

## About Non-GAAP Financial Measures

To provide investors and others with additional information regarding VMware's results, we have disclosed in this press release the following non-GAAP financial measures: non-GAAP operating income, non-GAAP net income, non-GAAP income per diluted share, non-GAAP operating margin, free cash flows and trailing twelve-month free cash flows. VMware has provided a reconciliation of each non-GAAP financial measure used in this earnings release to the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure. These non-GAAP financial measures, other than free cash flows, differ from GAAP in that they exclude stock-based compensation, employer payroll tax on employee stock transactions, amortization of intangible assets, acquisition related items and the net effect of the amortization and capitalization of software development costs. Free cash flows differ from GAAP cash flows from operating activities in its treatment of capitalized software development costs, excess tax benefits from stock-based compensation and capital expenditures.

VMware's management uses these non-GAAP financial measures to understand and compare operating results across accounting periods, for internal budgeting and forecasting purposes, for short- and long-term operating plans, to calculate bonus payments and to evaluate VMware's financial performance, the performance of its individual functional groups and the ability of operations to generate cash. Management believes these non-GAAP financial measures reflect VMware's ongoing business in a manner that allows for meaningful period-to-period comparisons and analysis of trends in VMware's business, as they exclude expenses and gains that are not reflective of ongoing operating results. Management also believes that these non-GAAP financial measures provide useful information to investors and others in understanding and evaluating VMware's operating results and future prospects in the same manner as management and in comparing financial results across accounting periods and to those of peer companies. Additionally, management believes information regarding free cash flows provides investors and others with an important perspective on the cash available to make strategic acquisitions and investments, to repurchase shares, to fund ongoing operations and to fund other capital expenditures.

Management believes these non-GAAP financial measures are useful to investors and others in assessing VMware's operating performance due to the following factors:

- *Stock-based compensation.* Although stock-based compensation is an important aspect of the compensation of VMware's employees and executives, determining the fair value of certain of the stock-based instruments we utilize involves a high degree of judgment and estimation and the expense recorded may bear little resemblance to the actual value realized upon the vesting or future exercise of the related stock-based awards. Furthermore, unlike cash compensation, the value of stock options, which is an element of our ongoing stock-based compensation expense, is determined using a complex formula that incorporates factors, such as market volatility, that are beyond our control. Management believes it is useful to exclude stock-based compensation in order to better understand the long-term performance of our core business and to facilitate comparison of our results to those of peer companies.
- *Excess tax benefits from stock-based compensation.* We account for stock-based compensation under GAAP, which requires that we report the excess income tax benefit from stock-based compensation as a financing cash flow rather than as an operating cash flow. We have added this benefit back to our calculation of free cash flows in order to generally classify cash flows arising from income taxes as operating cash flows.
- *Employer payroll tax on employee stock transactions.* The amount of employer payroll taxes on stock-based compensation is dependent on VMware's stock price and other factors that are beyond our control and do not correlate to the operation of the business.
- *Amortization of intangible assets.* A portion of the purchase price of VMware's acquisitions is generally allocated to intangible assets, such as intellectual property, and is subject to amortization. However, VMware does not acquire businesses on a predictable cycle. Additionally, the amount of an acquisition's purchase price allocated to intangible assets and the term of its related amortization can vary significantly and are unique to each acquisition. Therefore, VMware believes that the presentation of non-GAAP financial measures that adjust for the amortization of intangible assets provides investors and others with a consistent basis for comparison across accounting periods.
- *Acquisition related items.* Acquisition related items include direct costs of acquisitions, such as transaction fees, which vary significantly and are unique to each acquisition. Additionally, VMware does not acquire businesses on a predictable cycle.

