

LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS INC

FORM 10-Q (Quarterly Report)

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Address	1025 ELDORADO BOULEVARD BLDG 2000 BROOMFIELD, CO 80021
Telephone	7208881000
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Industry	Communications Services
Sector	Services
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UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

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

For the Quarterly Period Ended March 31, 2014

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 0-15658

LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State of Incorporation)

47-0210602

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

1025 Eldorado Blvd., Broomfield, CO

(Address of principal executive offices)

80021-8869

(Zip Code)

(720) 888-1000

(Registrant's telephone number,
including area code)

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 definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer ☒

Accelerated filer ☐

Non-accelerated filer ☐

Smaller reporting company ☐

(Do not check if a 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 o No x

The number of shares outstanding of each class of the issuer's common stock, as of May 5, 2014 :

Common Stock: 237,364,387 shares.

LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

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Part I - Financial Information
ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
Consolidated Statements of Operations
(unaudited)

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31, 2014	March 31, 2013
(dollars in millions, except per share data)		
Revenue	\$ 1,609	\$ 1,577
Costs and Expenses Exclusive of Depreciation and Amortization shown separately below:		
Cost of Revenue	614	629
Depreciation and Amortization	184	194
Selling, General and Administrative	547	599
Total Costs and Expenses	1,345	1,422
Operating Income	264	155
Other Income (Expense):		
Interest expense	(151)	(169)
Other, net	6	(50)
Total Other Expense	(145)	(219)
Income (Loss) Before Income Taxes	119	(64)
Income Tax Expense	(7)	(14)
Net Income (Loss)	\$ 112	\$ (78)
Basic Earnings per Common Share		
Net Income (Loss) Per Share	\$ 0.48	\$ (0.36)
Shares Used to Compute Basic Net Income (Loss) per Share (in thousands)	235,635	219,268
Diluted Earnings per Common Share		
Net Income (Loss) Per Share	\$ 0.47	\$ (0.36)
Shares Used to Compute Diluted Net Income (Loss) per Share (in thousands)	239,294	219,268

See accompanying notes to unaudited consolidated financial statements.

LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss)
(unaudited)

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended	
	March 31, 2014	March 31, 2013
Net Income (Loss)	\$ 112	\$ (78)
Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) Before Income Taxes:		
Foreign Currency Translation Adjustment	5	(44)
Other, net	1	(8)
Other Comprehensive Income (Loss), Before Income Taxes	6	(52)
Income Tax Related to Items of Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	—	—
Other Comprehensive Income (Loss), Net of Income Taxes	6	(52)
Comprehensive Income (Loss)	<u>\$ 118</u>	<u>\$ (130)</u>

See accompanying notes to unaudited consolidated financial statements.

LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
Consolidated Balance Sheets
(unaudited)

(dollars in millions, except per share data)	March 31, 2014	December 31, 2013
Assets:		
Current Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 607	\$ 631
Restricted cash and securities	7	7
Receivables, less allowances for doubtful accounts of \$36 and \$32, respectively	699	673
Other	159	143
Total Current Assets	1,472	1,454
Property, Plant and Equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$9,243 and \$9,089, respectively	8,260	8,240
Restricted Cash and Securities	22	23
Goodwill	2,575	2,577
Other Intangibles, net	186	205
Other Assets, net	374	375
Total Assets	\$ 12,889	\$ 12,874
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 561	\$ 625
Current portion of long-term debt	503	31
Accrued payroll and employee benefits	114	209
Accrued interest	174	160
Current portion of deferred revenue	262	253
Other	142	168
Total Current Liabilities	1,756	1,446
Long-Term Debt, less current portion	7,856	8,331
Deferred Revenue, less current portion	901	906
Other Liabilities	778	780
Total Liabilities	11,291	11,463
Commitments and Contingencies	—	—
Stockholders' Equity:		
Preferred stock, \$.01 par value, authorized 10,000,000 shares: no shares issued or outstanding	—	—
Common stock, \$.01 par value, authorized 343,333,333 shares in both periods; 237,171,332 issued and outstanding at March 31, 2014 and 234,688,063 issued and outstanding at December 31, 2013	2	2
Additional paid-in capital	14,408	14,339
Accumulated other comprehensive income	42	36
Accumulated deficit	(12,854)	(12,966)
Total Stockholders' Equity	1,598	1,411
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	\$ 12,889	\$ 12,874

See accompanying notes to unaudited consolidated financial statements.

LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows
(unaudited)

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended	
	March 31, 2014	March 31, 2013
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:		
Net income (loss)	\$ 112	\$ (78)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	184	194
Non-cash compensation expense attributable to stock awards	10	37
Accretion of debt discount and amortization of debt issuance costs	9	9
Accrued interest on long-term debt, net	14	(30)
Non-cash tax adjustments	(5)	—
Deferred income taxes	7	9
Gain on sale of property, plant and equipment and other assets	(1)	—
Other, net	(12)	17
Changes in working capital items:		
Receivables	(26)	(29)
Other current assets	(18)	(25)
Payables	(69)	(45)
Deferred revenue	1	(3)
Other current liabilities	(65)	(49)
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	141	7
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:		
Capital expenditures	(163)	(169)
Decrease in restricted cash and securities, net	1	3
Net Cash Used in Investing Activities	(162)	(166)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities:		
Payments on and repurchases of long-term debt, including current portion and refinancing costs	(3)	(186)
Net Cash Used in Financing Activities	(3)	(186)
Effect of Exchange Rates on Cash and Cash Equivalents	—	(24)
Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(24)	(369)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period	631	979
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period	\$ 607	\$ 610
Supplemental Disclosure of Cash Flow Information:		
Cash interest paid	\$ 128	\$ 190
Income taxes paid, net of refunds	\$ 11	\$ 9

See accompanying notes to unaudited consolidated financial statements.

LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements

(1) Organization and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Description of Business

Level 3 Communications, Inc. and subsidiaries (the "Company" or "Level 3") is an international facilities-based provider (that is, a provider that owns or leases a substantial portion of the plant, property and equipment necessary to provide its services) of a broad range of integrated communications services. The Company created its communications network by constructing its own assets and through a combination of purchasing other companies and purchasing or leasing facilities from others. The Company designed its network to provide communications services that employ and take advantage of rapidly improving underlying optical, Internet Protocol, computing and storage technologies.

Principles of Consolidation and Basis of Presentation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Level 3 Communications, Inc. and subsidiaries in which it has a controlling interest. All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated. The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ("GAAP").

As part of its consolidation policy, the Company considers its controlled subsidiaries, investments in businesses in which the Company is not the primary beneficiary or does not have effective control but has the ability to significantly influence operating and financial policies, and variable interests resulting from economic arrangements that give the Company rights to economic risks or rewards of a legal entity. The Company does not have variable interests in a variable interest entity.

The accompanying consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2013, which was derived from audited consolidated financial statements, and the unaudited interim consolidated financial statements as of March 31, 2014 and for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013 have been prepared pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") for quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and do not include all of the information and note disclosures required by GAAP for complete financial statements. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Company's audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013. In the opinion of the Company's management, these financial statements contain all adjustments necessary for a fair presentation of financial position, results of operations and cash flows at the dates and for the interim periods presented herein. The results of operations for an interim period are not necessarily indicative of the results of operations expected for a full fiscal year.

The preparation of the consolidated financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reported period. Actual results could differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions and such differences could be material.

Property, Plant and Equipment

In connection with its periodic review of the estimated useful lives of property, plant and equipment, the Company determined that the period it expects to use certain assets is longer than the remaining originally estimated useful lives. The Company completed its evaluation in the first quarter 2014 and

revised its estimated useful lives for: IP equipment from its historical estimate of four years to a revised estimate of seven years; racks and cabinets from its historical estimate of seven years to a revised estimate of 15 years; and facility equipment from its historical estimate of 10 years to its revised estimate of 15 years. In determining the change in estimated useful lives, the Company, with input from its engineering team, considered its historical usage patterns and retirements, estimates of technological obsolescence and expected usage and maintenance. The change in the estimated useful lives of certain of the Company's property, plant and equipment was accounted for as a change in accounting estimate on a prospective basis effective January 1, 2014 under the accounting standard related to changes in accounting estimates. The change in estimated useful lives of certain of the Company's property, plant and equipment resulted in less depreciation expense than would have otherwise been recorded and in the following increase in net income for the three months ended March 31, 2014 (in millions, except per share amounts):

Net Income	\$	24
Basic and Diluted Net Income per Share	\$	0.10

Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements

In April 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-08, *Reporting Discontinued Operations and Disclosures of Disposals of Components of an Entity*, which amends the definition of a discontinued operation and requires entities to provide additional disclosures about disposal transactions that do not meet the discontinued operations criteria. The revised guidance will affect the way entities identify and disclose information about disposal transactions and is effective prospectively for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2014, and interim periods within those years. The adoption of this guidance is not expected to have a material effect on the Company's consolidated results of operations or financial condition.

(2) Earnings Per Share

The Company computes basic earnings per share by dividing net income or loss for the period by the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings per share is computed by dividing the net income or loss for the period by the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period and including the dilutive effect of common stock that would be issued assuming conversion or exercise of outstanding convertible notes and stock-based compensation awards.

The effect of approximately 18 million and 28 million shares issuable pursuant to the various series of convertible notes outstanding at March 31, 2014 and March 31, 2013, respectively, have not been included in the computation of diluted earnings per share because their inclusion would have been anti-dilutive to the computation. The effect of approximately 5 million stock options, outperform stock appreciation rights ("OSOs") and restricted stock units ("RSUs") outstanding at March 31, 2014 have been included in the computation of diluted earnings per share. The effect of approximately 6 million stock options, OSOs and RSUs outstanding at March 31, 2013 have not been included in the computation of diluted earnings per share because their inclusion would have been anti-dilutive to the computation.

(3) Acquired Intangible Assets

Identifiable acquisition-related intangible assets as of March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013 were as follows (dollars in millions):

	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net
March 31, 2014			
<i>Finite-Lived Intangible Assets:</i>			
Customer Contracts and Relationships	\$ 786	\$ (690)	\$ 96
Trademarks	55	(34)	21
Patents and Developed Technology	158	(121)	37
	999	(845)	154
<i>Indefinite-Lived Intangible Assets:</i>			
Vyvx Trade Name	32	—	32
	<u>\$ 1,031</u>	<u>\$ (845)</u>	<u>\$ 186</u>
December 31, 2013			
<i>Finite-Lived Intangible Assets:</i>			
Customer Contracts and Relationships	\$ 786	\$ (678)	\$ 108
Trademarks	55	(31)	24
Patents and Developed Technology	158	(117)	41
	999	(826)	173
<i>Indefinite-Lived Intangible Assets:</i>			
Vyvx Trade Name	32	—	32
	<u>\$ 1,031</u>	<u>\$ (826)</u>	<u>\$ 205</u>

Acquired finite-lived intangible asset amortization expense was \$19 million for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and \$18 million for the three months ended March 31, 2013 .

