
**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 March 31, 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: 1-5057

OFFICEMAX INCORPORATED

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

263 Shuman Boulevard

Naperville, Illinois

(Address of principal executive offices)

82-0100960

(I.R.S Employer
Identification No.)

60563

(Zip Code)

(630) 438-7800

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

(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 a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company

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

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Shares Outstanding as of April 27, 2012</u>
Common Stock, \$2.50 par value	86,574,396

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PART I—FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

OfficeMax Incorporated and Subsidiaries
Consolidated Statements of Operations
(thousands, except per-share amounts)

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31, 2012	March 26, 2011
	(unaudited)	
Sales	\$1,872,912	\$1,863,001
Cost of goods sold and occupancy costs	1,390,136	1,388,489
Gross profit	482,776	474,512
Operating expenses		
Operating, selling, and general and administrative expenses	439,662	445,900
Other operating expenses	25,266	—
Operating income	17,848	28,612
Interest expense	(18,364)	(18,767)
Interest income	10,819	11,020
Other income, net	240	38
Pre-tax income	10,543	20,903
Income tax expense	(3,629)	(7,670)
Net income attributable to OfficeMax and noncontrolling interest	6,914	13,233
Joint venture results attributable to noncontrolling interest	(1,526)	(1,330)
Net income attributable to OfficeMax	\$ 5,388	\$ 11,903
Preferred dividends	(530)	(537)
Net income available to OfficeMax common shareholders	\$ 4,858	\$ 11,366
Net income per common share		
Basic	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.13
Diluted	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.13

See accompanying notes to quarterly consolidated financial statements

OfficeMax Incorporated and Subsidiaries
Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income
(thousands)

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31, 2012	March 26, 2011
	(unaudited)	
Net income attributable to OfficeMax and noncontrolling interest	\$ 6,914	\$ 13,233
Other comprehensive income (loss):		
Cumulative foreign currency translation adjustment	14,744	5,130
Pension and postretirement liability adjustment, net of tax	2,261	2,114
Unrealized hedge loss, net of tax	(84)	(310)
Other comprehensive income	16,921	6,934
Comprehensive income attributable to OfficeMax and noncontrolling interest	<u>\$ 23,835</u>	<u>\$ 20,167</u>
Less:		
Joint venture results attributable to noncontrolling interest	\$ 1,526	\$ 1,330
Cumulative foreign currency translation adjustment attributable to noncontrolling interest	2,006	1,065
Joint venture comprehensive income attributable to noncontrolling interest	<u>\$ 3,532</u>	<u>\$ 2,395</u>
Comprehensive income attributable to OfficeMax	<u>\$ 20,303</u>	<u>\$ 17,772</u>

See accompanying notes to quarterly consolidated financial statements

OfficeMax Incorporated and Subsidiaries
Consolidated Balance Sheets
(thousands)

	<u>March 31,</u> <u>2012</u> <u>(unaudited)</u>	<u>December 31,</u> <u>2011</u>
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 501,329	\$ 427,111
Receivables, net	549,759	558,635
Inventories	751,401	821,999
Deferred income taxes and receivables	65,017	63,382
Other current assets	67,357	67,847
Total current assets	<u>1,934,863</u>	<u>1,938,974</u>
Property and equipment:		
Land and land improvements	40,243	40,245
Buildings and improvements	489,330	484,900
Machinery and equipment	790,163	783,492
Total property and equipment	<u>1,319,736</u>	<u>1,308,637</u>
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(954,284)</u>	<u>(943,701)</u>
Net property and equipment	365,452	364,936
Intangible assets, net	81,904	81,520
Investment in Boise Cascade Holdings, L.L.C.	175,000	175,000
Timber notes receivable	899,250	899,250
Deferred income taxes	352,549	370,439
Other non-current assets	246,178	239,156
Total assets	<u>\$4,055,196</u>	<u>\$4,069,275</u>

See accompanying notes to quarterly consolidated financial statements

OfficeMax Incorporated and Subsidiaries
Consolidated Balance Sheets
(thousands, except share and per-share amounts)

	<u>March 31,</u> <u>2012</u> (unaudited)	<u>December 31,</u> <u>2011</u>
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Current portion of debt	\$ 40,670	\$ 38,867
Accounts payable	612,556	654,918
Income tax payable	5,217	9,553
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities:		
Compensation and benefits	99,236	101,516
Other	222,336	208,447
Total current liabilities	980,015	1,013,301
Long-term debt, less current portion	228,631	229,323
Non-recourse debt	1,470,000	1,470,000
Other long-term items:		
Compensation and benefits obligations	389,744	393,293
Deferred gain on sale of assets	179,757	179,757
Other long-term liabilities	181,478	182,685
Noncontrolling interest in joint venture	35,661	31,923
Shareholders' equity:		
Preferred stock—no par value; 10,000,000 shares authorized; Series D ESOP: \$.01 stated value; 638,353 and 638,353 shares outstanding	28,726	28,726
Common stock—\$2.50 par value; 200,000,000 shares authorized; 86,574,354 and 86,158,662 shares outstanding	216,440	215,397
Additional paid-in capital	1,016,015	1,015,374
Accumulated deficit	(496,525)	(500,843)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(174,746)	(189,661)
Total OfficeMax shareholders' equity	589,910	568,993
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	<u>\$4,055,196</u>	<u>\$4,069,275</u>

See accompanying notes to quarterly consolidated financial statements

OfficeMax Incorporated and Subsidiaries
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows
(thousands)

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31, 2012	March 26, 2011
	(unaudited)	
Cash provided by operations:		
Net income attributable to OfficeMax and noncontrolling interest	\$ 6,914	\$ 13,233
Non-cash items in net income:		
Dividend income from investment in Boise Cascade Holdings, L.L.C.	(2,074)	(1,897)
Depreciation and amortization	19,091	20,918
Pension and other postretirement benefits expense	180	1,982
Other	27,239	5,830
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Receivables	25,580	996
Inventories	79,894	98,538
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(51,069)	(128,296)
Current and deferred income taxes	(1,540)	4,312
Other	(17,707)	(14,745)
Cash provided by operations	<u>86,508</u>	<u>871</u>
Cash provided by (used for) investment:		
Expenditures for property and equipment	(15,532)	(17,012)
Proceeds from sales of assets, net	1,591	72
Cash used for investment	<u>(13,941)</u>	<u>(16,940)</u>
Cash provided by (used for) financing:		
Cash dividends paid—preferred stock	—	(1,142)
Borrowings of short-term debt, net	1,485	1,336
Payments of long-term debt	(989)	(1,062)
Purchase of preferred stock	—	(273)
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	196	1,803
Payments related to other share-based compensation	(1,117)	(4,404)
Other	67	11
Cash used for financing	<u>(358)</u>	<u>(3,731)</u>
Effect of exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents	2,009	1,565
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	<u>74,218</u>	<u>(18,235)</u>
Balance at beginning of the period	427,111	462,326
Balance at end of the period	<u>\$501,329</u>	<u>\$ 444,091</u>

See accompanying notes to quarterly consolidated financial statements

Notes to Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)

1. Basis of Presentation

Nature of Operations

OfficeMax Incorporated (“OfficeMax,” the “Company” or “we”) is a leader in both business-to-business and retail office products distribution. The Company provides office supplies and paper, print and document services, technology products and solutions and office furniture to large, medium and small businesses, government offices and consumers. OfficeMax customers are served by approximately 29,000 associates through direct sales, catalogs, the Internet and a network of retail stores located throughout the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Mexico.

The accompanying quarterly consolidated financial statements include the accounts of OfficeMax and all majority-owned subsidiaries, except our 88%-owned subsidiary that formerly owned assets in Cuba that were confiscated by the Cuban government in the 1960s, which is accounted for as an investment due to various asset restrictions. We also consolidate the variable interest entities in which the Company is the primary beneficiary. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. These financial statements are for the thirteen-week period ended on March 31, 2012 (also referred to as the “first quarter of 2012” or the “three months ended March 31, 2012”) and the thirteen-week period ended on March 26, 2011 (also referred to as the “first quarter of 2011” or the “three months ended March 26, 2011”). The Company’s fiscal year ends on the last Saturday in December. Due primarily to statutory reporting requirements, the Company’s international businesses maintain December 31 year-ends and end their quarters on the last calendar day of the month, with our majority-owned joint venture in Mexico reporting one month in arrears. Fiscal year 2012 will include 52 weeks for our U.S. businesses, while fiscal year 2011 included 53 weeks for our U.S. businesses.

The Company manages its business using three reportable segments: OfficeMax, Contract (“Contract segment” or “Contract”); OfficeMax, Retail (“Retail segment” or “Retail”); and Corporate and Other. Management reviews the performance of the Company based on these segments. We present information pertaining to our segments in Note 12, “Segment Information”.

The Company has prepared the quarterly consolidated financial statements included herein pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). Some information and note disclosures, which would normally be included in comprehensive annual financial statements prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, have been condensed or omitted pursuant to those SEC rules and regulations. These quarterly consolidated financial statements should be read together with the consolidated financial statements and the accompanying notes included in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011.

The quarterly consolidated financial statements included herein have not been audited by an independent registered public accounting firm, but in the opinion of management, include all adjustments necessary to present fairly the results for the periods indicated. Except as disclosed within these “Notes to Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited),” the adjustments made were of a normal, recurring nature. Quarterly results are not necessarily indicative of results which may be expected for a full year.

Recently Issued or Newly Adopted Accounting Standards

In June 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued guidance which established disclosure requirements for other comprehensive income. The guidance requires the reporting of components of other comprehensive income and components of net income together as components of total comprehensive income, and is effective for periods beginning on or after December 15, 2011. We adopted the guidance effective with our financial statements for the first quarter of 2012. The adoption of this guidance affects the presentation of certain elements of the Company’s financial statements, but these changes in presentation did not have an impact on the amounts reported in our financial statements.

Notes to Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)—(Continued)**2. Facility Closure Reserves**

We conduct regular reviews of our real estate portfolio to identify underperforming facilities, and close those facilities that are no longer strategically or economically beneficial. We record a liability for the cost associated with a facility closure at its fair value in the period in which the liability is incurred, primarily the location's cease-use date. Upon closure, unrecoverable costs are included in facility closure reserves and include provisions for the present value of future lease obligations, less contractual or estimated sublease income. Accretion expense is recognized over the life of the required payments. These charges are included in other operating expenses in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

During the first three months of 2012, we recorded facility closure charges of \$25.3 million in our Retail segment primarily related to the closure of 15 underperforming domestic stores prior to the end of their lease terms. There were no such charges recorded in the first quarter of 2011.

Facility closure reserve account activity during the first three months of 2012 was as follows:

	<u>Total</u> <u>(thousands)</u>
Balance at December 31, 2011	\$ 49,075
Charges related to stores closed in 2012	25,266
Transfer of deferred rent and other balances	1,275
Cash payments	(3,813)
Accretion	678
Balance at March 31, 2012	<u>\$ 72,481</u>

Reserve balances were classified in the Consolidated Balance Sheets as follows:

	<u>March 31,</u> <u>2012</u> <u>(thousands)</u>
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities - Other	\$ 18,425
Other long-term liabilities	54,056
Total	<u>\$ 72,481</u>

At March 31, 2012, the facilities closure reserve consisted of the following:

	<u>Total</u> <u>(thousands)</u>
Estimated future lease obligations	\$ 134,135
Less: anticipated sublease income	(61,654)
Total	<u>\$ 72,481</u>

3. Severance and Other Charges

Over the past few years, we have incurred significant charges related to Company personnel restructuring and reorganizations. These charges were included in other operating expenses in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. There were no such charges in the first quarters of 2012 or 2011.

As of March 31, 2012, \$4.4 million of the prior-year severance charges remain unpaid and are included in accrued expenses and other current liabilities in the Consolidated Balance Sheets.

Notes to Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)—(Continued)**4. Timber Notes/Non-Recourse Debt**

In October 2004, we sold our timberland assets in exchange for \$15 million in cash plus credit-enhanced timber installment notes in the amount of \$1,635 million (the "Installment Notes"). The Installment Notes were issued by single-member limited liability companies formed by affiliates of Boise Cascade, L.L.C. (the "Note Issuers"). The Installment Notes are 15-year non-amortizing obligations and were issued in two equal \$817.5 million tranches bearing interest at 5.11% and 4.98%, respectively. In order to support the issuance of the Installment Notes, the Note Issuers transferred a total of \$1,635 million in cash to Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. ("Lehman") and Wachovia Corporation ("Wachovia") (which was later purchased by Wells Fargo & Company) (\$817.5 million to each of Lehman and Wachovia). Lehman and Wachovia issued collateral notes (the "Collateral Notes") to the Note Issuers. Concurrently with the issuance of the Installment and Collateral Notes, Lehman and Wachovia guaranteed the respective Installment Notes and the Note Issuers pledged the Collateral Notes as security for the performance of the Installment Note obligations.

In December 2004, we completed a securitization transaction in which the Company's interests in the Installment Notes and related guarantees were transferred to wholly-owned bankruptcy remote subsidiaries. The subsidiaries pledged the Installment Notes and related guarantees and issued securitized notes (the "Securitization Notes") in the amount of \$1,470 million (\$735 million through the structure supported by the Lehman guaranty and \$735 million through the structure supported by the Wachovia guaranty). As a result of these transactions, we received \$1,470 million in cash. Recourse on the Securitization Notes is limited to the proceeds of the applicable pledged Installment Notes and underlying Lehman or Wachovia guaranty, and therefore there is no recourse against OfficeMax. The Securitization Notes are 15-year non-amortizing, and were issued in two equal \$735 million tranches paying interest of 5.54% and 5.42%, respectively. The Securitization Notes are reported as non-recourse debt in the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets.

On September 15, 2008, Lehman, the guarantor of half of the Installment Notes and the Securitization Notes, filed a petition in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York seeking relief under chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code. Lehman's bankruptcy filing constituted an event of default under the \$817.5 million Installment Note guaranteed by Lehman. We are required for accounting purposes to assess the carrying value of assets whenever circumstances indicate that a decline in value may have occurred. In 2008, we evaluated the carrying value of the Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note and reduced it to the estimated amount we then expected to collect (\$81.8 million) by recording a non-cash impairment charge of \$735.8 million, pre-tax. The ultimate amount to be realized on the Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note depends entirely on the proceeds from the Lehman bankruptcy estate.

Lehman's disclosure statement on its Chapter 11 Plan (the "Disclosure Statement") was confirmed by the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York on December 6, 2011. The Disclosure Statement provides a range of estimated recoveries for various classes of unsecured creditors of Lehman. Pursuant to a stipulation entered into on October 7, 2011 and approved by the bankruptcy court on December 14, 2011, the claim of the Securitization Note holders through the Note Issuers will be treated as a class 3 senior unsecured claim (estimated to recover at a rate of approximately 21.1% under the Chapter 11 Plan) rather than falling into any other class of claims. Due to this categorization, the status of the bankruptcy proceedings, and based on information in the Disclosure Statement, it appears that Securitization Note holders may recover at a potential rate within the range of 17% to 20%. However, uncertainties exist as to the actual recovery that will ultimately be received on the claim. The disposition of a related claim of the Securitization Note holders through us on the guaranty may result in an additional recovery and the funds available for claimants will depend on Lehman's ongoing claims resolution process, the establishment of reserves for unresolved claims, and the value of the assets Lehman is able to liquidate. Due to these uncertainties and other factors, we have not increased our assumed recovery rate or the carrying value of the Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note. An initial distribution of approximately \$50 million on the claim through the Note Issuers was received from Lehman by the Note Issuers during April of 2012, and will ultimately be distributed to the note holders. Further distributions are

Notes to Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)—(Continued)

expected to occur over a several-year period. Going forward, we intend to adjust the carrying value of the Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note as further information regarding the Securitization Note holders share of the proceeds, if any, from the Lehman bankruptcy estate becomes available. Recourse on the Securitization Notes is limited to the proceeds from the applicable pledged Installment Notes and underlying Lehman or Wachovia guaranty, and any proceeds we receive from the bankruptcy will be distributed to the Securitization Note holders. However, under current generally accepted accounting principles, we are required to continue to recognize the liability related to the Securitization Notes guaranteed by Lehman until such time as the liability has been extinguished. The liability will be extinguished when the Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note and the related guaranty are transferred to and accepted by the Securitization Note holders. We expect that this will occur when the remaining guaranty claim of the Securitization Note holders in the bankruptcy is resolved and as the Lehman assets are in the process of distribution. Accordingly, we expect to recognize a non-cash gain equal to the difference between the carrying amount of the Securitization Notes guaranteed by Lehman (\$735.0 million at March 31, 2012) and the carrying value of the Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note (\$81.8 million at March 31, 2012) in a later period when the liability is legally extinguished. The actual gain to be recognized in the future will be measured based on the carrying amounts of the Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note and the Securitization Notes guaranteed by Lehman at the date of settlement.

