

# MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The following management's discussion and analysis ("MD&A") of the financial condition and results of operations should be read in conjunction with the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and notes thereto of Canadian Energy Services & Technology Corp., formerly Canadian Energy Services L.P. (collectively "CES" or the "Company") for the three months ended March 31, 2011 and the audited annual consolidated financial statements and notes thereto for years ended December 31, 2010 and December 31, 2009 and CES' 2010 Annual Information Form. The information contained in this MD&A was prepared up to and including May 11, 2011 and incorporates all relevant considerations to that date.

Certain statements in this MD&A may constitute forward-looking information or forward-looking statements (collectively referred to as "forward-looking information") which involves known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of CES, or industry results, to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking information. When used in this MD&A, such information uses such words as "may", "would", "could", "will", "intend", "expect", "believe", "plan", "anticipate", "estimate", and other similar terminology. This information reflects CES' current expectations regarding future events and operating performance and speaks only as of the date of the MD&A. Forward-looking information involves significant risks and uncertainties, should not be read as a guarantee of future performance or results, and will not necessarily be an accurate indication of whether or not such results will be achieved. A number of factors could cause actual results to differ materially from the results discussed in the forward-looking information, including, but not limited to, the factors discussed below. The management of CES believes the material factors, expectations and assumptions reflected in the forward-looking information and statements are reasonable but no assurance can be given that these factors, expectations and assumptions will prove to be correct. The forward-looking information and statements contained in this document speak only as of the date of the document, and CES assumes no obligation to publicly update or revise them to reflect new events or circumstances, except as may be required pursuant to applicable securities laws or regulations.

In particular, this MD&A may contain forward-looking information pertaining to the following: future estimates as to dividend levels; capital expenditure programs for oil and natural gas; supply and demand for CES' products and services; industry activity levels; commodity prices; treatment under governmental regulatory and taxation regimes; dependence on equipment suppliers; dependence on suppliers of inventory and product inputs; equipment improvements; dependence on personnel; collection of accounts receivable; operating risk liability; expectations regarding market prices and costs; expansion of services in Canada, the United States and internationally; development of new technologies; expectations regarding CES' growth opportunities in the United States; expectations regarding the performance or expansion of CES' environmental, production chemical, and transportation operations; investments in research and development and technology advancements; access to debt and capital markets; and competitive conditions.

CES' actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in the forward-looking information as a result of the following factors: general economic conditions in Canada, the United States, and internationally; demand for oilfield services for drilling and completion of oil and natural gas wells; volatility in market prices for oil, natural gas, and natural gas liquids and the effect of this volatility on the demand for oilfield services generally; competition; liabilities and risks, including environmental liabilities and risks inherent in oil and natural gas operations; sourcing, pricing and availability of raw materials, consumables, component parts, equipment, suppliers, facilities, and skilled management, technical and field personnel; ability to integrate technological advances and match advances of competitors; availability of capital; uncertainties in weather and temperature affecting the duration of the oilfield service periods and the activities that can be completed; changes in legislation and the regulatory environment, including uncertainties with respect to programs to reduce greenhouse gas and other emissions, taxation of trusts, public partnerships and other flow-through entities, reassessment and audit risk associated with the Conversion; changes to the royalty regimes applicable to entities operating in the WCSB and the US; access to capital and the liquidity of debt markets; changes as a result of IFRS adoption; fluctuations in foreign exchange and interest rates, and the other factors considered under "Risk Factors" in CES' Annual Information Form for the year ended December 31, 2010 and "Risks and Uncertainties" in this MD&A.

Without limiting the foregoing, the forward-looking information contained in this MD&A is expressly qualified by this cautionary statement.

# ADOPTION OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS ("IFRS")

CES' interim condensed Consolidated Financial Statements and the financial information included in the interim MD&A have been prepared in accordance with IFRS as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) and interpretations of the International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee (IFRIC) that are expected to be effective as at December 31, 2011, the date of the Company's first annual reporting under IFRS. Previously, the Company prepared its interim and annual Consolidated Financial Statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles ("Canadian GAAP" or "previous GAAP"). Comparative information for years ending on or before December 31, 2009, have been prepared under Canadian GAAP and has not been restated under IFRS.

Note 4 to the interim condensed Consolidated Financial Statements contains a detailed description of the Company's adoption of IFRS, including a reconciliation of the Consolidated Financial Statements previously prepared under Canadian GAAP to those under IFRS for the following:

- The Consolidated Statement of Financial Position at January 1, 2010, and at December 31, 2010;
- The Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income and Cash Flows for the three month period ended March 31, 2010 and the year ended December 31, 2010; and
- The Consolidated Statement of Changes in Shareholders' Equity at March 31, 2010.

The most significant impacts of the adoption of IFRS, together with details of the IFRS 1 exemptions taken, are described in the "Transition to IFRS" section on page 18 of this interim MD&A. The adoption of IFRS does not impact the underlying operations of CES' business or its cash flows.

# **BUSINESS OF CES**

The core business of CES is to design and implement drilling fluid systems for the North American oil and natural gas industry. CES operates in the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin ("WCSB") and in various basins in the United States ("US"), with an emphasis on servicing the ongoing major resource plays. The drilling of those major resource plays includes wells drilled vertically, directionally, and with increasing frequency, horizontally. Horizontal drilling is a technique utilized in tight formations like tight gas, tight oil, heavy oil, and in the oil sands. The designed drilling fluid encompasses the functions of cleaning the hole, stabilizing the rock drilled, controlling subsurface pressures, enhancing drilling rates and protecting potential production zones while conserving the environment in the surrounding surface and subsurface area. CES' drilling fluid systems are designed to be adaptable to a broad range of complex and varied drilling scenarios, to help clients eliminate inefficiencies in the drilling process and to assist them in meeting operational objectives and environmental compliance obligations. CES markets its technical expertise and services to oil and natural gas exploration and production entities by emphasizing the historical success of both its patented and proprietary drilling fluid systems and the technical expertise and experience of its personnel.

Clear Environmental Solutions ("Clear"), CES' environmental division, provides environmental and drilling fluids waste disposal services primarily to oil and gas producers active in the WCSB. The business of Clear involves determining the appropriate processes for disposing of or recycling fluids produced by drilling operations and to carry out various related services necessary to dispose of drilling fluids.

EQUAL Transport ("EQUAL"), CES' transport division, provides its customers with trucks and trailers specifically designed to meet the demanding requirements of off-highway oilfield work, and trained personnel to transport and handle oilfield produced fluids and to haul, handle, manage and warehouse drilling fluids. EQUAL operates from two terminals and yards located in Edson, Alberta and Carlyle, Saskatchewan.

PureChem Services ("PureChem"), CES' drilling fluid and production chemical manufacturing division, designs, manufactures and sells specialty drilling fluids for CES and production chemicals for operators. The PureChem facility is located strategically in Carlyle, SK.

CES' head office and the sales and services headquarters are located in Calgary, Alberta and its stock point facilities and other operations are located throughout Alberta, British Columbia, and Saskatchewan. CES' indirect wholly-owned subsidiary, AES Drilling Fluids, LLC ("AES"), conducts operations in the United States from its head office in Denver, Colorado; in the mid-continent region through its Champion Drilling Fluids division which is headquartered in Norman, Oklahoma; and in Texas, Louisiana, off-shore Gulf of Mexico and Northeast US through its Fluids Management division headquartered in Houston, Texas. AES has operations in fourteen states with stock point facilities located in Oklahoma, Texas, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Colorado, North Dakota, Louisiana, and Utah.

# **NON-GAAP MEASURES**

The accompanying interim condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with IFRS. Certain supplementary information and measures not recognized under IFRS or previous GAAP are also provided in this MD&A where management believes they assist the reader in understanding CES' results. These measures are calculated by CES on a consistent basis unless otherwise specifically explained. These measures are further explained as follows:

*EBITDAC* – means net earnings before interest, taxes, amortization, loss on disposal of assets, goodwill impairment, unrealized foreign exchange gains and losses, unrealized derivative gains and losses, and stock-based compensation. EBITDAC is a metric used to assess the financial performance of an entity. Management believes that this metric assists in determining the ability of CES to generate cash from operations. EBITDAC was calculated as follows:

	Three Month	is Ended	
\$000's	March	31,	
	2011	2010 (1)	
Net income	11,815	18,468 (2)	
Add back (deduct):			
Amortization in cost of sales	1,322	737	
Amortization in general and administrative expenses	874	398	
Interest expense, net of interest income	730	193	
Current income tax expense	1,692	9	
Future income tax expense (recovery)	3,874	(10,388)	
Stock-based compensation	806	107	
Unrealized foreign exchange (gain)	(158)	(2)	
Unrealized derivative (gain) loss	(115)	3	
(Gain) loss on disposal of assets	(48)	5	
EBITDAC	20,792	9,530	

Notes:

<sup>1</sup>All 2010 figures have been restated in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

<sup>2</sup>Net income and net income per share for 2010, as reported under IFRS, reflects the recognition of the inclusion of the entire benefit of the tax attributes related to the Conversion transaction. Historically, under Canadian GAAP, net income per share was \$0.56 (\$0.55 diluted). Refer to discussion on 'Current and Deferred Income Taxes' below.

*Funds flow from operations* – means cash flow from operations before changes in non-cash operating working capital. This measure is not intended to be an alternative to cash provided by operating activities as provided in the consolidated statements of cash flows, comprehensive income, or other measures of financial performance calculated in accordance with IFRS. Funds flow from operations assists management and investors in analyzing operating performance and leverage. Funds flow from operations is calculated as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
\$000's	2011	2010
Cash provided by (used in) operating activities	256	(10,371)
Adjust for:		
Change in non-cash operating working capital	18,509	19,699
Funds flow from operations	18,765	9,328

Gross margin – means revenue less cost of sales, which includes cost of product, field labour, and all field related operating costs. Management believes this metric provides a good measure of the operating performance at the field level. It should not be viewed as an alternative to net income.

	Three Months Endec	1 March 31,
\$000's	2011	2010
Gross margin	32,624	14,723
as a percentage of revenue	29%	30%
Add back (deduct):		
Amortization included in cost of sales (1)	1,322	737
(Gain) loss on disposal of assets included in cost of sales (1)	(48)	5
Cash gross margin	33,898	15,465
as a percentage of revenue	30%	32%

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Amortization as it relates to operating activities and (gain) loss on disposal of assets are included in cost of sales under IFRS, and accordingly are added back to the gross margin in order to calculate a 'cash gross margin' consistent with that of historical measurement.

These measures do not have a standardized meaning as prescribed by IFRS and are therefore unlikely to be directly comparable to similar measures presented by other companies.