At March 31, 2014 , the weighted average remaining useful lives of the Company's acquired finite-lived intangible assets was 2.0 years for customer contracts and relationships, 1.5 years for trademarks and 2.7 years for patents and developed technology.

As of March 31, 2014 , estimated amortization expense for the Company's finite-lived acquisition-related intangible assets over the next five years and thereafter is as follows (dollars in millions):

2014 (remaining nine months)	\$ 45
2015	48
2016	31
2017	14
2018	13
2019	3
Thereafter	—
	<u>\$ 154</u>

(4) Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The Company's financial instruments consist of cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash and securities, accounts receivable, accounts payable, capital leases, other liabilities, interest rate swaps and long-term debt (including the current portion). The carrying values of cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash and securities, accounts receivable, accounts payable, capital leases and other liabilities approximated their fair values at March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013. The Company's interest rate

swaps, which were extinguished in the first quarter of 2014, were previously recorded in the consolidated balance sheets at fair value.

GAAP defines fair value as the price that would be received from selling an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. When determining the fair value measurements and disclosures for assets and liabilities required to be recorded at fair value, the Company considers the principal or most advantageous market in which it would transact and considers assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, such as interest and foreign exchange rates, transfer restrictions, and risk of non-performance.

Fair Value Hierarchy

GAAP establishes a fair value hierarchy that requires an entity to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. The fair value measurement of each class of assets and liabilities is dependent upon its categorization within the fair value hierarchy, based upon the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement of each class of asset and liability. GAAP establishes three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value:

Level 1 — Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2 — Unadjusted quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, or unadjusted quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, or inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability.

Level 3 — Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

The Company recognizes transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy at the end of the reporting period. There were no transfers within the fair value hierarchy during each of the three months ended March 31, 2014 and March 31, 2013 .

The table below presents the fair values for the Company's interest rate swaps and long-term debt as well as the input levels used to determine these fair values as of March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013:

(dollars in millions)	Fair Value Measurement Using					
	Total Carrying Value in Consolidated Balance Sheets		Unadjusted Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets or Liabilities (Level 1)		Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	
	March 31, 2014	December 31, 2013	March 31, 2014	December 31, 2013	March 31, 2014	December 31, 2013
<i>Liabilities Recorded at Fair Value in the Financial Statements:</i>						
Derivatives:						
Interest Rate Swap Liabilities (included in other current liabilities)	\$ —	\$ 12	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 12
Total Derivative Liabilities Recorded at Fair Value in the Financial Statements	\$ —	\$ 12	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 12
<i>Liabilities Not Recorded at Fair Value in the Financial Statements:</i>						
Long-term Debt, including the current portion:						
Term Loans	\$ 2,605	\$ 2,604	\$ 2,617	\$ 2,633	\$ —	\$ —
Senior Notes	5,198	5,198	5,711	5,673	—	—
Convertible Notes	474	474	—	—	724	647
Capital Leases and Other	82	86	—	—	82	86
Total Long-term Debt, including the current portion:	\$ 8,359	\$ 8,362	\$ 8,328	\$ 8,306	\$ 806	\$ 733

The Company does not have any assets or liabilities where the fair value is measured using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3).

Derivatives

The fair value of interest rate swaps was estimated using discounted cash flow techniques that use observable market inputs, such as LIBOR-based forward yield curves, forward rates, non-performance risk adjustment and the specific swap rate stated in each of the swap agreements.

Term Loans

The fair value of the Term Loans referenced above was approximately \$2.6 billion at both March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013. The fair value of each loan is based on quoted prices for identical terms and maturities. Each loan tranche is actively traded.

Senior Notes

The fair value of the Senior Notes referenced above was approximately \$5.7 billion at both March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013, based on quoted prices for identical terms and maturities. Each series of notes is actively traded.

Convertible Notes

The fair value of the Company's Convertible Notes was approximately \$724 million and \$647 million at March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013, respectively. The estimated fair value of the Convertible Notes is based on a Black-Scholes valuation model and an income approach using discounted cash flows. The most significant inputs affecting the valuation are the pricing quotes provided by market participants that incorporate spreads to the Treasury curve, security coupon, convertible optionality, corporate and security credit ratings, maturity date, liquidity, and other equity option inputs, such as the risk-free rate, underlying stock price, strike price of the embedded derivative, estimated volatility and maturity inputs for the option component and for the bond component, among other security characteristics and relative value at both the borrower entity level and across other securities with similar terms. The fair value of each instrument is obtained by adding together the value derived by discounting the security's coupon or interest payment using a risk-adjusted discount rate and the value calculated from the embedded equity option based on the estimated volatility of the Company's stock price, conversion rate of the particular Convertible Note, remaining time to maturity, and risk-free rate. The Convertible Notes are unsecured obligations of Level 3 Communications, Inc. No subsidiary of Level 3 Communications, Inc. has provided a guarantee of the Convertible Notes.

Capital Leases

The fair value of the Company's capital leases are determined by discounting anticipated future cash flows derived from the contractual terms of the obligations and observable market interest and foreign exchange rates.

(5) Long-Term Debt

As of March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013 , long-term debt was as follows:

(dollars in millions)	March 31, 2014	December 31, 2013
Senior Secured Term Loan*	\$ 2,611	\$ 2,611
Floating Rate Senior Notes due 2018 (3.846% as of March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013)	300	300
11.875% Senior Notes due 2019	605	605
9.375% Senior Notes due 2019	500	500
8.125% Senior Notes due 2019	1,200	1,200
8.875% Senior Notes due 2019	300	300
8.625% Senior Notes due 2020	900	900
7% Senior Notes due 2020	775	775
6.125% Senior Notes due 2021	640	640
7% Convertible Senior Notes due 2015	200	200
7% Convertible Senior Notes due 2015 Series B	275	275
Capital Leases	70	73
Other	12	13
Total Debt Obligations	8,388	8,392
Unamortized Discount:		
Discount on Senior Secured Term Loan	(6)	(7)
Discount on 11.875% Senior Notes due 2019	(8)	(8)
Discount on 9.375% Senior Notes due 2019	(7)	(7)
Discount on 8.125% Senior Notes due 2019	(7)	(7)
Discount on 7% Convertible Senior Notes due 2015	(1)	(1)
Total Unamortized Discount	(29)	(30)
Carrying Value of Debt	8,359	8,362
Less current portion	(503)	(31)
Long-term Debt, less current portion	\$ 7,856	\$ 8,331

* The \$815 million Tranche B-III 2019 Term Loan due 2019 and the \$1.796 billion Tranche B 2020 Term Loan due 2020 each had an interest rate of 4.00% as of March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013 , respectively.

Long-Term Debt Maturities

Aggregate future contractual maturities of long-term debt and capital leases (excluding discounts) were as follows as of March 31, 2014 (dollars in millions):

2014 (remaining nine months)	\$	27
2015		483
2016		7
2017		6
2018		306
2019		3,426
Thereafter		4,133
	\$	<u>8,388</u>

(6) Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)

The accumulated balances for each classification of other comprehensive income (loss) were as follows:

(dollars in millions)	Net Foreign Currency Translation Adjustment	Defined Benefit Pension Plans	Total
Balance at December 31, 2012	\$ 56	\$ (30)	\$ 26
Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications	(44)	(9)	(53)
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	—	1	1
Balance at March 31, 2013	<u>\$ 12</u>	<u>\$ (38)</u>	<u>\$ (26)</u>
Balance at December 31, 2013	\$ 67	\$ (31)	\$ 36
Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications	5	(2)	3
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	—	3	3
Balance at March 31, 2014	<u>\$ 72</u>	<u>\$ (30)</u>	<u>\$ 42</u>

(7) Stock-Based Compensation

The following table summarizes non-cash compensation expense and capitalized non-cash compensation for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013 (dollars in millions):

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2014	2013
OSO	\$ 2	\$ 5
Restricted Stock Units and Shares	6	7
401(k) Match Expense	7	8
Restricted Stock Unit Bonus Grant	(5)	15
Management Incentive and Retention Plan	—	2
	10	37
Capitalized Non-Cash Compensation	—	—
	\$ 10	\$ 37

The Company capitalizes non-cash compensation for those employees directly involved in the construction of the network, installation of services for customers or the development of business support systems. As of March 31, 2014, there were approximately 2 million OSOs outstanding. As of March 31, 2014, there were approximately 3 million non-vested restricted stock and RSUs outstanding. The Company's Management Incentive and Retention Plan was completed in the first quarter 2014. In addition, as of March 31, 2014, there were approximately 11 thousand non-qualified stock options outstanding.

Effective April 2014, the Company's Board of Directors approved the Restricted Stock Unit and Performance Restricted Stock Unit Master Award Agreement ("the Agreement"), which provides for the ability to award participants with performance restricted stock units ("PRSUs") instead of the historical award of OSOs. While OSOs that were granted prior to 2014 will remain outstanding until their settlement, no additional OSOs will be granted. PRSUs are designed to provide participants with a long-term stake in the Company's success with both retention and performance components. Under the Agreement, a participant becomes vested in a number of PRSUs based on the Company's achievement of specified levels of financial performance during the performance period set forth in the applicable award letter issued pursuant to the Agreement, so long as the participant remains continuously employed by the Company until the applicable scheduled vesting date, subject to certain change in control provisions as outlined in the Agreement.

(8) Segment Information

Operating segments are defined under GAAP as components of an enterprise for which separate financial information is available and evaluated regularly by the Company's chief operating decision maker ("CODM") in deciding how to allocate resources and assess performance. Through the end of the third quarter of 2013, the Company was comprised of one reportable segment representing its communications services business, which was consistent with how the Company's previous CODM, James Q. Crowe, evaluated results and allocated resources. Effective April 11, 2013, the Company announced that Jeff K. Storey had been appointed by the Board of Directors to be the Company's president and Chief Executive Officer. As a result, during the fourth quarter of 2013, the Company realigned its segment reporting structure to reflect how its new CODM, Mr. Storey, monitors performance and allocates resources based on the three separate geographic regions in which the Company operates. Accordingly, the Company's reportable segments consist of 1) North America, 2) Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA), 3) and Latin America. Other separate business interests that are not segments include interest, certain corporate assets and overhead costs, and certain other general and administrative costs that are not allocated to any of the operating segments. Historical presentation of segment information has been retrospectively reclassified to conform to the new geographical presentation.

The CODM measures and evaluates segment performance primarily based upon revenue, revenue growth and Adjusted EBITDA. Adjusted EBITDA, as defined by the Company, is equal to net income (loss) from the consolidated statements of operations before (1) income tax benefit (expense), (2) total other income (expense), (3) non-cash impairment charges included within selling, general and administrative expenses, (4) depreciation and amortization expense, and (5) non-cash stock compensation expense included within selling, general and administrative expenses.

