

# **HSN**, Inc. Reports Third Quarter Results

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., Nov. 6, 2008 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- HSN, Inc. (Nasdaq:HSNI) reported results for the third quarter ended September 30, 2008 for HSN, Inc. ("HSNi") and its two operating segments, HSN and Cornerstone.

SUMMARY RESULTS (\$ in thousands, except per share amounts)

	Q3 2008	Q3 2007	Change
Net Sales Non-GAAP:	\$ 672,348	\$ 680,762	(1%)
Adjusted EBITDA Adjusted Net Income Adjusted EPS	\$ 37,500 \$ 14,830 \$ 0.26	\$ 27,958	(30%) (47%) (47%)
GAAP: Operating Income Net Income Diluted EPS	\$ 12,316 \$ 2,181 \$ 0.04		(66%) (87%) (86%)

"We are continuing to move forward with our strategies as we navigate our way through an obviously difficult retail environment," said Mindy Grossman, Chief Executive Officer of HSNi.

"At HSN, sales growth was driven by an increase in our active customers as they responded to fresh, innovative products, outstanding value, and tremendous improvement in customer service. Even in this challenging economy, HSN has recorded a sales increase in each quarter this year. Nevertheless, we are well aware that the business backdrop has changed dramatically. In response, we have moved quickly to maximize sales and profitability in the short-term without compromising our long-term business strategy. We are assessing changes in consumer demand on a daily basis and are taking advantage of the agility our model provides to keep our strategy on track."

Ms. Grossman continued, "Cornerstone has presented more of a challenge. We are disappointed that the turnaround is progressing more slowly than we had hoped. However, this is due primarily to the overall macroeconomic environment. The home and apparel industries, which are Cornerstone's primary businesses, have been particularly hard-hit by this economic downturn. Nonetheless, we believe that recent organizational and operational changes and the new leadership team we now have in place will enable Cornerstone to weather this challenging period.

"In response to the current environment, we are aggressively managing our operating and capital expenditures, focusing on inventory management and gross profit improvement, and

tightening credit policies. We remain focused on building our customer base across our multi-channel network, maintaining financial discipline, and delivering a unique and differentiated shopping experience to our customers."

# SEGMENT RESULTS (\$ in thousands)

	Q3 2008	Q3 2007	Change
Net sales HSN Cornerstone		\$ 452,719 228,043	
Total HSNi	\$ 672,348 ======	\$ 680,762 ======	
Gross profit HSN Cornerstone Total HSNi	80,395 	\$ 157,175 99,119  \$ 256,294 ======	(19%)
Adjusted EBITDA (Non-GAAP measure) HSN Cornerstone		\$ 42,099 11,751	
Total HSNi		\$ 53,850 ======	
Operating income HSN Cornerstone		\$ 30,217 6,210	
Total HSNi	\$ 12,316 =======	\$ 36,427 =======	(66%)

## **HSN Segment Results**

HSN's net sales grew 4% to \$471.0 million from \$452.7 million in the prior year. HSN.com net sales grew 17% over the prior year and now represent 28% of HSN net sales. HSN added 3% new customers during the quarter and grew its 12-month active customer base by 3.4%. The average customer spend was up 4%. Shipped units were essentially flat while average price point increased 4% to \$59.66 as the mix of products sold shifted to electronics, housewares and fitness. These increases were offset by decreases in jewelry, apparel and home fashions. Returns decreased to 20.0% from 20.3% in the prior year primarily due to the product mix shift.

Gross profit margin declined to 33.0% from 34.7% in the prior year. The decline was a result of the product mix shift, increased promotional activity in jewelry and fashion and increased shipping and handling costs due to the product mix and higher fuel costs.

Adjusted EBITDA declined 16% due to the decrease in gross profit and an increase in operating expenses. Operating expenses increased as a result of higher payroll and marketing costs and bad debt expense. HSN increased its bad debt provision in anticipation of losses associated with its extended payment program. Accounts receivable outstanding

under this program were \$113.2 million at September 30, 2008, compared to \$122.2 million in the third quarter last year. The reserve for bad debt increased to 7.6% of receivables from 4.4% in the prior year. Receivables declined even though sales increased as the company actively reduced the amount of credit extended under this payment program.