Any discussion of the Lehman bankruptcy in this document is strictly based on factual observations from the bankruptcy cases and should not be interpreted as constituting legal analysis of or admission as to the ultimate allowances of our claim based on the Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note or any Note Issuers' claim based on Collateral Notes, or the interplay thereof.

At the time of the sale of the timberlands in 2004, we generated a tax gain and recognized the related deferred tax liability. The timber installment notes structure allowed the Company to defer the resulting tax liability until 2020 (\$529 million at March 31, 2012), the maturity date for the Installment Notes. Due to the Lehman bankruptcy and note defaults, the recognition of the Lehman portion of the gain will be triggered in full when the Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note and the related guaranty are transferred to and accepted by the Securitization Note holders. When partial payments are received, the gain will be recognized on a pro rata basis. We expect to reduce estimated cash payments due by utilizing our available alternative minimum tax credits.

Through March 31, 2012, we have received all payments due under the Installment Notes guaranteed by Wachovia (the "Wachovia Guaranteed Installment Notes"), which have consisted only of interest due on the notes, and made all payments due on the related Securitization Notes guaranteed by Wachovia, again consisting only of interest due. As all amounts due on the Wachovia Guaranteed Installment Notes are current and we have no reason to believe that we will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the Wachovia Guaranteed Installment Notes, the notes are stated in our Consolidated Balance Sheets at their original principal amount of \$817.5 million. The Installment Notes and Securitization Notes are scheduled to mature in 2020 and 2019, respectively. The Securitization Notes have an initial term that is approximately three months shorter than the Installment Notes.

5. Net Income Per Common Share

Basic net income per share is calculated using net earnings available to holders of our common stock divided by the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the applicable periods presented. Diluted net income per share is similar to basic net income per share except that the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding is increased to include, if their inclusion is dilutive, the number of additional shares of common stock that would have been outstanding assuming the issuance of all potentially dilutive shares, such as common stock to be issued upon exercise of options, the vesting of non-vested restricted

Notes to Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)—(Continued)

shares, and the conversion of outstanding preferred stock. Net income per common share was determined by dividing net income, as adjusted, by weighted average shares outstanding as follows:

	<u>Three Months Ended</u>	
	<u>March 31,</u> 2012	<u>March 26,</u> 2011
	(thousands, except per-share amounts)	
Net income available to OfficeMax common shareholders	\$ 4,858	\$ 11,366
Average shares—basic(a)	86,341	85,368
Restricted stock, stock options and other(b)	985	1,059
Average shares—diluted	87,326	86,427
Net income available to OfficeMax common shareholders per common share:		
Basic	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.13
Diluted	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.13

- (a) The assumed conversion of outstanding preferred stock was anti-dilutive in all periods presented, and therefore no adjustment was required to determine diluted income from continuing operations or average shares-diluted.
- (b) Options to purchase 3.3 million and 3.0 million shares of common stock were outstanding during the first three months of 2012 and 2011, respectively, but were not included in the computation of diluted income per common share because the impact would have been anti-dilutive as the option price was higher than the average market price during the year.

6. Income Taxes

The Company or its subsidiaries file income tax returns in the U.S. Federal jurisdiction, and multiple state and foreign jurisdictions. Years prior to 2006 are no longer subject to U.S. Federal income tax examination. The Company is no longer subject to state income tax examinations by tax authorities in its major state jurisdictions for years before 2003, and the Company is no longer subject to income tax examinations prior to 2005 for its major foreign jurisdictions.

As discussed in Note 4, “Timber Notes/Non-Recourse Debt,” at the time of the sale of the timberlands in 2004, we generated a tax gain and recognized the related deferred tax liability. The timber installment notes structure allowed the Company to defer the resulting tax liability until 2020 (\$529 million at March 31, 2012), the maturity date for the Installment Notes. Due to the Lehman bankruptcy and note defaults, the recognition of the Lehman portion of the gain will be triggered in full when the Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note and the related guaranty are transferred to and accepted by the Securitization Note holders. When partial payments are received, the gain will be recognized on a pro rata basis. We expect to reduce estimated cash payments due by utilizing our available alternative minimum tax credits.

As of March 31, 2012, the Company had \$9.7 million of total unrecognized tax benefits, \$6.8 million of which would affect the Company’s effective tax rate if recognized. During the first quarter, the reserve was reduced for tax positions related to the capitalization of certain costs that were determined more likely than not to be realized. Any adjustments would result from the effective settlement of tax positions with various tax authorities. The Company does not anticipate any tax settlements to occur within the next twelve months. The reconciliation of the beginning and ending unrecognized tax benefits is as follows:

	<u>Amount</u> <u>(thousands)</u>
Unrecognized gross tax benefits balance at December 31, 2011	\$ 21,172
Increase related to prior year tax positions	14
Decrease related to prior year tax positions	(11,453)
Unrecognized tax benefits balance at March 31, 2012	<u>\$ 9,733</u>

Notes to Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)—(Continued)

During the first three months of 2012 and 2011, cash payments, net of refunds received, for income taxes were as follows:

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
	(thousands)	
Cash tax payments, net	\$5,169	\$3,358

7. Investment in Boise Cascade Holdings, L.L.C.

In connection with the sale of the paper, forest products and timberland assets in 2004, the Company invested \$175 million in affiliates of Boise Cascade, L.L.C. Due to restructurings conducted by those affiliates, our investment is currently in Boise Cascade Holdings, L.L.C., a building products company (the “Boise Investment”).

A portion of the securities received in exchange for the Company’s investment carry no voting rights. This investment is accounted for under the cost method as Boise Cascade Holdings, L.L.C. does not maintain separate ownership accounts for its members’ interests, and the Company does not have the ability to significantly influence its operating and financial policies.

The Boise Investment represented a continuing involvement in the operations of the business we sold in 2004. Therefore, approximately \$180 million of gain realized from the sale was deferred. This gain is expected to be recognized in earnings as the Company’s investment is reduced.

The non-voting securities of Boise Cascade Holdings, L.L.C. accrue dividends daily at the rate of 8% per annum on the liquidation value plus accumulated dividends. Dividends accumulate semiannually to the extent not paid in cash on the last day of June and December. The Company recognized dividend income on this investment of \$2.1 million and \$1.9 million during the first three months of 2012 and 2011, respectively, in the Corporate and Other segment. The dividend receivable was \$40.1 million and \$38.0 million at March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively, and was recorded in the Corporate and Other segment in other non-current assets in the Consolidated Balance Sheets.

8. Debt***Credit Agreements***

On October 7, 2011, the Company entered into a Second Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement (the “North American Credit Agreement”) with a group of banks. The North American Credit Agreement amended both our existing credit agreement that we were a party to along with certain of our subsidiaries in the U.S. (the “U.S. Credit Agreement”) and our existing credit agreement to which our subsidiary in Canada was a party (the “Canadian Credit Agreement”) and consolidated them into a single credit agreement. The North American Credit Agreement permits the Company to borrow up to a maximum of \$650 million (U.S. dollars), of which \$50 million is allocated to the Company’s Canadian subsidiary and \$600 million is allocated to the Company and its other participating U.S. subsidiaries, in each case subject to a borrowing base calculation that limits availability to a percentage of eligible trade and credit card receivables plus a percentage of the value of eligible inventory less certain reserves. The North American Credit Agreement may be increased (up to a maximum of \$850 million) at the Company’s request and the approval of the lenders participating in the increase, or may be reduced from time to time at the Company’s request, in each case according to the terms detailed in the North American Credit Agreement. Letters of credit, which may be issued under the North American Credit Agreement up to a maximum of \$250 million, reduce available borrowing capacity. At the end of the first quarter of 2012, the Company was in compliance with all covenants under the North American Credit Agreement. The North American Credit Agreement will expire on October 7, 2016.

Notes to Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)—(Continued)

Borrowings under the North American Credit Agreement are subject to interest at rates based on either the prime rate, the federal funds rate, LIBOR or the Canadian Dealer Offered Rate. An additional percentage, which varies depending on the level of average borrowing availability, is added to the applicable rates. Fees on letters of credit issued under the North American Credit Agreement are charged at rates between 1.25% and 2.25% depending on the type of letter of credit (i.e., stand-by or commercial) and the level of average borrowing availability. The Company is also charged an unused line fee of between 0.375% and 0.5% on the amount by which the maximum available credit exceeds the average daily outstanding borrowings and letters of credit. The fees on letters of credit were 1.75% and the unused line fee was 0.5% at the end of the first quarter of 2012. Thereafter, the rate will vary depending on the level of average borrowing availability and type of letters of credit.

Availability under the North American Credit Agreement at the end of the first quarter of 2012 was as follows:

	<u>Total</u> <u>(millions)</u>
Maximum aggregate available borrowing amount	\$ 632.1
Less: Stand-by letters of credit	(51.5)
Amount available for borrowing at March 31, 2012	<u>\$ 580.6</u>

On March 15, 2010, the Company's five wholly-owned subsidiaries based in Australia and New Zealand entered into a Facility Agreement (the "Australia/New Zealand Credit Agreement") with a financial institution based in those countries. The Australia/New Zealand Credit Agreement permitted the subsidiaries in Australia and New Zealand to borrow up to a maximum of A\$80 million subject to a borrowing base calculation that limited availability to a percentage of eligible accounts receivable plus a percentage of the value of certain owned properties, less certain reserves. During the first quarter of 2012, the Company exercised its option to terminate the Australia/New Zealand Credit Agreement effective March 30, 2012.

There were no borrowings under the Company's credit agreements during the first quarter of 2012.

Other

At the end of the first quarter of 2012, Grupo OfficeMax, our 51%-owned joint venture in Mexico, had total outstanding borrowings of \$9.7 million. This included \$4.7 million outstanding under a 60-month installment note due in the first quarter of 2014 and \$3.4 million outstanding under a 54-month installment note due in the third quarter of 2014. Payments on the installment loans are made monthly. The remaining \$1.6 million of borrowings is a simple revolving loan. Recourse on the Grupo OfficeMax loans is limited to Grupo OfficeMax. The installment loan maturing in the third quarter of 2014 is secured by certain owned property of Grupo OfficeMax. All other Grupo OfficeMax loan facilities are unsecured.

Cash Paid for Interest

Cash payments for interest, net of interest capitalized and including interest payments related to the Securitization Notes, were \$4.8 million and \$5.3 million for the first three months of 2012 and 2011, respectively. Cash interest payments made on the Securitization Notes are completely offset by interest payments received on the Installment Notes.

Notes to Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)—(Continued)

9. Financial Instruments, Derivatives and Hedging Activities

Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The carrying amounts of cash and cash equivalents, trade accounts receivable, other assets (non-derivatives), short-term borrowings and trade accounts payable approximate fair value because of the short maturity of these instruments. The following table presents the carrying amounts and estimated fair values of the Company's other financial instruments at March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011. The fair value of a financial instrument is the amount at which the instrument could be exchanged in a current transaction between willing parties.

	March 31, 2012				Carrying Amount
	Fair Value			Total	
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3		
	(thousands)				
Financial assets:					
Timber notes receivable					
Wachovia	\$ —	\$959,592	\$ —	\$959,592	\$817,500
Lehman	\$ —	\$ —	\$81,750	\$ 81,750	\$ 81,750
Financial liabilities:					
Recourse debt	\$ —	\$249,526	\$ —	\$249,526	\$269,301
Non-recourse debt					
Wachovia	\$ —	\$872,207	\$ —	\$872,207	\$735,000
Lehman	\$ —	\$ —	\$81,750	\$ 81,750	\$735,000

	December 31, 2011				Carrying Amount
	Fair Value			Total	
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3		
	(thousands)				
Financial assets:					
Timber notes receivable					
Wachovia	\$ —	\$943,706	\$ —	\$943,706	\$817,500
Lehman	\$ —	\$ —	\$81,750	\$ 81,750	\$ 81,750
Financial liabilities:					
Recourse debt	\$62,293	\$178,461	\$ —	\$240,754	\$268,190
Non-recourse debt					
Wachovia	\$ —	\$858,779	\$ —	\$858,779	\$735,000
Lehman	\$ —	\$ —	\$81,750	\$ 81,750	\$735,000

In establishing a fair value, there is a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The basis of the fair value measurement is categorized in three levels, in order of priority, described as follows:

Level 1: Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets that are accessible at the measurement date for identical, unrestricted assets or liabilities.

Level 2: Quoted prices in markets that are not active, or financial instruments for which all significant inputs are observable either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Prices or valuation techniques that require inputs that are both significant to the fair value measurement and unobservable thus reflecting assumptions about the market participants.

Notes to Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)—(Continued)

The carrying amounts shown in the table are included in the Consolidated Balance Sheets under the indicated captions. The following methods and assumptions were used to estimate the fair value of each class of financial instruments:

- **Timber notes receivable:** The fair value of the Wachovia Guaranteed Installment Notes is determined as the present value of expected future cash flows discounted at the current interest rate for loans of similar terms with comparable credit risk (Level 2 inputs). The fair value of the Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note reflects the estimated future cash flows of the note considering the estimated effects of the Lehman bankruptcy (Level 3 inputs).
- **Recourse debt:** The Company's debt instruments are not widely traded. Recourse debt for which there were trades on the last day of the period (the "measurement date") was valued using the unadjusted quoted price from the last trade on the measurement date (Level 1 input). Recourse debt for which there were no transactions on the measurement date was valued based on quoted market prices near the measurement date when available or by discounting the future cash flows of each instrument using rates based on the most recently observable trade or using rates currently offered to the Company for similar debt instruments of comparable maturities (Level 2 inputs).
- **Non-recourse debt:** The fair value of the Securitization Notes supported by Wachovia is estimated by discounting the future cash flows of the instrument at rates currently available to the Company for similar instruments of comparable maturities (Level 2 inputs). The Securitization Notes supported by Lehman is estimated based on the future cash flows of the Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note (the proceeds from which are the sole source of payment of this note) in a bankruptcy proceeding (Level 3 inputs).

During the first three months of 2012, there were no significant changes to the techniques used to measure fair value. Other than routine borrowings and payments of recourse debt, there were no changes to the financial instruments for which fair value is being calculated. Any changes in the level of inputs for recourse debt is due to the existence or nonexistence of trades on the measurement date from which to obtain unadjusted quoted prices.

Derivatives and Hedging Activities

Changes in foreign currency exchange rates expose the Company to financial market risk. The Company occasionally uses derivative financial instruments, such as forward exchange contracts, to manage its exposure associated with commercial transactions and certain liabilities that are denominated in a currency other than the currency of the operating unit entering into the underlying transaction. The Company does not enter into derivative instruments for any other purpose. The Company does not speculate using derivative instruments. The fair values of derivative financial instruments were not material at the end of the first quarter of 2012 or at 2011 fiscal year-end.

Notes to Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)—(Continued)

10. Retirement and Benefit Plans*Components of Net Periodic Benefit Cost (Income)*

The following represents the components of net periodic pension and other postretirement benefit costs (income) which are recorded in operating, selling and general and administrative expense in the Consolidated Statements of Operations:

	Three Months Ended			
	Pension Benefits		Other Benefits	
	March 31, 2012	March 26, 2011	March 31, 2012	March 26, 2011
	(thousands)			
Service cost	\$ 943	\$ 639	\$ 73	\$ 96
Interest cost	16,158	17,542	235	301
Expected return on plan assets	(20,773)	(20,105)	—	—
Recognized actuarial loss	4,491	4,427	55	84
Amortization of prior service credits	—	—	(1,002)	(1,002)
Net periodic benefit cost (income)	<u>\$ 819</u>	<u>\$ 2,503</u>	<u>\$ (639)</u>	<u>\$ (521)</u>

Cash Flows

The Company expects to fund the minimum pension contribution requirement for 2012 of approximately \$30 million with cash. As of March 31, 2012, \$4.5 million in cash has been contributed.

11. Share-Based Compensation

The Company sponsors several share-based compensation plans. The Company recognizes compensation expense from all share-based payment transactions with employees in the consolidated financial statements based on grant date fair value. Pre-tax compensation expenses related to the Company's share-based plans was \$2.8 million and \$5.4 million for the first three months of 2012 and 2011, respectively. Compensation expense is generally recognized on a straight-line basis over the vesting period of grants. The total income tax benefit recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Operations for share-based compensation arrangements was \$1.1 million and \$2.1 million for the first three months of 2012 and 2011, respectively.

Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units

The Company recognizes compensation expense related to restricted stock and Restricted Stock Unit ("RSU") awards over the vesting periods based on the awards' grant date fair values. The Company calculates the grant date fair value of the RSU awards by multiplying the number of RSUs by the closing price of the Company's common stock on the grant date. If these awards contain performance criteria the grant date fair value is set assuming performance at target, and management periodically reviews actual performance against the criteria and adjusts compensation expense accordingly. Pre-tax compensation expense related to restricted stock and RSU awards was \$0.7 million and \$2.5 million for the first three months of 2012 and 2011, respectively. The remaining compensation expense to be recognized related to outstanding restricted stock and RSUs, net of estimated forfeitures, is approximately \$2.3 million. The remaining compensation expense is to be recognized through the first quarter of 2015.

Notes to Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)—(Continued)

A summary of restricted stock and RSU activity for the first three months of 2012 is presented in the following table:

	Shares	Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value Per Share
Nonvested, December 31, 2011	1,488,250	\$ 12.15
Granted	446,032	6.24
Vested	(576,471)	7.91
Forfeited	(12,897)	13.73
Nonvested, March 31, 2012	<u>1,344,914</u>	<u>\$ 11.99</u>

Stock Options

The Company's stock options are issued with an exercise price equal to fair market value on the grant date and typically expire within seven years of the grant date. Stock options granted under the OfficeMax Incentive and Performance Plan generally vest over a three year period. Pre-tax compensation expense related to stock options was \$2.1 million and \$2.9 million for the first three months of 2012 and 2011, respectively. The remaining compensation expense to be recognized related to outstanding stock options, net of estimated forfeitures, is approximately \$11.1 million. The remaining compensation expense is to be recognized through the first quarter of 2015.

A summary of stock option activity for the first three months of 2012 is presented in the following table:

	Shares	Wtd. Avg. Exercise Price
Balance at December 31, 2011	4,816,552	\$ 16.86
Options granted	1,830,690	5.58
Options exercised	(40,767)	4.80
Options forfeited and expired	(682,194)	32.60
Balance at March 31, 2012	<u>5,924,281</u>	<u>\$ 11.64</u>
Exercisable at March 31, 2012	2,283,627	
Weighted average fair value of options granted (Black-Scholes)	\$ 3.19	

The following table provides summarized information about stock options outstanding at March 31, 2012:

Range of Exercise Prices	Options Outstanding			Options Exercisable	
	Options Outstanding	Weighted Average Contractual Life (Years)	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Options Exercisable	Weighted Average Exercise Price
\$2.50 – \$3.00	11,171	—	\$ 2.50	11,171	\$ 2.50
\$4.00 – \$7.00	2,972,774	6.0	5.35	817,644	4.72
\$10.00 – \$16.00	776,400	5.0	14.11	471,181	14.51
\$16.00 – \$17.00	796,836	5.9	16.86	266,531	16.86
\$18.00 – \$19.00	975,000	5.6	18.15	325,000	18.15
\$24.00 – \$37.00	392,100	0.4	27.88	392,100	27.88

At March 31, 2012, the aggregate intrinsic value was \$1.2 million for outstanding stock options and \$0.9 million for those stock options that were exercisable. The aggregate intrinsic value represents the total pre-tax intrinsic value (i.e. the difference between the Company's closing stock price on the last trading day of the first quarter of 2012 and the exercise price, multiplied by the number of in-the-money stock options at the end of the quarter).

Notes to Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)—(Continued)

During the first three months of 2012, the Company granted stock options for 1,830,690 shares of our common stock and estimated the fair value of each stock option award on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model with the following weighted average assumptions: risk-free interest rate of 1.42%, expected life of 4.5 years and expected stock price volatility of 72.52%.

The risk-free interest rate assumptions are based on the applicable Treasury bill rates over the options' expected lives; the expected life assumptions are based on the time period stock options are expected to be outstanding based on historical experience; and the expected stock price volatility assumptions are based on the historical and implied volatility of the Company's common stock.

12. Segment Information

The Company manages its business using three reportable segments: Contract, Retail, and Corporate and Other. Management reviews the performance of the Company based on these segments.

Contract distributes a broad line of items for the office, including office supplies and paper, technology products and solutions, print and document services and office furniture. Contract sells directly to large corporate and government offices, as well as to small and medium-sized offices in the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. This segment markets and sells through field salespeople, outbound telesales, catalogs, the Internet and in some markets, including Canada, Australia and New Zealand, through office products stores. Substantially all products sold by Contract are purchased from third-party manufacturers or industry wholesalers. Contract purchases office papers for its businesses in the U.S., Canada, and Puerto Rico primarily from Boise White Paper, L.L.C., under a paper supply contract entered into on June 25, 2011.

Retail is a retail distributor of office supplies and paper, print and document services, technology products and solutions and office furniture. In addition, this segment contracts with large national retail chains to supply office and school supplies to be sold in their stores. Retail office supply stores feature OfficeMax ImPress, an in-store module devoted to print-for-pay and related services. Retail has operations in the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The retail segment also operates office products stores in Mexico through a 51%-owned joint venture. Substantially all products sold by Retail are purchased from third-party manufacturers or industry wholesalers. Retail purchases office papers for its U.S. businesses primarily from Boise White Paper, L.L.C., under the paper supply contract described above.

Corporate and Other includes corporate support staff services and certain other legacy expenses as well as the related assets and liabilities. The income and expense related to certain assets and liabilities that are reported in the Corporate and Other segment have been allocated to the Contract and Retail segments.

Management evaluates the segments' performances using segment income (loss) which is based on operating income (loss) after eliminating the effect of certain operating items that are not indicative of our core operations such as severances, facility closures and adjustments, and asset impairments. These certain operating items are reported on the other operating expenses line in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Notes to Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)—(Continued)

The following tables contain details of the Company's operations by segment:

	Sales	Segment income (expense)	Other operating expense	Operating income (loss)
	(thousands)			
Three months ended March 31, 2012				
Contract	\$ 960,583	\$27,086	\$ —	\$ 27,086
Retail	912,329	22,825	(25,266)	(2,441)
Corporate and Other	—	(6,797)	—	(6,797)
Total	<u>\$1,872,912</u>	<u>\$43,114</u>	<u>\$(25,266)</u>	<u>\$ 17,848</u>
Three months ended March 26, 2011				
Contract	\$ 925,672	\$ 9,005	\$ —	\$ 9,005
Retail	937,329	25,620	—	25,620
Corporate and Other	—	(6,013)	—	(6,013)
Total	<u>\$1,863,001</u>	<u>\$28,612</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 28,612</u>

Interest expense, interest income, and other income, net are not recorded by segments.

13. Shareholders' Equity and Noncontrolling Interest

The following table reflects changes in shareholders' equity and noncontrolling interest for the first three months of 2012.

	Shareholders' Equity	Noncontrolling Interest
	(thousands)	
Balance at December 31, 2011	\$ 568,993	\$ 31,923
Comprehensive income:		
Net income attributable to OfficeMax and noncontrolling interest	5,388	1,526
Other comprehensive income:		
Foreign currency translation adjustments	12,738	2,006
Amortization of unrecognized retirement and benefit costs, net of tax	2,261	—
Unrealized hedge loss adjustment, net of tax	(84)	—
Comprehensive income attributable to OfficeMax and noncontrolling interest	20,303	3,532
Preferred stock dividends	(1,059)	—
Stock-based compensation	1,883	—
Non-controlling interest fair value adjustment	(199)	199
Other	(11)	7
Balance at March 31, 2012	<u>\$ 589,910</u>	<u>\$ 35,661</u>

14. Commitments and Guarantees
Commitments

In accordance with an amended and restated joint venture agreement, the minority owner of Grupo OfficeMax, our joint-venture in Mexico, can elect to require OfficeMax to purchase the minority owner's 49% interest in the joint venture if certain earnings targets are achieved. Earnings targets are calculated quarterly on a rolling four-quarter basis. Accordingly, the targets may be achieved in one quarter but not in the next. If the earnings targets are achieved and the minority owner elects to require OfficeMax to purchase the minority

Notes to Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)—(Continued)

owner's interest, the purchase price is based on the joint venture's earnings and the current market multiples of similar companies. At the end of the first quarter of 2012, Grupo OfficeMax met the earnings targets and the estimated purchase price of the minority owner's interest was \$35.1 million. This represents an increase in the estimated purchase price from the end of the prior fiscal year. As the estimated purchase price was greater than the carrying value of the noncontrolling interest as of the end of the quarter, the Company increased the noncontrolling interest to the estimated purchase price, with the offset recorded to additional paid-in capital.

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

The following discussion contains statements about our future financial performance. These statements are only predictions. Our actual results may differ materially from these predictions. In evaluating these statements, you should review "Item 1A. Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, for the year ended December 31, 2011, including "Cautionary and Forward-Looking Statements."

Overall Summary

Sales for the first quarter of 2012 were \$1,872.9 million, compared to \$1,863.0 million for the first quarter of 2011, an increase of 0.5%. On a local currency basis, sales increased 0.4%. In the first quarter of 2012, the U.S. did not experience as severe weather as in the first quarter of 2011. This less severe weather favorably impacted sales by approximately 1% in the first quarter of 2012 compared to the first quarter of 2011 for both the Contract and Retail segments as well as the Company as a whole. Gross profit margin increased by 0.3% of sales (30 basis points) to 25.8% of sales in the first quarter of 2012 compared to 25.5% of sales in the first quarter of 2011, as lower occupancy costs were partially offset by increased delivery expense from higher fuel costs and slightly lower customer margins. Operating, selling and general and administrative expenses declined during the first quarter of 2012 compared to the first quarter of 2011 due to lower payroll and benefit expense as well as lower advertising and marketing expenses, which were partially offset by a first quarter of 2011 favorable income item related to our company owned life insurance policies ("COLI policies"). We reported operating income of \$17.8 million in the first quarter of 2012 compared to \$28.6 million in the first quarter of 2011. As noted in the discussion and analysis that follows, our operating results were impacted by a significant item in the first quarter of 2012 consisting of charges for store closures. There were no significant items in the first quarter of 2011. If we eliminate this item, our adjusted operating income for the first quarter of 2012 was \$43.1 million compared to an adjusted operating income of \$28.6 million for the first quarter of 2011. The reported net income available to OfficeMax common shareholders was \$4.9 million, or \$0.06 per diluted share, in the first quarter of 2012 compared to \$11.4 million, or \$0.13 per diluted share, in the first quarter of 2011. If we eliminate the impact of the significant item from 2012, adjusted net income available to OfficeMax common shareholders for the first quarter of 2012 was \$20.3 million, or \$0.23 per diluted share, compared to \$11.4 million, or \$0.13 per diluted share, for the first quarter of 2011.

Results of Operations, Consolidated

(\$ in thousands)

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31, 2012	March 26, 2011
Sales	\$1,872,912	\$1,863,001
Gross profit	482,776	474,512
Operating, selling and general and administrative expenses	439,662	445,900
Other operating expenses	25,266	—
Total operating expenses	\$ 464,928	\$ 445,900
Operating income	\$ 17,848	\$ 28,612
Net income available to OfficeMax common shareholders	\$ 4,858	\$ 11,366
Gross profit margin	25.8%	25.5%
Operating, selling and general and administrative expenses <i>Percentage of sales</i>	23.5%	24.0%

In addition to assessing our operating performance as reported under U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"), we evaluate our results of operations before non-operating legacy items and certain operating items that are not indicative of our core operating activities such as severance, facility closures and adjustments, and asset impairments. We believe our presentation of financial measures before, or excluding,

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these items, which are non-GAAP measures, enhances our investors' overall understanding of our recurring operational performance and provides useful information to both investors and management to evaluate the ongoing operations and prospects of OfficeMax by providing better comparisons. Whenever we use non-GAAP financial measures, we designate these measures as "adjusted" and provide a reconciliation of the non-GAAP financial measures to the most closely applicable GAAP financial measure. Investors are encouraged to review the related GAAP financial measures and the reconciliation of these non-GAAP financial measures to their most directly comparable GAAP financial measure. In the following tables, we reconcile our non-GAAP financial measures to our reported GAAP financial results.

Although we believe the non-GAAP financial measures enhance an investor's understanding of our performance, our management does not itself, nor does it suggest that investors should, consider such non-GAAP financial measures in isolation from, or as a substitute for, financial information prepared in accordance with GAAP. The non-GAAP financial measures we use may not be consistent with the presentation of similar companies in our industry. However, we present such non-GAAP financial measures in reporting our financial results to provide investors with an additional tool to evaluate our operating results in a manner that focuses on what we believe to be our ongoing business operations.

	Non-GAAP Reconciliation		
	Three Months Ended		
	March 31, 2012(a)		
	Operating income	Net income available to OfficeMax common shareholders	Diluted income per common share
	(millions, except per-share amounts)		
As reported	\$ 17,848	\$ 4,858	\$ 0.06
Store closure charges	25,266	15,437	0.18
As adjusted	<u>\$ 43,114</u>	<u>\$ 20,295</u>	<u>\$ 0.23</u>

(a) Totals may not foot due to rounding.

These items are described in more detail in this Management's Discussion and Analysis.

At the end of the first quarter of 2012, we had \$501.3 million in cash and cash equivalents and \$580.6 million in available (unused) borrowing capacity under our revolving credit facility. We had outstanding recourse debt of \$269.3 million (both current and long-term) and non-recourse obligations of \$1,470.0 million related to the timber securitization notes. There is no recourse against OfficeMax on the securitized timber notes payable as recourse is limited to proceeds from the applicable pledged installment notes receivable and underlying guarantees. There were no borrowings on our revolving credit facilities in the first quarter of 2012.

For the first three months of 2012, operations provided \$86.5 million of cash, while investing (including systems and infrastructure investments) and financing used \$13.9 million and \$0.4 million, respectively.

Outlook

Based on the current environment and the results of the first quarter of 2012, we expect that total sales for the second quarter will be flat to slightly lower as compared to the second quarter of 2011, including the impact of foreign currency translation. Additionally, we expect that for the second quarter of 2012, adjusted operating income margin rates will be approximately in line with the 1.1% for the prior year period, reflecting minimal incentive compensation expense in the second quarter of 2011. For the full year 2012, we expect that total sales will be flat to slightly higher than the prior year, including the projected favorable impact of foreign currency translation in 2012 and excluding the benefit of the additional week in 2011 which generated \$86 million in sales. We expect that for the full year, the adjusted operating income margin rate will be approximately in line with, to slightly higher than, the 1.7% rate for the full year of 2011.

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We anticipate cash flow from operations to exceed those for capital expenditures. We expect capital expenditures to be approximately \$75 million to \$100 million, primarily related to technology, ecommerce and infrastructure investments and upgrades as well as growth and profitability initiatives.

Operating Results

Sales for the first quarter of 2012 increased 0.5% to \$1,872.9 million from \$1,863.0 million for the first quarter of 2011, which included the impact of favorable currency exchange rates relating to our international subsidiaries. On a local currency basis, sales increased 0.4%. Fiscal year 2011 contained an extra week for our domestic businesses which resulted in a shift in the calendar weeks that are included in each year's fiscal quarter. After adjusting for the impact of the change in foreign exchange rates, the impact of stores closed and opened during 2011 and 2012 and this shift in weeks for our U.S. businesses, sales for the first quarter of 2012 increased 0.2%. Same-store sales in local currencies declined 1.5% in our Retail segment, while sales in our Contract segment increased 1.8% in local currencies, after adjusting for the shift in weeks resulting from the extra week in 2011. In the first quarter of 2012, the U.S. did not experience as severe weather as in the first quarter of 2011. This less severe weather favorably impacted sales by approximately 1% in the first quarter of 2012 compared to the first quarter of 2011 for both the Contract and Retail segments as well as the Company as a whole.

Gross profit margin increased by 0.3% of sales (30 basis points) to 25.8% of sales in the first quarter of 2012 compared to 25.5% of sales in the first quarter of 2011. Gross profit margins increased in both our Contract and Retail segments reflecting lower occupancy costs in both segments and lower inventory shrinkage expense in our Retail segment. These increases were partially offset by increased delivery expense in both segments from higher fuel costs and slightly lower overall customer margin rates in our Retail segment.

Operating, selling and general and administrative expenses declined \$6.2 million in the first quarter of 2012 compared to the first quarter of 2011, and decreased 0.5% of sales to 23.5% of sales in the first quarter of 2012 from 24.0% of sales in the first quarter of 2011, as lower payroll and benefit expenses from reorganizations and stores closures and lower advertising and marketing expenses, were partially offset by a first quarter of 2011 favorable income item related to our COLI policies. Incentive compensation expense for the first quarter of 2012 was comparable to the first quarter of 2011.