# **OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS**

Operational terms used throughout this MD&A include:

*Expansion capital* – represents the amount of capital expenditure that has or will be incurred to grow or expand the business or would otherwise improve the productive capacity of the operations of the business.

*Maintenance capital* – represents the amount of capital expenditure that has been or will be incurred to sustain the current level of operations.

*Canadian Market Share* – CES estimates its market share in Canada by comparing, on a semi-weekly basis, active rigs where CES was contracted to provide services to the total active rigs for Western Canada. The number of total active rigs for Western Canada is based on Canadian Association of Oilwell Drilling Contractors ("CAODC") published data for Western Canada.

*United States Market Share* – CES estimates its market share in the US by comparing, on a semi-weekly basis, active rigs where CES was contracted to provide services to the total active land rigs in the United States. The number of total active rigs in the United States is based on the weekly land based Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count.

*Operating days* – CES estimates its operating days, which are revenue generating days, by multiplying the average number of active rigs where CES was providing drilling fluid services by the number of days in the period.

# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

	Three Months Ended			
Summary Financial Results				
(\$000's, except per share amounts)	2011	2010	% Change	
Revenue	111,539	49,038	127.5%	
Gross margin <sup>(1)</sup>	32,624	14,723	121.6%	
Gross margin percentage of revenue <sup>(1)</sup>	29.2%	30.0%		
Income before taxes	17,381	8,089	114.9%	
per share – basic	0.96	0.61	57.4%	
per share - diluted	0.93	0.60	55.0%	
Net income	11,815	18,468 (2)	(36.0%)	
per share – basic	0.65	1.38 (2)	(52.9%)	
per share - diluted	0.64	<i>1.37</i> <sup>(2)</sup>	(53.3%)	
EBITDAC <sup>(1)</sup>	20,792	9,530	118.2%	
per share – basic	1.15	0.71	62.0%	
per share - diluted	1.12	0.70	60.0%	
Funds flow from operations <sup>(1)</sup>	18,765	9,328	101.2%	
per share – basic	1.03	0.70	47.1%	
per share - diluted	1.01	0.69	46.4%	
Dividends declared	5,807	2,414	140.6%	
per share	0.32	0.18	77.8%	

<sup>1</sup> Refer to the "Non-GAAP Measures" for further detail.

<sup>2</sup>Net income and net income per share for 2010, as reported under IFRS, reflects the recognition of the inclusion of the entire benefit of the tax attributes related to the Conversion transaction. Historically, under Canadian GAAP, net income per share was \$0.56 (\$0.55 diluted). Refer to discussion on 'Current and Deferred Income Taxes' below.

# **OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL RESULTS**

Highlights for the three months ended March 31, 2011, in comparison to the three months ended March 31, 2010, for CES are as follows:

- CES generated gross revenue of \$111.5 million during the first quarter of 2011, compared to \$49.0 million for the three months ended March 31, 2010 an increase of \$62.5 million or 128% on a year-over-year basis. During Q1 2011, gross revenue was \$6.00 per diluted share compared to \$3.63 per diluted share for Q1 2010, an increase of 141%.
- CES' estimated Canadian Market Share (refer to "Operational Definitions") was approximately 29% for the three months ended March 31, 2011, up from 26% for the three months ended March 31, 2010. CES' operating days (refer to "Operational Definitions") in Western Canada were estimated to be 13,731 for the three month period ended March 31, 2011, an increase of 34% from 10,253 operating days during the same period last year. Overall industry activity increased approximately 24% from an average monthly rig count in the first quarter of 2010 of 431 to 534 during the first quarter of 2011 based on CAODC published monthly data for Western Canada.
- Revenue from drilling fluids related sales of products and services in Western Canada was \$45.1 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011, compared to \$33.7 million for the three months ended March 31, 2010, representing an increase of \$11.4 million or 34%. Daily average revenue per operating day for the three months ended March 31, 2011, was \$3,286 compared to \$3,264 for the three months ended March 31, 2010, representing an increase of 0.2%.
- For the three months ended March 31, 2011, revenue generated in the US from drilling fluid sales of products and services, was \$55.1 million as compared to last year's revenue of \$7.5 million, an increase of \$47.6 million or 635% on a year-over-

year basis. Operating days (refer to "Operational Definitions") in the United States were estimated to be 9,702 operating days for the three month period ended March 31, 2011, an increase of 355% from 2,133 operating days during the same period last year. CES' United States Market Share (refer to "Operational Definitions") for the three months ended March 31, 2011, was estimated to be 6%, up from 2% for the three months ended March 31, 2010. The significant year-over-year increase in the Company's US results is due to the inclusion of Fluids Management activity (Fluids Management was acquired at the end of Q2 2010) and organic growth achieved from Champion Drilling Fluids and Fluids Management divisions subsequent to their respective acquisitions (the "US Acquisitions"). Daily average revenue per operating day for the three months ended March 31, 2011, was \$5,684 compared to \$3,527 for the three months ended March 31, 2010, representing an increase of 62%.

- During the first quarter of 2011, revenue from trucking operations, gross of intercompany eliminations, totalled \$5.8 million, an increase of \$1.8 million or 45% from the \$4.0 million for the three months ended March 31, 2010. The respective year-over-year increase is due primarily to the increased industry activity in Edson and the continued expansion of the Company's trucking operations in Saskatchewan.
- Clear Environmental Solutions division generated \$5.6 million of revenue for the three month period ended March 31, 2011, compared to \$4.0 million during the prior year representing an increase of \$1.6 million or 40%. Year-over-year, the Clear Environmental division has seen higher overall activity levels and continues to benefit from increased integration with the drilling fluids division, from diversification strategies into oil sands and horizontal drilling, and general improvement in industry activity levels.
- For the three month period ended March 31, 2011, CES recorded gross margin of \$32.6 million or 29% of revenue, compared to gross margin of \$14.7 million or 30% of revenue generated in the same period last year which is consistent to the prior year comparison on a percentage basis. Note, under IFRS, amortization as it relates to operating activities and gain or loss on disposal of assets are included in cost of sales. Refer to gross margin reconciliation under "Non-GAAP Measures" for additional information.
- For the three month period ended March 31, 2011, general and administrative costs were \$14.6 million as compared to \$6.5 million for the same period in 2010, an increase of \$8.1 million. General and administrative costs are higher on a year-overyear comparison due to a combination of factors including the acquisition of Fluids Management in Q2 2010 and significantly higher activity during 2011 as compared to 2010. Included in general and administrative expenses during the three months ended March 31, 2011, are stock based compensation costs of \$0.8 million and amortization costs of \$0.9 million.
- EBITDAC (refer to "Non-GAAP Measures") for the three months ended March 31, 2011, was \$20.8 million as compared to \$9.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2010, representing an increase of \$11.3 million or 118%. Included in EBITDAC for the three months ended March 31, 2011, is a realized foreign exchange loss of \$0.4 million which relates to the settlement of certain intercompany working capital balances between CES and its US subsidiary, AES. Excluding the respective intercompany foreign exchange losses, EBITDAC would have been \$21.2 million. CES recorded EBITDAC per share of \$1.15 (\$1.12 diluted) for the three months ended March 31, 2011 versus EBITDAC per share of \$0.71 (\$0.70 diluted) in 2010.
- CES recorded a net income of \$11.8 million for the three month period ended March 31, 2011, as compared to a net income of \$18.5 million in the prior year. CES recorded a net income per share of \$0.65 (\$0.64 diluted) for the three months ended March 31, 2011 versus net income per share of \$1.38 (\$1.37 diluted) in 2010. Income for the three months ended March 31, 2010, included the recognition of the inclusion of the entire benefit of the tax attributes related to the Conversion transaction. Accordingly, this resulted in an increase to net income of \$10.9 million (2010 Canadian GAAP net income \$7.5 million) as a result of the adoption of IFRS. Refer to 'Current and Deferred Income Taxes' section below for additional discussion.
- CES continued to maintain a strong statement of financial position or "balance sheet" at March 31, 2011, with positive net working capital of \$41.0 million (December 31, 2010 \$34.1 million) representing an increase of \$6.9 million. The increase in working capital balances is comprised of a \$19.5 million increase in accounts receivable, \$3.5 million increase in inventory, \$3.3 million increase in prepaid expenses, net of a \$8.4 million increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities, and a net additional draw of \$10.9 million on its Operating Facility. The maximum available draw on the \$80.0 million facility at March 31, 2011, based on the accounts receivable and inventory balances, was \$80.0 million (December 31, 2010 \$72.1 million).

# **RESULTS FOR THE PERIODS**

	Th	ree Months Ended	March 31,	
(\$000's, except per share amounts)	2011	2010	\$ Change	% Change
Revenue	111,539	49,038	62,501	127.5%
Cost of sales	78,915	34,315	44,600	130.0%
Gross margin (1)	32,624	14,723	17,901	121.6%
Gross margin percentage of revenue (1)	29.2%	30.0%		
General and administrative expenses	14,586	6,481	8,105	125.1%
Finance costs	657	153	504	329.4%
Income before taxes	17,381	8,089	9,292	114.9%
Current income tax expense	1,692	9	1,683	N/A
Future income tax expense (recovery)	3,874	(10,388)	14,262	(137.3%)
Net income	11,815	18,468 (3)	(6,653)	(36.0%)
Net income per share – basic	0.65	1.38 <sup>(3)</sup>	(0.73)	(52.9%)
Net income per share – diluted	0.64	1.37 (3)	(0.73)	(53.3%)
EBITDAC (1)	20,792	9,530	11,262	118.2%
Common Shares Outstanding	2011	2010		% Change
End of period	18,159,995	13,469,809		34.8%
Weighted average				
- basic	18,141,914	13,367,833		35.7%
- diluted	18,603,250	13,519,021		37.6%
		As at		
Financial Position (\$000's)	March 31, 2011		December 31, 2010	% Change
Net working capital	41,009		34,117	20.2%
Total assets	312,204		287,870	8.5%
Long-term financial liabilities (2)	5,240		5,278	(0.7%)
Shareholders' equity	182,974		179,017	2.2%

#### Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Refer to the "Non-GAAP Measures" for further detail.

<sup>2</sup> Includes long-term portion of vehicle financing, committed loans, and finance leases.

<sup>3</sup>Net income and net income per share for 2010, as reported under IFRS, reflects the recognition of the inclusion of the entire benefit of the tax attributes related to the Conversion transaction. Historically, under Canadian GAAP, net income per share was \$0.56 (\$0.55 diluted). Refer to discussion on 'Current and Deferred Income Taxes' below.

