solutions.

The accounting policies of the segments are the same as those described in Note 1, "Organization and Significant Accounting Policies." The operating segments do not make sales to each other. Depreciation and amortization related to the manufacturing of goods is included in gross margin for the segments. The Company does not discretely allocate assets to its operating segments, nor does the CODM evaluate operating segments using discrete asset information. Consequently, the Company operates its financial systems as a single segment for accounting and control purposes, maintains a single indirect rate structure across all segments, has no inter-segment sales or corporate elimination transactions, and maintains limited financial statement information by segment.

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AeroVironment, Inc. Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)

The segment results are as follows (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011
Revenue:				
UAS	\$ 65,433	\$ 66,931	\$ 114,239	\$ 119,136
EES	14,845	13,441	24,716	23,233
Total	<u>80,278</u>	<u>80,372</u>	<u>138,955</u>	<u>142,369</u>
Cost of sales:				
UAS	35,279	39,707	68,035	71,707
EES	9,363	10,035	15,779	18,317
Total	<u>44,642</u>	<u>49,742</u>	<u>83,814</u>	<u>90,024</u>
Gross margin:				
UAS	30,154	27,224	46,204	47,429
EES	5,482	3,406	8,937	4,916
Total	<u>35,636</u>	<u>30,630</u>	<u>55,141</u>	<u>52,345</u>
Selling, general and administrative	13,176	12,240	26,797	25,940
Research and development	9,386	8,816	17,522	16,402
Income from operations	13,074	9,574	10,822	10,003
Interest income	162	106	334	184
Income before income taxes	<u>\$ 13,236</u>	<u>\$ 9,680</u>	<u>\$ 11,156</u>	<u>\$ 10,187</u>

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

This section and other parts of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q contain forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. In some cases, forward-looking statements can be identified by words such as "anticipates," "believes," "could," "estimates," "expects," "intends," "may," "plans," "potential," "predicts," "projects," "should," "will," "would" or similar expressions. Such forward-looking statements are based on current expectations, estimates and projections about our industry, our management's beliefs and assumptions made by our management. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and our actual results may differ significantly from the results discussed in the forward-looking statements. Factors that might cause such differences include, but are not limited to, those discussed in Part II, Item 1A, "Risk Factors."

Unless required by law, we expressly disclaim any obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statements, whether as result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations discusses our consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. When we prepare these consolidated financial statements, we are required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Some of our accounting policies require that we make subjective judgments, including estimates that involve matters that are inherently uncertain. Our most critical estimates include those related to revenue recognition, inventories and reserves for excess and obsolescence, long-term investments, self-insured liabilities, accounting for stock-based awards, and income taxes. We base our estimates and judgments on historical experience and on various other factors that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for our judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Our actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

There have been no material changes made to the critical accounting estimates during the periods presented in the consolidated financial statements from those disclosed in the Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2012.

Fiscal Periods

Due to our fixed year end date of April 30, our first and fourth quarters each consist of approximately 13 weeks. The second and third quarters each consist of exactly 13 weeks. Our first three quarters end on a Saturday. Our 2013 fiscal year ends on April 30, 2013 and our fiscal quarters end on July 28, 2012, October 27, 2012 and January 26, 2013.

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Results of Operations

Our operating segments are Unmanned Aircraft Systems, or UAS, and Efficient Energy Systems, or EES. The accounting policies for each of these segments are the same. In addition, a significant portion of our research and development, or R&D, selling, general and administrative, or SG&A, and general overhead resources are shared across our segments.

The following table sets forth our revenue and gross margin generated by each operating segment for the periods indicated (in thousands):

Three Months Ended October 27, 2012 Compared to Three Months Ended October 29, 2011

	Three Months Ended	
	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011
Revenue:		
UAS	\$ 65,433	\$ 66,931
EES	14,845	13,441
Total	<u>80,278</u>	<u>80,372</u>
Cost of sales:		
UAS	35,279	39,707
EES	9,363	10,035
Total	<u>44,642</u>	<u>49,742</u>
Gross margin:		
UAS	30,154	27,224
EES	5,482	3,406
Total	<u>35,636</u>	<u>30,630</u>
Selling, general and administrative	13,176	12,240
Research and development	9,386	8,816
Income from operations	13,074	9,574
Interest income	162	106
Income before income taxes	<u>\$ 13,236</u>	<u>\$ 9,680</u>