- Capitalized software development costs.* Capitalized software development costs encompasses capitalization of development costs and the subsequent amortization of the capitalized costs over the useful life of the product. Amortization and capitalization of software development costs can vary significantly depending upon the timing of products reaching technological feasibility and being made generally available. In addition, we exclude the capitalization of software from our free cash flows to better convey management's view of operating cash flows. To the extent that we capitalize costs under generally accepted accounting guidance, we increase our GAAP operating cash flows due to the treatment of capitalized costs as cash used in investing activities. Historically, the amount of software development costs that we capitalized during a given fiscal period was often significant. However, following the release of VMware vSphere 5 and the comprehensive suite of cloud infrastructure technologies in the third quarter of 2011, management determined that VMware's go-to-market strategy had changed from single solutions to product suite solutions. As a result of this change in strategy, and the related increased importance of interoperability between our products, the length of time between achieving technological feasibility and general release to customers has significantly decreased. Given that we expect the majority of our product offerings to be suites or to have key components that interoperate with our other product offerings, the costs incurred subsequent to achievement of technological feasibility are expected to be immaterial in future periods and we do not expect to record significant capitalized software development costs under our current strategy. We did not capitalize software development costs related to product offerings during the first nine months of 2012. We also expect amortization of previously capitalized software development costs to steadily decline as previously capitalized software development costs become fully amortized.
- Tax Adjustment.* Non-GAAP financial information for the quarter is adjusted for a tax rate equal to our annual estimated tax rate on non-GAAP income. This rate is based on our estimated annual GAAP income tax rate forecast, adjusted to account for items excluded from GAAP income in calculating our non-GAAP income. Our estimated tax rate on non-GAAP income is determined annually and may be adjusted during the year to take into account events or trends that we believe materially impact the estimated annual rate including, but not limited to, significant changes resulting from tax legislation, material changes in the geographic mix of revenues and expenses and other significant events. Due to the differences in the tax treatment of items excluded from non-GAAP earnings, as well as the methodology applied to our estimated annual tax rates as described above, our estimated tax rate on non-GAAP income may differ from our GAAP tax rate and from our actual tax liabilities.

Additionally, we believe that the non-GAAP financial measure, free cash flows, is meaningful to investors because we review cash flows generated from operations after taking into consideration capital expenditures due to the fact that these expenditures are considered to be a necessary component of ongoing operations. As discussed above, we also exclude the excess income tax benefit from stock-based compensation and subtract capitalization of software development costs to derive our measure of free cash flows.

The use of non-GAAP financial measures has certain limitations because they do not reflect all items of income and expense that affect VMware's operations. Specifically, in the case of stock-based compensation, if VMware did not pay out a portion of its compensation in the form of stock-based compensation and related employer payroll taxes, the cash salary expense included in costs of revenues and operating expenses would be higher, which would affect VMware's cash position. VMware compensates for these limitations by reconciling the non-GAAP financial measures to the most comparable GAAP financial measures. These non-GAAP financial measures should be considered in addition to, not as a substitute for or in isolation from, measures prepared in accordance with GAAP and should not be considered measures of VMware's liquidity. Further, these non-GAAP measures may differ from the non-GAAP information used by other companies, including peer companies, and therefore comparability may be limited. Management encourages investors and others to review VMware's financial information in its entirety and not rely on a single financial measure.

### **Revenue Growth in Constant Currency**

We invoice and collect in the Euro, the British Pound, the Japanese Yen, and the Australian Dollar in their respective regions. As a result, our total revenues are affected by changes in the U.S. Dollar against these currencies.

In order to provide a comparable framework for assessing how our business performed excluding the effect of foreign currency fluctuations, management analyzes year-over-year revenue growth on a constant currency basis.

Since all of our entities operate with the U.S. Dollar as their functional currency, unearned revenues for orders booked in currencies other than U.S. Dollars are converted into U.S. Dollars at the exchange rate in effect for the month in which each order is booked. We calculate constant currency on license revenues recognized during the current period that were originally booked in currencies other than U.S. Dollars by comparing the exchange rates used to recognize revenue in the current period against the exchange rates used to recognize revenue in the comparable period. We do not calculate constant currency on services revenues, which include software maintenance revenues and professional services revenues.