# Cornerstone Segment Results

Net sales for Cornerstone decreased 12% to \$201.3 million as compared to \$228.0 million in the prior year as consumer demand for home furnishings and apparel continued to decline in the current macroeconomic environment.

Gross profit margin declined to 39.9% from 43.5% as a result of increased promotional activity to reduce inventory levels which were down 19% from the prior year. Increased shipping and handling costs further reduced gross profit margins.

Cornerstone's Adjusted EBITDA margin declined to 1.0% from 5.2% in the prior year. Lower gross profit was partially offset by reduced costs associated with a 14% decrease in catalog circulation and lower payroll costs offset by increased severance associated with a reduction in headcount.

#### Other Selected Financial Results

Operating income was \$12.3 million as compared to \$36.4 million in the prior year. This quarter, HSNi recognized \$10.3 million of non-cash compensation expense (\$7.5 million for HSN and \$2.8 million for Cornerstone) due principally to the modification of stock-based awards in connection with the spin-off from IAC as compared to \$2.5 million of non-cash compensation recorded in the prior year.

HSNi's effective income tax rate for continuing operations was 19% for the third quarter of 2008 as compared to 38% in the prior year. The decrease in the tax rate is primarily due to the settlement of certain income tax related liabilities.

#### Liquidity and Capital Resources

For the nine months ended September 30, 2008, HSNi generated net cash provided by operating activities of \$24.0 million and had cash and cash equivalents as of September 30, 2008 of \$56.4 million.

In connection with the spin-off from IAC, HSNi entered into a \$150 million term loan and a \$150 million revolving credit facility and issued \$240 million of 11.25% senior notes. The net proceeds from the term loan and senior notes, less \$50 million in cash retained by HSNi, were used to fund a \$334 million cash distribution to IAC. Interest expense for the third quarter of 2008 was \$6.5 million.

Subsequent to quarter end, HSNi borrowed \$40 million under its revolving credit facility. HSNi took this measure due to the current uncertainty in the credit markets and in order to ensure financial flexibility. To the extent necessary, the funds will be used to support working capital needs.

KEY OPERATING METRICS

HSN, Inc.	(a)				
Units shipped (mm)		12.3	12.5		(2%)
Gross profit%		35.1%	37.6%	(250	bps)
Return rate		18.7%	18.8%	(10	bps)
Average price point		\$ 61.48 \$	61.08		1%
Internet net sales %	(b)	35.2%	32.5%		7%

- (a) HSN, Inc. includes HSN and Cornerstone for all periods presented.
- (b) Internet sales as a percent of total HSN, Inc. net sales.

#### OTHER INFORMATION

Safe Harbor Statement Under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995

This press release may contain forward-looking statements relating to the future performance of HSNi and its consolidated subsidiaries that are based on current expectations, forecasts and assumptions. HSNi's actual results could differ materially from those predicted. Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences include but are not limited to: the impact of the credit crisis; the economic downturn and other changes in political, business and economic conditions, including conditions that affect consumer confidence, consumer spending or ecommerce growth; changes in the interest rate environment or overall credit markets; HSNi's business prospects and strategy in light of the recently completed spin-off transaction; changes in our relationships with pay television operators, vendors, manufacturers and other third parties; technological or regulatory changes; changes in senior management; our ability to offer new or alternative products and services in a cost effective manner and consumer acceptance of these products and services; and changes in product delivery costs. More information about potential factors that could affect HSNi's business and financial results is included in our filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), including the "Risk Factors" section of the HSNi's Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed with the SEC on August 20, 2008. Other unknown or unpredictable factors that could also adversely affect HSNi's business, financial condition and results of operations may arise from time to time. In light of these risks and uncertainties, any forward-looking statements may not prove to be accurate. Accordingly, you should not place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements, which only reflect the views of HSNi management as of the date of this press release. Reported results should not be considered as an indication of future performance. HSNi does not undertake to update any forward-looking statements.

#### Conference Call

Mindy Grossman, Chief Executive Officer, and Judy Schmeling, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, will hold a conference call on November 6, 2008 at 11:00 a.m, Eastern Time, to discuss these results. Those interested in participating in the conference should call 877-741-4249 or 719-325-4790 at least five minutes prior to the call. There will also be a simultaneous audio webcast available via the company's website at <a href="http://www.hsni.com">http://www.hsni.com</a>.