# **Revenue and Operating Activities**

CES generated gross revenue of \$111.5 million during the first quarter of 2011, compared to \$49.0 million for the three months ended March 31, 2010, an increase of \$62.5 million or 128% on a year-over-year basis. The respective year-over-year increases reflect the inclusion of Fluids Management results in Q1 2011 (Fluids Management was acquired at the end of Q2 2010), an increase in activity and revenue across all of CES' business segments as drilling activity continued to rebound off the lows experienced in 2009 throughout the North American Market ("NAM"). CES' dominant business line, the drilling fluids segment, experienced the most material gains over 2010 as a result of increased industry activity and a continuing industry trend to drill more complex, horizontal wells. CES capitalized on this trend in the WCSB through its leading market share position and in the US through completing the US Acquisitions, and the immediate organic growth that the Company has been able to generate off of these acquired platforms.

Of the revenue generated during the first quarter of 2011, \$45.1 million (2010 - \$33.7 million) was generated in the Western Canadian drilling fluids business; \$55.1 million (2010 - \$7.5 million) was generated in the US drilling fluids business; \$5.6 million (2010 - \$4.0 million) was contributed by the Clear environmental division, and \$5.8 million, gross of intercompany eliminations, (2010 - \$4.0 million) was generated by trucking operations.

The active CAODC monthly rig count in Western Canada averaged 534 for the three months ended March 31, 2011, based on CAODC published monthly data for Western Canada representing a 24% increase from the average rig count of 431 during the first quarter of 2010.

CES estimated operating days (refer to "Operational Definitions") from its drilling fluids services are as follows:

	Three Months E March 31,	
	2011	2010
Canada	13,731	10,253
USA	9,702	2,133
Total Operating Days	23,433	12,386

CES' estimated Canadian Market Share (refer to "Operational Definitions") in Western Canada was 29% for the three months ended March 31, 2011, which was up from 26% for the three months ended March 31, 2010. CES believes its technology focused solutions have resulted in an increased market share in Western Canada as a larger percentage of drilling activity is focused on deep and horizontal wells and the economics of drilling have become more difficult for operators.

In the United States, CES' estimated United States Market Share (refer to "Operational Definitions") for the three months ended March 31, 2011, was estimated to be 6%, up from 2% for the three months ended March 31, 2010. For the three months ended March 31, 2011, revenue generated in the US from drilling fluid sales of products and services was \$55.1 million as compared to the previous year's revenue of \$7.5 million representing an increase of \$47.6 million or 635%. Estimated operating days (refer to "Operational Definitions") in the first quarter of 2011 were 9,702 as compared to 2,133 operating days during the same period last year for an increase of 355%. The significant year-over-year increase in the Company's US results is due to the inclusion of Fluids Management activity (Fluids Management was acquired at the end of Q2 2010) and the organic growth achieved from the US Acquisitions.

Revenue per estimated operating day for the Canadian and US drilling fluids segments was as follows:

	Three Months Ended	ded	
	March 31,		
\$000's	<b>2011</b> 20	2010	
Canadian Drilling Fluids	<b>3,286</b> 3,2	264	
United States Drilling Fluids	<b>5,684</b> 3,5	527	

During the first quarter, CES top five customers accounted for 33% of total revenue as compared to 24% in Q1 2010. During Q1 2011, one customer accounted for approximately 14% of the CES' 2011 revenue, whereas in Q1 2010 no single customer exceeded 10% of total revenue.

Overall, CES' drilling fluid business continues to focus on the ongoing major resource plays and, in particular, horizontal drilling activity. Horizontal drilling represents a significantly increasing share of CES' revenue composition as customers continue to apply the technique more frequently in drilling more complex wells. CES' experience has been that the importance to the operator of efficient drilling fluid systems increases significantly with the depth and complexity of the well drilled, and becomes even more critical as operators drill horizontally.

# Cost of Sales and Gross Margin

Gross margin represents the profit earned on revenue after deducting the associated costs of sales including cost of products, field labour, field related amortization, and all other related field costs. Under IFRS, field related amortization of property and equipment, as well as gains and losses on disposal of assets relating to field equipment, is included in the gross margin calculation. Please refer to gross margin reconciliation under "Non-GAAP Measures" for a reconciliation of gross margin under IFRS to previous GAAP. Margins vary due to a change in product mix, well type, geographic area, and nature of activity (i.e. drilling fluids, trucking, environmental, etc.). Generally, labour costs have less of an impact on CES' margins than other cost elements such as product costs. Use of consultants and the variable component of compensation for employees provide CES with a means to better manage seasonal activity swings as well as overall fluctuations in the demand for CES' products and services. CES achieved gross margin of \$32.6 million or 29% of revenue for the three month period ended March 31, 2011, as compared to \$14.7 million or 30% of revenue in 2010. As noted above, included in cost of sales for the three months ended

March 31, 2011, was amortization of field related property and equipment of 1.3 million (2010 - 0.7 million) and a gain on disposal of assets of 0.05 million (2010 - 0.05 million).

## General and Administrative Expenses ("G&A")

As CES' business has expanded geographically into the US and as activity levels have risen, so have the associated G&A expenses to run the business. G&A for the three month period ended March 31, 2011, was \$14.6 million as compared to \$6.5 million for the same period in 2010, representing an increase of \$8.1 million or 125% year-over-year. G&A costs are higher on a year-over-year comparison due to a combination of factors including the inclusion of Fluids Management general and administrative costs during the current year, higher staff levels and the associated compensation costs, and higher activity during 2011 as compared to 2010. Included in general and administrative expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2011, are stock based compensation costs of \$0.8 million (2010 - \$0.1 million) and amortization of \$0.9 million (2010 - \$0.4 million). G&A costs as a percentage of revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2011, were 13% (2010 – 13%).

#### Amortization

Amortization of property, equipment, and intangibles totalled \$2.2 million for the three month period ended March 31, 2011, as compared to \$1.1 million during 2010. For the three months ended March 31, 2011, \$1.3 million (2010 - \$0.7 million) of amortization was included in cost of sales and \$0.8 million (2010 - \$0.4 million) was included in general and administrative expenses. The year-over-year increase in amortization expenses is primarily attributable to the expanded operations of CES compared to the previous year including additional trucks and trailers for the trucking division and the increase in amortization of fixed and intangible assets relating to the Company's US Acquisitions.

## Stock-Based Compensation

Stock-based compensation was \$0.8 million for the three months ended March 31, 2010, as compared to \$0.1 million during the same period last year. The respective year-over-year increase is primarily attributable to the issuance of share rights under the new share rights incentive plan.

## Interest Expense

Included in Finance costs, CES had interest expense of \$0.7 million, net of capitalized interest of \$0.04 million, for the three months ended March 31, 2011, compared to \$0.2 million, net of capitalized interest of \$0.004 million, for Q1 2010. The respective year-over-year increase is primarily attributable to higher average borrowings on CES' various long-term debt, operating loan facility and lease facilities as compared to last year. The Company's interest expense consists of interest expense on vehicle financing loans, committed debt facilities, capitalized lease facilities, and the operating loan facility.

#### Foreign Exchange Gains and Losses

Included in Finance costs for the three months ended March 31, 2011, CES recorded a net foreign exchange loss of \$0.04 million primarily related to foreign exchange losses on the Company's US denominated cash. Included within this net foreign exchange loss for the three months ended March 31, 2011 is a realized foreign exchange loss of \$0.4 million which relates to the settlement of certain intercompany working capital balances between CES and its US subsidiary, AES.

#### Realized and Unrealized Derivative Gains and Losses

Included in Finance costs for the three month period ended March 31, 2011, CES recorded a realized derivative loss of \$0.002 (2010 -\$0.02 million) relating to its foreign currency derivative contracts. For the three month period ended March 31, 2011, CES recorded an unrealized gain of \$0.1 million (2010 - \$0.02 million) relating to its foreign currency derivative contracts. As of March 31, 2011, the Company had financial derivative assets of net \$0.1 million relating to its outstanding derivative contracts.

CES has a Board approved risk management policy that sets out the guidelines and parameters management follows when approaching its risk management strategies. At March 31, 2011, the Company had entered into the following foreign exchange US dollar forward purchase contracts to manage its exposure to upcoming US dollar denominated purchases pursuant to its Canadian operations:

Notional Balance				Average C\$/US\$
Period	\$000's	Contract Type	Settlement	<b>Exchange Rate</b>
April 2011	US\$152	Deliverable Forward	Physical Purchase	\$0.9768
May 2011	US\$379	Deliverable Forward	Physical Purchase	\$0.9771
Total	US\$531			\$0.9770

At March 31, 2011, the Company had entered into the following foreign exchange US dollar forward sale contracts to manage its exposure to upcoming US dollar denominated cash flows expected to, in part, fund a portion of any future monthly shareholder dividends:

	<b>Notional Balance</b>			Average C\$/US\$
Period	\$000's	Contract Type	Settlement	<b>Exchange Rate</b>
April 2011	US\$450	Deliverable Forward	Physical Sale	\$1.0037
May 2011	US\$450	Deliverable Forward	Physical Sale	\$1.0045
June 2011	US\$450	Deliverable Forward	Physical Sale	\$1.0051
July 2011	US\$450	Deliverable Forward	Physical Sale	\$1.0059
August 2011	US\$450	Deliverable Forward	Physical Sale	\$1.0067
September 2011	US\$450	Deliverable Forward	Physical Sale	\$1.0075
October 2011	US\$450	Deliverable Forward	Physical Sale	\$1.0082
November 2011	US\$450	Deliverable Forward	Physical Sale	\$1.0092
December 2011	US\$450	Deliverable Forward	Physical Sale	\$1.0034
January 2012	US\$465	Deliverable Forward	Physical Sale	\$1.0024
February 2012	US\$450	Deliverable Forward	Physical Sale	\$0.9895
March 2012	US\$450	Deliverable Forward	Physical Sale	\$0.9903
Total	US\$5,415			\$1.0030

# Current and Deferred Income Taxes

During the three months ended March 31, 2011, the Company recorded current income tax expense of \$1.7 million (2010 - \$0.009 million) relating to taxable income in the US in which the Company does not have loss carry forwards to offset.

Upon the completion of the Conversion in January 2010, CES acquired significant Canadian tax shelter in the form of noncapital and capital loss pools. As a result of the transition to IFRS, the calculated full future benefit of the acquired non-capital losses has been recorded in the Q1 2010 comparative period and the resulting increase to net income has been credited to retained earnings in Q1 2010. This accounting under IFRS has significantly altered the Q1 2010 comparative figures with respect to net income and earnings per share calculations as detailed in various sections throughout this MD&A.