Adjusted EBITDA is not a measurement under GAAP and may not be used in the same way by other companies. Management believes that Adjusted EBITDA is an important part of the Company's internal reporting and is a key measure used by management to evaluate profitability and operating performance of the Company and to make resource allocation decisions. Management believes such measurement is especially important in a capital-intensive industry such as telecommunications. Management also uses Adjusted EBITDA to compare the Company's performance to that of its competitors and to eliminate certain non-cash and non-operating items in order to consistently measure from period to period its ability to fund capital expenditures, fund growth, service debt and determine bonuses.

Adjusted EBITDA excludes non-cash impairment charges and non-cash stock compensation expense because of the non-cash nature of these items. Adjusted EBITDA also excludes interest income, interest expense and income tax benefit (expense) because these items are associated with the Company's capitalization and tax structures. Adjusted EBITDA also excludes depreciation and amortization expense because these non-cash expenses reflect the effect of capital investments which management believes are better evaluated through cash flow measures. Adjusted EBITDA excludes net other income (expense) because these items are not related to the primary operations of the Company.

There are limitations to using non-GAAP financial measures such as Adjusted EBITDA, including the difficulty associated with comparing companies that use similar performance measures whose calculations may differ from the Company's calculations. Additionally, this financial measure does not include certain significant items such as interest income, interest expense, income tax benefit (expense), depreciation and amortization expense, non-cash impairment charges, non-cash stock compensation expense, and net other income (expense). Adjusted EBITDA should not be considered a substitute for other measures of financial performance reported in accordance with GAAP.

Revenue and the related expenses are attributed to regions based on where services are provided. Revenue and costs for services provided in more than one region are allocated equally between the regions, and the Company does not otherwise charge for services between reportable segments. Therefore, segment results do not include any intercompany revenue. The operating activities of the separate regions along with the activities that are not attributable to a segment are interdependent, and the regional results in the tables below do not include all intercompany charges and allocations that would be necessary to report the regional results on a standalone basis.

Total revenue consists of:

- Core Network Services revenue from colocation and data center services; transport and fiber; IP and data services; and local and enterprise voice services.
- Wholesale Voice Services and Other revenue from sales to other carriers of long distance voice services, revenue from managed modem and its related intercarrier compensation services and revenue from the SBC Master Services Agreement, which was obtained through an acquisition in 2005.

Core Network Services revenue represents higher margin services and Wholesale Voice Services and Other revenue represents lower margin services. Core Network Services revenue requires different levels of investment and focus and provides different contributions to the Company's operating results than Wholesale Voice Services and Other revenue. Management of the Company believes that growth in revenue from its Core Network Services is critical to the long-term success of its business. The Company also believes it must continue to effectively manage gross margin contribution from the Wholesale Voice Services component and the positive cash flows from the Other revenue component. The Company believes that trends in its communications business are best gauged by analyzing revenue changes in Core Network Services.

The following table presents revenue by segment:

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended	
	March 31, 2014	March 31, 2013
Core Network Services Revenue:		
North America	\$ 1,043	\$ 967
EMEA	225	223
Latin America	189	182
Total Core Network Services Revenue	\$ 1,457	\$ 1,372
Wholesale Voice Services and Other Revenue:		
North America	\$ 145	\$ 193
EMEA	5	9
Latin America	2	3
Total Wholesale Voice Services and Other Revenue	\$ 152	\$ 205
Total Consolidated Revenue	\$ 1,609	\$ 1,577

The following table presents Adjusted EBITDA by segment and reconciles Adjusted EBITDA to net income (loss):

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended	
	March 31, 2014	March 31, 2013
Adjusted EBITDA:		
North America	\$ 488	\$ 428
EMEA	54	57
Latin America	82	73
Unallocated Corporate Expenses	(166)	(172)
Consolidated Adjusted EBITDA	458	386
Income Tax Expense	(7)	(14)
Total Other Expense	(145)	(219)
Depreciation and Amortization	(184)	(194)
Non-Cash Stock Compensation	(10)	(37)
Total Consolidated Net Income (Loss)	\$ 112	\$ (78)

The following table presents capital expenditures by segment and reconciles capital expenditures to consolidated capital expenditures:

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended	
	March 31, 2014	March 31, 2013
Capital Expenditures:		
North America	\$ 97	\$ 99
EMEA	19	26
Latin America	28	23
Unallocated Corporate Capital Expenditures	19	21
Consolidated Capital Expenditures	<u>\$ 163</u>	<u>\$ 169</u>

The following table presents total assets by segment:

(dollars in millions)	December 31,	
	March 31, 2014	2013
Assets:		
North America	\$ 8,151	\$ 8,133
EMEA	1,990	2,030
Latin America	2,488	2,445
Other	260	266
Total Consolidated Assets	<u>\$ 12,889</u>	<u>\$ 12,874</u>

(9) Commitments, Contingencies and Other Items

The Company is subject to various legal proceedings and other contingent liabilities that individually or in the aggregate could materially affect its financial condition, future results of operations or cash flows. Amounts accrued for such contingencies aggregate to \$214 million and are included in "Other" current liabilities and "Other Liabilities" in the Company's consolidated balance sheet at March 31, 2014. The establishment of an accrual does not mean that actual funds have been set aside to satisfy a given contingency. Thus, the resolution of a particular contingency for the amount accrued may have no effect on the Company's results of operations but could materially adversely affect its cash flows for the affected period.

In accordance with the accounting guidance for contingencies, the Company accrues its estimate of a contingent liability when it is both probable that a liability has been incurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. Where it is probable that a liability has been incurred and there is a range of expected loss for which no amount in the range is more likely than any other amount, the Company accrues at the low end of the range. The Company reviews its accruals at least quarterly and adjusts them to reflect the impact of negotiations, settlements, rulings, advice of legal counsel, and other information and events pertaining to a particular matter.

Below is a description of material legal proceedings and other contingencies pending at March 31, 2014. Although the Company believes it has accrued for these matters in accordance with the accounting guidance for contingencies, contingencies are inherently unpredictable and it is possible that results of operations or cash flows could be materially and adversely affected in any particular period by unfavorable developments in, or resolution or disposition of, one or more of these matters. For those contingencies in respect of which the Company believes that it is reasonably possible that a loss may result that is materially in excess of the accrual (if any) established for the matter, the Company has either provided an estimate of such possible loss or range of loss or included a statement that such an estimate cannot be made. In addition to the contingencies described below, the Company is party to many other

legal proceedings and contingencies the resolution of which is not expected to materially affect its financial condition or future results of operations beyond the amounts accrued.

Rights-of-Way Litigation

The Company is party to a number of purported class action lawsuits involving its right to install fiber optic cable network in railroad right-of-ways adjacent to plaintiffs' land. In general, the Company obtained the rights to construct its networks from railroads, utilities, and others, and has installed its networks along the rights-of-way so granted. Plaintiffs in the purported class actions assert that they are the owners of lands over which the fiber optic cable networks pass, and that the railroads, utilities, and others who granted the Company the right to construct and maintain its network did not have the legal authority to do so. The complaints seek damages on theories of trespass, unjust enrichment and slander of title and property, as well as punitive damages. The Company has also received, and may in the future receive, claims and demands related to rights-of-way issues similar to the issues in these cases that may be based on similar or different legal theories. The Company has defeated motions for class certification in a number of these actions but expects that, absent settlement of these actions, plaintiffs in the pending lawsuits will continue to seek certification of statewide or multi-state classes. The only lawsuit in which a class was certified against the Company, absent an agreed upon settlement, occurred in *Koyle, et. al. v. Level 3 Communications, Inc., et. al.*, a purported two state class action filed in the United States District Court for the District of Idaho. The *Koyle* lawsuit has been dismissed pursuant to a settlement reached in November 2010 as described further below.

The Company negotiated a series of class settlements affecting all persons who own or owned land next to or near railroad rights of way in which it has installed its fiber optic cable networks. The United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts in *Kingsborough v. Sprint Communications Co. L.P.* granted preliminary approval of the proposed settlement; however, on September 10, 2009, the court denied a motion for final approval of the settlement on the basis that the court lacked subject matter jurisdiction and dismissed the case.

In November 2010, the Company negotiated revised settlement terms for a series of state class settlements affecting all persons who own or owned land next to or near railroad rights of way in which the Company has installed its fiber optic cable networks. The Company is currently pursuing presentment of the settlement in applicable jurisdictions. The settlements, affecting current and former landowners, have received final federal court approval in multiple states and the parties are engaged in the claims process for those states. The settlement has also been presented to federal courts in additional states and approval is pending.

Management believes that the Company has substantial defenses to the claims asserted in all of these actions and intends to defend them vigorously if a satisfactory settlement is not ultimately approved for all affected landowners.

Peruvian Tax Litigation

Beginning in 2005, one of the Company's Peruvian subsidiaries received a number of assessments for tax, penalties and interest for calendar years 2001 and 2002. Peruvian tax authorities ("SUNAT") took the position that the Peruvian subsidiary incorrectly documented its importations resulting in additional income tax withholding and value-added taxes ("VAT"). The total amount of the asserted claims, including potential interest and penalties, was \$26 million, consisting of \$3 million for income tax withholding in connection with the import of services for calendar years 2001 and 2002, \$7 million for VAT in connection with the import of services for calendar years 2001 and 2002, and \$16 million in connection with the disallowance of VAT credits for periods beginning in 2005. Due to accrued interest and foreign exchange effects, and taking into account the developments described below, the total amount of exposure has increased to \$59 million at March 31, 2014.

The Company challenged the tax assessments during 2005 by filing administrative claims before SUNAT. During August 2006 and June 2007, SUNAT rejected the Company's administrative claims, thereby confirming the assessments. Appeals were filed in September 2006 and July 2007 with the Tribunal Fiscal, the highest level of administrative review, which is not part of the Peru judiciary (the "Tribunal"). In October 2011, the Tribunal issued its administrative resolution with respect to the calendar year 2002 tax period regarding VAT, associated penalties and penalties associated with withholding taxes, adjudicating the central issue underlying the assessments in the government's favor, while confirming the assessment in part and denying a portion of the assessment on procedural grounds. During the fourth quarter of 2013, the Company released a reserve of \$28 million for tax, penalty and associated interest related to calendar year 2002 due to the expiration of the statute of limitations. In October 2013, the Tribunal notified the Company of its July 2013 administrative resolution with respect to the calendar year 2001 tax period, determining the central issue underlying the assessments in the government's favor, while confirming the assessment in part and denying a portion of the assessment on procedural grounds. Other than an immaterial amount, all assessed items dismissed by the Tribunal in this administrative resolution remain open for reassessment by SUNAT. In December 2013, SUNAT initiated an audit in order to reassess the 2001 amounts declared null by the Tribunal. The Company is contesting SUNAT's authority to conduct an audit of these amounts.