As noted above, our results for the first quarter of 2012 included the following significant item in the first quarter of 2012 compared to the first quarter of 2011.

- A charge recorded in our Retail segment of \$25.3 million related to store closures in the U.S. which was included in other operating expenses in the Consolidated Statements of Operations and which reduced net income by \$15.4 million, or \$0.18 per diluted share.

Interest income was \$10.8 million and \$11.0 million for the first quarter of 2012 and 2011, respectively. Interest expense was \$18.4 million and \$18.8 million in the first quarters of 2012 and 2011, respectively.

For the first quarter of 2012, we recognized income tax expense of \$3.6 million on pre-tax income of \$10.5 million (effective tax expense rate of 34.4%) compared to income tax expense of \$7.7 million on pre-tax income of \$20.9 million (effective tax expense rate of 36.7%) for the first quarter of 2011. The effective tax rate in both years was impacted by the effects of state income taxes, income items not subject to tax, non-deductible expenses and the mix of domestic and foreign sources of income.

We reported net income attributable to OfficeMax and noncontrolling interest of \$6.9 million and \$13.2 million for the first quarters of 2012 and 2011, respectively. After adjusting for joint venture earnings attributable to noncontrolling interest and preferred dividends, we reported net income available to OfficeMax common shareholders of \$4.9 million, or \$0.06 per diluted share, and \$11.4 million, or \$0.13 per diluted share, for the first quarters of 2012 and 2011, respectively. Adjusted net income available to OfficeMax common shareholders, as

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discussed above, was \$20.3 million, or \$0.23 per diluted share, for the first quarter of 2012, while the adjusted net income available to OfficeMax common shareholders for the first quarter of 2011 was \$11.4 million, or \$0.13 per diluted share.

Segment Discussion

We report our results using three reportable segments: Contract; Retail; and Corporate and Other.

Our Contract segment distributes a broad line of items for the office, including office supplies and paper, technology products and solutions, office furniture and print and document services. Contract sells directly to large corporate and government offices, as well as to small and medium-sized offices in the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. This segment markets and sells through field salespeople, outbound telesales, catalogs, the Internet and in some markets, including Canada, Australia and New Zealand, through office products stores.

Our Retail segment is a retail distributor of office supplies and paper, print and document services, technology products and solutions and office furniture. In addition, this segment contracts with large national retail chains to supply office and school supplies to be sold in their stores. Our retail office supply stores feature OfficeMax ImPress, an in-store module devoted to print-for-pay and related services. Retail has operations in the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Retail also operates office products stores in Mexico through a 51%-owned joint venture.

Our Corporate and Other segment includes support staff services and certain other legacy expenses as well as the related assets and liabilities. The income and expense related to certain assets and liabilities that are reported in the Corporate and Other segment have been allocated to the Contract and Retail segments.

Management evaluates the segments' performances using segment income (loss) which is based on operating income (loss) after eliminating the effect of certain operating items that are not indicative of our core operations such as severances, facility closures and adjustments, and asset impairments. These certain operating items are reported on the asset impairments and the other operating expenses lines in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Contract

(\$ in thousands)

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31, 2012	March 26, 2011
Sales	\$960,583	\$925,672
Gross profit	215,260	205,489
<i>Gross profit margin</i>	22.4%	22.2%
Operating, selling and general and administrative expenses	188,174	196,484
<i>Percentage of sales</i>	19.6%	21.2%
Segment income	\$ 27,086	\$ 9,005
<i>Percentage of sales</i>	2.8%	1.0%
Sales by product line		
Office supplies and paper	\$551,234	\$541,403
Technology products	307,625	291,064
Office furniture	101,724	93,205
Sales by geography		
United States	\$642,136	\$608,229
International	318,447	317,443
Sales growth	3.8%	(3.9)%

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Contract segment sales for the first quarter of 2012 increased 3.8% (2.8% in local currencies) to \$960.6 million from \$925.7 million for 2011. Fiscal 2011 contained an extra week for our domestic businesses which resulted in a shift in the calendar weeks that are included in each year's fiscal quarter. In addition, the U.S. experienced less severe weather in the first quarter of 2012 compared to 2011. U.S. sales increased 5.6% (2.7% after adjusting for the shift in weeks and the severe weather). Sales to newly acquired customers outpaced reduced sales due to lost customers, but were partially offset by a 2.9% decline in sales to existing customers. The 2.9% decline rate in sales to existing customers was an improvement from the decline rates of 6.4% and 3.6% in the third and fourth quarters of 2011, respectively. International sales increased 0.3% due to the favorable impact of the change in foreign exchange rates and declined 2.4% on a local currency basis in the first quarter of 2012 due to increased competitive pressures.

Contract segment gross profit margin increased 0.2% of sales (20 basis points) to 22.4% of sales for the first quarter of 2012 compared to 22.2% of sales for the first quarter of the previous year. The gross profit margins increased for both our U.S. and international Contract businesses. In the U.S. the improvement was due to lower occupancy expenses from the closure of three distribution centers in 2011 and modest increases in customer margins which were partially offset by increased freight and delivery expenses from higher fuel costs in the first quarter of 2012. The increase in the international businesses was primarily due to a strong back-to-school season in Australia, higher customer margins in Canada and lower occupancy expenses, which were partially offset by increased delivery expense.

Contract segment operating, selling and general and administrative expenses decreased \$8.3 million and decreased 1.6% of sales to 19.6% of sales for the first quarter of 2012 from 21.2% of sales in the first quarter of 2011. The decrease was primarily due to lower payroll and benefit expense due to reorganizations and facility closures in 2011 and lower marketing expense in 2012.

Contract segment income was \$27.1 million, or 2.8% of sales, for the first quarter of 2012, compared to \$9.0 million, or 1.0% of sales, for the first quarter of 2011. The increase in segment income was attributable to the increased sales, the higher gross profit margin and the lower operating, selling and general and administrative expenses.

Retail

(\$ in thousands)

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31, 2012	March 26, 2011
Sales	\$912,329	\$937,329
Gross profit	267,516	269,023
<i>Gross profit margin</i>	29.3%	28.7%
Operating, selling and general and administrative expenses	244,691	243,403
<i>Percentage of sales</i>	26.8%	26.0%
Segment income	\$ 22,825	\$ 25,620
<i>Percentage of sales</i>	2.5%	2.7%
Sales by product line		
Office supplies and paper	\$376,330	\$375,803
Technology products	479,249	503,825
Office furniture	56,750	57,701
Sales by geography		
United States	\$847,376	\$869,727
International	64,953	67,602
Sales growth	(2.7)%	(1.8)%
Same-location sales growth	(2.1)%	(1.2)%

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Retail segment sales for 2012 decreased by 2.7% (2.1% on a local currency basis) to \$912.3 million from \$937.3 million for the first quarter of 2011, reflecting reduced store traffic and store closures. In the first quarter of 2012, the U.S. did not experience as severe weather as in the first quarter of 2011. This less severe weather favorably impacted sales by approximately 1% in the first quarter of 2012 compared to the first quarter of 2011. U.S. same-store sales declined 1.7% for the first quarter of 2012 primarily due to lower store traffic and reduced technology sales, as average ticket amounts were flat compared to the first quarter of the prior year. Mexico same-store sales for the first quarter of 2012 increased 0.6% on a local currency basis year-over-year. We ended the first quarter of 2012 with 958 stores. In the U.S., we closed 23 retail stores during the first quarter of 2012 and opened one, ending the quarter with 874 retail stores, while Grupo OfficeMax, our majority-owned joint venture in Mexico, opened two stores during the first quarter of 2012 and closed none, ending the quarter with 84 retail stores.

Retail segment gross profit margin increased 0.6% of sales (60 basis points) to 29.3% of sales for the first quarter of 2012 compared to 28.7% of sales for the previous year's first quarter. The gross profit margin increase occurred in both the U.S. and Mexico, and was due to lower occupancy expenses, lower inventory shrinkage costs, and the impact of higher import duties in the first quarter of 2011 associated with purchases in prior periods. This improvement was partially offset by increased delivery expense due to higher fuel costs and the discounting of products at stores that were closed during the quarter.

Retail segment operating, selling and general and administrative expenses increased \$1.3 million, or 0.8% of sales, to 26.8% of sales for the first quarter of 2012 compared to 26.0% of sales for the first quarter of 2011 due to higher store employee bonus expense and higher spending associated with our growth and profitability initiatives.

Retail segment income was \$22.8 million, or 2.5% of sales, for the first quarter of 2012, compared to \$25.6 million, or 2.7% of sales, for the first quarter of 2011. The decrease in segment income was primarily attributable to the lower sales and the higher operating, selling and general and administrative expenses, partially offset by the higher gross profit margins.

Corporate and Other

Corporate and Other expenses for the first quarter of 2012 were \$6.8 million compared to \$6.0 million for the first quarter of 2011. The increase in expense for the first quarter of 2012 compared to the first quarter of 2011 was due to \$3.8 million of income in the first quarter of 2011 related to an adjustment in the cash surrender value of our COLI policies, partially offset by reduced spending and lower pension expense in 2012.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

At the end of the first quarter of 2012, the total liquidity available for OfficeMax was \$1,081.9 million. This includes cash and cash equivalents of \$501.3 million, including \$166.0 million in foreign cash balances, and borrowing availability of \$580.6 million from our credit agreement associated with the Company and certain of our subsidiaries in the U.S., Puerto Rico and Canada. During the first quarter of 2012, we exercised our option to terminate our credit agreement associated with our subsidiaries in Australia and New Zealand effective March 30, 2012. At the end of the first quarter of 2012, the Company was in compliance with all covenants under the one remaining credit agreement. The credit agreement associated with the Company and certain of our subsidiaries in the U.S., Puerto Rico and Canada expires on October 7, 2016. At the end of the first quarter of 2012, we had \$269.3 million of short-term and long-term recourse debt and \$1,470.0 million of non-recourse timber securitization notes outstanding.

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Under certain circumstances there are restrictions on our ability to repatriate certain amounts of foreign cash balances. If the Company chose to repatriate certain unrestricted foreign cash balances, it could result in income tax expense of approximately \$3 million in excess of the amount already accrued and approximately \$4 million in cash taxes due.

Our primary ongoing cash requirements relate to working capital, expenditures for property and equipment, technology enhancements and upgrades, lease obligations, pension funding and debt service. We expect to fund these requirements through a combination of our available cash balance and cash flow from operations. We also have the revolving credit facility as additional liquidity. The following sections of this Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations discuss in more detail our operating, investing, and financing activities, as well as our financing arrangements.

Operating Activities

Our operating activities provided cash of \$86.5 million in the first three months of 2012 compared to \$0.9 million in the first three months of 2011. Cash from operations for 2012 was higher than the prior year primarily reflecting favorable working capital changes which were partially offset by lower earnings. Changes in accounts payable and accrued liabilities were impacted by incentive compensation payments. The first quarter of 2012 reflected minimal payments related to incentive compensation as performance targets generally were not achieved for the 2011 annual incentive plan. The first quarter of 2011 included incentive compensation payments of approximately \$53 million related to the 2010 annual incentive plan.

Inventory balances at the end of the first quarters of 2012 and 2011 were comparable as the first quarter of each year reflected reductions of inventory balances from the respective prior year end. In addition to the changes discussed above, accounts payable and accrued liabilities also reflected a reduction in accounts payable from the timing of payments, as the ratio of payables to inventory improved. Collections from our domestic receivables were higher than prior year as there was increased vendor-supported promotional activity at year-end 2011.

We sponsor noncontributory defined benefit pension plans covering certain terminated employees, vested employees, retirees, and some active employees, primarily in Contract. Pension expense was \$0.8 million and \$2.5 million for the first quarters of 2012 and 2011, respectively. In the first quarters of 2012 and 2011, we made cash contributions to our pension plans totaling \$4.5 million and \$0.9 million, respectively. The estimated minimum required funding contribution in 2012 is approximately \$30 million and the expense is projected to be approximately \$3 million compared to expense of \$10.9 million in 2011. In addition, we may elect to make additional voluntary contributions.

Investing Activities

In the first three months of 2012, capital spending of \$15.5 million consisted of system improvements relating to our growth initiatives, overall software enhancements and infrastructure improvements, as well as spending on new stores in Mexico and the U.S.

We expect our capital investments in 2012 to be approximately \$75 million to \$100 million. Our capital spending in 2012 will be primarily for maintenance and investment in our systems, infrastructure and growth and profitability initiatives.

Financing Activities

Our financing activities used cash of \$0.4 million and \$3.7 million in the first quarters of 2012 and 2011, respectively.

Financing Arrangements

We lease our store space and certain other property and equipment under operating leases. These operating leases are not included in debt; however, they represent a significant commitment. Our obligations under operating leases are shown in the “Contractual Obligations” section of this Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

Our debt structure consists of credit agreements, note agreements, and other borrowings as described below. For more information, see the “Contractual Obligations” and “Disclosures of Financial Market Risks” sections of this Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

Credit Agreements

On October 7, 2011, we entered into a Second Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement (the “North American Credit Agreement”) with a group of banks. The North American Credit Agreement amended both our existing credit agreement that we were party to along with certain of our subsidiaries in the U.S. (the “U.S. Credit Agreement”) and our existing credit agreement to which our subsidiary in Canada was a party (the “Canadian Credit Agreement”) and consolidated them into a single credit agreement. The North American Credit Agreement permits us to borrow up to a maximum of \$650 million (U.S. dollars), of which \$50 million is allocated to our Canadian subsidiary, and \$600 million is allocated to the Company and its other participating U.S. subsidiaries, in each case subject to a borrowing base calculation that limits availability to a percentage of eligible trade and credit card receivables plus a percentage of the value of eligible inventory less certain reserves. The North American Credit Agreement may be increased (up to a maximum of \$850 million) at our request and the approval of the lenders participating in the increase, or may be reduced from time to time at our request, in each case according to the terms detailed in the North American Credit Agreement. Letters of credit, which may be issued under the North American Credit Agreement up to a maximum of \$250 million, reduce available borrowing capacity. Stand-by letters of credit issued under the North American Credit Agreement totaled \$51.5 million at the end of the first quarter of 2012. At the end of the first quarter of 2012, the maximum aggregate borrowing amount available under the North American Credit Agreement was \$632.1 million and availability under the North American Credit Agreement totaled \$580.6 million. At the end of the first quarter of 2012, we were in compliance with all covenants under the North American Credit Agreement. The North American Credit Agreement expires on October 7, 2016 and allows the payment of dividends, subject to availability restrictions and if no default has occurred.

Borrowings under the North American Credit Agreement are subject to interest at rates based on either the prime rate, the federal funds rate, LIBOR or the Canadian Dealer Offered Rate. An additional percentage, which varies depending on the level of average borrowing availability, is added to the applicable rates. Fees on letters of credit issued under the North American Credit Agreement are charged at rates between 1.25% and 2.25% depending on the type of letter of credit (i.e., stand-by or commercial) and the level of average borrowing availability. The Company is also charged an unused line fee of between 0.375% and 0.5% on the amount by which the maximum available credit exceeds the average daily outstanding borrowings and letters of credit. The fees on letters of credit were 1.75% and the unused line fee was 0.5% at March 31, 2012.

On March 15, 2010, the Company’s five wholly-owned subsidiaries based in Australia and New Zealand entered into a Facility Agreement (the “Australia/New Zealand Credit Agreement”) with a financial institution based in those countries. The Australia/New Zealand Credit Agreement permitted the subsidiaries in Australia and New Zealand to borrow up to a maximum of A\$80 million subject to a borrowing base calculation that limited availability to a percentage of eligible accounts receivable plus a percentage of the value of certain owned properties, less certain reserves. During the first quarter of 2012, the Company exercised its option to terminate the Australia/New Zealand Credit Agreement effective March 30, 2012.

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Timber Notes/Non-Recourse Debt

In October 2004, we sold our timberland assets in exchange for \$15 million in cash plus credit-enhanced timber installment notes in the amount of \$1,635 million (the "Installment Notes"). The Installment Notes were issued by single-member limited liability companies formed by affiliates of Boise Cascade, L.L.C (the "Note Issuers"). In order to support the Installment Notes, the Note Issuers transferred \$1,635 million in cash to Lehman and Wachovia Corporation ("Wachovia") (\$817.5 million to each of Lehman and Wachovia) who issued collateral notes to the Note Issuers and guaranteed the Installment Notes. In December 2004, we completed a securitization transaction in which the Company's interests in the Installment Notes and related guarantees were transferred to wholly-owned bankruptcy remote subsidiaries. The subsidiaries pledged the Installment Notes and related guarantees and issued securitized notes (the "Securitization Notes") in the amount of \$1,470 million. Recourse on the Securitization Notes is limited to the proceeds from the applicable pledged Installment Notes and underlying Lehman or Wachovia guaranty. **As a result, there is no recourse against OfficeMax, and the Securitization Notes have been reported as non-recourse debt in our Consolidated Balance Sheets.**

On September 15, 2008, Lehman filed for bankruptcy. Lehman's bankruptcy filing constituted an event of default under the \$817.5 million Installment Note guaranteed by Lehman (the "Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note"). We are required for accounting purposes to assess the carrying value of assets whenever circumstances indicate that a decline in value may have occurred. After evaluating the situation, we concluded in late October 2008 that as a result of the Lehman bankruptcy, it was probable that we would be unable to collect all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note. Accordingly, we evaluated the carrying value of the Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note and reduced it to the estimated amount we then expected to collect (\$81.8 million) by recording a non-cash impairment charge of \$735.8 million, pre-tax.