In the first quarter of 2011, the Company recorded a deferred income tax expense of \$3.9 million compared to a deferred income tax recovery of \$10.4 million in Q1 2010. The deferred income tax expense during Q1 2010 relates to a combination of changes in the temporary differences as well as the estimated use of the Company's non-capital tax loss pools in both Canada and the United States

In Q1 2010, the accounting treatment under IFRS of the deferred tax credit recognized upon completion of the Conversion is the most significant change from Canadian GAAP upon adoption of IFRS. As previously reported under Canadian GAAP, a future income tax asset of \$15.5 million and deferred tax credit of \$12.7 million were recognized effective January 1, 2010, with the difference of \$2.8 million representing the consideration paid to Nevaro. During 2010, under Canadian GAAP, the deferred tax credit was amortized in proportion to the corresponding future income tax asset as the tax pools were utilized.

Under IFRS, a deferred tax asset was recognized for the carry-forward of unused tax losses and unused tax credits to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be able to utilize unused tax losses and unused tax credits. As such, the deferred tax asset recognized in the three months ended March 31, 2010, was initially measured at an amount equal to the consideration paid of \$2.8 million and immediately following the Conversion the deferred tax asset was re-measured to the extent that it is probable that the associated tax losses will be utilized. Based on management's estimate, it is expected that all non-capital tax loss pools will be fully utilized, however, the Company has not recorded any deferred tax asset with respect to its capital loss carry forward pools. As such, in Q1 2010 this has resulted in an increase to the deferred tax asset with an equal and offsetting increase to deferred income tax recovery in the period. There is no deferred tax credit recorded on acquisition of the deferred tax assets to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will allow the deferred tax asset to be recovered. The initial total deferred tax asset recognized under both Canadian GAAP and IFRS is \$15.5 million. The re-measurement has been recognized in income in Q1 2010. Accordingly, deferred income tax recovery has increased by \$11.0 million when compared to previous Canadian GAAP for the three month periods ended March 31, 2010.

# Net Working Capital

At March 31, 2011, the Company had positive net working capital of \$41.0 million (December 31, 2010 - \$34.1 million, December 31, 2009 – \$11.3 million) representing an increase of \$6.9 million. The increase in working capital balances is comprised of a \$19.5 million increase in accounts receivable, \$3.5 million increase in inventory, \$3.3 million increase in prepaid expenses, net of an \$8.4 million increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities, and a net additional draw of \$10.9 million on its Operating Facility. The maximum available draw on the \$80.0 million facility at March 31, 2011, based on the accounts receivable and inventory balances, was \$80.0 million (December 31, 2010 - \$72.1 million). Actual amounts drawn on the facility as at March 31, 2011, was \$55.1 million (December 31, 2010 - \$44.2 million).

#### Total Current Assets

Total current assets of CES increased from \$134.6 million at December 31, 2010 to \$161.1 million at March 31, 2011. The increase is primarily due to an increase in accounts receivable balances of \$19.5 million, an increase of \$3.5 million in inventory balances, and an increase of \$3.3 million in prepaid expenses.

#### Total Long-Term Assets

Total long-term assets of CES decreased by \$1.6 million to \$151.7 million at March 31, 2011, from \$153.3 million at December 31, 2010 (December 31, 2009 – \$85.1 million). Of the \$1.6 million decrease during the quarter, notable changes include a \$2.4 million decrease in intangible assets and goodwill relating to the translation of the US dollar denominated intangible assets and goodwill balances, a \$2.5 million decrease in future income tax asset relating to the use of the Company's non-capital tax loss pools, offset by an increase of \$3.3 million in property and equipment.

## Long-Term Financial Liabilities

CES had long-term debt totalling \$3.4 million at March 31, 2011, compared to \$3.6 million at December 31, 2010, for a decrease of \$0.2 million during the year. During the three month period ended March 31, 2011, the Company made long-term scheduled debt and lease repayments totalling \$0.5 million on its vehicle debt and credit facilities. At March 31, 2011, long-term financial liabilities were comprised of vehicle financing loans totalling \$1.6 million and committed facilities totalling \$3.3 million, net of the current portion of long-term debt of \$1.6 million.

\$000's	March 31, 2011 De	cember 31, 2010
Vehicle financing loans	1,634	1,633
Committed loan facilities	3,303	3,507
	4,937	5,140
Less current portion of long-term debt	(1,585)	(1,584)
Long-term debt	3,352	3,556

At March 31, 2011, the Company had finance lease liabilities of \$3.2 million, net of the current portion of \$1.3 million, for an increase of \$0.4 million compared to December 31, 2010.

\$000's	March 31, 2011	December 31, 2010
Finance lease obligations	3,167	2,736
Less current portion of finance lease obligations	(1,279)	(1,072)
Long-term finance lease obligations	1,888	1,664

#### Shareholders' Equity

Shareholders' equity increased from \$179.0 million at December 31, 2010 to \$183.0 million at March 31, 2011. The quarterly increase in shareholders' equity during the period is primarily attributable to the \$11.6 million in net income of CES, proceeds of \$0.3 million relating to the exercise of stock options, offset by \$2.9 million increase in accumulated other comprehensive loss relating to the translation of the Company's wholly owned US subsidiary, and \$5.8 million of dividends declared by the Company during Q1 2011. As a result of the transition to IFRS, shareholder's equity increased by \$8.0 million from \$171.0 million under Canadian GAAP to \$179.0 million under IFRS. Refer to the 'Transition to IFRS' section below for additional information on the impact of the transition on shareholders' equity.

# SEGMENTED RESULTS

In Q1 2011, CES had three reportable operating segments as determined by management: Drilling Fluids, Trucking, and Environmental Services. The Drilling Fluids segment designs and implements drilling fluid systems for the oil and natural gas industry in the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin and in the United States through its subsidiary, AES. The Trucking segment (EQUAL) is comprised of heavy duty trucks, trailers, and tanker trailers used in hauling drilling fluids to locations and hauling produced fluids for operators. The Environmental Services segment consists of Clear Environmental Services which provides environmental and drilling fluids waste disposal services mostly to oil and gas producers active in the shallow natural gas producing areas of Alberta and in Alberta's oil sands. At this time, the results of the PureChem division are not separately disclosed and are included as part of the Drilling Fluids segment. Selected summary financial information relating to the operational segments is as follows:

		Three Months Ended March 31, 2011			
Segmented Information (\$000's)	Drilling Fluids <sup>(2)</sup>	En Trucking	vironmental Services	Intercompany Eliminations	Total
Revenue	100,259	5,843	5,597	(160)	111,539
Cost of sales	71,388	4,092	3,595	(160)	78,915
Gross margin	28,871	1,751	2,002	-	32,624
Income before taxes	15,125	1,343	913	-	17,381
EBITDAC <sup>(1)</sup>	17,888	1,809	1,095	-	20,792

		Three Months Ended March 31, 2010				
	Drilling	E	Environmental	Intercompany		
Segmented Information (\$000's)	Fluids	Trucking	Services	Eliminations	Total	
Revenue	41,251	4,041	4,012	(266)	49,038	
Cost of sales	29,109	2,902	2,570	(266)	34,315	
Gross margin	12,142	1,139	1,442	-	14,723	
Income before taxes	6,711	808	570	-	8,089	
EBITDAC <sup>(1)</sup>	7,534	1,234	761	-	9,529	

Notes:

<sup>1</sup>*Refer to the "Non-GAAP Measures" for further detail.* 

<sup>2</sup>*Results from PureChem operations for the three months ended March 31, 2011, have been included in the Drilling Fluids segment.* 

# Drilling Fluids Segment

For the three months ended March 31, 2011, revenue from the Drilling Fluids segment totalled \$100.3 million compared to \$41.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2010, representing an increase of \$59.0 million or 143%. For the three months ended March 31, 2011, revenue per operating day for the Drilling Fluids Segment totalled \$4,279 compared to \$3,330 for the three months ended March 31, 2010.

CES' estimated Canadian Market Share (refer to "Operational Definitions") increased to 29% for the three months ended March 31, 2011, up from 26% for the three months ended March 31, 2010. CES' operating days (refer to "Operational Definitions") in Western Canada were estimated to be 13,731 for the three month period ended March 31, 2011, an increase of 34% from the 10,253 operating days during the same period last year. Overall industry activity increased approximately 24% from an average monthly rig count of 431 during the first quarter of 2010 to 534 during the first quarter of 2011 based on CAODC published monthly data for Western Canada.

CES' estimated United States Market Share (refer to "Operational Definitions") increased to 6% for the three months ended March 31, 2011, up from 2% for the three months ended March 31, 2010. In the United States, estimated operating days for 2011 were 9,702 as compared to 2,133 operating days during the same period last year. The respective period-over-period increases in activity and revenue in the US in 2011 compared to 2010 are primarily due to the two accretive US Acquisitions and the organic growth that the Company has been able to generate off of these platforms.

Gross margin for the Drilling Fluids segment was \$28.9 million or 29% of revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2011, as compared to \$12.1 million or 29% of revenue during the prior year.

# **Trucking Segment**

Revenue from the Trucking segment, gross of intercompany eliminations, was \$5.8 million for the three month period ended March 31, 2011, as compared to \$4.0 million during last year representing an increase of \$1.8 million or 45%. Gross margin for the Trucking segment was \$1.8 million or 30% of revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2011, as compared to \$1.1 million or 28% of revenue during the prior year. Under IFRS, included in the gross margin was amortization on field property and equipment of \$0.5 million (2010 - \$0.4 million) and a gain on disposal of assets of \$0.03 million (2010 - \$nil). As a result of the transition to IFRS, gross margins are consequently lower. Under Canadian GAAP, the gross margin would have been 38% (2010 - 38%). Year-over-year, trucking margins have improved in part as a result of increased economies of scale achieved in the Carlyle, Saskatchewan trucking operations with the continued expansion of its operations and increased activity in both Carlyle and Edson.

#### **Environmental Services Segment**

Revenue from the Environmental Services segment was \$5.6 million for the three month period ended March 31, 2011, as compared to \$4.0 million generated for the same period of 2010 representing an increase of \$1.6 million or 40%. During the first quarter, gross margin from the Environmental Services segment was \$2.0 million or 36% of revenue as compared to \$1.4 million or 35% for the same period during 2010. The Environmental Services segment has focused on expanding its operational base and is pursuing opportunities in the oil sands and horizontal drilling which has helped support revenue growth in 2011.