Replays of the conference call can be accessed from 2:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on Thursday, November 6, until midnight, Eastern Time, on Thursday, November 20, by dialing 888-203-1112 or 719-457-0820, plus the passcode 4859621.

About HSN, Inc.

HSN, Inc. (Nasdaq:HSNI) is a \$3 billion interactive multi-channel retailer with strong direct-to-consumer expertise among its two operating segments, HSN and Cornerstone Brands. HSNi offers innovative, differentiated retail experiences on TV, online, in catalogs, and in brick and mortar stores. HSNi ships 50 million products and handles 50 million inbound customer calls annually. HSN, which created the television retail industry 31 years ago, now reaches approximately 90 million homes (24 hours a day, seven days a week, live 364 days a year). HSN.com ranks in the top 30 of the top 500 internet retailers, is one of the top 10 trafficked e-commerce sites, and has more than a quarter million unique users every day. In addition to its existing media platforms, HSN is the industry leader in technological innovation including services such as Shop by Remote, the only service of its kind in the U.S., and Video on Demand. Cornerstone Brands comprises leading home and apparel lifestyle brands including Ballard Design, Frontgate, Garnet Hill, Improvements, Smith+Noble, The Territory Ahead and Travelsmith. Cornerstone Brands distributes 345 million catalogs annually, operates seven separate e-commerce sites and operates 25 retail stores.

# GAAP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

HSN, INC. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (unaudited; in thousands except per share amounts)

		ths Ended ber 30,	Nine Months Ended September 30,			
	2008	2007	2008	2007		
Net sales Cost of sales		424,468	\$2,045,060 1,325,185	1,264,648		
Gross profit		256,294	719,875			
Operating expenses: Selling and marketing	134,106	139,065	415,102	429,075		
General and administrative Production and	58,528	52,222	168,688	157,262		
programming Amortization of	15,980	13,630	44,791	42,377		
	3,761	3,993	8,022	4,442		
intangibles Depreciation Goodwill impairment	1,755 9,380 	2,197 8,760	84,209 27,801 221,500	25,849		
Total operating expenses	223,510	219,867	970,113	667,988		
Operating income (loss) Other (expense) income:		36,427	(250,238)	96,338		
Interest expense Other income (expense)	(6,461) 365	36	(6,461) 404	(31)		

Total other (expense)

income, net	(	6,096)		36		(6,057)		(31)
Income tax (provision)						(256,295)		
Income (loss) from continuing operations (Loss) gain on sale of discontinued								
operations, net of tax (Loss) income from discontinued	<			(4,223)			30,572	
operations, net of tax	(	2,837)		(1,711)		(3,366)		18,114
Net income (loss)						(238,319)		
<pre>Income (loss) from   continuing operations   per share:</pre>								
Basic Diluted	\$ \$	0.09 0.09		0.40 0.40	\$ \$	(4.18) (4.18)	\$ \$	1.06 1.05
Net income (loss) per share:								
Basic Diluted	\$ \$	0.04 0.04			\$ \$	(4.24) (4.24)	\$ \$	1.93 1.91
Shares used in computing earnings per share:		6 007		55 200		56.000		50.000
Basic Diluted		6,207 6,665		56,206 56,649		•		56,206 56,649

# SEE IMPORTANT NOTES AT END OF THIS DOCUMENT

# HSN, INC. CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (in thousands)

	September 30, 2008			cember 31, 2007
	(	unaudited)	(	audited)
ASSETS Cash and cash equivalents Accounts receivable, net Inventories Deferred income taxes Prepaid expenses and other current assets	\$	56,365 135,093 363,298 7,070 61,808		6,220 192,609 317,411 24,606 55,182
Total current assets Property and equipment, net Goodwill Intangible assets, net Other non-current assets		623,634 152,131 2,662,700 487,453 23,841		596,028 155,805 2,884,389 571,662 12,747
TOTAL ASSETS	'	3,949,759 ======		4,220,631

LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY				
LIABILITIES:				
Accounts payable, trade	\$	206,619	\$	260,531
Current maturities of long-term debt Accrued expenses and other current		11,287		
liabilities		151,243		188,312
Total current liabilities		369,149		448,843
Long-term debt, less current liabilities		377,230		
Deferred income taxes		795,199		819,969
Other long-term liabilities		8,363		8,933
Total liabilities		1,549,941		1,277,745
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TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		2,399,818		2,942,886
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS'				
EQUITY	\$	3,949,759		4,220,631
	==	=======	==	