In November 2011, the Tribunal issued an administrative resolution with respect to assessed 2001 withholding tax, holding that the statute of limitations had run prior to assessment by SUNAT. The Company believes that this administrative resolution of the withholding tax issue is likely to be final, and the Company expects to win a similar administrative resolution with respect to assessed 2002 withholding tax. However, penalties with respect to withholding tax are not time-barred, and were confirmed in the Tribunal's October 2011 administrative resolution.

The Company has appealed the Tribunal's October 2011 decision to the judicial court in Peru and intends to file an appeal of the Tribunal's July 2013 decision to the judicial court as well.

Employee Severance and Contractor Termination Disputes

A number of former employees and third-party contractors have asserted a variety of claims in litigation against certain Latin American subsidiaries of the Company for separation pay, severance, commissions, pension benefits, unpaid vacation pay, breach of employment contracts, unpaid performance bonuses, property damages, moral damages and related statutory penalties, fines, costs and expenses (including accrued interest, attorneys fees and statutorily mandated inflation adjustments) as a result of their separation from the Company or termination of service relationships. The Company is vigorously defending itself against the asserted claims, which aggregate to approximately \$39 million at March 31, 2014 .

Brazilian Tax Claims

In December 2004, March 2009 and April 2009, the São Paulo state tax authorities issued tax assessments against one of the Company's Brazilian subsidiaries for the Tax on Distribution of Goods and Services ("ICMS") with respect to revenue from leasing movable properties (in the case of the December 2004 and March 2009 assessments) and revenue from the provision of Internet access services (in the case of the April 2009 assessment), by treating such activities as the provision of communications services, to which the ICMS tax applies. In September 2002, July 2009 and May 2012, the Rio de Janeiro state tax authorities issued tax assessments to the same Brazilian subsidiary on similar issues. The Company has filed objections to these assessments, arguing that the lease of assets and the provision of Internet access are not communication services subject to ICMS. The objections to the December 2004 and September 2002 assessments were rejected by the respective state administrative courts, and the Company has appealed those decisions to the judicial courts. In October 2012, the Company received a favorable ruling from the lower court on the December 2004 assessment regarding equipment leasing, but that ruling is subject to appeal by the state. No ruling has been obtained

with respect to the September 2002 assessment. The objections to the March, April and July 2009 and May 2012 assessments are still pending final administrative decisions.

The Company is vigorously contesting all such assessments in both states, and in particular, views the assessment of ICMS on revenue from leasing movable properties to be without merit. Nevertheless, the Company believes that it is reasonably possible that these assessments could result in a loss of up to \$65 million in excess of the accruals established for these matters as of March 31, 2014 .

Letters of Credit

It is customary for Level 3 to use various financial instruments in the normal course of business. These instruments include letters of credit. Letters of credit are conditional commitments issued on behalf of Level 3 in accordance with specified terms and conditions. As of March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013 , Level 3 had outstanding letters of credit or other similar obligations of approximately \$28 million and \$29 million , respectively, of which \$25 million and \$25 million are collateralized by cash that is reflected on the consolidated balance sheets as restricted cash. The Company does not believe exposure to loss related to its letters of credit is material.

(10) Condensed Consolidating Financial Information

Level 3 Financing, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, has issued senior notes that are unsecured obligations of Level 3 Financing, Inc.; however, they are also fully and unconditionally and jointly and severally guaranteed on an unsecured senior basis by Level 3 Communications, Inc. and Level 3 Communications, LLC.

In conjunction with the registration of the senior notes, the accompanying condensed consolidating financial information has been prepared and presented pursuant to SEC Regulation S-X Rule 3-10 "Financial statements of guarantors and affiliates whose securities collateralize an issue registered or being registered."

The operating activities of the separate legal entities included in the Company's consolidated financial statements are interdependent. The accompanying condensed consolidating financial information presents the results of operations, financial position and cash flows of each legal entity and, on an aggregate basis, the other non-guarantor subsidiaries based on amounts incurred by such entities, and is not intended to present the operating results of those legal entities on a stand-alone basis. Level 3 Communications, LLC leases equipment and certain facilities from other wholly owned subsidiaries of Level 3 Communications, Inc. These transactions are eliminated in the consolidated results of the Company.

Condensed Consolidating Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss)
Three Months Ended March 31, 2014

	Level 3 Communications, Inc.	Level 3 Financing, Inc.	Level 3 Communications, LLC	Other Non- Guarantor Subsidiaries	Eliminations	Total
	(dollars in millions)					
Revenue	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 737	\$ 931	\$ (59)	\$ 1,609
Costs and Expense:						
Cost of Revenue	—	—	290	383	(59)	614
Depreciation and Amortization	—	—	70	114	—	184
Selling, General and Administrative	—	—	325	222	—	547
Total Costs and Expenses	—	—	685	719	(59)	1,345
Operating Income (Loss)	—	—	52	212	—	264
Other Income (Expense):						
Interest expense	(34)	(112)	(1)	(4)	—	(151)
Interest income (expense) affiliates, net	288	459	(712)	(35)	—	—
Equity in net earnings (losses) of subsidiaries	(142)	(488)	178	—	452	—
Other, net			3	3	—	6
Total Other Income (Expense)	112	(141)	(532)	(36)	452	(145)
Income (Loss) before Income Taxes	112	(141)	(480)	176	452	119
Income Tax Expense	—	(1)	(1)	(5)	—	(7)
Net Income (Loss)	112	(142)	(481)	171	452	112
Other Comprehensive Income, Net of Income Taxes	6	—	—	6	(6)	6
Comprehensive Income (Loss)	\$ 118	\$ (142)	\$ (481)	\$ 177	\$ 446	\$ 118

Condensed Consolidating Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss)
Three Months Ended March 31, 2013

	Level 3 Communications, Inc.	Level 3 Financing, Inc.	Level 3 Communications, LLC	Other Non-Guarantor Subsidiaries	Eliminations	Total
(dollars in millions)						
Revenue	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 685	\$ 956	\$ (64)	\$ 1,577
Costs and Expense:						
Cost of Revenue	—	—	261	432	(64)	629
Depreciation and Amortization	—	—	71	123	—	194
Selling, General and Administrative	1	—	381	217	—	599
Total Costs and Expenses	1	—	713	772	(64)	1,422
Operating Income (Loss)	(1)	—	(28)	184	—	155
Other Income (Expense):						
Interest expense	(39)	(126)	(1)	(3)	—	(169)
Interest income (expense) affiliates, net	273	430	(669)	(34)	—	—
Equity in net earnings (losses) of subsidiaries	(311)	(614)	146	—	779	—
Other, net	—	(1)	1	(50)	—	(50)
Total Other Expense	(77)	(311)	(523)	(87)	779	(219)
Income (Loss) before Income Taxes	(78)	(311)	(551)	97	779	(64)
Income Tax Expense	—	—	(1)	(13)	—	(14)
Net Income (Loss)	(78)	(311)	(552)	84	779	(78)
Other Comprehensive Income, Net of Income Taxes	(52)	(52)	—	(52)	104	(52)
Comprehensive Income (Loss)	<u>\$ (130)</u>	<u>\$ (363)</u>	<u>\$ (552)</u>	<u>\$ 32</u>	<u>\$ 883</u>	<u>\$ (130)</u>

Condensed Consolidating Balance Sheets **March 31, 2014**

	Level 3 Communications, Inc.	Level 3 Financing, Inc.	Level 3 Communications, LLC	Other Non-Guarantor Subsidiaries	Eliminations	Total
(dollars in millions)						
Assets						
Current Assets:						
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 8	\$ 6	\$ 356	\$ 237	\$ —	\$ 607
Restricted cash and securities	—	—	1	6	—	7
Receivables, less allowances for doubtful accounts	—	—	70	629	—	699
Due from affiliates	15,798	17,223	—	—	(33,021)	—
Other	3	17	59	80	—	159
Total Current Assets	15,809	17,246	486	952	(33,021)	1,472
Property, Plant, and Equipment, net	—	—	3,055	5,205	—	8,260
Restricted Cash and Securities	3	—	18	1	—	22
Goodwill and Other Intangibles, net	—	—	387	2,374	—	2,761
Investment in Subsidiaries	10,090	8,956	3,738	—	(22,784)	—
Other Assets, net	9	108	10	247	—	374
Total Assets	\$ 25,911	\$ 26,310	\$ 7,694	\$ 8,779	\$ (55,805)	\$ 12,889
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity (Deficit)						
Current Liabilities:						
Accounts payable	\$ —	\$ 1	\$ 246	\$ 314	\$ —	\$ 561
Current portion of long-term debt	474	—	3	26	—	503
Accrued payroll and employee benefits	—	—	71	43	—	114
Accrued interest	46	126	—	2	—	174
Current portion of deferred revenue	—	—	123	139	—	262
Due to affiliates	—	—	32,229	792	(33,021)	—
Other	—	3	70	69	—	142
Total Current Liabilities	520	130	32,742	1,385	(33,021)	1,756
Long-Term Debt, less current portion	897	6,905	17	37	—	7,856
Deferred Revenue, less current portion	—	—	588	313	—	901
Other Liabilities	15	29	132	602	—	778
Commitments and Contingencies	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stockholders' Equity (Deficit)	24,479	19,246	(25,785)	6,442	(22,784)	1,598
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity (Deficit)	\$ 25,911	\$ 26,310	\$ 7,694	\$ 8,779	\$ (55,805)	\$ 12,889

Condensed Consolidating Balance Sheets **December 31, 2013**

	Level 3 Communications, Inc.	Level 3 Financing, Inc.	Level 3 Communications, LLC	Other Non- Guarantor Subsidiaries	Eliminations	Total
(dollars in millions)						
Assets						
Current Assets:						
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 8	\$ 6	\$ 347	\$ 270	\$ —	\$ 631
Restricted cash and securities	—	—	1	6	—	7
Receivables, less allowances for doubtful accounts	—	—	79	594	—	673
Due from affiliates	15,507	16,886	—	—	(32,393)	—
Other	2	15	47	79	—	143
Total Current Assets	15,517	16,907	474	949	(32,393)	1,454
Property, Plant, and Equipment, net	—	—	3,028	5,212	—	8,240
Restricted Cash and Securities	3	—	18	2	—	23
Goodwill and Other Intangibles, net	—	—	395	2,387	—	2,782
Investment in Subsidiaries	10,039	27,014	3,735	—	(40,788)	—
Other Assets, net	10	113	11	241	—	375
Total Assets	\$ 25,569	\$ 44,034	\$ 7,661	\$ 8,791	\$ (73,181)	\$ 12,874
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity (Deficit)						
Current Liabilities:						
Accounts payable	\$ —	\$ 2	\$ 42	\$ 581	\$ —	\$ 625
Current portion of long-term debt	—	—	3	28	—	31
Accrued payroll and employee benefits	—	—	171	38	—	209
Accrued interest	30	129	—	1	—	160
Current portion of deferred revenue	—	—	131	122	—	253
Due to affiliates	—	—	32,165	228	(32,393)	—
Other	—	13	74	81	—	168
Total Current Liabilities	30	144	32,586	1,079	(32,393)	1,446
Long-Term Debt, less current portion	1,370	6,905	17	39	—	8,331
Deferred Revenue, less current portion	—	—	603	303	—	906
Other Liabilities	15	27	135	603	—	780
Commitments and Contingencies	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stockholders' Equity (Deficit)	24,154	36,958	(25,680)	6,767	(40,788)	1,411
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity (Deficit)	\$ 25,569	\$ 44,034	\$ 7,661	\$ 8,791	\$ (73,181)	\$ 12,874