# **QUARTERLY FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

	Three Months Ended				
(\$000's, except per share amounts)	Mar 31, 2011	Dec 31, 2010	Sep 30, 2010	Jun 30, 2010	
Revenue	111,539	94,468	78,398	27,212	
Gross margin <sup>(1)</sup>	32,624	26,281	21,695	5,707	
Net income (loss)	11,815	9,424	7,184	(770)	
per share – basic	0.65	0.53	0.46	(0.06)	
per share – diluted	0.64	0.52	0.41	(0.06)	
EBITDAC <sup>(1)</sup>	20,792	17,124	13,453	1,377	
per share – basic	1.15	0.96	0.87	0.10	
per share – diluted	1.12	0.94	0.77	0.10	
Funds flow from operations <sup>(1)</sup>	18,765	16,380	12,784	1,068	
per share – basic	1.03	0.91	0.82	0.08	
per share – diluted	1.01	0.90	0.73	0.08	
Dividends declared	5,807	5,042	3,786	2,798	
per share	0.32	0.28	0.24	0.20	
Shares Outstanding					
End of period	18,159,995	18,131,829	17,734,179	14,764,179	
Weighted average – basic	18,141,914	17,925,661	15,552,005	13,486,011	
Weighted average – diluted	18,603,250	18,168,232	17,550,662	13,486,011	

	Three Months Ended <sup>(6)</sup>				
(\$000's, except per share amounts)	Mar 31, 2010	Dec 31, 2009	Sep 30, 2009	Jun 30, 2009	
Revenue	49,038	27,303	19,219	12,634	
Gross margin (1)	14,723	9,160	6,085	3,422	
Net income (loss) (4)	18,468 (5)	5,857	718	(1,214)	
per share– basic <sup>(2)</sup>	1.38 (5)	0.51	0.06	(0.11)	
per share– diluted $(2)$	1.37 (5)	0.50	0.06	(0.11)	
EBITDAC <sup>(1)(3)(4)</sup>	9,530	4,373	2,004	(45)	
per share– basic <sup>(2)</sup>	0.71	0.38	0.18	-	
per share– diluted $(2)$	0.70	0.37	0.18	-	
Funds flow from operations (1)(3)	9,291	4,169	1,922	(94)	
per share– basic <sup>(2)</sup>	0.70	0.36	0.17	(0.01)	
per share– diluted $(2)$	0.69	0.35	0.17	(0.01)	
Dividends declared	2,414	2,787	2,683	2,647	
per share <sup>(2)</sup>	0.18	0.32	0.32	0.24	
Shares Outstanding <sup>(2)</sup>					
End of period	13,469,809	12,417,573	11,378,055	11,140,301	
Weighted average – basic	13,367,833	11,576,203	11,224,912	11,140,301	
Weighted average – diluted	13,519,021	11,765,132	11,297,312	11,140,301	

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Refer to the "Non-GAAP Measures" for further detail.

<sup>2</sup> Prior period comparatives includes both Class A Units and Subordinated Class B Units.

<sup>3</sup> Prior year balances recomputed to conform to current year financial statement presentation.

<sup>4</sup> For the three months ended December 31, 2009, includes \$0.6 million of one-time Conversion related transaction cost

<sup>5</sup> Net income and net income per share for 2010, as reported under IFRS, reflects the recognition of the inclusion of the entire benefit of the tax attributes related to the Conversion transaction. Historically, under Canadian GAAP, net income per share was \$0.56 (\$0.55 diluted). Refer to discussion on 'Current and Deferred Income Taxes' above.

<sup>6</sup> 2009 comparative figures have not been restated to IFRS and are presented in accordance with Canadian GAAP and as such may not be comparable

## Seasonality of Operations

The Western Canadian drilling industry is subject to seasonality with activity usually peaking during the winter months in the fourth and first quarters of any given calendar year. As temperatures rise in the spring, the ground thaws and becomes unstable resulting in government road bans which severely restrict activity in the second. These seasonal trends typically lead to quarterly fluctuations in Canadian operating results and working capital requirements, which should be considered in any quarter over quarter analysis of performance of the Company. As the business continues to expand in the US, it is expected that the overall seasonality of the Company's operations will be less pronounced in future periods.

# LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

At March 31, 2011, the Company had net working capital of \$41.0 million (December 31, 2010 - \$34.1 million) representing an increase of \$6.9 million.

On March 22, 2011, the Company entered into the New Credit Agreement with a commercial bank providing for the New Senior Credit Facility (the "Operating Facility"), permitting it to borrow up to \$80.0 million, subject to the value of certain accounts receivable and inventory.

The Operating Facility is secured by, (a) in respect of the Company, a floating change demand debenture, a debenture pledge agreement and a general security agreement creating a security interest in all present and after-acquired personal property of the Company, (b) in respect of AES and AES Drilling Fluids Holdings, LLC ("AES Holdco"), guarantees and general security agreements creating a security interest in all present and after-acquired personal property of AES and AES Holdco, respectively, and (c) in respect of Canadian Energy Services Inc. ("the General Partner"), the Partnership and CES Operations Ltd., guarantees, floating charge demand debentures, debenture pledge agreements and general security agreements creating a security interest in all present and after-acquired personal property of the General Partner", the Partnership, and CES Operations Ltd., respectively.

At March 31, 2011, CES had a net draw of \$55.1 million on its Operating Facility (December 31, 2010 - \$44.2 million). The maximum available draw on the \$80.0 million Operating Facility at March 31, 2011, based on the accounts receivable and inventory balances, was \$80.0 million (December 31, 2010 - \$72.1 million). The Operating Facility bears interest at approximately the bank's prime rate plus 1.25% and has a standby rate of 0.35% on any unused portion of the facility.

In addition to the above Operating Facility, CES has the following loan and leasing facilities:

- Non-revolving committed loan facility 1. As of March 31, 2011, there was \$1.4 million outstanding (December 31, 2010 \$1.4 million) on the loan. The loan is repayable in fixed monthly principal payments of \$9,725 plus interest at the bank's prime rate plus 1.40%. The loan has a remaining term of two years (April 2013), with the bank reserving the right to extend the term by two additional five year periods at its discretion.
- Non-revolving committed loan facility 2. As of March 31, 2011, there was \$0.4 million outstanding (December 31, 2010 \$0.5 million) on the loan. The loan has a remaining term of two years (April 2013) with fixed monthly principal payments of \$16,667 plus interest at the bank's prime rate of interest plus 1.40%.
- 3. Non-revolving demand loan facility 3. As of March 31, 2011, there was \$1.5 million outstanding (December 31, 2010 \$1.6 million) on the loan. The loan has a remaining term of three years (March 2014) with fixed monthly principal payments of \$41,667 plus interest at the bank's prime rate of interest plus 1.40%.
- 4. Bank Leasing Facility of up to \$5.0 million of which \$2.1 million has been drawn on to date. As of March 31, 2011, the Company had an outstanding balance owing on these lease facilities of \$1.6 million. The Company's leases are for terms ranging from March 2013 to March 2014 with interest on the Company's lease facilities at the bank's prime rate of interest plus 1.75% resulting in monthly payments of approximately \$0.06 million.

In conjunction with the Operating Facility, the following are some of the key financial covenants imposed on CES:

- The quarterly total debt to consolidated tangible net worth must not exceed 2.50 to 1.00. The ratio of debt to tangible net worth is calculated as total liabilities per the consolidated financial statements, less future income taxes, less any indebtedness that has been subordinated and postponed to the bank, divided by the total of stated capital, contributed surplus, retained earnings, and any indebtedness that has been subordinated and postponed to the bank less any intangible asset less any future income tax assets.
- The quarterly current assets to current liabilities ratio must not be less than 1.25 to 1.00. The ratio of current assets to liabilities is calculated as total current assets per the consolidated financial statements divided by current liabilities per the consolidated financial statements excluding the current portion of long-term debt and capital lease obligations and any indebtedness that has been subordinated and postponed to the bank.

- The ratio of Funded Debt to Trailing EBITDA must not exceed 3.00 to 1.00.
- The Company shall not make any dividend payments to shareholders upon the occurrence and during the continuance of or the making of which would give rise to or cause i) an Event of Default or ii) any event or condition which, with the giving of notice, lapse of time or upon declaration or determination being made (or any combination thereof), would constitute an Event of Default.

As at March 31, 2011, and as of the date of this MD&A, CES was in compliance with the terms and covenants of its lending agreements.

Vehicle financing loans are secured by each related vehicle and incur interest at rates up to 8.8%, with a weighted average rate of 6.2%, and have termination dates ranging from May 2011 to December 2014. At March 31, 2011, outstanding vehicle loans totalled \$1.6 million which was comparable to the \$1.7 million at December 31, 2010.

Generally, credit and equity markets have continued to improve over the last two years. However, in the event that CES' lender is unable to or chooses not to fund, it would impair CES' ability to operate until alternative sources of financing were obtained as access to the operating line funding is critical to the effective execution of CES' business plan. To date, CES has not experienced any funding issues under its debt facilities.

At the time of the release of this MD&A, management is satisfied that CES has sufficient liquidity and capital resources to meet the long-term payment obligations of its outstanding loans. CES assesses its requirements for capital on an ongoing basis and there can be no guarantee that CES will not have to obtain additional capital to finance the expansion plans of the business or to finance future working capital requirements. The volatility in the financial markets since mid-2008 has impacted the availability of both credit and equity in the marketplace. Although financial markets have improved over the last eighteen months, in the event that it is required, it may be difficult to issue additional equity or increase credit capacity and the cost of any new capital may exceed historical norms and/or impose more stringent covenants and/or restrictions on CES. In addition, despite the improvements in crude oil prices, natural gas prices continue to remain relatively weak in terms of historical norms. Continued weak natural gas prices may negatively impact the demand for the Company's products and services in the future. As a result, there has been a greater emphasis on evaluating credit capacity, credit counterparties, and liquidity by CES to ensure its ability to be able to meet its ongoing commitments and obligations.

# Cash Flows From Operating Activities

For the three months ended March 31, 2011, cash flow from operating activities was an outflow of \$0.4 million compared to \$11.1 million during the prior year. Funds flow from operations (Refer to "Non-GAAP Measures" for further detail), which takes into consideration changes in non-cash working capital, for the three months ended March 31, 2011, was a \$18.8 million inflow as compared to \$9.3 million during 2010.

	Three Months Ended March 31,		
\$000's	2011	2010	
Cash provided by (used in) operating activities	256	(10,371)	
Adjust for:			
Change in non-cash operating working capital	18,509	19,699	
Funds flow from operations	18,765	9,328	

# Cash Flows From Investing Activities

For the three months ended March 31, 2011, net cash outflows from investing activities totalled \$4.4 million compared to \$4.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2010.