Revenue. Revenue for the three months ended October 27, 2012 was \$80.3 million, as compared to \$80.4 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, representing a decrease of \$0.1 million. UAS revenue decreased by \$1.5 million, or 2%, to \$65.4 million for the three months ended October 27, 2012, primarily due to a decrease in UAS service revenue of \$11.1 million, partially offset by an increase in customer-funded R&D work of \$7.7 million and product deliveries of \$1.9 million. The decrease in UAS service revenue was primarily due to fewer retrofits of Raven B systems with our Digital Data Link, or DDL, technology. The increase in customer-funded R&D work was primarily due to additional activity related to the Switchblade program. EES revenue increased by \$1.4 million, or 10%, to \$14.8 million for the three months ended October 27, 2012. The increase in EES revenue was primarily due to increased deliveries of industrial electric vehicle charging systems, offset by fewer deliveries of electric vehicle test equipment.

Cost of Sales. Cost of sales for the three months ended October 27, 2012 was \$44.6 million, as compared to \$49.7 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, representing a decrease of \$5.1 million, or 10%. As a percentage of revenue, cost of sales decreased from 62% for the three months ended October 29, 2011 to 56% for the three months ended October 27, 2012. UAS cost of sales decreased \$4.4 million, or 11%, to \$35.3 million for the three months ended October 27, 2012. As a percentage of revenue, cost of sales for UAS decreased from 59% to 54%, primarily due to higher absorption of manufacturing and engineering overhead support costs. EES cost of sales decreased \$0.7 million, or 7%, to \$9.4 million for the three months ended October 27, 2012. As a percentage of revenue, cost of sales for EES decreased from 75% to 63%, primarily due to lower manufacturing and engineering overhead support costs.

Gross Margin. Gross margin for the three months ended October 27, 2012 was \$35.6 million, as compared to \$30.6 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011, representing an increase of \$5.0 million, or 16%. UAS gross margin increased \$2.9 million, or 11%, to \$30.2 million for the three months ended October 27, 2012. As a percentage of revenue, gross margin for UAS increased from 41% to 46%, primarily due to a higher mix of product deliveries compared to service-related contracts and higher absorption of manufacturing and engineering overhead support costs. EES gross margin increased \$2.1

million, or 61%, to \$5.5 million for the three months ended October 27, 2012. As a percentage of revenue, EES gross margin increased from 25% to 37%, primarily due to a decrease in the sales mix of lower margin products and higher absorption of manufacturing and engineering support overhead costs.

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Selling, General and Administrative. SG&A expense for the three months ended October 27, 2012 was \$13.2 million, or 16% of revenue, compared to SG&A expense of \$12.2 million, or 15% of revenue, for the three months ended October 29, 2011.

Research and Development. R&D expense for the three months ended October 27, 2012 was \$9.4 million, or 12% of revenue, compared to R&D expense of \$8.8 million, or 11% of revenue, for the three months ended October 29, 2011.

Interest Income. Interest income for the three months ended October 27, 2012 was \$0.2 million compared to interest income of \$0.1 million for the three months ended October 29, 2011.

Income Tax Expense. Our effective income tax rate was 34.0% for the three months ended October 27, 2012, as compared to 32.0% for the three months ended October 29, 2011. The increase was primarily due to lower R&D tax credits for the three months ended October 27, 2012.

Six Months Ended October 27, 2012 Compared to Six Months Ended October 29, 2011

	Six Months Ended	
	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011
Revenue:		
UAS	\$ 114,239	\$ 119,136
EES	24,716	23,233
Total	<u>138,955</u>	<u>142,369</u>
Cost of sales:		
UAS	68,035	71,707
EES	15,779	18,317
Total	<u>83,814</u>	<u>90,024</u>
Gross margin:		
UAS	46,204	47,429
EES	8,937	4,916
Total	<u>55,141</u>	<u>52,345</u>
Selling, general and administrative	26,797	25,940
Research and development	17,522	16,402
Income from operations	10,822	10,003
Interest income	334	184
Income before income taxes	<u>\$ 11,156</u>	<u>\$ 10,187</u>