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# $\ensuremath{\mathsf{HSN}}$ , INC. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (unaudited; in thousands)

	Nine Months September	30,
	2008	
Cash flows from operating activities attributable to continuing operations: Net (loss) income Less: (loss) income from discontinued	\$ (238,319) \$	108,348
operations, net of tax	(3,366)	48,686
(Loss) income from continuing operations Adjustments to reconcile (loss) income from continuing operations to net cash provided by operating activities attributable to continuing operations:	(234,953)	59,662
Depreciation Amortization and impairment of intangibles Goodwill impairment	27,801 84,691 221,500	25,849 8,983
Non-cash compensation expense Amortization of cable and satellite	18,025	8,730
distribution fees Amortization of non-cash marketing Deferred income taxes Bad debt expense	3,068 8,022 (30,017) 14,048	4,442
Changes in current assets and liabilities: Accounts receivable Inventories Prepaid and other current assets Accounts payable and other current liabilities	43,529 (45,887) (6,932)	(5,875) (53,917) (5,895)
Net cash provided by operating activities attributable to continuing operations	24,019	21,720
Cash flows from investing activities		

# attributable to continuing operations:

Capital expenditures Transfers from IAC Other, net	17,021	(33,106) 9,779 128
Net cash used in investing activities attributable to continuing operations		(23,199)
Cash flows from financing activities attributable to continuing operations:		
Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt, net of issuance costs Principal payments on long-term obligations Distribution to IAC in connection with the spin-off Excess tax benefits from stock-based awards		 2,177
Net cash provided by financing activities attributable to continuing operations	40,090	
Total cash provided by continuing operations		698
Total cash used in discontinued operations Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	(6,286) 2,033	(50,860) 937
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	50,145	
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 56,365	

# SEE IMPORTANT NOTES AT END OF THIS DOCUMENT

# RECONCILIATIONS OF GAAP TO NON-GAAP MEASURES

HSN, INC. RECONCILIATION OF GAAP EPS TO ADJUSTED EPS (unaudited; in thousands except per share amounts)

	Three Months Ended September 30,					Nine Months End September 30,			
	2008			2007		2008		2007	
Diluted earnings (loss)									
per share	\$	0.04	\$	0.29	\$	(4.24)	\$	1.91	
Net income (loss)	== \$	2,181	== \$	16,655	=== \$(2	238,319)	== \$	108,348	
Non-cash compensation expense		10,288		2,473		18,025		8,730	
Amortization of non-cash marketing expense		3,761		3,993		8,022		4,442	
Amortization and impairmen of intangibles	L	1,755		2,197		84,209		8,983	
Goodwill impairment					2	221,500			
Loss (gain) on sale of									
discontinued operations,									

	==	======	==	======	==	======	==	======
GAAP diluted weighted average shares outstanding Adjusted EPS	) \$	56,665 0.26	\$	56,649 0.49	\$	56,652 0.85	\$	56,649 1.30
Adjusted Net Income	\$ ==	14,830	\$ ==	27,958	\$	48,149	\$	73,395
Loss (income) from discontinued operations, net of tax Impact of income taxes		2,837 (5,992)		1,711 (3,294)		3,366 (48,654)		(18,114) (8,422)
net of tax				4,223				(30,572)

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{HSN}}$  , INC. RECONCILIATION OF DETAILED SEGMENT RESULTS TO GAAP (unaudited; \$ in thousands)

	S	nree Month eptember 3	30, 2008	Septe	Months E	2007	
		Corner stone	=			Corner- stone	
Operating income (loss) Non-cash compensation	\$17,22	3 \$ (4,90	97) \$ 1	12,316			\$36,427
expense Amortization	7,43	3 2,85	50 :	10,288	1,279	1,194	2,473
of non-cash marketing Amortization	3,76	1 .		3,761	3,993		3,993
of intangibles Depreciation	14: 6,89	2 1,62	13 90	1,755 9,380	142 6,468	2,055 2,292	2,197 8,760
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 35,45	4 \$ 2,04 = ======	46 \$ 3	37,500		\$11,751	
	Sep <sup>.</sup>	Nine Septe	mber 30,				
	HSN	Corner stone	- То	otal	HSN	Corner- stone	
Operating income (loss) Non-cash compensation		2 \$(314,28			\$ 76,388		\$ 96,338
expense Amortization	12,66	4 5,36	51 :	18,025	4,317	4,413	8,730
of non-cash marketing Amortization and impairment of	8,02	2		8,022	4,442		4,442

