

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 operating margin, non-GAAP net income, non-GAAP income per diluted share, and 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 acquired intangible assets, realignment charges, acquisition and other-related items and the net effect of the amortization and capitalization of software development costs and gain on disposition of certain lines of business and other net, each as discussed below. Free cash flows differ from GAAP cash flows from operating activities in its treatment of capital expenditures.

We have also presented in this press release additional six quarters of historical data for revenue and unearned revenue, excluding revenue generated each period by the products and services contributed to GoPivotal, Inc. on April 1, 2013 and the products and services associated with the divestitures consummated by us in 2013. We believe these measures are useful to investors because they allow investors to make meaningful comparisons of our revenues and unearned revenues across periods.

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.* Stock-based compensation is generally fixed at the time the stock-based instrument is granted and amortized over a period of several years. Although stock-based compensation is an important aspect of the compensation of our employees and executives, the expense for the fair value of the stock-based instruments we utilize 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 is determined using a complex formula that incorporates factors, such as market volatility, that are beyond our control. Additionally, in order to establish the fair value of performance-based stock awards, which are also an element of our ongoing stock-based compensation, we are required to apply judgment to estimate the probability of the extent to which performance objectives will be achieved. 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.

- *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 acquired 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.
- *Realignment charges:* Realignment charges include workforce reductions, asset impairments and losses on asset disposals. We believe it is useful to exclude these items, when significant, as they are not reflective of our ongoing business and operating results.
- *Acquisition and other-related items.* Acquisition and other -related items include direct costs of acquisitions and dispositions, such as transaction and advisory fees, which vary significantly and are unique to each transaction. Additionally, VMware does not acquire or dispose of businesses on a predictable cycle.
- *Capitalized software development costs.* Capitalized software development costs encompass 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. We did not capitalize software development costs related to product offerings in either the first nine months of 2013 or fiscal year 2012 given our current go-to-market strategy. In future periods, we expect our amortization expense to steadily decline as previously capitalized software development costs become fully amortized.
- *Gain on disposition of certain lines of business and other, net.* In the third quarter of 2013 we recognized a gain of \$12 million as a result of exiting a certain line of business. In the first nine months of 2013, we recognized a gain as a result of exiting certain lines of business under our business realignment plan, which was partially offset by a charge recognized for a non-recoverable strategic investment. These transactions resulted in a net gain of \$31 million. To the extent that significant gains or losses are realized on such dispositions and strategic investments, they do not occur on a predictable cycle, and such gains and losses are not reflective of our ongoing business and operating results.
- *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.

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 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.