Measuring impairment of a loan requires judgment and estimates, and the eventual outcome may differ from our estimate by a material amount. The Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note has been pledged as collateral for the related Securitization Notes, and therefore it may not freely be transferred to any party other than the Indenture Trustee. Accordingly, the ultimate amount to be realized on the Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note depends on the proceeds from the Lehman bankruptcy estate. Lehman's disclosure statement on its Chapter 11 Plan (the "Disclosure Statement") was confirmed by the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York on December 6, 2011. The Disclosure Statement provides a range of estimated recoveries for various classes of unsecured creditors of Lehman. Pursuant to a stipulation entered into on October 7, 2011 and approved by the bankruptcy court on December 14, 2011, the claim of the Securitization Note holders through the Note Issuers will be treated as a class 3 senior unsecured claim (estimated to recover at a rate of approximately 21.1% under the Chapter 11 Plan) rather than falling into any other class of claims. Due to this categorization, the status of the bankruptcy proceedings, and based on information in the Disclosure Statement, it appears that Securitization Note holders may recover at a potential rate within the range of 17% to 20%. However, uncertainties exist as to the actual recovery that will ultimately be received on the claim. The disposition of a related claim of the Securitization Note holders through us on the guaranty may result in an additional recovery and the funds available for claimants will depend on Lehman's ongoing claims resolution process, the establishment of reserves for unresolved claims, and the value of the assets Lehman is able to liquidate. Due to these uncertainties and other factors, we have not increased our assumed recovery rate or the carrying value of the Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note. An initial distribution of approximately \$50 million on the claim through the Note Issuers was received from Lehman by the Note Issuers during April of 2012, and will ultimately be distributed to the note holders. Further distributions are expected to occur over a several-year period. Going forward, we intend to adjust the carrying value of the Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note as further information regarding the Securitization Note holders' share of the proceeds, if any, from the Lehman bankruptcy estate becomes available.

Recourse on the Securitization Notes is limited to the proceeds from the applicable pledged Installment Notes and underlying Lehman or Wachovia guaranty, and any proceeds we receive from the bankruptcy will be distributed to the Securitization Note holders. However, under current generally accepted accounting principles, we are required to continue to recognize the liability related to the Securitization Notes guaranteed by Lehman

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until such time as the liability has been extinguished. The liability will be extinguished when the Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note and the related guaranty are transferred to and accepted by the Securitization Note holders. We expect that this will occur when the remaining guaranty claim of the Securitization Note holders in the bankruptcy is resolved and as the Lehman assets are in the process of distribution. Accordingly, we expect to recognize a non-cash gain equal to the difference between the carrying amount of the Securitization Notes guaranteed by Lehman (\$735.0 million at March 31, 2012) and the carrying value of the Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note (\$81.8 million at March 31, 2012) in a later period when the liability is legally extinguished. The actual gain to be recognized in the future will be measured based on the carrying amounts of the Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note and the Securitization Notes guaranteed by Lehman at the date of settlement.

Any discussion of the Lehman bankruptcy in this document is strictly based on factual observations from the bankruptcy cases and should not be interpreted as constituting legal analysis of or admission as to the ultimate allowances of our claim based on the Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note or any Note Issuers' claim based on Collateral Notes, or the interplay thereof.

At the time of the sale of the timberlands in 2004, we generated a tax gain and recognized the related deferred tax liability. The timber installment notes structure allowed the Company to defer the resulting tax liability until 2020 (\$529 million at March 31, 2012), the maturity date for the Installment Notes. Due to the Lehman bankruptcy and note defaults, the recognition of the Lehman portion of the gain will be triggered in full when the Lehman Guaranteed Installment Note and the related guaranty are transferred to and accepted by the Securitization Note holders. When partial payments are received, the gain will be recognized on a pro rata basis. We expect to reduce estimated cash payments due by utilizing our available alternative minimum tax credits.

Through March 31, 2012, we have received all payments due under the Installment Notes guaranteed by Wachovia (the "Wachovia Guaranteed Installment Notes"), which have consisted only of interest due on the notes, and have made all payments due on the related Securitization Notes guaranteed by Wachovia, again consisting only of interest due. As all amounts due on the Wachovia Guaranteed Installment Notes are current, and we have no reason to believe that we will not collect all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the Wachovia Guaranteed Installment Notes, the notes are stated in our Consolidated Balance Sheet at their original principal amount of \$817.5 million. Wachovia was acquired by Wells Fargo & Company in a stock transaction in 2008. An additional adverse impact on our financial results presentation could occur if Wells Fargo & Company became unable to perform its obligations under the Wachovia Guaranteed Installment Notes, thereby resulting in a significant impairment impact.

The pledged Installment Notes and Securitization Notes are scheduled to mature in 2020 and 2019, respectively. The Securitization Notes have an initial term that is approximately three months shorter than the Installment Notes. We expect that if the Securitization Notes are still outstanding in 2019, we will refinance them with a short-term borrowing to bridge the period from initial maturity of the Securitization Notes to the maturity of the Installment Notes.

Contractual Obligations

For information regarding contractual obligations, see the caption "Contractual Obligations" in "Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011. At March 31, 2012, there had not been a material change to the information regarding contractual obligations disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011.

In accordance with an amended and restated joint venture agreement, the minority owner of Grupo OfficeMax, our joint-venture in Mexico, can elect to require OfficeMax to purchase the minority owner's 49% interest in the joint venture if certain earnings targets are achieved. Earnings targets are calculated quarterly on a

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rolling four-quarter basis. Accordingly, the targets may be achieved in one quarter but not in the next. If the earnings targets are achieved and the minority owner elects to require OfficeMax to purchase the minority owner's interest, the purchase price is based on the joint venture's earnings and the current market multiples of similar companies. At the end of the first quarter of 2012, Grupo OfficeMax met the earnings targets and the estimated purchase price of the minority owner's interest was \$35.1 million. This represents an increase in the estimated purchase price from the end of the prior fiscal year. As the estimated purchase price was greater than the carrying value of the noncontrolling interest as of the end of the quarter, the Company increased the noncontrolling interest to the estimated purchase price, with the offset recorded to additional paid-in capital.

Off-Balance-Sheet Activities and Guarantees

For information regarding off-balance-sheet activities and guarantees, see "Off-Balance-Sheet Activities and Guarantees" in "Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011. At March 31, 2012, there had not been a material change to the information regarding off-balance-sheet activities and guarantees disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Seasonal Influences

Our business is seasonal, with Retail showing a more pronounced seasonal trend than Contract. Sales in the second quarter are historically the slowest of the year. Sales are stronger during the first, third and fourth quarters, which include the important new-year office supply restocking month of January, the back-to-school period and the holiday selling season, respectively.

Disclosures of Financial Market Risks

Financial Instruments

Our debt is predominantly fixed-rate. At March 31, 2012, the estimated current fair value of our debt, based on quoted market prices when available or then-current interest rates for similar obligations with like maturities, including the timber notes, was approximately \$536 million less than the amount of debt reported in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. As previously discussed, there is no recourse against OfficeMax on the securitized timber notes payable as recourse is limited to proceeds from the applicable pledged Installment Notes receivable and underlying guarantees. The debt and receivables related to the timber notes have fixed interest rates and are reflected in the tables below, along with the carry amounts and estimated fair values.

The following table provides information about our financial instruments outstanding at March 31, 2012 that are sensitive to changes in interest rates. The following table does not include our obligations for pension plans and other post retirement benefits, although market risk also arises within our defined benefit pension plans to the extent that the obligations of the pension plans are not fully matched by assets with determinable cash flows. We sponsor noncontributory defined benefit pension plans covering certain terminated employees, vested employees, retirees, and some active OfficeMax employees. As our plans were frozen in 2003, our active employees and all inactive participants who are covered by the plans are no longer accruing additional benefits. However, the pension plan obligations are still subject to change due to fluctuations in long-term interest rates as well as factors impacting actuarial valuations, such as retirement rates and pension plan participants' increased life expectancies. In addition to changes in pension plan obligations, the amount of plan assets available to pay benefits, contribution levels and expense are also impacted by the return on the pension plan assets. The pension plan assets include OfficeMax common stock, U.S. equities, international equities, global equities and fixed-income securities, the cash flows of which change as equity prices and interest rates vary. The risk is that market movements in equity prices and interest rates could result in assets that are insufficient over time to cover the level of projected obligations. This in turn could result in significant changes in pension expense and funded status, further impacting future required contributions. Management, together with the trustees who act on behalf

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of the pension plan beneficiaries, assess the level of this risk using reports prepared by independent external actuaries and take action, where appropriate, in terms of setting investment strategy and agreed contribution levels.

	March 31, 2012		December 31, 2011	
	Carrying amount	Fair value	Carrying amount	Fair value
(millions)				
Financial assets:				
Timber notes receivable				
Wachovia	\$ 817.5	\$959.6	\$ 817.5	\$943.7
Lehman	81.8	81.8	81.8	81.8
Financial liabilities:				
Recourse debt				
	\$ 269.3	\$249.5	\$ 268.2	\$240.8
Non-recourse debt				
Wachovia	\$ 735.0	\$872.2	\$ 735.0	\$858.8
Lehman	735.0	81.8	735.0	81.8

Changes in foreign currency exchange rates expose us to financial market risk. We occasionally use derivative financial instruments, such as forward exchange contracts, to manage our exposure associated with commercial transactions and certain liabilities that are denominated in a currency other than the currency of the operating unit entering into the underlying transaction. We generally do not enter into derivative instruments for any other purpose. We do not speculate using derivative instruments. We were not a party to any material derivative instruments during 2012.

The estimated fair values of our other financial instruments, including cash and cash equivalents and receivables are the same as their carrying values. Concentration of credit risks with respect to trade receivables is limited due to the wide variety of vendors, customers and channels to and through which our products are sourced and sold, as well as their dispersion across many geographic areas. In the fourth quarter of 2011, we became aware of financial difficulties at one of our large Contract customers. We granted the customer extended payment terms and in exchange are requesting a security interest in their assets and are implementing creditor oversight provisions. The receivable from this customer was \$34 million at March 31, 2012 and the customer is paying according to the agreed upon terms. The majority of this balance has been collected to date. Based on our ongoing sales to this customer, we continue to carry similar receivable balances, which we monitor closely.

Facility Closure Reserves

We conduct regular reviews of our real estate portfolio to identify underperforming facilities, and close those facilities that are no longer strategically or economically beneficial. We record a liability for the cost associated with a facility closure at its estimated fair value in the period in which the liability is incurred, primarily the location's cease-use date. Upon closure, unrecoverable costs are included in facility closure reserves and include provisions for the present value of future lease obligations, less contractual or estimated sublease income. Accretion expense is recognized over the life of the payments.

In the first three months of 2012, we recorded charges of \$25.3 million primarily related to the closure of 15 underperforming stores prior to the end of their lease terms.

At March 31, 2012, the facility closure reserve was \$72.5 million with \$18.4 million included in current liabilities, and \$54.1 million included in long-term liabilities. The reserve represents future lease obligations of \$134.1 million, net of anticipated sublease income of approximately \$61.6 million. Cash payments relating to the facility closures were \$3.8 million and \$6.8 million in the first three months of 2012 and 2011, respectively.

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Environmental

For information regarding environmental issues, see the caption “Environmental” in “Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011. At March 31, 2012, there has not been a material change to the information regarding environmental issues disclosed in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ending December 31, 2011.

Critical Accounting Estimates

For information regarding critical accounting estimates, see the caption “Critical Accounting Estimates” in “Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011. There have been no significant changes to the Company’s critical accounting estimates during the first three months of 2012.

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

For information regarding market risk see the caption “Disclosures of Financial Market Risks” herein and in “Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011. At March 31, 2012, except as disclosed herein in “Disclosures of Financial Market Risks”, there had not been a material change to the information regarding market risk disclosed in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011.

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

(a) Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

As of the end of the period covered by this report, the chief executive officer and chief financial officer directed and supervised an evaluation of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”). The evaluation was conducted to determine whether the Company’s disclosure controls and procedures were effective in bringing material information about the Company to the attention of senior management. Based on this evaluation, our chief executive officer and chief financial officer concluded that as of the end of the period covered by this report, the Company’s disclosure controls and procedures were effective in alerting them in a timely manner to material information that the Company is required to disclose in its filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

(b) Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

PART II—OTHER INFORMATION**ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

We are involved in litigation and administrative proceedings arising in the normal course of our business. In the opinion of management, our recovery, if any, or our liability, if any, under pending litigation or administrative proceedings would not materially affect our financial position, results of operations or cash flows. For information concerning legal proceedings, see Note 16, “Legal Proceedings and Contingencies”, of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in “Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data” in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

For information regarding risk factors, see “Item 1A. Risk Factors” in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011. There have been no material changes to the Company’s risk factors during the first three months of 2012.

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

Information concerning our stock repurchases during the three months ended March 31, 2012 is below. All stock was withheld to satisfy tax withholding obligations upon vesting of restricted stock awards.

<u>Period</u>	<u>Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased</u>	<u>Average Price Paid Per Share (or Unit)</u>	<u>Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs</u>	<u>Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares (or Units) that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs</u>
January 1 – January 28, 2012	13,189	\$ 4.74	—	—
January 29 – February 25, 2012	188,338	5.62	—	—
February 26 – March 31, 2012	19	5.58	—	—
Total	201,546	\$ 5.56	—	—

ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES

None

ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

None

ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION

None

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

Required exhibits are listed in the Index to Exhibits and are incorporated by reference.

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.

OFFICEMAX INCORPORATED

/s/ BRUCE BESANKO

Bruce Besanko
*Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Administrative
Officer*
*(As Duly Authorized Officer and Principal
Financial Officer)*

Date: May 8, 2012

OFFICEMAX INCORPORATED
INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Filed with the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the Quarter Ended March 31, 2012

<u>Exhibit Number</u>	<u>Exhibit Description</u>
3.1(1)	Conformed Restated Certificate of Incorporation, reflecting all amendments to date.
3.2(2)	Amended and Restated Bylaws, as amended February 12, 2009.
10.1(3)	Form of 2012 Annual Incentive Award Agreement (Company).
10.2(4)	Form of 2012 Annual Incentive Award Agreement between OfficeMax Incorporated and Ravi Saligram.
10.3(5)	Form of 2012 Nonqualified Stock Option Award Agreement.
10.4(6)	Form of 2012 Performance-Based RSU Award Agreement.
10.5(7)	Form of 2012 Performance Unit Award Agreement.
10.6*	Form of 2012 Annual Incentive Award Agreement (Executive Vice President – Business Unit).
10.7*	Change in Control Agreement dated as of April 11, 2012 between OfficeMax Incorporated and Mr. Ron Lalla.
10.8*	Nondisclosure and Fair Competition Agreement dated as of March 19, 2012 between OfficeMax Incorporated and Mr. Ron Lalla.
31.1*	CEO Certification Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2*	CFO Certification Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32*	Section 906 Certifications of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of OfficeMax Incorporated.
101.INS(8)*	XBRL Instance Document.
101.SCH(8)*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document.
101.CAL(8)*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document.
101.DEF(8)*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document.
101.LAB(8)*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document.
101.PRE(8)*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document.

* Submitted with this Form 10-Q.

- (1) Exhibit 3.1 was filed under the exhibit 3.1.1 in our Registration Statement on Form S-1 dated November 4, 2009, and is incorporated herein by reference.
- (2) Exhibit 3.2 was filed under the exhibit 3.2 in our Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 18, 2009, and is incorporated herein by reference.
- (3) Exhibit 10.1 was filed under the exhibit 99.1 in our Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 22, 2012, and is incorporated herein by reference.
- (4) Exhibit 10.2 was filed under the exhibit 99.2 in our Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 22, 2012, and is incorporated herein by reference.
- (5) Exhibit 10.3 was filed under the exhibit 99.3 in our Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 22, 2012, and is incorporated herein by reference.
- (6) Exhibit 10.4 was filed under the exhibit 99.4 in our Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 22, 2012, and is incorporated herein by reference.