For the three months ended March 31, 2011, \$4.6 million was spent on property and equipment (net of \$0.9 million in vehicle financing and leases). CES had \$0.4 million of additions related to maintenance capital and \$5.1 million of additions related to expansion capital gross of vehicle financing. Notable additions during the three month period ended March 31, 2011, included \$1.4 million of vehicles, \$1.2 million of trucks and trailers, \$1.3 million on the purchase of tanks, warehouse, field, and processing equipment, and an additional \$1.2 million towards construction of the Company's PureChem chemical blending facility in Carlyle, Saskatchewan.

Details of investment made in property and equipment are as follows:

	Three Months Ended		
	March 31,		
\$000's	2011	2010	
Expansion capital	5,134	1,292	
Maintenance capital	414	474	
Total investment in property and equipment	5,548	1,766	
Vehicle financing and leases	(919)	(434)	
Capital expenditures	4,629	1,332	
Change in non-cash investing working capital	696	698	
Cash used for investment in property and equipment	5,325	2,030	

In general, the long-term capital investments required for CES to execute its business plan are not significant, and the majority of capital expenditures are made at the discretion of CES based on the timing and the expected overall return on the investment.

# **Cash Flows From Financing Activities**

For the three months ended March 31, 2011, cash flow from financing activities totalled a cash inflow of \$4.6 million compared to \$15.3 million during the comparative prior year period. For the three month period ended March 31, 2011, CES repaid \$0.9 million of its long-term debt balances, paid dividends to shareholders totalling \$5.4 million, and drew \$10.7 million on its Operating Facility.

## Dividend Policy

During the first quarter, CES declared monthly dividends of \$0.10 per share for January and February, and \$0.12 per share for March, for a total of \$0.32 per share for the quarter. This compares to \$0.06 per share per month, for a total of \$0.18 per share, during the comparable quarter in 2010.

	Dividend	Dividend	Per Common	
\$000's except per share amounts	<b>Record Date</b>	<b>Payment Date</b>	Share	Total
January	Jan 31	Feb 15	0.10	1,814
February	Feb 28	Mar 15	0.10	1,814
March	Mar 31	Apr 15	0.12	2,179
Total dividends declared during the period			0.32	5,807

Through the course of the year, monthly dividends declared as a proportion of net earnings and cash flow from operations will vary significantly based on the activity levels of the Company's operations. During periods of higher activity, dividends declared as a percentage of net income and cash flow from operations will decrease, and likewise, during lower activity periods dividends declared as a percentage of net income and cash flow from operations will increase. Dividends are funded by cash provided by operating activities. During periods of insufficient cash availability, due to either the seasonality of the business or changes in the level of working capital, dividends may be funded through CES' surplus cash reserves or by accessing CES' credit facilities.

Management and the Board of Directors review the appropriateness of dividends on a monthly basis taking into account applicable solvency requirements under corporate legislation, current and anticipated industry conditions and, particularly, growth opportunities requiring expansion capital and management's forecast of distributable funds. Although, at this time, CES intends to continue to make cash dividends to shareholders, these dividends are not guaranteed. In addition, future expansion, investments and acquisitions may be funded internally by withholding a portion of cash flow in conjunction with, or in replacement, of external sources of capital such as debt or the issuance of equity. To the extent that CES withholds cash flow to finance these activities, the amount of cash dividends to shareholders may be reduced. Alternatively, to the extent that CES' sustainable operating after tax cash flow improves, the amount of cash dividends to shareholders may be increased. Over the long-term, CES' business model has historically shown it can support a large proportion of cash flow from operations being paid out as a dividend or distribution as the long-term capital investments required and maintenance capital expenditures required for CES to execute its business plan are not significant.

Subsequent to March 31, 2011, the Company declared dividends to holders of common shares in the amount of \$0.12 per common share payable on May 13, 2011 for shareholders of recorded on April 30, 2011.

#### Shareholders' Equity

As of March 31, 2011, CES had a total of 18,159,995 common shares outstanding. As of the date of this MD&A, CES had a total of 18,239,995 common shares outstanding.

#### Stock-based Compensation

As at March 31, 2011, a total of 1,816,000 common shares were reserved for issuance under the Company's Option Plan and Share Rights Incentive Plan of which 597,316 remained available for grant.

#### a) Option Plan, formerly referred to as the Partnership Unit Option Plan

At March 31, 2011, a total of 61,850 (December 31, 2010 - 76,350) options were outstanding at a weighted average exercise price of \$7.40. As at March 31, 2011, a total of 7,350 options were exercisable at a weighted average price of \$8.70. As of the date of this MD&A, there were a remaining 60,850 options outstanding. As a result of the completion of the Plan of Arrangement with Nevaro (the "Conversion") effective January 1, 2010, all prior grants under the Option Plan will continue based on the terms and conditions of the original grant and all outstanding options issued under the Option Plan will be exercisable for new common shares of CES on a one for one basis. No new grants shall be made under the Option Plan.

## b) Share Rights Incentive Plan ("SRIP")

At March 31, 2011, a total of 1,156,834 Share Rights were outstanding (December 31, 2010 - 1,170,500) at a weighted average exercise price of \$16.99 (assuming all SRIP's are exercised at their respective original exercise price) of which 4,000 were exercisable. As of the date of this MD&A, an aggregate of 1,056,834 Share Rights remaining outstanding, of which 30,000 have vested.

#### Commitments / Contractual Obligations

At March 31, 2011, CES had the following additional commitments not included as liabilities on its statement of financial position:

	9 months -					
\$000's	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Office and facility rent	859	1,019	599	336	336	3,149

Payments denominated in foreign currencies have been translated at the respective March 31, 2011 exchange rate

As of the date of this document, given its financial position, CES anticipates it will be able to meet these commitments as necessary.

The Company is involved in litigation and disputes arising in the normal course of operations. Management is of the opinion that any potential litigation it is aware of will not have a material adverse impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations and therefore the commitment table does not include any commitments for any outstanding litigation and any potential claims.

In conjunction with the Fluids Management acquisition, the Company has \$4.9 million (US\$5.0 million) in additional deferred acquisition consideration payable in cash upon the Fluids Management division achieving an EBITDA target of US\$9.5 million for the twelve month period post close. As of the date of this MD&A the target threshold has been exceeded and the US\$5.0 million will be paid out in July 2011.

# **TRANSITION TO IFRS**

Effective January 1, 2011, International Financial Reporting Standards replaced Canada's current Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for all publicly accountable profit-oriented enterprises. The Company has adopted IFRS effective January 1, 2010, ("the Transition Date") and has prepared its opening IFRS statement of financial position as at that date. Prior to the adoption of IFRS the Company prepared its financial statements in accordance with Canadian GAAP.

The Company's consolidated financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2011, will be the first annual financial statements that comply with IFRS. The Company will ultimately prepare its opening IFRS statement of financial position by applying existing IFRS with an effective date of December 31, 2011. Accordingly, the opening IFRS statement of financial

position and the December 31, 2010, comparative statement of financial position presented in the consolidated financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2011, may differ from those presented at this time.

We have completed all three IFRS project phases and have successfully integrated IFRS into our day-to-day operations. The adoption of IFRS has not changed the strategy of CES nor has it impacted our underlying business activities. Overall, our cash flows have not been impacted by the transition.

#### IFRS 1 – First Time Adoption

In preparing these consolidated financial statements in accordance with IFRS 1, "First-time Adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards" ("IFRS 1"), the Company has applied certain of the optional exemptions from full retrospective application of IFRS. Based on management's analysis of the various accounting policy choices available, the IFRS 1 optional exemptions applied are described below:

#### (i) Business combinations

The Company has applied the business combinations exemption under IFRS 1 to not apply IFRS 3, "Business Combinations", retrospectively to past business combinations. Accordingly, Management has elected not to restate any business combinations that have occurred prior to the Transition Date.

#### (ii) Share based payment transactions

The Company has elected to apply IFRS 2, "Share-based Payments" ("IFRS 2"), to equity instruments granted after November 7, 2002, which have not vested by the Transition Date. Accordingly, Management has elected not to restate the stock-based compensation expense for share based payments granted and vested prior to the Transition Date. Further, CES changed its accounting policy with respect to stock-based compensation, effective January 1, 2010, for new issuances under the Share Rights Incentive Plan to comply with the IFRS guidelines under IFRS 2. The resultant change required CES to account for an estimate of forfeitures at the time of grant and the associated compensation expense on a tranche by tranche basis.

#### (iii) Borrowing costs

IAS 23, "Borrowing Costs", has not been applied to borrowing costs relating to qualifying assets for which the commencement date for capitalization is before January 1, 2010. Accordingly, the Company has not capitalized borrowing costs relating to qualifying assets for which the commencement date for capitalization was before January 1, 2010.

## (iv) Fair value or revaluation as deemed cost

IAS 16, "Property, plant, and equipment", allows for property and equipment to continue to be carried at cost less depreciation, same as under Canadian GAAP. Accordingly, the Company has elected to carry its property and equipment at historical cost less accumulated amortization.

#### Impact on Historical Key Performance Indicators previously reported under Canadian GAAP

The following tables summarize the impact of IFRS on certain key performance metrics monitored by Management for the year ended December 31, 2010, and the three months ended March 31, 2010, as prepared under Canadian GAAP and IFRS:

	Year Ended I	Year Ended December 31, 2010		
	Canadian			
	GAAP	IFRS	% Change (2)	
Revenue	249,116	249,116	0%	
Gross margin	72,173	68,406	-5%	
EBITDAC <sup>(1)</sup>	41,476	41,484	0%	
Income before taxes	31,610	31,754	0%	
Net income	26,359	34,309	30%	
Funds flow from operations (1)	39,498	39,523	0%	

	Three Months E	Three Months Ended March 30, 2010		
	Canadian	Canadian		
	GAAP	IFRS	% Change (2)	
Revenue	49,038	49,038	0%	
Gross margin	15,467	14,723	-5%	
EBITDAC <sup>(1)</sup>	9,532	9,530	0%	
Income before taxes	8,066	8,089	0%	
Net income	7,465	18,468 (3)	147% (3)	
Funds flow from operations (1)	9,326	9,328	0%	

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Refer to the "Non-GAAP Measures" for further detail.

<sup>2</sup> The adoption of IFRS has not had a material impact on the key performance metrics monitored by Management with the exception of the treatment of the deferred tax credit under IFRS. Refer to discussion on 'Current and Deferred Income Taxes' above.

<sup>3</sup>Net income for 2010, as reported under IFRS, reflects the recognition of the inclusion of the entire benefit of the tax attributes related to the Conversion transaction. Refer to discussion on 'Current and Deferred Income Taxes' above.