Condensed Consolidating Statements of Cash Flows
Three Months Ended March 31, 2014

	Level 3 Communications, Inc.	Level 3 Financing, Inc.	Level 3 Communications, LLC	Other Non-Guarantor Subsidiaries	Eliminations	Total
(dollars in millions)						
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities	\$ (16)	\$ (125)	\$ 183	\$ 99	\$ —	\$ 141
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:						
Capital Expenditures	—	—	(74)	(89)	—	(163)
Decrease in restricted cash and securities, net	—	—	—	1	—	1
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Investing Activities	—	—	(74)	(88)	—	(162)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities:						
Long-term debt borrowings, net of issuance costs	—	—	—	—	—	—
Payments on and repurchases of long-term debt, including current portion and refinancing costs	—	—	—	(3)	—	(3)
Increase (decrease) due from/to affiliates, net	16	125	(100)	(41)	—	—
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Financing Activities	16	125	(100)	(44)	—	(3)
Effect of Exchange Rates on Cash and Cash Equivalents	—	—	—	—	—	—
Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents	—	—	9	(33)	—	(24)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period	8	6	347	270	—	631
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period	\$ 8	\$ 6	\$ 356	\$ 237	\$ —	\$ 607

Condensed Consolidating Statements of Cash Flows
Three Months Ended March 31, 2013

	Level 3 Communications, Inc.	Level 3 Financing, Inc.	Level 3 Communications, LLC	Other Non- Guarantor Subsidiaries	Eliminations	Total
	(dollars in millions)					
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities	\$ (30)	\$ (169)	\$ (15)	\$ 221	\$ —	\$ 7
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:						
Capital Expenditures	—	—	(74)	(95)	—	(169)
Decrease in restricted cash and securities, net	—	—	—	3	—	3
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Investing Activities	—	—	(74)	(92)	—	(166)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities:						
Long-term debt borrowings, net of issuance costs	—	—	—	—	—	—
Payments on and repurchases of long-term debt, including current portion and refinancing costs	(172)	(2)	(4)	(8)	—	(186)
Increase (decrease) due from/to affiliates, net	1	171	35	(207)	—	—
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Financing Activities	(171)	169	31	(215)	—	(186)
Effect of Exchange Rates on Cash and Cash Equivalents	—	—	—	(24)	—	(24)
Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(201)	—	(58)	(110)	—	(369)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period	253	5	386	335	—	979
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period	\$ 52	\$ 5	\$ 328	\$ 225	\$ —	\$ 610

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

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the Level 3 Communications, Inc. and its subsidiaries ("Level 3" or the "Company") consolidated financial statements (including the notes thereto), included elsewhere herein and the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

This document contains forward looking statements and information that are based on the beliefs of management as well as assumptions made by and information currently available to the Company. When used in this document, the words "anticipate", "believe", "plan", "estimate" and "expect" and similar expressions, as they relate to the Company or its management, are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Such statements reflect the current views of the Company with respect to future events and are subject to certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those described in this document. For a more detailed description of these risks and factors, please see the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and Item 1A in Part II of this Form 10-Q.

Executive Summary

Overview

The Company is a facilities-based provider of a broad range of communications services. Revenue for communications services is generally recognized on a monthly basis as these services are provided. For contracts involving private line, wavelength and dark fiber services, Level 3 may receive upfront payments for services to be delivered for a period of generally up to 25 years. In these situations, Level 3 defers the revenue and amortizes it on a straight-line basis to earnings over the term of the contract.

Business Strategy and Objectives

The Company pursues the strategies discussed in Item 1. Business, "Business Overview and Strategy" as discussed in its Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013. In particular, with respect to strategic financial objectives, the Company focuses its attention on the following:

- growing revenue by increasing sales generated by our Core Network Services;
- focusing on our enterprise customers, as this customer group has the largest potential for significant growth;
- continually improving the customer experience to increase customer retention and reduce customer churn;
- launching new products and services to meet customer needs, in particular for enterprise customers;
- reducing network costs and operating expenses;
- achieving sustainable generation of positive cash flows from operations;
- continuing to show improvement in Adjusted EBITDA (as defined in this Item below) as a percentage of revenue;

- localizing certain decision making and interactions with our mid-market enterprise customers, including leveraging our existing network assets;
- concentrating its capital expenditures on those technologies and assets that enable the Company to develop its Core Network Services;
- managing Wholesale Voice Services for margin contribution; and
- refinancing its future debt maturities.

The Company's management continues to review all existing lines of business and service offerings to determine how those lines of business and service offerings enhance the Company's focus on the delivery of communications services and meeting its financial objectives. To the extent that certain lines of business or service offerings are not considered to be compatible with the delivery of the Company's services or with meeting its financial objectives, Level 3 may exit those lines of business or stop offering those services in part or in whole.

The Company has also been focused on improving its liquidity and financial condition, and extending the maturity dates of certain debt.

The Company will continue to look for opportunities to improve its financial position and focus its resources on growing revenue and managing costs for the business.

Revenue by Channel:

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2014	2013
Core Network Services:		
North America - Wholesale Channel	\$ 368	\$ 372
North America - Enterprise Channel	675	595
EMEA - Wholesale Channel	87	89
EMEA - Enterprise Channel	138	134
Latin America - Wholesale Channel	40	40
Latin America - Enterprise Channel	149	142
Total Core Network Services	1,457	1,372
Wholesale Voice Services and Other	152	205
Total Revenue	\$ 1,609	\$ 1,577

Total revenue consists of:

- Core Network Services revenue from colocation and data center services; transport and fiber; IP and data services; and local and enterprise voice services.
- Wholesale Voice Services and Other revenue from sales of long distance voice services.

Core Network Services revenue represents higher margin services and Wholesale Voice Services and Other revenue represents lower margin services. Core Network Services revenue requires different levels of investment and focus and provides different contributions to the Company's operating results than Wholesale Voice Services and Other revenue. Management believes that growth in revenue from its Core Network Services is critical to the long-term success of its business. The Company also believes it must continue to effectively manage gross margin contribution from the Wholesale Voice Services component and the positive cash flows from the Other revenue component. The Company believes that trends in its communications business are best gauged by analyzing revenue changes in Core Network Services.

Core Network Services

Colocation and data center services allow customers to place their network equipment and servers in suitable environments maintained by the Company with high-speed links providing on-net access to more than 60 countries. These services are secure, redundant and flexible to fit the varying needs of the Company's customers. Services, which vary by location, include hosting network equipment used to transport high speed data and voice over Level 3's global network; connectivity associated with Cloud services; providing managed IT services, installation, maintenance, storage and monitoring of enterprise services; and providing comprehensive IT outsource solutions.

Growth in transport (such as private line and wavelengths) and fiber revenue is largely dependent on increased demand for bandwidth services and available capital of companies requiring communications capacity for their own use or in providing capacity as a service provider to their customers. These expenditures may be in the form of monthly payments or, in the case of private line, wavelength or dark fiber services, either monthly payments or upfront payments. The Company is focused on providing end-to-end transport and fiber services to its customers to directly connect customer locations with a private network. Pricing for end-to-end metropolitan transport services have been relatively stable. For intercity transport and fiber services, the Company continues to experience pricing pressure in locations where a

large number of carriers co-locate their facilities. An increase in demand may be offset by declines in unit pricing.

Internet Protocol ("IP") and data services primarily include the Company's Internet services, Virtual Private Network ("VPN"), Content Delivery Network ("CDN"), media delivery, Vyvx broadcast, Converged Business Network ("CBN"), and Managed Services. Level 3's IP and high speed IP service is high quality and is offered in a variety of capacities. The Company's VPN service permits businesses of any size to replace multiple networks with a single, cost-effective solution that greatly simplifies the converged transmission of voice, video, and data. This convergence to a single platform can be obtained without sacrificing the quality of service or security levels of traditional ATM and frame relay offerings. VPN service also permits customers to prioritize network application traffic so that high priority applications, such as voice and video, are not compromised in performance by the flow of low priority applications such as email.

Voice services comprise a broad range of local and enterprise voice services using Voice over Internet Protocol ("VoIP") and traditional circuit-switch based technologies, including VoIP enhanced local service, SIP Trunking, local inbound service, Primary Rate Interface service, long distance service and toll-free service. The Company's voice services also include its comprehensive suite of audio, Web and video collaboration services.

The Company believes that a source of future incremental demand for the Company's Core Network Services will be from customers that are seeking to distribute their feature rich content or video over the Internet. Revenue growth in this area is dependent on the continued increase in demand from customers and the pricing environment. An increase in the reliability and security of information transmitted over the Internet and declines in the cost to transmit data have resulted in increased utilization of e-commerce or Web-based services by businesses. Although the pricing for data services is currently relatively stable, the IP market is generally characterized by price compression and high unit growth rates depending upon the type of service.

The following provides a discussion of the Company's Core Network Services revenue in terms of the enterprise and wholesale channels.

- The enterprise channel includes large, multi-national enterprises requiring large amounts of bandwidth to support their business operations, such as financial services companies, healthcare companies, content providers, retail companies and portal and search engine companies. It also includes medium sized enterprises, as well as government markets, including the U.S. federal government, the systems integrators supporting the U.S. federal government, U.S. state and local governments, academic consortia, and certain academic institutions.
- The wholesale channel includes revenue from incumbent and alternative carriers in each of the regions, global carriers, wireless carriers, cable companies, satellite companies, regional service providers and voice service providers.

The Company believes that the alignment of Core Network Services around channels should allow it to drive growth while enabling it to better focus on the needs of its customers. Each of these channels is supported by dedicated employees in sales. Each of these channels is also supported by non-dedicated, centralized service delivery and management, product management and development, corporate marketing, global network services, engineering, information technology, and corporate functions, including legal, finance, strategy and human resources.