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- (7) Exhibit 10.5 was filed under the exhibit 99.5 in our Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 22, 2012, and is incorporated herein by reference
- (8) These interactive data files are deemed not filed or part of a registration statement or prospectus for purposes of Sections 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 those sections.

OFFICEMAX INCORPORATED
2012 Annual Incentive Award Agreement
Executive Vice President – Business Unit

This potential **Annual Incentive Award** (the “Award”) is granted on **Date** (the “Award Date”), by OfficeMax Incorporated (the “Company”) to **Name** (“Awardee” or “you”) pursuant to the 2003 OfficeMax Incentive and Performance Plan, as may be amended from time to time (the “Plan”), and the following terms and conditions of this agreement (the “Agreement”):

1. **Terms and Conditions.** The Award is subject to all the terms and conditions of the Plan. All capitalized terms not defined in this Agreement shall have the meaning stated in the Plan. If there is any inconsistency between the terms of this Agreement and the terms of the Plan, the terms of the Plan shall control unless this Agreement expressly states that an exception to the Plan is being made.
2. **Definitions.** For purposes of this Award, the following terms shall have the meanings stated below.
 - 2.1. “Award Period” means the Company’s fiscal year ending on December 29, 2012.
 - 2.2. “Base Salary” means your annual pay rate in effect at the end of the Award Period, (a) including any amounts deferred pursuant to an election under any 401(k) plan, pre-tax premium plan, deferred compensation plan, or flexible spending account sponsored by the Company or any Subsidiary, (b) but excluding any incentive compensation, employee benefit, or other cash benefit paid or provided under any incentive, bonus or employee benefit plan sponsored by the Company or any Subsidiary, and/or any excellence award, gains upon stock option exercises, restricted stock grants or vesting, moving or travel expense reimbursement, imputed income, or tax gross-ups, without regard to whether the payment or gain is taxable income to you.
 - 2.3. “EBIT” means the Company’s earnings from continuing operations, excluding the impact of foreign currency exchange-rate fluctuation, before interest and taxes adjusted for special items as disclosed and discussed in the earnings release for the award period, as calculated by the Company, consistent with Section 162(m) of the Code, in its sole and complete discretion.
 - 2.4. “Net Sales” means the company’s net sales, excluding the impact of foreign currency exchange-rate fluctuation, for the award period as calculated by the Company, consistent with Section 162(m) of the Code, in its sole and complete discretion.
 - 2.5. “Return on Sales” means the ratio of the Company’s EBIT divided by Net Sales. Specifically, the ratio of the Company’s EBIT to Net Sales, expressed as a percentage, for the award period as calculated by the Company, consistent with Section 162(m) of the Code, in its sole and complete discretion.
3. **Target Award.** You are hereby awarded a target Award of **xx%** of your Base Salary (referred to herein as your “Target Award”) subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Plan and this Agreement.
4. **Minimum Performance Measurement.** As a condition of payment of the Award, the Company must achieve positive net income from continuing operations available to OfficeMax common shareholders adjusted for special items as disclosed and discussed in the earnings release and the Company must meet a minimum EBIT threshold of \$xxx.x million. If the above minimum performance measurements are achieved, you may be eligible to receive up to 175% of your Target Award. The actual amount of your Award will be determined pursuant to and in accordance with paragraph 5.

5. **Award Calculation.** Your Award will be calculated as follows:

5.1. Based on the Company’s Net Sales, EBIT, and Return on Sales, and the business unit goal(s) as weighted below (80% Total Company and 20% Business Unit), a payout amount will be determined using the chart below:

Total Company:

Net Sales (millions) Weight: %	EBIT (millions) Weight: %	ROS Percentage Weight: %	Payout as of % of Target
			0%
			20%
			70%
			100%
			175%

Business Unit:

Sales – Business Unit (millions) Weight: %	EBIT – Business Unit (millions) Weight: %	Payout as of % of Target
		0%
		20%
		100%
		175%

The applicable percentage is separately applied to each weighted performance measurement.

5.2. *General Terms.*

- 5.2.1 Payout multiples between the percentages and numbers indicated on the chart above will be calculated using straight-line interpolation.
- 5.2.2 Any Award that is earned will be paid in cash as soon as practicable after the Award Period, but in no event later than March 15 of the year following the year in which the Award Period ended.
- 5.2.3 If you are on a leave of absence during the Award Period, any Award payable to you shall be prorated based solely on the number of days during the Award Period that you actually worked and were eligible to participate in the Plan divided by the total number of days in the Award Period.
- 5.2.4 You must be actively employed or newly eligible for 90 days in order to be eligible to participate in the Plan for the Award Period.
- 5.2.5 No Award shall be earned if you receive a performing rating of “below expectations” or “unsatisfactory” and/or “does not live values” under the performance management program for the Award Period.

6. **Effect of Termination of Employment.** If you terminate employment at any time on or after the Award Date and before the Award is paid, your Award will be treated as follows:

- 6.1. If your termination of employment is a direct result of the sale or permanent closure of any facility or operating unit of the Company or any Subsidiary, or a bona fide curtailment, or a reduction in workforce, as determined by the Company in its sole and complete discretion, and you execute a waiver/release in the form required by the Company, you will receive a pro rata Award, if an Award is paid, based on the number of days during the Award Period that you were employed with the Company and were eligible to participate in the Plan divided by the total number of days in the Award Period.
 - 6.2. If your termination of employment is a result of your death or total and permanent disability, as determined by the Company in its sole and complete discretion, you will receive a pro rata Award, if an Award is paid, calculated as provided in paragraph 6.1.
 - 6.3. If, at the time of your termination, you are at least age 55 and have completed at least 10 years of employment with the Company, as determined by the Company in its sole and complete discretion, you will receive a pro rata Award, if an Award is paid, calculated as provided in paragraph 6.1.
 - 6.4. You must be actively employed with the Company for a minimum of 90 days during the Award Period in order to be eligible for any pro rata payment described in this paragraph 6.
 - 6.5. Except as described in paragraphs 5.2.3, 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3, you must be actively employed by the Company or its Subsidiary on the date Awards are paid in order to be eligible to receive payment of an Award. You have no vested interest to the Award prior to the Award actually being paid to you by the Company. If you terminate employment with the Company for any reason other than as described in paragraph 6.1, 6.2 or 6.3, whether your termination is voluntary or involuntary, with or without cause, you will not be eligible to receive payment of any Award for the Award Period.
7. **Right of the Committee.** The Committee reserves the right to reduce or eliminate the Award for any reason.
8. **Change in Control.** In the event of a Change in Control prior to the end of the Award Period, the continuing entity may continue this Award. Notwithstanding any provisions of this Agreement or the Plan to the contrary, if the continuing entity does not so continue this Award, this Award shall become immediately fully vested and 100% of your Target Award shall be payable as of the date of such Change in Control. "Change in Control" shall be defined in an agreement providing specific benefits upon a change in control or in the Plan.

You must sign this Agreement and return it to OfficeMax's Compensation Department on or before date. Return your executed Agreement to: Becky Cohen, OfficeMax, Compensation Department, 263 Shuman Boulevard, Naperville, Illinois 60563 or by fax at (630)647-3722.

OfficeMax Incorporated

Awardee: **Name**

Steve Parsons

Executive Vice President,
Chief Human Resources Officer

Signature

Printed Name

Date



CONFIDENTIAL

April 11, 2012

Ron Lalla

[Address]

Dear Ron,

OfficeMax Incorporated (the "Company") provides you with the severance benefits described in this letter agreement (the "Agreement") if your employment with the Company is terminated before or after a "potential change in control of the Company" or a "change in control of the Company" (each as defined in Section 2 of the Agreement). The Agreement terms are as follows:

1. **Term of Agreement.** This Agreement is effective as of March 19, 2012 and shall continue in effect through January 1, 2013 provided that, on each January 1, the term of this Agreement shall automatically be extended so as to terminate on the 2nd anniversary of such date, unless, not later than September 30 of the preceding year, the Company shall have given notice not to extend this Agreement. However, if a change in control of the Company occurs during the term of this Agreement, this Agreement shall continue in effect for a period of 24 months after the month in which the change in control of the Company occurred.

2. **Change in Control.**

A. A "change in control of the Company" shall be deemed to have occurred if an event set forth in any one of the following paragraphs occurs:

(1) Any Person is or becomes the Beneficial Owner, directly or indirectly, of securities of the Company representing 25% or more of either the then outstanding shares of common stock of the Company or the combined voting power of the Company's then outstanding securities; provided, however, if such Person acquires securities directly from the Company, such securities shall not be included unless such Person acquires additional securities which, when added to the securities acquired directly from the Company, exceed 25% of the Company's then outstanding shares of common stock or the combined voting power of the Company's then outstanding securities; and provided further that any acquisition of securities by any Person in connection with a transaction described in Subsection 2.A(3)(i) of this Agreement shall not be deemed to be a change in control of the Company; or

(2) The individuals who, on any date following the date hereof, constitute the Board (the "Incumbent Board Members"), cease, in any two year period following such date, to represent at least a majority of the number of directors then serving, provided, however, that any new director whose appointment or election by the Board or nomination for election by the Company's stockholders was approved by a vote of at least 2/3rds of the Incumbent Board Members shall be deemed for purposes hereof to be Incumbent Board Members, unless such director's initial assumption of office is in connection with an actual or threatened election contest, including but not limited to a consent solicitation, relating to the election of directors of the Company; or

(3) The consummation of a merger or consolidation of the Company (or any direct or indirect subsidiary of the Company) with any other corporation other than (i) a merger or consolidation which would result in both (a) Incumbent Board Members continuing to constitute at least a majority of the number of directors of the combined entity immediately following consummation of such merger or consolidation, and (b) the voting securities of the Company outstanding immediately prior to such merger or consolidation continuing to represent (either by remaining outstanding or by being converted into voting securities of the surviving entity or any parent thereof) more than 50% of the combined voting power of the voting securities of the Company or such surviving entity or any parent thereof outstanding immediately after such merger or consolidation, or (ii) a merger or consolidation effected with the approval of the Board to implement a recapitalization of the Company (or similar transaction) in which no Person is or becomes the Beneficial Owner, directly or indirectly, of securities of the Company representing 25% or more of either the then outstanding shares of common stock of the Company or the combined voting power of the Company's then outstanding securities; provided that securities acquired directly from the Company shall not be included unless the Person acquires additional securities which, when added to the securities acquired directly from the Company, exceed 25 % of the Company's then outstanding shares of common stock or the combined voting power of the Company's then outstanding securities; and provided further that any acquisition of securities by any Person in connection with a transaction described in Subsection 2.A(3)(i) of this Agreement shall not be deemed to be a change in control of the Company; or

(4) The stockholders of the Company approve a plan of complete liquidation or dissolution of the Company or the consummation of an agreement for the sale or disposition by the Company of all or substantially all of the Company's assets, other than a sale or disposition by the Company of all or substantially all of the Company's assets to an entity, more than 50% of the combined voting power of the voting securities of which are owned by Persons in substantially the same proportions as their ownership of the Company immediately prior to such sale.

A transaction described in Section 2.A(3) which is not a change in control of the Company solely due to the operation of Subsection 2.A(3)(i)(a) will nevertheless constitute a change in control of the Company if the Board determines, prior to the consummation of the transaction, that there is not a reasonable assurance

that, for at least two years following the consummation of the transaction, at least a majority of the members of the board of directors of the surviving entity or any parent will continue to consist of Continuing Directors and individuals whose election or nomination for election by the shareholders of the surviving entity or any parent would be approved by a vote of at least two-thirds of the Continuing Directors and individuals whose election or nomination for election has previously been so approved.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, any event or transaction which would otherwise constitute a change in control of the Company (a "Transaction") shall not constitute a change in control of the Company for purposes of your benefits under this Agreement if, in connection with the Transaction, you participate as an equity investor in the acquiring entity or any of its affiliates (the "Acquiror"). For purposes of the preceding sentence, you shall not be deemed to have participated as an equity investor in the Acquiror by virtue of (a) obtaining beneficial ownership of any equity interest in the Acquiror as a result of the grant to you of an incentive compensation award under one or more incentive plans of the Acquiror (including but not limited to the conversion in connection with the Transaction of incentive compensation awards of the Company into incentive compensation awards of the Acquiror), on terms and conditions substantially equivalent to those applicable to other executives of the Company immediately prior to the Transaction, after taking into account normal differences attributable to job responsibilities, title, and the like; (b) obtaining beneficial ownership of any equity interest in the Acquiror on terms and conditions substantially equivalent to those obtained in the Transaction by all other stockholders of the Company; or (c) having obtained an incidental equity ownership in the Acquiror prior to and not in anticipation of the Transaction.

B. For purposes of this Agreement, a "potential change in control of the Company" shall be deemed to have occurred if (1) the Company enters into an agreement, the consummation of which would result in the occurrence of a change in control of the Company, (2) the Company or any Person publicly announces an intention to take or to consider taking actions which if consummated would constitute a change in control of the Company; (3) any Person becomes the Beneficial Owner, directly or indirectly, of securities of the Company representing 9.5% or more of either the then outstanding shares of common stock of the Company or the combined voting power of the Company's then outstanding securities, provided that securities acquired directly from the Company shall not be included unless the Person acquires additional securities which, when added to the securities acquired directly from the Company, exceed 9.5% of the Company's then outstanding shares of common stock (or the combined voting power of the Company's then outstanding securities); or (4) the Board adopts a resolution to the effect that a potential change in control of the Company for purposes of this Agreement has occurred. You agree that, subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, in the event of a potential change in control of the Company, you will at the option of the Company remain in the employ of the Company until the earlier of (a) the date which is 6 months from the occurrence of the first potential change in control of the Company, or (b) the date of a change in control of the Company.

C. For purposes of this Agreement, “Beneficial Owner” shall have the meaning set forth in Rule 13d-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”).

D. For purposes of this Agreement, “Person” shall have the meaning given in Section 3(a)(9) of the Exchange Act, as modified and used in Sections 13(d) and 14(d) thereof, except that “Person” shall not include (1) the Company or any of its subsidiaries, (2) a trustee or other fiduciary holding securities under an employee benefit plan of the Company or any of its subsidiaries, (3) an underwriter temporarily holding securities pursuant to an offering of such securities, (4) a corporation owned, directly or indirectly, by the stockholders of the Company in substantially the same proportions as their ownership of stock of the Company, or (5) an individual, entity or group that is permitted to and does report its beneficial ownership of securities of the Company on Schedule 13G under the Exchange Act (or any successor schedule), provided that if the individual, entity or group later becomes required to or does report its ownership of Company securities on Schedule 13D under the Exchange Act (or any successor schedule), then the individual, person or group shall be deemed to be a Person for purposes of this Agreement as of the first date on which the individual, person or group becomes required to or does report its ownership on Schedule 13D.

3. Termination and Change in Control. Except as set forth in Sections 6, 7, and 10.A, no benefits shall be payable under this Agreement unless there is a change in control of the Company, your employment is terminated, and your termination is a Qualifying Termination or a Qualifying Early Termination. Your termination is a Qualifying Termination if a change in control of the Company occurs and your employment subsequently terminates during the term of this Agreement, unless your termination is because of your death, by the Company for Cause or Disability, or by you other than for Good Reason. Your termination is a Qualifying Early Termination if a potential change in control of the Company occurs, your employment terminates during the pendency of the potential change in control of the company and during the term of this Agreement, the termination is in contemplation of a change in control of the Company, and an actual change in control of the Company occurs within one year following your termination, unless your termination is because of your death, by the Company for Cause or Disability, or by you other than for Good Reason. A transfer of your employment from the Company to one of its subsidiaries, from a subsidiary to the Company, or between subsidiaries is not a termination of employment for purposes of this Agreement.

A. Disability. If, as a result of your incapacity due to physical or mental illness or injury, you are absent from your duties with the Company on a full-time basis for 6 consecutive months, and within 30 days after written notice of termination is given you have not returned to the full-time performance of your duties, the Company may terminate your employment for “Disability.”