# Impact of IFRS Adoption on Significant Accounting Policies and Estimates

The Company's IFRS accounting policies are provided in Note 3 to the interim condensed Consolidated Financial Statements. In addition, Note 4 to the interim condensed Consolidated Financial Statements presents reconciliations between the Company's 2010 previous GAAP results and the 2010 IFRS results. The reconciliations include the Consolidated Statements of Financial Position as at January 1, 2010, March 31, 2010 and December 31, 2010 and the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income for the three months ended March 31, 2010 and for the twelve months ended December 31, 2010.

The following tables summarize the adjustments made to the Company's statement of financial position and statement of comprehensive income:

	As at			
	December 31, 2010	March 31, 2010	January 1, 2010	
Deficit as reported under Canadian GAAP	(21,444)	(28,612)	(33,663)	
IFRS adjustments increase (decrease):				
Stock-based compensation	220	160	139	
Leases	(3)	(2)	(1)	
Deferred tax	7,906	10,980	-	
Borrowing costs	66	4	-	
	8,189	11,142	138	
Deficit as reported under IFRS	(13,255)	(17,470)	(33,525)	

	Year ended December 31, 2010	Three months ended March 31, 2010	
Net income as reported under Canadian GAAP	26,259	7,465	
IFRS adjustments increase (decrease):			
Stock-based compensation	81	21	
Leases	(3)	(2)	
Deferred tax	7,906	10,980	
Borrowing costs	66	4	
	8,050	11,002	
Deficit as reported under IFRS	34,309	18,468	

An explanation of how the transition from Canadian GAAP to IFRS has affected the Company's statement of financial position is set out below, and is based on the standards as published on the Company's Transition Date. Accordingly, the opening IFRS statement of financial position and the December 31, 2010, comparative statement of financial position presented in the consolidated financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2011, may differ from those presented at this time.

#### Stock-Based Compensation

Under Canadian GAAP, the Company recognized compensation expense associated with stock-based compensation plans with graded vesting features on a straight line basis over the vesting period. Under IFRS, the Company is required to treat each "tranche" of a stock-based compensation arrangement as a separate grant which results in the recognition of compensation expense on an accelerated basis as compared to Canadian GAAP. Further, IFRS requires that an estimate of the number of awards expected to vest be accounted for at the date of the grant. As a result, this decreased contributed surplus and decreased deficit by \$0.1 million at the date of transition and decreased general and administration expenses by \$0.02 million for the three months ended March 31, 2010, and \$0.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2010.

#### Leases

In contrast to Canadian GAAP, IAS 17 does not contain numerical thresholds to determine the nature of any particular lease. As a result, certain leases of vehicles and trucks currently classified as operating leases were classified as finance leases under IFRS. The effect of this change in classification at the Transition Date is to increase property and equipment by \$0.2 million (March 31, 2010 - \$0.3 million; December 31, 2010 - \$0.2 million) net of the related depreciation charge of \$0.1 million (March 31, 2010 - \$0.1 million; December 31, 2010 - \$0.1 million) on the finance leases, and increase total finance lease obligations by \$0.2 million (March 31, 2010 - \$0.3 million; December 31, 201

## Deferred Income Taxes & Deferred Tax Credit

The accounting treatment under IFRS of the deferred tax credit is the most significant change from Canadian GAAP upon adoption of IFRS. Under Canadian GAAP, a future income tax asset of \$15.5 million and deferred tax credit of \$12.7 million were recognized upon completion of the Conversion, effective January 1, 2010, with the difference of \$2.8 million representing the consideration paid to Nevaro. During 2010, the deferred tax credit was amortized in proportion to the corresponding future income tax asset as the tax pools were utilized.

Under IFRS, a deferred tax asset shall be recognized for the carry-forward of unused tax losses and unused tax credits to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be able to utilize unused tax losses and unused tax credits. As such, the deferred tax asset recognized in the three months ended March 31, 2010, would have been initially measured at an amount equal to the consideration paid of \$2.8 million and immediately following the transaction, CES would have re-measured the deferred tax asset to the extent that it is probable that tax losses will be utilized. This would result in an increase to the deferred tax asset with an equal and offsetting increase to deferred income tax recovery in the period. There would be no deferred tax credit recorded on acquisition of the deferred tax losses or subsequent to the completion of the transaction. As a result, the Company has made an adjustment to reverse any previously recognized deferred tax credit and to recognize any previously unrecognized deferred tax assets to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will allow the deferred tax asset to be recovered. Any re-measurement has been recognized in income for the period. Accordingly, deferred income tax recovery has been increased by \$11.0 million and \$7.9 million, respectively, for the three and twelve month periods ended March 31, 2010 and December 31, 2010, with a corresponding elimination of the deferred tax credit upon transition.

Accordingly, under IFRS, the value of the deferred tax credit will be \$nil, with the offset being recorded as a deferred income tax recovery during the three months ended March 31, 2010, thus resulting in an increase to net income of \$11.0 million in Q1 2010. Subsequent to 2010, because the full benefit of the tax losses acquired with respect to the Conversion have now been recognized in 2010, the Company anticipates future period net income amounts to be correspondingly lower than they would otherwise have been under Canadian GAAP.

#### Borrowing Costs

Under Canadian GAAP, the Company expensed borrowing costs as incurred. At the Transition Date, the Company elected to capitalize borrowing costs only in respect of qualifying assets for which the commencement date for capitalization was on or after the Transition Date. Accordingly, property and equipment has increased by \$0.004 million and \$0.1 million for the three and twelve month periods ended March 31, 2010, and December 31, 2010, respectively, with a corresponding decrease in finance costs.

#### Impairment of Assets

Under Canadian GAAP, goodwill is tested for impairment by comparing the carrying value of goodwill at the operating segment level compared to its fair value. If the carrying value of goodwill is greater than its corresponding fair value, an impairment loss is recognized to the extent that the carrying amount of goodwill exceeds its implied fair value. Under IFRS, goodwill is tested for impairment at the cash generating unit ("CGU") level. If the carrying value of each CGU exceeds the greater of fair value less cost to sell or value in use, an impairment loss is recognized in the CGU. The Company's impairment analysis as of January

1, 2010, and December 31, 2010, indicated that the recoverable amount of the net assets for each cash generating unit exceeded its respective carrying value and, therefore, no indication of impairment existed.

## Property and Equipment

In contrast to Canadian GAAP, IFRS permits items of property and equipment to be measured either at fair value or amortized cost. In this regard, CES expects to continue to reflect property and equipment at its historic amortized cost. Further, IFRS requires that significant asset parts (i.e. components) are recognized and depreciated separately. CES has assessed componentization under IFRS to be very similar to how the assets have been componentized by the Company under Canadian GAAP and the impact on CES' statement of financial position upon adoption of IFRS was not material.

#### Financial Statement Presentation & Disclosure:

Under IFRS, the Company presents its statement of comprehensive income under a functional disclosure approach resulting in certain expense classifications, namely amortization expenses and stock-based compensation expense, being presented as part of cost of sales and general and administrative expenses on the statement of comprehensive income.

## Internal Controls

The conversion to IFRS does not have a significant impact on the current control environment, business processes, financial systems, or IT systems. There have been no significant changes in CES' internal control over financial reporting during the three month period ended March 31, 2011, which have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

## Estimates and Judgments

As a routine element of the financial statement preparation process, management is required to make estimates and assumptions based on information available as at the financial statement date. These estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the possible disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses for the period.

Although estimates and assumptions must be made during the financial statement preparation process, it is management's opinion that none of the estimates or assumptions were highly uncertain at the time they were made. The most significant estimates in CES' consolidated financial statements are the impairment of goodwill, the amortization of property, equipment and intangible assets, deferred income taxes, and stock-based compensation.

# FUTURE ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

All accounting standards effective for periods beginning on or after January 1, 2011 have been adopted as part of the transition to IFRS. As of January 1, 2013, CES will be required to adopt IFRS 9, Financial Instruments, which is the result of the first phase of the IASB's project to replace IAS 39, Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement. The new standard replaces the current multiple classification and measurement models for financial assets and liabilities with a single model that has only two classification categories: amortized cost and fair value. The adoption of this standard is not expected to have a material impact on CES' Consolidated Financial Statements.

Amendments to IFRS 7, Financial Instruments: Disclosures – Transfer of Assets ("IFRS 7"), were issued in October 2010. Those amendments increase the disclosure requirements for transactions involving transfers of financial assets. The amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after July 1, 2011, with earlier application permitted. The Company does not anticipate that these amendments to IFRS 7 will have a significant effect on the Company's disclosures on financial assets.

# **RISKS AND UNCERTAINITIES AND NEW DEVELOPMENTS**

The drilling industry is cyclical and the business of CES is directly affected by fluctuations in the level and complexity of oil and natural gas exploration and development activity carried on by its clients. In Canada, drilling activity is seasonal and, in turn, throughout North America it is directly affected by a variety of factors including: weather; oil, natural gas, and natural gas liquids prices; access to capital markets; and government policies including, but not limited to, royalty, environmental, and industry regulations. Any prolonged or significant decrease in energy prices, economic activity, or adverse change in government regulations could have a significant negative impact on exploration and development drilling activity in North America and in turn demand for CES' products and services. There was a dramatic reduction in crude oil and natural gas prices during the last half of 2008. While crude oil prices have since recovered and appear to have stabilized, natural gas prices remain relatively weak compared to recent historical standards and continue to experience significant volatility. This, along with reduced access to capital, especially for junior and intermediate producers, resulted in a decline in industry drilling activity levels

in the WCSB and the United States in 2009 compared to prior years. Beginning in Q4 2009 activity levels began to rebound and this upward trend has continued throughout 2010 and into 2011. As a result, CES has experienced an increase in the demand for its services over this period.

The Western Canadian drilling industry is subject to seasonality with activity usually peaking during the winter months in the fourth and first quarters of any given calendar year. As temperatures rise in the spring, the ground thaws and becomes unstable resulting in government road bans which severely restrict activity in the second. These seasonal trends typically lead to quarterly fluctuations in Canadian operating results and working capital requirements, which should be considered in any quarter over quarter analysis of performance of the Company. As the business continues to expand in the US, it is expected that the overall seasonality of the Company's operations will be less pronounced in future periods.

The ability of CES to sell and expand its services will also depend upon the ability to attract qualified personnel as needed. Over the past few years, the demand for skilled oilfield employees and drilling fluid technicians has been high and the supply has been limited. The unexpected loss of CES' key personnel or the inability to retain or recruit skilled personnel could have an adverse effect on CES' results. CES addresses this risk by:

- attracting well trained and experienced professionals;
- offering competitive compensation at all levels;
- ensuring a safe working environment with clearly defined standards and procedures; and
- offering its employees both internal and external training programs.