Wholesale Voice Services and Other

The Company offers wholesale voice services that target large and existing markets. The revenue potential for wholesale voice services is large; however, pricing is expected to continue to decline over

time as a result of the new low-cost IP and optical-based technologies. In addition, the overall market for wholesale voice services is declining and is also being targeted by many competitors, several of which are larger and have more financial resources than the Company.

The Company also has other revenue derived from mature services that are not critical areas of emphasis for the Company. The Company expects ongoing declines in Wholesale Voice Services and Other similar to what has been experienced over the past several years.

The Company receives compensation from other carriers when it terminates traffic originating on those carriers' networks. This intercarrier compensation is based on interconnection agreements with the respective carriers or rates mandated by the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC"). The Company has interconnection agreements in place for the majority of traffic subject to intercarrier compensation. Along with addressing other matters, on November 18, 2011, the FCC established a prospective intercarrier compensation framework for terminating switched access and VoIP traffic, with elements of it becoming effective beginning on December 29, 2011. Under the framework, most terminating switched access charges and all intercarrier compensation charges are capped at current levels, and will be reduced to zero over, as relevant to Level 3, a six year transition period which began July 1, 2012. Several states, industry groups, and other telecommunications carriers filed petitions in federal court for reconsideration of the framework with the FCC, although the outcome of those petitions is unpredictable. A majority of the Company's existing intercarrier compensation revenue is associated with agreements that have expired terms, but remain effective in evergreen status. As these and other interconnection agreements expire, the Company will continue to evaluate simply allowing them to continue in evergreen status (so long as the counterparty allows the same) or negotiating new agreements. The Company earned intercarrier compensation revenue from providing managed modem services, which it has discontinued. The Company also receives intercarrier compensation from its voice services. In this case, intercarrier compensation is reported within Core Network Services revenue.

For a detailed description of the Company's broad range of communications services, please see Item 1. "Business - Our Service Offerings" of the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Seasonality and Fluctuations

The Company continues to expect business fluctuations to affect sequential quarterly trends in revenue, margins and cash flow. This includes the timing, as well as any seasonality of sales and service installations, usage, rate changes and repricing for contract renewals. Historically, the Company's revenue and expense in the first quarter has been affected by the slowing of our customers' purchasing activities during the holidays and the resetting of payroll taxes in the new year. The Company's historical experience with quarterly fluctuations may not necessarily be indicative of future results.

Because revenue subject to billing disputes where collection is uncertain is not recognized until the dispute is resolved, the timing of dispute resolutions and settlements may positively or negatively affect the Company's revenue in a particular quarter. The timing of disconnections may also affect our results in a particular quarter, with disconnections early in the quarter generally having a greater effect. The timing of capital and other expenditures may affect our margins or cash flow. The convergence of any of these or other factors such as fluctuations in usage, increases or decreases in certain taxes and fees or pricing declines upon contract renewals in a particular quarter may result in the Company's revenue growing more or less than previous trends, may affect the Company's margins and other financial results and may not be indicative of future financial performance.

Critical Accounting Policies

Refer to Item 7 of the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013, for a description of the Company's critical accounting policies.

Property, Plant and Equipment

The Company performs internal reviews to evaluate the depreciable lives of its property, plant and equipment annually or more frequently if new facts and circumstances arise that may affect management's original estimates. Due to the rapid changes in technology and the competitive environment, selecting the estimated economic life of telecommunications property, plant, and equipment requires a significant amount of judgment. The Company's internal reviews take into account input from the Company's global engineering and network services personnel, actual usage, the physical condition of the Company's property, plant, and equipment, industry data, and other relevant factors.

In connection with its periodic review of the estimated useful lives of property, plant and equipment, the Company completed its evaluation in the first quarter of 2014 and determined that the period it expects to use certain assets is longer than the remaining originally estimated useful lives. The Company revised its estimated useful lives for: IP equipment from its historical estimate of four years to a revised estimate of seven years; racks and cabinets from its historical estimate of seven years to a revised estimate of 15 years; and facility equipment from its historical estimate of 10 years to its revised estimate of 15 years. In determining the change in estimated useful lives, the Company, with input from its engineering team, considered its historical usage patterns and retirements, estimates of technological obsolescence, and expected usage and maintenance. The change in the estimated useful lives of certain of the Company's property, plant and equipment was accounted for as a change in accounting estimate on a prospective basis effective January 1, 2014 under the accounting standard related to changes in accounting estimates.

The carrying values of assets subject to these revisions were (in millions):

	January 1, 2014	
IP Equipment	\$	222
Racks and Cabinets		114
Facility Equipment		151
	\$	<u>487</u>

The change in estimated useful lives of certain of the Company's property, plant and equipment resulted in less depreciation expense than would have otherwise been recorded and in the following increase in net income for the three months ended March 31, 2014 (in millions, except per share amounts):

Net Income	\$	24
Basic and Diluted Net Income per Share	\$	0.10

Results of Operations for the Three Months Ended March 31, 2014 vs. 2013

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended March 31,		
	2014	2013	Change %
Revenue	\$ 1,609	\$ 1,577	2 %
Cost of Revenue	614	629	(2)%
Depreciation and Amortization	184	194	(5)%
Selling, General and Administrative	547	599	(9)%
Total Costs and Expenses	1,345	1,422	(5)%
Operating Income	264	155	70 %
Other Income (Expense):			
Interest expense	(151)	(169)	(11)%
Other, net	6	(50)	NM
Total Other Expense	(145)	(219)	(34)%
Income (Loss) Before Income Taxes	119	(64)	NM
Income Tax Expense	(7)	(14)	(50)%
Net Income (Loss)	\$ 112	\$ (78)	NM

NM — Not meaningful

Discussion of all significant variances:

Revenue by Service Offering:

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended March 31,		
	2014	2013	Change %
Core Network Services Revenue:			
Colocation and Datacenter Services	\$ 145	\$ 142	2 %
Transport and Fiber	502	476	5 %
IP and Data Services	573	518	11 %
Voice Services (Local and Enterprise)	237	236	— %
Total Core Network Service Revenue	1,457	1,372	6 %
Wholesale Voice Services and Other Revenue	152	205	(26)%
Total Revenue	\$ 1,609	\$ 1,577	2 %

Revenue increased 2% to \$1.609 billion in the three months ended March 31, 2014 compared to \$1.577 billion in the same period of 2013. The increase was driven by growth in Core Network Services revenue from enterprise customers partially offset by declines in Wholesale Voice Services and Other revenue.

The Company experienced growth in its IP and data services and transport and fiber services during the three months ended March 31, 2014 compared to the same period of 2013 driven primarily by end user customer demand for content delivery over the Internet, VPN and bandwidth in the enterprise channel as well as increases in professional services fees. The Company also experienced modest growth in colocation and datacenter services during the three months ended March 31, 2014 .

Core Network Services revenue increased in the North America, EMEA and Latin America regions during the three ended March 31, 2014 compared to the same period of 2013, as a result of growth in

services provided to the existing enterprise customer base and the acquisition of new customers in the enterprise channel. These increases were partially offset by decreases in wholesale channel revenue in North America and EMEA.

Wholesale Voice Services and Other revenue decreased in the three months ended March 31, 2014 compared to the same period of 2013 primarily as a result of declines in usage as customers transition to IP voice services. The Company continues to manage its combined wholesale voice services platform for margin contribution.

Wholesale Voice Services revenue decreased in North America, EMEA and Latin America in the three months ended March 31, 2014 compared to 2013, due to competitive pressures and the Company's focus on maintaining or growing its margin percentage.

Cost of Revenue includes leased capacity, right-of-way costs, access charges, satellite transponder lease costs, and other third-party costs directly attributable to the network, but excludes depreciation and amortization and related impairment expenses.

Cost of revenue as a percentage of total revenue was 38% in the three months ended March 31, 2014 compared to 40% in the same period of 2013. The decrease is primarily due to an improving gross margin mix of higher margin on-net Core Network Services and a decrease in lower margin Wholesale Voice Services and Other Revenue. Additionally, the Company continues to implement initiatives to reduce both fixed and variable network expenses.

Depreciation and Amortization decreased 5% to \$184 million in the three months ended March 31, 2014 from \$194 million in the same period of 2013. The decrease is primarily attributable to a change in the estimated useful lives of certain of the Company's property, plant and equipment that resulted in a reduction of depreciation expense of \$24 million in the first quarter of 2014 compared to the same period of 2013. The change in accounting estimate was applied on a prospective basis effective January 1, 2014, as required under the accounting standard related to changes in accounting estimates.

Selling, General and Administrative ("SG&A") includes salaries, wages and related benefits (including non-cash, stock-based compensation expenses), property taxes, travel, insurance, rent, contract maintenance, advertising, accretion expense on asset retirement obligations and other administrative expenses. SG&A expenses also include certain network related expenses such as network facility rent, utilities and maintenance costs.

SG&A decreased 9% to \$547 million in the three months ended March 31, 2014 compared to \$599 million in the same period of 2013. The decrease is primarily due to lower employee cash compensation and other employee related costs, professional fees and vendor services and other discretionary costs. Professional fees and vendor services and other discretionary costs decreased primarily due to the rationalization and renegotiation of vendor services and lower travel and entertainment costs.

Also included in SG&A were \$10 million and \$37 million in the three months ended March 31, 2014 and March 31, 2013, respectively, of non-cash, stock-based compensation expenses related to grants of outperform stock options, restricted stock units, accruals for the Company's annual discretionary bonus, incentive and retention plans and shares issued for the Company's matching contribution for the 401(k) plan. The decrease in non-cash, stock-based compensation expense is primarily due to the reallocation of the Company's 2014 annual discretionary bonus to be paid entirely in cash compared to the 2013 allocation of 60% equity and 40% cash. The amount of the bonus accrued as equity-based compensation in the first quarter of 2013 was \$15 million.

Adjusted EBITDA, as defined by the Company, is net income (loss) from the consolidated statements of operations before (1) income tax benefit (expense), (2) total other income (expense), (3) non-cash impairment charges included within selling, general and administrative expenses,

(4) depreciation and amortization expense and (5) non-cash stock compensation expense included within selling, general and administrative expenses.

Adjusted EBITDA is not a measurement under GAAP and may not be used in the same way by other companies. Management believes that Adjusted EBITDA is an important part of the Company's internal reporting and is a key measure used by management to evaluate profitability and operating performance of the Company and to make resource allocation decisions. Management believes such measurement is especially important in a capital-intensive industry such as telecommunications. Management also uses Adjusted EBITDA to compare the Company's performance to that of its competitors and to eliminate certain non-cash and non-operating items in order to consistently measure from period to period its ability to fund capital expenditures, fund growth, service debt and determine bonuses.

Adjusted EBITDA excludes non-cash impairment charges and non-cash stock compensation expense because of the non-cash nature of these items. Adjusted EBITDA also excludes interest income, interest expense and income tax benefit (expense) because these items are associated with the Company's capitalization and tax structures. Adjusted EBITDA also excludes depreciation and amortization expense because these non-cash expenses reflect the effect of capital investments which management believes are better evaluated through cash flow measures. Adjusted EBITDA excludes net other income (expense) because these items are not related to the primary operations of the Company.