B. Cause. Termination by the Company of your employment for “Cause” means termination upon (1) your willful and continued failure to substantially perform your duties with the Company (other than failure resulting from your incapacity due to physical or mental illness or injury, or actual or anticipated failure resulting from your termination for Good Reason), after a demand for substantial performance is delivered to you by the Board which specifically identifies the manner in which the Board believes that you have not substantially performed your duties, or (2) your willful engagement in conduct which is demonstrably and materially injurious to the Company, monetarily or otherwise. For purposes of this Section 3.B, no act or failure to act on your part shall be considered “willful” unless done or omitted to be done by you not in good faith and without reasonable belief that your act or omission was in the best interest of the Company. Notwithstanding the foregoing, you shall not be deemed to have been terminated for Cause unless and until:

- a resolution is duly adopted by the affirmative vote of not less than three-quarters of the entire membership of the Board at a meeting of the Board called and held for the purpose (after reasonable notice to you and an opportunity for you, together with your counsel, to be heard before the Board), finding that in the good faith opinion of the Board you were guilty of conduct set forth above in clauses (1) or (2) of this Section 3.B and specifying the particulars of your conduct in detail, and
- a copy of this resolution is delivered to you.

All decisions by the Company regarding termination for Cause must be supported by clear and convincing evidence.

C. Good Reason. “Good Reason” means any of the following, if occurring without your express written consent after a change in control of the Company:

(1) The assignment to you of any duties materially inconsistent with your responsibilities as an Executive Officer of the Company or a significant adverse alteration in your responsibilities from those in effect immediately prior to the change in control of the Company;

(2) A material reduction by the Company in your annual base salary as in effect on the date of this Agreement (as the same may be increased from time to time), except for across-the-board salary reductions similarly affecting all executives of the Company and all executives of any Person in control of the Company;

(3) A material reduction by the Company in your target annual cash incentive as in effect immediately prior to the change in control of the Company;

(4) The Company's requiring you to be based anywhere located more than 50 miles from the primary office location at which you were based immediately prior to the change in control of the Company, except for required travel on the Company's business to an extent substantially consistent with your business travel obligations as existed immediately prior to the change in control;

(5) Following the change in control of the Company, a material reduction by the Company in aggregate benefits and compensation available to you, including paid time off, welfare benefits, short-term incentives, pension, life insurance, healthcare, and disability plans, as compared to such benefits and compensation available to you immediately prior to the change in control of the Company;

(6) Following the change in control of the Company, a material reduction by the Company in long-term equity incentives available to you as compared to such incentives available to you immediately prior to the change in control of the Company, except for across-the-board long-term equity incentive reductions similarly affecting all executives of the Company and all executives of any Person in control of the Company; or

(7) The failure of the Company to obtain a satisfactory agreement from any successor to assume and agree to perform this Agreement, as contemplated in Section 10.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the events described in clauses (1) through (7) above shall not constitute Good Reason unless (A) you have delivered a Notice of Termination to the Company according to Sections 3.D. and 11 within 90 days of the occurrence of the event, which notice sets forth in reasonable detail the basis for your claim that Good Reason exists and (B) the Company fails to cure such event or circumstance within the 30 day period following receipt of such Notice of Termination.

For purposes of determining whether a Qualifying Early Termination has occurred, references to a change in control of the Company in this Section 3.C shall be deemed to refer to any potential change in control of the Company pending at the time of the event or circumstance alleged to be Good Reason.

Your right to terminate your employment pursuant to this Section 3.C shall not be affected by your incapacity due to physical or mental illness or injury. Your continued employment shall not constitute consent to, or a waiver of rights with respect to, any act or failure to act constituting Good Reason.

D. Notice of Termination. Any purported termination by the Company or by you shall be communicated by written Notice of Termination to the other party according to Section 11. A "Notice of Termination" must indicate the specific termination provision in this Agreement relied upon and set forth in reasonable detail the facts and circumstances claimed to provide a basis for termination of your employment under the indicated provision.

E. Date of Termination. "Date of Termination" means:

(1) if your employment is terminated for Disability, 30 days after the Notice of Termination is given (provided that you have not returned to the performance of your duties on a full-time basis during that 30-day period);

(2) if your employment is terminated for Cause, for Good Reason, or for any other reason other than Disability or a Qualifying Early Termination, the date specified in the Notice of Termination (which, in the case of a termination for Cause shall not be less than 30 days from the date the Notice of Termination is given, and in the case of a termination for Good Reason shall not be less than 10 days or more than 60 days from the date the Notice of Termination is given);

(3) if your termination is a Qualifying Early Termination, the later of the date determined according to subsection (1) or (2) above, or the date upon which the actual change in control of the Company occurs; or

(4) if a dispute exists regarding the termination, the date on which the dispute is finally determined, either by mutual written agreement of the parties or by a final judgment, order or decree of a court of competent jurisdiction (the time for appeal having expired and no appeal having been perfected), or, if earlier, the last day of the term of this Agreement. This subsection (4) shall apply only if (i) the party receiving the Notice of Termination notifies the other party within 30 days that a dispute exists, (ii) the notice of dispute is made in good faith, and (iii) the party giving the notice of dispute pursues resolution of the dispute with reasonable diligence. While any dispute is pending under this subsection (4), the Company will continue to pay you your full compensation in effect when the Notice of Termination giving rise to the dispute was given (including, but not limited to, base salary) and continue you as a participant in all compensation, benefit and insurance plans and programs in which you were participating when the Notice of Termination giving rise to the dispute was given, until the dispute is finally resolved, or if earlier, the last day of the term of this Agreement. Amounts paid under this subsection (4) are in addition to all other amounts due under this Agreement and shall not be offset against or reduce any other amounts due under this Agreement.

4. Compensation upon Termination for Cause or Other than for Good Reason. If your employment is terminated for Cause or by you other than for Good Reason, the Company shall pay you only your full base salary through the Date of

Termination at the rate in effect at the time Notice of Termination is given, plus all other amounts to which you are entitled under any compensation plan of the Company at the time those payments are due, and the Company shall have no further obligations to you under this Agreement.

5. Compensation upon a Qualifying Termination or Qualifying Early Termination. If your employment is terminated pursuant to a Qualifying Termination or Qualifying Early Termination, then you shall be entitled to the benefits provided in this Section 5, provided (a) you execute and deliver to the Company the release required pursuant to Section 8.E within 60 days of your Date of Termination (or, in the case of a Qualifying Early Termination, your last day of employment), (b) you do not revoke such release before the expiration of any revocation period provided for in such release, and (c) the revocation period provided for in such release has expired before or within 60 days of your Date of Termination (or, in the case of a Qualifying Early Termination, your last day of employment).

A. The Company will pay you the amounts specified below upon the expiration of any revocation period provided for in the release:

(1) Your full base salary through the Date of Termination (or, in the case of a Qualifying Early Termination, through your last day of employment if such amount has not already been paid) at the rate in effect at the time Notice of Termination is given without regard to any reduction in base salary that would constitute Good Reason (whether or not any reduction is asserted as Good Reason), plus all other amounts to which you are entitled under any compensation plan of the Company at the time those payments are due (in each case, to the extent not already paid); and

(2) To the extent not already paid, a lump sum amount equal to the greater of the value of your unused and accrued time off, less any advanced time off, in accordance with the Company's Your Time Off Policy (or any successor policy) as in effect immediately prior to the change in control of the Company or as in effect on the Date of Termination (or, in the case of a Qualifying Early Termination, as in effect on your last day of employment), whichever is more favorable to you; and

(3) A lump sum severance payment equal to two times the sum of (a) your annual base salary at the rate in effect at the time Notice of Termination is given without regard to any reduction in base salary that would constitute Good Reason (whether or not any reduction is asserted as Good Reason) ("Base Salary"), plus (b) the Target Bonus. For purposes of this paragraph (3), "Target Bonus" means an amount equal to the average annual incentive earned by you in the three completed years preceding the Date of Termination (or, in the case of a Qualifying Early Termination, your last day of employment), provided that in either case, if you have earned fewer than three annual bonuses prior to the Date of Termination (or, in the case of a Qualifying Early Termination, your last day of employment), Target Bonus means your target annual incentive for the year in which

occurs the Date of Termination (or, in the case of a Qualifying Early Termination, your last day of employment) without regard to any reduction in the target incentive that would constitute Good Reason (whether or not any reduction is asserted as Good Reason).

B. With respect to each benefit listed below, the Company shall, at its sole discretion, comply with either subsection (1) or (2) below:

(1) for a 12-month period following the Date of Termination (or, in the case of a Qualifying Early Termination, your last day of employment), maintain, in full force and effect for your continued benefit at substantially the same cost to you as determined immediately prior to your last day of employment, all life (other than the Company's Executive Life Insurance Program, if applicable), disability, accident and healthcare insurance plans, programs, or arrangements, and financial counseling services in which you were participating immediately prior to the change in control of the Company (or in the case of a Qualifying Early Termination, immediately prior to your last day of employment), or, if more favorable to you, the plans, programs, or arrangements in which you were participating immediately prior to the Date of Termination (or, in the case of a Qualifying Early Termination, your last day of employment); or

(2) at the time specified in Section 5.A, pay you a lump sum payment equal to 12 times 150% of the sum of (a) the monthly group premium, less the amount of employee contributions, for the life (other than executive life, if applicable), disability, accident and healthcare insurance plans, programs, or arrangements, and (b) the monthly allowance for financial counseling services, in each case in which you were participating immediately prior to the change in control of the Company (or in the case of a Qualifying Early Termination, immediately prior to your last day of employment), or, if more favorable to you, the plans, programs, or arrangements in which you were participating immediately prior to the Date of Termination.

If the Company chooses to provide the benefits indicated under subsection (1), and your continued participation (or a particular type of coverage) is not possible or becomes impossible under the general terms and provisions of the plans, programs or arrangements, then the Company shall arrange to provide you with benefits, at substantially the same cost to you as determined immediately prior to your last day of employment, which are substantially similar to those which you are entitled to receive under such plans, programs and arrangements.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Company shall continue to pay the Company-paid premium under the Company's Executive Life Insurance Program (or a successor plan) for twelve months following the Date of Termination (or, in the case of a Qualifying Early Termination, your last day of employment).

For a Qualifying Early Termination, any portion of the period commencing on the day after your last day of employment through and including the Date of Termination during which the Company provides you with benefit continuation or pays the Company-paid premium under the Company's Executive Life Insurance Program (or a successor plan) will apply toward the 12-month payment period required above.

C. You shall not be required to mitigate the amount of any payment provided for in this Section 5 by seeking other employment or otherwise, nor shall the amount of any payment or benefit provided for in Section 5.A be reduced by any compensation earned by you as the result of employment by another employer or by retirement benefits after the Date of Termination (or, in the case of a Qualifying Early Termination, your last day of employment), or otherwise, except as specifically provided in Section 5.D. Benefits otherwise receivable by you pursuant to Section 5.B(1) shall be reduced to the extent comparable benefits are actually received by you during the 12-month period following your termination, and you must report any such benefits actually received by you to the Company.

D. Code Section 409A Provision. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, in all cases, if you are a "specified employee" of the Company for purposes of Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") at the time of your separation from service (as determined pursuant to Code Section 409A) with the Company and if and to the extent an exception under Code Section 409A does not apply, each severance payment (with each installment payment (if any) being treated as a separate and distinct "payment" for purposes of Code Section 409A) that is otherwise scheduled to commence to you immediately after your separation from service will be delayed in its entirety by 6 months from the date of your separation from service (or, if earlier, until your date of death). On the first regularly scheduled payroll date following the 6-month anniversary of the date of your separation from service (or, if earlier, your date of death), the Company will pay you a lump sum payment equal to the severance payment(s) that you would otherwise have received through such payroll date, and the balance of the benefit payments to which you are entitled under this Section 5 will be paid thereafter on the original schedule. The Company believes such delay in payment will avoid the application of adverse taxation to you under Code Section 409A. However, the Company does not guarantee such tax treatment and you are strongly encouraged to consult your own tax, financial and legal advisors regarding the effects of this Agreement on your personal tax situation. For purposes of applying the exceptions to Code Section 409A, the following rules shall apply. Any payments that would otherwise be payable (i) within 2-1/2 months after the end of the Company's taxable year containing the date of your separation from service, or (ii) within 2-1/2 months after your taxable year containing the date of your separation from service, whichever occurs later (the "Short Term Deferral Period"), are exempt from Code Section 409A. Furthermore, any such payments paid after the Short Term Deferral Period are exempt from Code Section 409A as severance pay due to

an involuntary separation from service to the extent that the sum of those payments is equal to or less than the maximum amount described in Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-1(b)(9)(iii)(A) (the "Involuntary Separation Amount") because such payments both are payable only upon your "involuntary" separation from service for purposes of Code Section 409A and must be paid to you no later than the last day of your second taxable year following the taxable year in which your separation from service occurs. Lastly, any such payments that are paid after the Short Term Deferral Period and otherwise exceed the Involuntary Separation Amount are exempt from Code Section 409A to the extent such payments in the aggregate do not exceed the applicable dollar amount under Code Section 402(g)(1)(B) for the year in which your separation from service occurs (the "Limited Payments"). Accordingly, the sum of (1) such payments that are paid within the Short Term Deferral Period, (2) such payments paid after the Short Term Deferral Period that do not exceed the Involuntary Separation Amount, and (3) such payments paid after the Short Term Deferral Period that exceed the Involuntary Separation Amount, but only to the extent such payments constitute Limited Payments, are exempt from Code Section 409A and, therefore, notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary, if you are a "specified employee" of the Company for purposes of Code Section 409A, only those payments that are not otherwise exempt from Code Section 409A under clause (1), (2), and (3) above and that would otherwise have been payable in the first six (6) months following your date of separation from service will not be paid to you until the first regularly scheduled payroll date following the 6-month anniversary of the date of your separation from service (or, if earlier, your date of death).

6. Legal Fees. The Company shall pay to you all reasonable legal fees and expenses which you incur following a change in control of the Company (a) as a result of contesting or disputing your termination, (b) in seeking in good faith to obtain or enforce any right or benefit provided by this Agreement (provided, that you shall refund all such fees and expenses to the Company should you not substantially prevail in the applicable proceeding). This payment shall be made within 10 business days after the Company receives your written request for payment accompanied by reasonable evidence of fees and expenses incurred. To the extent required to avoid an accelerated or additional tax under Section 409A, amounts reimbursable to you under this Agreement shall be paid to you on or before the last day of the year following the year in which the expense was incurred, the amount of expenses eligible for reimbursement (and in-kind benefits provided to you) during any one year may not effect amounts reimbursable or provided in any subsequent year, and the right to reimbursement (and in-kind benefits provided to you) under this Agreement shall not be subject to liquidation or exchange for another benefit.

7. Excise Tax Provisions. Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary (but except as provided in the following sentence), if you would receive payments under this Agreement or under any other plan, program, or policy sponsored by the Company which relate to a change in control of the Company

(the "Total Payments") and which are determined by the Company to be subject to excise tax under Section 4999 of the Code or any comparable successor provisions, then such payment shall be either: (i) provided to you in full, or (ii) provided to you as to such lesser extent which would result in no portion of such payment being subject to such excise tax, whichever of the foregoing amounts, when taking into account applicable federal, state, local and foreign income and employment taxes, such excise tax, and any other applicable taxes, results in the receipt by you, on an after-tax basis, of the greatest amount of the payment, notwithstanding that all or some portion of such payment may be taxable under such excise tax. To the extent such payment needs to be reduced pursuant to the preceding sentence, reductions shall come from taxable amounts before non-taxable amounts and beginning with the payments otherwise scheduled to occur soonest. You agree to cooperate fully with the Company to determine the benefits applicable under this Section.

8. Employee Covenants; Release.

A. You agree that you will not, directly or indirectly, use, make available, sell, disclose or otherwise communicate to any person, other than in the course of your assigned duties and for the benefit of the Company, either during the period of your employment or at any time thereafter, any nonpublic, proprietary or confidential information, knowledge or data relating to the Company, any of its subsidiaries, affiliated companies or businesses, which you obtained during your employment by the Company. This restriction will not apply to information that (i) was known to the public before its disclosure to you; (ii) becomes known to the public after disclosure to you through no wrongful act of yours; or (iii) you are required to disclose by applicable law, regulation or legal process (provided that you provide the Company with prior notice of the contemplated disclosure and reasonably cooperate with the Company at its expense in seeking a protective order or other appropriate protection of such information).

B. During your employment with the Company and for one year after your termination, you agree that you will not, directly or indirectly, individually or on behalf of any other person, firm, corporation or other entity, knowingly solicit, aid or induce any managerial level employee of the Company or any of its subsidiaries or affiliates to leave employment in order to accept employment with or render services to or with any other person, firm, corporation or other entity unaffiliated with the Company or knowingly take any action to materially assist or aid any other person, firm, corporation or other entity in identifying or hiring any such employee.