Revenue. Revenue for the six months ended October 27, 2012 was \$139.0 million, as compared to \$142.4 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, representing a decrease of \$3.4 million, or 2%. UAS revenue decreased \$4.9 million, or 4%, to \$114.2 million for the six months ended October 27, 2012, primarily due to decreased UAS service revenue of \$16.0 million, offset by higher customer-funded R&D work of \$9.2 million and product deliveries of \$2.0 million. The decrease in UAS service revenue was primarily due to fewer retrofits of Raven B systems with our DDL technology. The increase in UAS customer-funded R&D revenue was primarily due to increased activity related to the Switchblade program. EES revenue increased by \$1.5 million, or 6%, to \$24.7 million for the six months ended October 27, 2012. The increase in EES revenue was primarily due to increased deliveries of industrial electric vehicle charging systems and passenger electric vehicle charging systems, offset by fewer deliveries of electric vehicle test equipment.

Cost of Sales. Cost of sales for the six months ended October 27, 2012 was \$83.8 million, as compared to \$90.0 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, representing a decrease of \$6.2 million, or 7%. As a percentage of revenue, cost of sales decreased from 63% for the six months ended October 29, 2011 to 60% for the six months ended October 27, 2012. UAS cost of sales decreased \$3.7 million, or 5%, to \$68.0 million for the six months ended October 27, 2012. As a percentage of revenue, cost of sales for UAS remained at 60%. EES cost of sales decreased \$2.5 million, or 14%, to \$15.8 million for the six months ended October 27, 2012. As a percentage of revenue, cost of sales for EES decreased from 79% to 64%, primarily due to a decrease in the sales mix of lower margin products and higher absorption of manufacturing and engineering support overhead costs.

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Gross Margin. Gross margin for the six months ended October 27, 2012 was \$55.1 million, as compared to \$52.3 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011, representing an increase of \$2.8 million, or 5%. UAS gross margin decreased \$1.2 million, or 3%, to \$46.2 million for the six months ended October 27, 2012 primarily due to lower sales volume. As a percentage of revenue, gross margin for UAS remained at 40%. EES gross margin increased \$4.0 million, or 82%, to \$8.9 million for the six months ended October 27, 2012. As a percentage of revenue, EES gross margin increased from 21% to 36%, primarily due to an increase in the sales mix of industrial electric vehicle charging systems and higher absorption of manufacturing and engineering support overhead costs.

Selling, General and Administrative. SG&A expense for the six months ended October 27, 2012 was \$26.8 million, or 19% of revenue, compared to SG&A expense of \$25.9 million, or 18% of revenue, for the six months ended October 29, 2011.

Research and Development. R&D expense for the six months ended October 27, 2012 was \$17.5 million, or 13% of revenue, compared to R&D expense of \$16.4 million, or 12% of revenue, for the six months ended October 29, 2011.

Interest Income. Interest income for the six months ended October 27, 2012 was \$0.3 million compared to interest income of \$0.2 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011.

Income Tax Expense. Our effective income tax rate was 34.1% for the six months ended October 27, 2012, as compared to 32.1% for the six months ended October 29, 2011. The increase was primarily due to lower R&D tax credits for the six months ended October 27, 2012.

Backlog. We define funded backlog as unfilled firm orders for products and services for which funding currently is appropriated to us under the contract by the customer. As of October 27, 2012 and April 30, 2012, our funded backlog was approximately \$90.2 million and \$93.2 million, respectively.

In addition to our funded backlog, we also had unfunded backlog of \$76.6 million and \$96.1 million as of October 27, 2012 and April 30, 2012, respectively. We define unfunded backlog as the total remaining potential order amounts under cost reimbursable and fixed price contracts with multiple one-year options, and indefinite delivery indefinite quantity, or IDIQ, contracts. Unfunded backlog does not obligate the U.S. government to purchase goods or services. There can be no assurance that unfunded backlog will result in any orders in any particular period, if at all. Management believes that unfunded backlog does not provide a reliable measure of future estimated revenue under our contracts.