There are limitations to using non-GAAP financial measures such as Adjusted EBITDA, including the difficulty associated with comparing companies that use similar performance measures whose calculations may differ from the Company's calculations. Additionally, this financial measure does not include certain significant items such as interest income, interest expense, income tax benefit (expense), depreciation and amortization expense, non-cash impairment charges, non-cash stock compensation expense and net other income (expense). Adjusted EBITDA should not be considered a substitute for other measures of financial performance reported in accordance with GAAP.

The following information provides a reconciliation of Net Income (Loss) to Adjusted EBITDA as defined by the Company:

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2014	2013
Net Income (Loss)	\$ 112	\$ (78)
Income Tax Expense	7	14
Total Other Expense	145	219
Depreciation and Amortization	184	194
Non-Cash Compensation Expense	10	37
Adjusted EBITDA	<u>\$ 458</u>	<u>\$ 386</u>

Consolidated Adjusted EBITDA was \$458 million in the three months ended March 31, 2014 compared to \$386 million in the same period of 2013. The increase in Adjusted EBITDA is primarily attributable to growth in the Company's higher incremental margin Core Network Services revenue and continued improvements in cost of revenue and lower SG&A expenses.

Adjusted EBITDA increased in the North America and Latin America regions in the three months ended March 31, 2014, compared to 2013 as a result of growth in Core Network Services revenue and initiatives resulting in reduced fixed and variable network expenses. These increases were partially offset by a decrease in Wholesale channel revenue. Adjusted EBITDA decreased in EMEA in the three months ended March 31, 2014 compared to 2013 due to decreases in Wholesale channel revenue and higher

cost of revenue. See Note 8 - Segment Information in the notes to consolidated financial statements for additional information on Adjusted EBITDA by region.

Historically, the Company has paid a portion of employee annual bonuses with shares of its common stock. Beginning in 2014, the Company accrues the entire bonus compensation within SG&A as cash compensation, which will be paid in 2015.

Interest Expense decreased 11% to \$151 million in the three months ended March 31, 2014 from \$169 million in the same period of 2013. Interest expense decreased as a result of lower cost of borrowing on refinanced debt for the three months ended March 31, 2014 compared to the same period of 2013.

The Company expects annual interest expense in 2014 to approximate \$600 million based on current interest rates on the Company's debt outstanding as of March 31, 2014 .

Other, net is primarily comprised of gains and losses on the sale of non-operating assets, foreign currency gains and losses and other income and expense.

Other, net was \$6 million of income in the three months ended March 31, 2014 compared to \$50 million of expense in the three months ended March 31, 2013 . The Other, net income in the first quarter 2014 is primarily due to miscellaneous gains. The Other, net expense in the three months ended March 31, 2013 was incurred primarily due to foreign currency losses attributable to the devaluation of the Venezuelan Bolivar, as discussed below, and other foreign currency losses.

Effective February 13, 2013, the Venezuelan government devalued the Venezuelan bolivar by increasing the official rate from 4.30 Venezuelan bolivares to the U.S. Dollar to 6.30 Venezuelan bolivares to the U.S. Dollar. This devaluation reduced the Company's net monetary assets by \$22 million based on the bolivar balances as of February 13, 2013, resulting in a charge of \$22 million which was recognized in Other, net in the consolidated statement of operations in the first quarter of 2013.

Income Tax Expense was \$7 million in the three months ended March 31, 2014 compared to \$14 million in the three months ended March 31, 2013 . Income tax expense in the three months ended March 31, 2014 is net of a \$4 million reserve release related to the favorable resolution of an uncertain tax position. The income tax expense in all periods is primarily related to taxes in foreign jurisdictions.

The Company incurs tax expense attributable to income in various Level 3 subsidiaries that are required to file state or foreign income tax returns on a separate legal entity basis. The Company also recognizes accrued interest and penalties in income tax expense related to uncertain tax benefits. Income tax for the three month period ended March 31, 2014 is not necessarily indicative of income tax expense for the year ended December 31, 2014 . Our tax rate is volatile and may move up or down with changes in, among other things, the amount and source of income or loss, our ability to utilize foreign tax credits, changes in tax laws, and the movement of liabilities established for uncertain tax positions as statutes of limitations expire or positions are otherwise effectively settled.

Financial Condition— For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2014 and 2013

Cash flows provided by or used in operating activities, investing activities and financing activities for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013 are summarized as follows:

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended March 31,		
	2014	2013	Change
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	\$ 141	\$ 7	\$ 134
Net Cash Used in Investing Activities	(162)	(166)	4
Net Cash Used in Financing Activities	(3)	(186)	183
Effect of Exchange Rates on Cash and Cash Equivalents	—	(24)	24
Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>\$ (24)</u>	<u>\$ (369)</u>	<u>\$ 345</u>

Operating Activities

Cash provided by operating activities was \$141 million in the three months ended March 31, 2014 compared to cash provided by operating activities of \$7 million in the same period of 2013. The increase in cash provided by operating activities was primarily due to growth in earnings and lower interest payments.

Investing Activities

Cash used in investing activities decreased in the three months ended March 31, 2014 compared to the same period of 2013 primarily as a result of a decrease in capital expenditures, which totaled \$163 million in the three months ended March 31, 2014 and \$169 million in the same period of 2013.

Financing Activities

Cash used in financing activities of \$3 million in the three months ended March 31, 2014, compared to \$186 million used in financing activities in the same period of 2013 relates to lower net payments of debt and capital leases during 2014 compared the same period of 2013 primarily as a result of the repayment at maturity of \$172 million of the 15% Convertible Notes due January 15, 2013.

Effect of Exchange Rates on Cash and Cash Equivalents

The effect of exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents in the three months ended March 31, 2014 was nil. The effect of exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents in the three months ended March 31, 2013 was primarily due to the devaluation of the Venezuelan bolivar, which reduced the Company's unrestricted cash and cash equivalents by \$21 million in the first quarter of 2013.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

The Company recognized net income of \$112 million in the three months ended March 31, 2014 and a net loss of \$78 million in the same period of 2013. The Company used cash of \$163 million for capital expenditures and \$3 million for financing activities in the three months ended March 31, 2014. This compares to \$169 million of cash used for capital expenditures and \$186 million of cash flows used in financing activities in the three months ended March 31, 2013.

Net cash interest payments are expected to decrease to approximately \$560 million in 2014 from \$674 million in 2013 based on current interest rates on the Company's debt outstanding as of March 31, 2014.

Capital expenditures for 2014 are expected to remain relatively consistent as a percentage of revenue as in 2013, as the Company invests in base capital expenditures (estimated capital required to keep the network operating efficiently and support new service development) with the remaining capital

expenditures expected to be partly success-based, which is tied to a specific customer revenue opportunity, and partly project-based where capital is used to expand the network based on the Company's expectation that the project will eventually lead to incremental revenue.

As of March 31, 2014, the Company had contractual debt obligations, including capital lease obligations, and excluding interest, discounts on debt issuance and fair value adjustments, of \$27 million that mature in the remaining nine months of 2014, \$483 million in 2015 and \$7 million in 2016.

The Company had \$607 million of cash and cash equivalents on hand at March 31, 2014. The Company also had \$29 million of current and non-current restricted cash and securities used to collateralize outstanding letters of credit and certain performance and operating obligations of the Company and other deposits at March 31, 2014. In addition, \$68 million of the Company's total cash and cash equivalents as of March 31, 2014 was held in Venezuelan bolivares by a Venezuelan subsidiary. In light of the Venezuelan exchange control regime, none of such \$68 million may be transferred to the Company in the form of loans, advances or cash dividends without the consent of the Venezuelan government. The \$68 million value of the Company's bolivar balance reflects the February 13, 2013 devaluation of the bolivar that resulted from the increase in the official exchange rate from 4.30 Venezuelan bolivares to the U.S. dollar to 6.30 Venezuelan bolivares to the U.S. dollar. That devaluation reduced the Company's unrestricted cash and cash equivalents by \$21 million, based on the bolivar balances as of February 13, 2013.

During the first quarter 2014, the Venezuela government enacted additional changes to the country's foreign exchange system. The government expanded the types of transactions that may be allowed via the weekly auctions under the Complementary System of Foreign Currency Acquirement ("SICAD 1"). The Venezuela government also announced the replacement of its existing foreign currency administration with the National Center for Foreign Commerce ("CENCOEX"). Entities may seek approval to transact through CENCOEX at the official rate of 6.30 Venezuelan bolivares to the U.S. dollar; however, certain transactions may be approved at the latest SICAD 1 rate, depending on the entity's facts and circumstances. Participation in SICAD is controlled by the Venezuela government, and Exchange Agreement No. 25 ("EA25") issued in January 2014 stated that the rate of exchange established in the most recent SICAD1 auction will be used for payments related to international investments, royalties, and the use and exploitation of patents, trademarks, licenses franchises and technology. In addition, the Venezuelan government approved a new Law on Fair Prices, which provides that the maximum profit margin for all of the activities related to the production, manufacturing, import, storage, transportation, distribution and marketing of all goods and services in the territory of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela shall not exceed 30% per year. Specific regulations regarding the application of the Law on Fair Prices to the telecommunication industry and, more specifically, the Company's business activities in Venezuela have not been released. The Venezuela government also announced the plans for a third currency exchange mechanism ("SICAD 2"), which is intended to more closely resemble a market-driven exchange rate than the rates provided by Venezuela's other mechanisms. At March 31, 2014, the CENCOEX official exchange rate was 6.30, the SICAD 1 exchange rate was 10.7 and the SICAD 2 exchange rate was 50.9 Venezuelan bolivares to the U.S. dollar.

Revenue in Venezuela is approximately 1% of consolidated revenue or approximately \$23 million in the three months ended March 31, 2014, including \$12 million denominated in bolivares. The Company has historically transacted primarily through the official foreign currency administration and continues to use the official CENCOEX rate for remeasurement purposes, and did not recognize any foreign currency gains or losses in the three months ended March 31, 2014 as a result of these changes in Venezuela's foreign exchange system, but continues to monitor activity in Venezuela with respect to exchange rates as the resolution of the uncertainty created with these developments along with any future developments could ultimately result in a negative effect to the Company's results of operations and cash flows in Venezuela for any amounts held in bolivares. Given the insignificant volume of bolivar denominated transactions, the effect to the Company's operations is not expected to be material other than a possible charge for the Company's cash and cash equivalents held in bolivares.