C. You agree that during and after your employment with the Company you shall not make any public statements that disparage the Company, its respective affiliates, employees, officers, directors, products or services. Notwithstanding the foregoing, (i) statements made in the course of sworn testimony in administrative, judicial or arbitral proceedings (including, without limitation, depositions in connection with such proceedings) shall not be subject to

this Section 8.C, and (ii) nothing in this Section 8.C shall in any way be interpreted to preclude or limit you from pursuing your legal rights or from otherwise communicating with governmental agencies pursuant to legislation or regulations permitting or requiring such communications.

D. For a period of 12 months after your termination of employment with the Company (or for a period of 12 months after a final judgment or injunction enforcing this covenant), you agree not to, directly as an employee or indirectly as a consultant or contractor, without the prior written consent of the Company, be employed in the same or similar capacity as you were employed by the Company immediately prior to termination of your employment, by another business entity or person engaged in the sale or distribution of office supplies, office furniture, computer consumables or related office products or services in North America.

In agreeing to this restriction, you specifically acknowledge the substantial value to the Company of Confidential Information and your intimate knowledge of the Company's business and agree that such constitutes goodwill and a protectable interest of the Company.

E. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, the payment to you of the benefits provided in Section 5 is conditioned upon your execution and delivery to the Company (and your failure to revoke) a customary general release of claims.

9. Deferred Compensation and Benefits Trust. The Company has established a Deferred Compensation and Benefits Trust, and shall comply with the terms of that Trust.

For this purpose, the term Deferred Compensation and Benefits Trust shall mean an irrevocable trust or trusts established or to be established by the Company with an independent trustee or trustees for the benefit of persons entitled to receive payments or benefits, the assets of which nevertheless will be subject to claims of the Company's creditors in the event of bankruptcy or insolvency.

10. Successors; Binding Agreement.

A. The Company will require any successor (whether direct or indirect, by purchase, merger, consolidation or otherwise) to all or substantially all of the business and/or assets of the Company to expressly assume and agree to perform this Agreement in the same manner and to the same extent that the Company would be required to perform it if no succession had taken place. Failure of the Company to obtain an assumption and agreement prior to the effectiveness of any succession which occurs during your employment with the Company and the term of this Agreement shall be a breach of this Agreement and shall entitle you to compensation from the Company in the same amount and on the same terms as you would be entitled hereunder if you experience a Qualifying Termination or Qualifying

Early Termination, except that for purposes of this Section 10.A, the date on which any such succession becomes effective shall be deemed the Date of Termination. As used in this Agreement, "Company" shall mean OfficeMax Incorporated and any successor to its business and/or assets which assumes and agrees to perform this Agreement.

B. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be enforceable by your personal or legal representatives, executors, administrators, successors, heirs, distributees, devisees and legatees. If you should die while any amount would still be payable to you under this Agreement if you had continued to live, all such amounts, unless otherwise provided in this Agreement, shall be paid in accordance with the terms of this Agreement to your devisee, legatee or other designee or if there is no such designee, to your estate.

C. Any dispute between you and the Company regarding this Agreement may be resolved either by binding arbitration or by judicial proceedings at your sole election, and the Company agrees to be bound by your election in that regard, provided that the Company is entitled to seek equitable relief in a court of competent jurisdiction in connection with the enforcement of the covenants set forth in Section 8. Under no circumstance will a violation or alleged violation of those covenants entitle the Company to withhold or offset a payment or benefit due under this Agreement.

11. **Notice.** For the purposes of this Agreement, notices and all other communications provided for in the Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given when delivered or mailed by United States registered mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, addressed to the respective addresses set forth on the first page of this Agreement, provided that all notices to the Company shall be directed to the attention of the Board with a copy to the Secretary of the Company, or to such other address as either party may have furnished to the other in writing in accordance with this Section 11, except that notice of change of address shall be effective only upon receipt.

12. **Miscellaneous.** No provision of this Agreement may be modified, waived or discharged unless such waiver, modification or discharge is agreed to in writing and signed by you and an officer designated by the Board. No waiver by either party at any time of any breach by the other party of, or compliance with, any condition or provision of this Agreement to be performed by the other party shall be deemed a waiver of similar or dissimilar provisions or conditions at the same or at any prior or subsequent time. No agreements or representations, oral or otherwise, express or implied, with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement have been made by either party which are not expressly set forth in this Agreement. All references to sections of the Exchange Act or the Code shall be deemed also to refer to any successor provisions to those sections. If the obligations of the Company under Sections 4, 5, 6 and 7 arise prior to the expiration of the term of this Agreement, those obligations shall survive the expiration of the term.

13. **Validity.** The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision of this Agreement, which shall remain in full force and effect.

14. **Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original but all of which together will constitute one and the same instrument.

15. **No Guaranty of Employment.** Neither this Agreement nor any action taken under this Agreement shall be construed as giving you a right to be retained as an employee or an executive officer of the Company.

16. **Governing Law.** This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with Delaware law.

17. **Other Benefits.** Any payments made to you pursuant to this Agreement are in addition to, and not in lieu of, any amounts to which you may be entitled under any other employee benefit plan, program or policy of the Company, except that (A) payments made to you pursuant to Section 5.A(3) shall be in lieu of any severance payment to which you would otherwise be entitled under any severance pay policy of the Company and (B) payments and benefits to which you are entitled under this Agreement may be subject to offset by payments and benefits to which you are entitled under the Offer Letter, as specifically provided in this Agreement.

If this letter correctly sets forth our agreement on the subject matter hereof, kindly sign and return to the Company the enclosed copy of this letter which will then constitute our agreement on this subject.

Sincerely,

OFFICEMAX INCORPORATED

By: /s/ Matthew R. Broad

Matthew R. Broad

Executive Vice President - General Counsel

Agreed to this 12 day of April, 2012

/s/ Ron Lalla

Ron Lalla

OFFICEMAX INCORPORATED
NONDISCLOSURE AND FAIR COMPETITION AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is made as of this 19th day of March, 2012, by and between OfficeMax Incorporated, a Delaware corporation (“OfficeMax”), which term includes any affiliates and subsidiaries), and **Ron Lalla** (the “Executive”).

In consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, including without limitation OFFICEMAX’s employing Executive, OFFICEMAX providing Executive with OFFICEMAX’s confidential information and trade secrets, OFFICEMAX providing training to Executive, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. Confidential Information/Trade Secrets. OFFICEMAX shall provide Executive with certain OFFICEMAX confidential information and trade secrets (“Confidential Information”). Confidential Information includes information about the business and affairs of OFFICEMAX including, without limitation, the names, addresses, price lists, purchasing histories and requirements of customers and potential customers; location, region, and company financial reports and company financial data of any type; sales and service manuals and bulletins; cost information and patterns; floor plans and drawings of facilities; marketing, merchandising, procurement, sales and other business strategies; transactional, acquisition and expansion plans; information regarding vendors, business affiliates and employees; and other similar information. Confidential Information shall also include, without limitation, all letters, memoranda, notes, tables, spreadsheets, and other similar documents, whether in hard-copy or electronic form, created or generated by or on behalf of Executive using the information, or any part thereof, described in the previous sentence. Executive recognizes that such information is the confidential information and trade secrets of OFFICEMAX, and agrees not to divulge such information to any person, firm, or institution except as such disclosure is a necessary part of the performance of Executive’s duties and obligations for OFFICEMAX. Further, upon termination of employment with OFFICEMAX, Executive will continue to treat Confidential Information as private and privileged, and will not, either for Executive’s own purposes or as an employee of or for the benefit of any other entity or person, use such information or disclose it to any person, firm, or institution.

2. Return of Property. On termination of Executive’s employment with OFFICEMAX, Executive will immediately surrender to OFFICEMAX, in good condition, all Confidential Information, as well as all letters, notes, memoranda, program design specifications, and all other similar items which relate to customers or potential customers of OFFICEMAX that Executive obtained from OFFICEMAX files or databases, are supplied to Executive by OFFICEMAX, or generated by Executive from OFFICEMAX data and that are in Executive’s possession, custody, or control wherever located including all reproductions or copies of such materials, whether in hard-copy or electronic form.

3. Noncompetition. In exchange for OFFICEMAX's employment of Executive, and its agreement to provide Executive Confidential Information and training, for a period of 12 months after termination of Executive's employment with OFFICEMAX, whether such termination is voluntary or involuntary (or for a period of 12 months after a final judgment or injunction enforcing this covenant), Executive agrees not to, directly as an employee or indirectly as a consultant or contractor, without the prior written consent of OFFICEMAX, be employed in the same or similar capacity as Executive was employed by OFFICEMAX, by another business entity or person for whom greater than 35% of its North American revenues are comprised of the direct sale or distribution of office supplies, office furniture, technology-related office products or computer consumables actually sold by OFFICEMAX, print and document services, or related office products or services (a "Competitor"). The parties agree that the term Competitor shall not include any business entity or person principally engaged in the manufacture and distribution of computer hardware, software or peripherals.

In agreeing to this restriction, Executive specifically acknowledges the substantial value to OFFICEMAX of Confidential Information and Executive's intimate knowledge of OFFICEMAX's business and agrees that such constitutes goodwill and a protectable interest of OFFICEMAX.

4. Non-Solicitation. In addition to the foregoing and not in limitation thereof, for all periods beginning upon the date hereof and ending two years from the date of Executive's termination of employment with OFFICEMAX for whatever reason, Executive agrees that he/she shall not directly or indirectly, for Executive's benefit or on behalf of any other party (other than OFFICEMAX):

(a) solicit or attempt to solicit any customer or supplier of OFFICEMAX for the purpose of selling, distributing, purchasing or obtaining office supplies, office furniture, technology-related products or computer consumables, print and document services, or related office products or services. For purposes hereof, a customer of OFFICEMAX shall mean any person or business to whom OFFICEMAX sold or distributed office supplies, office furniture, technology-related products or computer consumables, print and document services, or related office products and services during the last two years Executive was employed by OFFICEMAX and a supplier of OFFICEMAX shall mean any person or business from whom OFFICEMAX purchased or obtained office supplies, office furniture, technology-related products or computer consumables, print and document services, or related office products and services during the last two years Executive was employed by OFFICEMAX.

(b) solicit or discuss potential employment opportunities with any employee of OFFICEMAX (other than for opportunities with OFFICEMAX) or induce or attempt to induce any employee of OFFICEMAX to leave the employ of OFFICEMAX, or in any way interfere with the relationship between OFFICEMAX and any employee thereof without the prior express written consent of OFFICEMAX.

(c) offer, hire or cause to be offered or hired any person who was employed by OFFICEMAX at any time during the 12 months prior to the termination of Executive's employment with OFFICEMAX.

(d) induce or attempt to induce any supplier, or other business relation of OFFICEMAX to cease doing business with OFFICEMAX or in any way interfere with the relationship between any such supplier or business relation and OFFICEMAX (including without limitation making any negative statements or communications about OFFICEMAX).

5. Severability. In case any one or more of the terms contained in Section 3, or in subsections (a), (b), (c), or (d) of Section 4 shall for any reason become invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other terms herein, but such terms shall be deemed deleted and such deletion shall not affect the validity of the other terms of this Agreement. In addition, if any one or more of the terms contained in Section 3, or in subsections (a), (b), (c), or (d) of Section 4 shall for any reason be held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be excessively broad or unreasonable with regard to duration, scope, or area, the terms shall be construed in a manner to enable it to be enforced to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, and any such court shall have the power to modify such term.

6. Enforcement. Executive understands that the breach of this Agreement will cause immediate, irreparable, and immeasurable injury to OFFICEMAX, and therefore agrees that in addition to any other rights OFFICEMAX has in order to enforce this Agreement, OFFICEMAX shall be entitled to injunctive relief without bond or other security by any competent court to enjoin and restrain the breach of this Agreement.

7. Employment-at-Will. Executive understands that his/her employment with OFFICEMAX is at-will and that this Agreement does not affect Executive's employment-at-will status. Executive further acknowledges at any time and for any reason, Executive may resign his/her position or OFFICEMAX may terminate Executive's employment.

8. Assignment. This Agreement shall be freely assignable by OFFICEMAX.

9. Attorneys' Fees. In the event OFFICEMAX utilizes the services of in-house or outside attorneys for the purposes of enforcing any of the provisions of this Agreement and prevails on any one or more claim or cause of action, OFFICEMAX shall be entitled to recover its attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses of such enforcement efforts, in addition to all damages and other remedies recoverable by OFFICEMAX.

10. Survival. Any respective obligations of OFFICEMAX or Executive hereunder which by their nature would continue beyond termination or resignation of Executive's employment with OFFICEMAX will survive such termination or resignation.

11. Modification. This Agreement may not be modified orally, but only by a writing signed by the party against whom enforcement of any such modification is sought.

12. Integration. This Agreement expresses the entire agreement and understanding of the parties and supersedes all prior, and contemporaneous oral, agreements, commitments, and understandings pertaining to the subject matter hereof.

13. Waiver. The failure of either party to enforce at any time or for any period of time any of the provisions of this Agreement will not be construed to be a waiver of such provisions or of its right thereafter to enforce such provision and each and every provision thereafter.

14. Governing Law/Venue. For enforcement purposes, this Agreement shall be governed and construed according to the laws of the state of Delaware, without giving effect to any conflict of laws provisions. Executive irrevocably agrees to exclusive venue and submits to jurisdiction in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division, or the state courts in DuPage County, Illinois, for any dispute arising out of this Agreement, and waives all objections to jurisdiction and venue of such courts.

15. Executive's Representations and Warranties. Executive represents and warrants to OMX as follows:

(a) Executive is under no contractual confidentiality, non-compete or non-solicitation agreement or other substantially similar restriction with any third party, which is inconsistent with Executive becoming employed with or by OMX, the performance of Executive's duties owed to OMX, or any other rights of OMX.

(b) Neither OMX nor any of its affiliates nor any of their respective officers, directors, employees, agents or representatives has requested that Executive communicate or otherwise make available to any such parties at any time any proprietary information, data, trade secrets, or other confidential information belonging to Executive's former employers or others.

(c) OMX has instructed Executive not to duplicate, reproduce or in any way take with Executive from Executive's former employer or elsewhere any proprietary information, data, trade secrets or other confidential information belonging to Executive's former employer or others.

(d) Executive has not duplicated, reproduced or in any way taken from Executive's former employer or elsewhere any proprietary information, data, trade secrets, or other confidential information belonging to Executive's former employer or others, and Executive does not currently have in Executive's possession, custody or control any such information.

(e) Executive has not made available to OMX any proprietary information, data, trade secrets, or other confidential information belonging to Executive's former employer or others, and shall not disclose or use for or to the benefit of OMX any such information.

(f) Neither OMX nor any of its affiliates nor any of their respective officers, directors, employees, agents or representatives has requested that Executive solicit or otherwise recruit for employment with OMX any person who was a co-employee of Executive at Executive's former employer.

(g) Executive has not solicited or otherwise recruited for employment with OMX any person who was a co-employee of Executive at Executive's former employer.

EXECUTIVE HAS READ THIS AGREEMENT and signs it with the understanding that the terms contained herein are a condition of Executive's employment with OFFICEMAX and (1) control Executive's use of certain information and know-how during and after his employment with OFFICEMAX, (2) restrict Executive's employment opportunities upon termination of his employment with OFFICEMAX, and (3) restrict Executive's ability to solicit customers, employees and suppliers of OFFICEMAX.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of the date first above written.

OFFICEMAX INCORPORATED

Ron Lalla

By: /s/ Matthew R. Broad

/s/ Ron Lalla

Its: EVP

**CEO CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 302
OF THE SARBANES OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, Ravichandra Saligram, certify that:

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

Date: May 8, 2012

/s/ RAVICHANDRA SALIGRAM

Ravichandra Saligram
Chief Executive Officer

**CFO CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 302
OF THE SARBANES OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, Bruce Besanko, certify that:

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

Date: May 8, 2012

/s/ BRUCE BESANKO

Bruce Besanko
Chief Financial Officer

**SECTION 906 CERTIFICATIONS OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER OF
OFFICEMAX INCORPORATED**

We are providing this Certificate pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, 18 U.S.C., Section 1350. It accompanies OfficeMax Incorporated's quarterly report on Form 10-Q (the "Report") for the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2012.

I, Ravichandra Saligram, OfficeMax Incorporated's chief executive officer, certify that:

- (i) the Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a) or 78o(d)); and
- (ii) the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, OfficeMax Incorporated's financial condition and results of operations.

/s/ RAVICHANDRA SALIGRAM

Ravichandra Saligram
Chief Executive Officer

I, Bruce Besanko, OfficeMax Incorporated's chief financial officer, certify that:

- (i) the Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a) or 78o(d)); and
- (ii) the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, OfficeMax Incorporated's financial condition and results of operations.

/s/ BRUCE BESANKO

Bruce Besanko
Chief Financial Officer

Dated: May 8, 2012

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