Because of possible future changes in delivery schedules and/or cancellations of orders, backlog at any particular date is not necessarily representative of actual sales to be expected for any succeeding period, and actual sales for the year may not meet or exceed the backlog represented. Our backlog is typically subject to large variations from quarter to quarter as existing contracts expire or are renewed, or new contracts are awarded. A majority of our contracts, specifically our IDIQ contracts, do not currently obligate the U.S. government to purchase any goods or services. Additionally, all U.S. government contracts included in backlog, whether or not funded, may be terminated at the convenience of the U.S. government.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

We currently have no material cash commitments, except for normal recurring trade payables, accrued expenses and ongoing research and development costs, all of which we anticipate funding through our existing working capital and funds provided by operating activities. The majority of our purchase obligations are pursuant to funded contractual arrangements with our customers. In addition, we do not currently anticipate significant investment in property, plant and equipment, and we believe that our existing cash, cash equivalents, cash provided by operating activities and other financing sources will be sufficient to meet our anticipated working capital, capital expenditure and debt service requirements, if any, during the next twelve months. There can be no assurance, however, that our business will continue to generate cash flow at current levels. If we are unable to generate sufficient cash flow from operations, then we may be required to sell assets, reduce capital expenditures or obtain additional financing. The global credit situation has imposed high levels of volatility and disruption in the capital markets, severely diminished liquidity and credit availability, and increased counterparty risk. Nevertheless, we anticipate that existing sources of liquidity and cash flows from operations will be sufficient to satisfy our cash needs for the foreseeable future.

Our primary liquidity needs are for financing working capital, investing in capital expenditures, supporting product development efforts, introducing new products and enhancing existing products and services, and promoting market acceptance and adoption of our products and services. Our future capital requirements, to a certain extent, are also subject to general conditions in or affecting the defense and electric vehicle industries and are subject to general economic, political, financial, competitive, legislative and regulatory factors that are beyond our control. Moreover, to the extent that existing cash, cash equivalents, cash from operations, and cash from short-term borrowing are insufficient to fund our future activities, we may need to raise additional funds through public or private equity or debt financing. To the extent we require additional funding, we cannot be certain that such funding will be available to us on acceptable terms, or at all. Although we are currently not a party to any material agreement or letter of intent with respect to potential investment in, or acquisitions of, businesses, services or technologies, we may enter into these types of arrangements in the future, which could also require us to seek additional equity or debt financing.

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Recent global market and economic conditions have been unprecedented and challenging with tighter credit conditions and recession in most major economies. As a result of these market conditions, the cost and availability of credit has been and may continue to be adversely affected by illiquid credit markets and wider credit spreads. Concern about the stability of the markets generally and the strength of counterparties specifically has led many lenders and institutional investors to reduce, and in some cases, cease to provide credit to businesses and consumers. These factors have led to a decrease in spending by businesses and consumers alike, and a corresponding decrease in global infrastructure spending. Continued turbulence in the U.S. and international markets and economies and prolonged declines in business and consumer spending may adversely affect our liquidity and financial condition, and the liquidity and financial condition of our customers, including our ability to access the capital markets to meet liquidity needs. In addition, we maintain significant amounts of cash and cash equivalents at one or more financial institutions that are in excess of federally insured limits. Given the current instability of financial institutions, we cannot be assured that we will not experience losses on these deposits.

Our working capital requirements vary by contract type. On cost-plus-fee programs, we typically bill our incurred costs and fees monthly as work progresses, and therefore working capital investment is minimal. On fixed-price contracts, we typically are paid as we deliver products, and working capital is needed to fund labor and expenses incurred during the lead time from contract award until contract deliveries begin.

Cash Flows

The following table provides our cash flow data for the six months ended October 27, 2012 and October 29, 2011 (in thousands):

	Six Months Ended	
	October 27, 2012	October 29, 2011
	(Unaudited)	
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 4,788	\$ 9,771
Net cash provided by investing activities	\$ 1,602	\$ 26,364
Net cash provided by financing activities	\$ 160	\$ 413

Cash Provided by Operating Activities. Net cash provided by operating activities for the six months ended October 27, 2012 decreased by \$5.0 million to \$4.8 million, compared to net cash provided by operating activities of \$9.8 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011. The decrease in net cash

provided by operating activities was primarily due to higher working capital needs of \$9.1 million, partially offset by higher depreciation of \$1.8 million and higher income of \$0.4 million.

Cash Provided by Investing Activities. Net cash provided by investing activities decreased by \$24.8 million to \$1.6 million for the six months ended October 27, 2012, compared to net cash provided by investing activities of \$26.4 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011. The decrease in net cash provided by investing activities was primarily due to a net increase in investments of \$25.7 million offset by lower acquisitions of property and equipment of \$0.9 million.