The Company currently has the ability to repatriate cash and cash equivalents into the United States without paying or accruing U.S. taxes. Level 3 does not currently intend to repatriate any of its foreign cash and cash equivalents from entities outside of Latin America. The Company has no restrictions on its ability to repatriate foreign cash and cash equivalents, other than conversion and repatriation restrictions in Venezuela, as needed to fund operations in the United States, including debt service.

Based on information available at this time, the Company believes that its current liquidity and anticipated future cash flows from operations will be sufficient to fund its business for at least the next twelve months.

The Company may need to refinance all or a portion of its indebtedness at or before maturity and cannot provide assurances that it will be able to refinance any such indebtedness on commercially reasonable terms or at all. In addition, the Company may elect to secure additional capital in the future, at acceptable terms, to improve its liquidity or fund acquisitions. In addition, in an effort to reduce future cash interest payments as well as future amounts due at maturity or to extend debt maturities, the Company may, from time to time, issue new debt, enter into debt for debt, debt for equity or cash transactions to purchase its outstanding debt securities in the open market or through privately negotiated transactions. The Company will evaluate any such transactions in light of the existing market conditions and the possible dilutive effect to stockholders. The amounts involved in any such transaction, individually or in the aggregate, may be material.

In addition to raising capital through the debt and equity markets, the Company may sell or dispose of existing businesses, investments or other non-core assets.

Consolidation of the communications industry may continue. The Company will continue to evaluate consolidation opportunities and could make additional acquisitions in the future.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

Level 3 has not entered into off-balance sheet arrangements.

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Interest Rate Risk

Level 3 is subject to market risks arising from changes in interest rates. As of March 31, 2014, the Company had borrowed a total of approximately \$2.9 billion primarily under a Senior Secured Term Loan (excluding discounts) and Floating Rate Senior Notes due 2018 that bear interest at LIBOR rates plus an applicable margin. As the LIBOR rates fluctuate, so too will the interest expense on amounts borrowed under the debt instruments, unless LIBOR rates are below the minimum LIBOR rate for a particular Senior Secured Term Loan. The weighted average interest rate on the variable rate instruments at March 31, 2014, was approximately 4.0%.

The Company's senior secured credit facility's variable interest rate is based on a fixed rate of 3.0% plus LIBOR, with a fixed minimum LIBOR rate of 1.0% for both the \$815 million Tranche B-III 2019 and the \$1.796 billion Tranche B 2020 Term Loans. The market LIBOR rate for the Company's senior secured credit facility was approximately 0.23% at March 31, 2014, which was below the fixed minimum rates. Declines in LIBOR below the fixed minimum rate or increases up to the fixed minimum rate do not affect the Company's annual interest expense. A hypothetical increase in the weighted average rate by 1% point would increase the Company's annual interest rate expense on all of its variable rate instruments by approximately \$9 million as of March 31, 2014.

At March 31, 2014, the Company had \$5.5 billion (excluding discounts) of fixed rate debt bearing a weighted average interest rate of 8.3%. A decline in interest rates in the future will not generally benefit the Company with respect to the fixed rate debt due to the terms and conditions of the indentures relating to that debt that would require the Company to repurchase the debt at specified premiums if redeemed early. Indicated changes in interest rates are based on hypothetical movements and are not necessarily indicative of the actual results that may occur.

Foreign Currency Exchange Rate Risk

The Company conducts a portion of its business in currencies other than the U.S. dollar, the currency in which the Company's consolidated financial statements are reported. Accordingly, the Company's operating results could be adversely affected by foreign currency exchange rate volatility relative to the U.S. dollar. The Company's European subsidiaries and certain Latin American subsidiaries use the local currency as their functional currency, as the majority of their revenue and purchases are transacted in their local currencies. Although the Company continues to evaluate strategies to mitigate risks related to the effect of fluctuations in currency exchange rates, the Company will likely recognize gains or losses from international transactions. Changes in foreign currency rates could adversely affect the Company's operating results.

Effective February 13, 2013, the Venezuelan government devalued the Venezuelan bolivar by increasing the official rate from 4.30 Venezuelan bolivares to the U.S. dollar to 6.30 Venezuelan bolivares to the U.S. Dollar. This devaluation reduced the Company's net monetary assets by \$22 million, including unrestricted cash and cash equivalents of \$21 million, based on the bolivar balances as of February 13, 2013. The devaluation of the Company's net monetary assets resulted in a charge of \$22 million which was recognized in Other, net in the consolidated statement of operations in the first quarter of 2013.

During the first quarter 2014, the Venezuela government enacted additional changes to the country's foreign exchange system. The Company continues to use the official CENCOEX rate for remeasurement purposes, and did not recognize any foreign currency gains or losses in the three months ended March 31, 2014 as a result of these changes in Venezuela's foreign exchange system, but continues to monitor activity in Venezuela with respect to exchange rates as the resolution of the uncertainty created with these developments along with any future developments could ultimately result in a negative effect to the Company's results of operations and cash flows in Venezuela for any amounts denominated in boli

vares. Given the insignificant volume of bolivar denominated transactions, the effect to the Company's operations is not expected to be material other than a possible charge for the Company's cash and cash equivalents held in bolivares. Refer to the Liquidity and Capital Resources section in Management's Discussion and Analysis for further discussion regarding the situation in Venezuela.

Future earnings and losses will be affected by actual fluctuations in interest rates and foreign currency rates.

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

(a) *Disclosure controls and procedures.* The Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have evaluated the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures, as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), as of March 31, 2014. Based upon such review, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures are effective and are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in the reports it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission rules and forms. Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by an issuer in reports it files or submits under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to the Company's management, including its principal executive officer and principal financial officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

(b) *Internal controls.* There were no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting identified in connection with the evaluation required by paragraph (d) of Exchange Act Rules 13a-15 or 15d-15 that occurred during the first quarter of 2014 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

Part II - Other Information

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

For information regarding legal proceedings in which we are involved, see Note 9, “Commitments, Contingencies and Other Items,” to our consolidated financial statements included in this quarterly report on Form 10-Q.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

In addition to the other information set forth in this report, you should carefully consider the factors discussed in Part I, “Item 1A. “Risk Factors” in Level 3’s Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013, which could materially affect Level 3’s business, financial condition or future results. The risks described in Level 3’s Form 10-K are not the only risks facing the Company. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to Level 3 or that it currently deems to be immaterial also may materially adversely affect Level 3’s business, financial condition and/or operating results. There has not been a material change from the risk factors included in the Company’s Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013.

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

- (a) Exhibits incorporated by reference are indicated in parentheses.
- 4.1 Supplemental Indenture, dated as of March 14, 2014, among Level 3 Communications, LLC, as guarantor, Level 3 Communications, Inc., as guarantor, Level 3 Financing, Inc., as issuer, and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee, relating to Level 3 Communications, LLC's unconditioned, unsecured guarantee of the 6.125% Senior Notes due 2021 of Level 3 Financing, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 17, 2014).
- 4.2 Supplemental Indenture, dated as of March 14, 2014, among Level 3 Communications, LLC, as guarantor, Level 3 Communications, Inc., as guarantor, Level 3 Financing, Inc., as issuer, and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee, relating to the subordination in any bankruptcy, liquidation or winding up proceeding of the guarantee by Level 3 Communications, LLC of the 6.125% Senior Notes due 2021 of Level 3 Financing, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 17, 2014).
- 4.3 Supplemental Indenture, dated as of March 14, 2014, among Level 3 Communications, LLC, as guarantor, Level 3 Communications, Inc., as guarantor, Level 3 Financing, Inc., as issuer, and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee, relating to Level 3 Communications, LLC's unconditioned, unsecured guarantee of the Floating Rate Senior Notes due 2018 of Level 3 Financing, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 17, 2014).
- 4.4 Supplemental Indenture, dated as of March 14, 2014, among Level 3 Communications, LLC, as guarantor, Level 3 Communications, Inc., as guarantor, Level 3 Financing, Inc., as issuer, and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee, relating to the subordination in any bankruptcy, liquidation or winding up proceeding of the guarantee by Level 3 Communications, LLC of the Floating Rate Senior Notes due 2018 of Level 3 Financing, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.4 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 17, 2014).
- 12 Statements re computation of ratios.
- 31.1 Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of the Chief Executive Officer.
- 31.2 Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of the Chief Financial Officer.
- 32.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 101 The following materials from the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Level 3 Communications, Inc. for the quarter ended March 31, 2014, formatted in XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language); (i) Consolidated Statements of Operations, (ii) Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss), (iii) Consolidated Balance Sheets, (iv) Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows and (v) Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.

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.

LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

Dated: May 8, 2014

/s/ Eric J. Mortensen

Eric J. Mortensen

Senior Vice President, Controller and Principal Accounting Officer

LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
Statement Regarding Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges
(unaudited)

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended March 31,		Year Ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Income (Loss) from Continuing Operations Before Income Taxes	\$ 119	\$ (64)	\$ (71)	\$ (374)	\$ (786)	\$ (712)	\$ (623)
Interest on Debt, Net of Capitalized Interest	151	169	649	733	716	586	595
Amortization of Capitalized Interest	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Portion of rents deemed representative of the interest factor (1/3)	25	26	101	101	77	69	68
Earnings (Losses) Available for Fixed Charges	\$ 295	\$ 131	\$ 679	\$ 460	\$ 7	\$ (57)	\$ 40
Interest on Debt	151	169	649	733	716	586	595
Preferred Dividends	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Interest Expense Portion of Rental Expense	25	26	101	101	77	69	68
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 176	\$ 195	\$ 750	\$ 834	\$ 793	\$ 655	\$ 663
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges	1.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deficiency	\$ —	\$ (64)	\$ (71)	\$ (374)	\$ (786)	\$ (712)	\$ (623)

CERTIFICATIONS*

I, Jeff K. Storey, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Form 10-Q of Level 3 Communications, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(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, 2014

/s/ Jeff K. Storey

Jeff K. Storey

President and Chief Executive Officer

* Provide a separate certification for each principal executive officer and principal financial officer of the registrant. See Rules 13a-14 (a) and 15d-14(a).

CERTIFICATIONS*

I, Sunit S. Patel, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Form 10-Q of Level 3 Communications, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(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, 2014

/s/ Sunit S. Patel

Sunit S. Patel

Chief Financial Officer

* Provide a separate certification for each principal executive officer and principal financial officer of the registrant. See Rules 13a-14 (a) and 15d-14(a).

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the Form 10-Q of Level 3 Communications, Inc. (the "Company") for the three months ended March 31, 2014 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Jeff K. Storey, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350, as adopted pursuant to § 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- 1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- 2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Jeff K. Storey

Jeff K. Storey

President and Chief Executive Officer

May 8, 2014

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the Form 10-Q of Level 3 Communications, Inc. (the "Company") for the three months ended March 31, 2014 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Sunit S. Patel, Chief Financial Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350, as adopted pursuant to § 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- 1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- 2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Sunit S. Patel

Sunit S. Patel
Chief Financial Officer
May 8, 2014