CES takes its health, safety, and environmental responsibilities seriously and has instituted standards, policies, and procedures to address these risks. In addition, CES maintains insurance policies with respect to its operations providing coverage of all of what it considers to be material insurable risks.

Significant changes in the oil and gas industry including economic conditions, environmental regulations, government policy, and other factors may adversely affect CES' ability to realize the full value of its accounts receivable. In addition, a concentration of credit risk exists in trade accounts receivable since they are predominantly with companies operating in the WCSB and the Mid-continent and Northeast regions of the US. CES continues to attempt to mitigate the credit risk associated with its customer receivables by performing credit checks as considered necessary, managing the amount and timing of exposure to individual customers, reviewing its credit procedures on a regular basis, and reviewing and actively following up on older accounts. CES does not anticipate any significant issues in the collection of its customer receivables at this time outside of those which have already been provided for. However, if low commodity prices and tight capital markets return, there would be a risk of increased bad debts. It is not possible at this time to predict the likelihood, or magnitude, of this risk.

The provincial governments of Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan collect royalties on the production from Crown lands. These fiscal royalty regimes are reviewed and adjusted from time to time by the respective governments for appropriateness and competitiveness. As an example, during 2009 and 2010, changes were announced to the royalty regimes and/or drilling incentive programs in Alberta and British Columbia. These changes, as well as the potential for future changes in these and other jurisdictions, add uncertainty to the outlook of the oilfield services sector.

As a result of the US Acquisitions, CES' US footprint and size of operations has been significantly increased. US expansion provides CES with upside potential and reduces certain risks through diversification of operations. It also exposes the Company to additional specific risks including: integration risks of the acquired businesses; currency risk with added exposure to the US dollar; regulatory risks associated with environmental concerns with respect to drilling activity in Northeast US; and the future impact of increased regulatory requirements on drilling activity in the Gulf of Mexico are examples of specific US risks faced by the Company.

The volatility in the financial markets over the past twenty-four months has impacted the general availability of both credit and equity financing in the marketplace. In the face of this uncertainty, in December 2009, CES raised \$10 million in the equity markets through the completion of a bought deal private placement financing, and in July 2010 raised an additional \$45 million in the equity markets through the completion of another bought deal private placement financing. However, past success is not a guarantee of future success. It may prove to be difficult under future market conditions to issue additional equity or increase credit capacity without significant costs. In addition, should CES' senior lender be unable to, or choose not to, fund it would impair CES' ability to operate, as access to funds from its demand Operating Facility is critical to the effective execution of the business. CES has not experienced any funding issues under its debt facilities to date.

Effective January 1, 2010, Canadian Energy Services L.P. (the "Partnership") and Canadian Energy Services Inc. (the "General

Partner") completed a transaction with Nevaro Capital Corporation ("Nevaro") which resulted in the Partnership converting from a publicly-traded Canadian limited partnership to a publicly-traded corporation formed under the Canada Business Corporations Act (the "Conversion"). The Conversion resulted in the unitholders of the Partnership becoming shareholders of Canadian Energy Services & Technology Corp. ("CES" or the "Company") with no changes to the underlying business operations. CES undertook the Conversion as the limited partnership structure restricted the ability for CES to grow in the United States. Pursuant to the Limited Partnership Agreement in place, only persons who were residents in Canada, or, if partnerships were Canadian partnerships, in each case for purposes of the Tax Act, could own Class A Units of CES. CES proactively assessed several options available to expand its equity holding base beyond Canadian residents. In addition, in order to satisfy conditions of the Champion acquisition, CES was required to alter its legal structure. The resulting decision of CES was to pursue the Conversion. The steps pursuant to which the Conversion was effected were structured to be tax deferred to CES and unitholders based on current legislation. If amendments to existing legislation are proposed or announced, there is a risk that the tax consequences of the Conversion to CES and the unitholders may be materially different than the tax consequences contemplated. While CES is confident in its position, there is a possibility that regulators could challenge the tax consequences of the Conversion or prior transactions of Nevaro or legislation could be enacted or amended, resulting in different tax consequences than those contemplated. Such a challenge or legislation could potentially affect the availability or quantum of the tax basis or other tax accounts of CES. On March 4, 2010, the Minister of Finance (Canada) announced certain amendments to the Income Tax Act (Canada) to restrict the ability to utilize tax losses in transactions, which are similar to the Conversion, where units of a publicly-traded trust or partnership are exchanged for shares of a corporation. However, the amendments as announced are intended to apply to transactions undertaken after March 4, 2010, and as such should not apply to the Conversion.

Reference should be made to CES' Annual Information Form dated March 17, 2011 for the period ended December 31, 2010, and in particular to the heading "Risk Factors" for further risks associated with the business, operations, and structure of CES which is available on CES' SEDAR profile at <u>www.sedar.com</u>.

# OUTLOOK

Crude oil prices have rebounded off their lows of 2009 and appear to have stabilized in a profitable band for operators. Natural gas prices continue to remain relatively weak in context to oil prices and recent history, making the economics of drilling for dry natural gas challenging. In the WCSB, operators have diverted capital to drilling for oil or liquids rich gas or unconventional natural gas. In the US, this same trend is evident and areas such as the Marcellus shale continue to attract significant capital to dry gas drilling.

Beginning in the fourth quarter of 2009, drilling activity levels began to rebound in both the WCSB and the US. This upward trend in activity has continued throughout 2010 and to date in 2011. CES' Q1 2011 results reflect the increase in activity with corresponding revenue gains across all of CES' business segments. As a result of the increased industry activity and a continuing trend by operators to drill more complex horizontal wells, CES' dominant business line, the drilling fluids segment, has experienced the most material gains over comparable results from 2009 and 2010. CES has capitalized on this in the WCSB through its leading market share position and in the US by completing two accretive acquisitions, the Champion acquisition on November 30, 2009 and the Fluids Management Acquisition completed at the end of Q2 2010. The US Acquisitions coupled with the organic growth that the Company has been able to generate off of these acquired platforms, has established CES as a truly North American company with a wide footprint and a significant presence in the majority of the key basins of activity throughout North America.

CES' strategy is to utilize its patented and proprietary technologies and superior execution to increase market share in North America. CES' exposure to the key resource plays and the growth in the number of horizontal wells being drilled bodes well for future growth. A larger percentage of the wells being drilled require more complex drilling fluids to best manage down hole conditions, drilling times and costs and its unique products like Seal-AX<sup>TM</sup>/PolarBond, ABS40<sup>TM</sup>, PureStar<sup>TM</sup> and Liquidrill<sup>TM</sup>/Tarbreak, combined with our concerted focus on providing superior service, positions CES well in this increasingly technically competitive environment. CES believes that its unique value propositions in the increasingly complex drilling fluids provider in the North American market.

The EQUAL Transport division has experienced significant growth, particularly in south-eastern Saskatchewan where the business hauls drilling fluids and products to drilling locations and also provides other oilfield hauling services to our customers including the hauling of produced fluids. With increased activity throughout the WCSB, it is expected this business will continue to be economically attractive and may expand further as viable opportunities emerge.

The PureChem Services division manufactures and sells both drilling fluid chemicals and production chemicals. The construction of the PureChem facility in Carlyle, Saskatchewan was completed in February 2011 and operations have

commenced. PureChem is a complimentary business to both CES' drilling fluids business and EQUAL's production hauling businesses in Canada. In the US, the Fluids Management division also produces and blends its own set of proprietary drilling fluid products which provides synergies and experience to PureChem going forward.

The Clear Environmental Solutions division continues to complement CES' core drilling fluids business. The Environmental Services division has focused on expanding its operational base in the WCSB and is pursuing opportunities in the oil sands and horizontal drilling markets. Clear has experienced an increase in activity which began in the fourth quarter of 2009 and has continued throughout 2010 and into 2011. At this time, Clear's activity levels are expected to remain healthy throughout 2011.

As drilling has become more complex, applied down-hole technologies are becoming increasingly important in driving success for operators. CES will continue to invest in research and development to be a leader in technology advancements in the drilling fluids market. In addition, CES continues to assess integrated business opportunities that will keep CES competitive and enhance profitability, while at the same time closely manage its dividend levels and capital expenditures in order to preserve its statement of financial position strength and liquidity position.

# **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

For information regarding the corporate governance policies and practices of CES, the reader should refer to CES' 2010 Annual Report, CES' Annual Information Form dated March 17, 2011 in respect of the year ended December 31, 2010, and CES' Information Circular in respect to the June 16, 2010 Annual General and Special Meeting of shareholders each of which are available on CES' SEDAR profile at <u>www.sedar.com</u>.

# **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Additional information related to CES can be found on the System for Electronic Document Analysis and Retrieval (SEDAR) at <u>www.sedar.com</u>. Information is also accessible on CES's web site at <u>www.canadianenergyservices.com</u>.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Kyle D. Kitagawa<sup>1</sup> Chairman

Colin D. Boyer<sup>1,2</sup>

John M. Hooks<sup>2</sup>

D. Michael G. Stewart<sup>1</sup>

Thomas J. Simons

Rodney L. Carpenter

James (Jim) G. Sherman

<sup>1</sup> Member of the Audit Committee <sup>2</sup> Member of the Governance and Compensation Committee

**OFFICERS** Thomas J. Simons President & Chief Executive Officer

Craig F. Nieboer, CA Chief Financial Officer

Kenneth E. Zinger Chief Operating Officer

Kenneth D. Zandee Vice President, Marketing

Scott R. Cochlan Corporate Secretary

AUDITORS Deloitte & Touche LLP Chartered Accountants, Calgary, AB

**BANKERS** HSBC Bank Canada, Calgary, AB

**SOLICITORS** Torys LLP, Calgary, AB Crowe & Dunlevy, Oklahoma City, OK

**REGISTRAR & TRANSFER AGENT** Computershare Investor Services Inc. Calgary, AB and Toronto, ON

www.canadianenergyservices.com

STOCK EXCHANGE LISTING

The Toronto Stock Exchange Trading Symbol: CEU

#### **CORPORATE OFFICE**

Suite 900, 715 – 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW Calgary, AB T2P 3H2 Phone: 403-269-2800 Toll Free: 1-888-785-6695 Fax: 403-266-5708

# DIVISIONS

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EQUAL Transport 18029 - Highway 10 East Edson, AB T7E 1V6 Phone: 780-728-0067 Fax: 780-728-0068

Moose Mountain Mud Box 32, Highway 9 South Carlyle, SK SOC 0R0 Phone: 306-453-4411 Fax: 306-453-4401

# **US OPERATIONS**

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