Cash Provided by Financing Activities. Net cash provided by financing activities decreased by \$0.2 million to \$0.2 million for the six months ended October 27, 2012, compared to \$0.4 million for the six months ended October 29, 2011.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

During the second quarter, there were no material changes in our off-balance sheet arrangements or contractual obligations and commercial commitments from those disclosed in the Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2012.

Inflation

Our operations have not been, and we do not expect them to be, materially affected by inflation. Historically, we have been successful in adjusting prices to our customers to reflect changes in our material and labor costs.

New Accounting Standards

Please refer to Note 1 “Organization and Significant Accounting Policies” to our unaudited consolidated financial statements in Part I, Item 1 of this quarterly report for a discussion of new accounting pronouncements.

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ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

In the ordinary course of business, we are exposed to various market risk factors, including fluctuations in interest rates, changes in general economic conditions, domestic and foreign competition, and foreign currency exchange rates.

Interest Rate Risk

It is our policy not to enter into interest rate derivative financial instruments. We do not currently have any significant interest rate exposure.

Foreign Currency Exchange Rate Risk

Since a significant part of our sales and expenses are denominated in U.S. dollars, we have not experienced significant foreign exchange gains or losses to date, and do not expect to incur significant foreign exchange gains or losses in the future. We occasionally engage in forward contracts in foreign currencies to limit our exposure on non-U.S. dollar transactions.

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Controls and Procedures

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in our Exchange Act reports is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC’s rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow for timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

In designing and evaluating the disclosure controls and procedures, management recognizes that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving the desired control objectives, and management is required to apply its judgment in evaluating the cost-benefit relationship of possible controls and procedures.

As required by Rule 13a-15(b) under the Exchange Act, we carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures.

Based on the foregoing, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that, as of the end of the period covered by this report, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective and were operating at a reasonable assurance level.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting or in other factors identified in connection with the evaluation required by paragraph (d) of Exchange Act Rules 13a-15 or 15d-15 that occurred during the quarter ended October 27, 2012, that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

We are not currently a party to any material legal proceedings. We are, however, subject to lawsuits from time to time in the ordinary course of business.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

There have been no material changes to the risk factors disclosed under Part I, Item 1A, "Risk Factors," in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2012. Please refer to that section for disclosures regarding the risks and uncertainties related to our business.

ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS

None.

ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES

None.

ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

None.

ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION

None.

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

Exhibit Number	Description
31.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
31.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
32	Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
101.INS*	XBRL Instance Document.
101.SCH*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document.
101.CAL*	XBRL Taxonomy Calculation Linkbase Document.
101.DEF*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document.
101.LAB*	XBRL Taxonomy Label Linkbase Document.
101.PRE*	XBRL Taxonomy Presentation Linkbase Document.

* Pursuant to Rule 406T of Regulation S-T, these interactive data files are deemed not filed or part of a registration statement or prospectus for purposes of Section 11 or 12 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, are deemed not filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and otherwise are not subject to liability under these sections.

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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.

Date: December 4, 2012

AEROVIRONMENT, INC.

By: /s/ Timothy E. Conver
 Timothy E. Conver
 Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President
 (Principal Executive Officer)

/s/ Jikun Kim
 Jikun Kim
 Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
 (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

**Certification of Principal Executive Officer
Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

I, Timothy E. Conver, certify that:

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

Date: December 4, 2012

/s/ Timothy E. Conver

Timothy E. Conver

Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President

Certification of Principal Financial Officer
Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

I, Jikun Kim, certify that:

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

Date: December 4, 2012

/s/ Jikun Kim

Jikun Kim

Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Certification**Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002****(Subsections (a) and (b) of Section 1350, Chapter 63 of Title 18, United States Code)**

Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (Subsections (a) and (b) of Section 1350, Chapter 63 of Title 18, United States Code) (the "Act"), each of the undersigned officers of AeroVironment, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), does hereby certify, to each such officer's knowledge, that:

The Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended October 27, 2012 (the "Periodic Report") of the Company fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m or 78o(d)) and information contained in the Periodic Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Timothy E. Conver

Timothy E. Conver
Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President

/s/ Jikun Kim

Jikun Kim
Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Dated: December 4, 2012

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