intangibles	426	83,783	84,209	2,442	6,541	8,983
Goodwill						
impairment		221,500	221,500			
Depreciation	20,210	7,591	27,801	19,322	6,527	25,849
Adjusted						
EBITDA	\$105,364	\$ 3,955	\$ 109,319	\$106,911	\$37,431	\$144,342
	========	=======	=======	=======	======	=======

SEE IMPORTANT NOTES AT END OF THIS DOCUMENT

## HSN, INC.'S PRINCIPLES OF FINANCIAL REPORTING

HSNi reports Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted EPS, all of which are supplemental measures to GAAP. These measures are among the primary metrics by which we evaluate the performance of our businesses, on which our internal budgets are based and by which management is compensated. We believe that investors should have access to, and we are obligated to provide, the same set of tools that we use in analyzing our results. These non-GAAP measures should be considered in addition to results prepared in accordance with GAAP, but should not be considered a substitute for or superior to GAAP results. HSNi endeavors to compensate for the limitations of the non-GAAP measures presented by providing the comparable GAAP measures with equal or greater prominence and descriptions of the reconciling items, including quantifying such items, to derive the non-GAAP measures. We encourage investors to examine the reconciling adjustments between the GAAP and non-GAAP measures contained in this release and which we discuss below.

### Definitions of Non-GAAP Measures

Adjusted EBITDA is defined as operating income excluding, if applicable: (1) non-cash compensation expense and amortization of non-cash marketing, (2) amortization and impairment of intangibles, (3) depreciation, (4) goodwill impairment, (5) pro forma adjustments for significant acquisitions, and (6) one-time items. We believe this measure is useful to investors because it represents the consolidated operating results from HSNi's segments, but excludes the effects of non-cash expenses or one-time items. Adjusted EBITDA has certain limitations in that it does not take into account the impact to HSNi's statement of operations of certain expenses, including non-cash compensation, non-cash marketing, amortization and impairment of intangibles, depreciation and one-time items.

Adjusted Net Income generally captures all items on the statement of operations that have been, or ultimately will be, settled in cash and is defined as net income available to common shareholders excluding, net of tax effects, if applicable: (1) non-cash compensation expense, (2) amortization of non-cash marketing, (3) amortization and impairment of intangibles, (4) goodwill impairment, (5) pro forma adjustments for significant acquisitions, (6) one-time items, and (7) discontinued operations. We believe Adjusted Net Income is useful to investors because it represents HSNi's consolidated results taking into account charges which are not allocated to the operating businesses such as interest expense and taxes, but excluding the effects of any other non-cash expenses or one-time items.

Adjusted EPS is defined as Adjusted Net Income divided by fully diluted weighted average shares outstanding for Adjusted EPS purposes. We believe Adjusted EPS is useful to investors because it represents, on a per share basis, HSNi's consolidated results, taking into account charges which are not allocated to the operating businesses such as interest expense and taxes, but excluding the effects of any other non-cash expenses or one-time items. Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted EPS have the same limitations as Adjusted

EBITDA. Therefore, we think it is important to evaluate these measures along with our consolidated statement of operations.

### Pro Forma Results

We will only present Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted EPS on a proforma basis if we view a particular transaction as significant in size or transformational in nature. For the periods presented in this release, there are no transactions that we have included on a proforma basis.

#### One-Time Items

Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted EPS are presented before one-time items, if applicable. These items are truly one-time in nature and non-recurring, infrequent or unusual, and have not occurred in the past two years or are not expected to recur in the next two years, in accordance with SEC rules. GAAP results include one-time items. For the periods presented in this release, there are no adjustments for any one-time items.

#### Basis of Presentation

On November 5, 2007, IAC announced its plan to separate into five independent public companies in order to better achieve certain strategic objectives of the various businesses. This transaction is referred to as the "Spin-Off."

On August 21, 2008, HSN, Inc. became an independent public company and began trading on the Nasdaq Stock Market under the symbol "HSNI." These unaudited consolidated financial statements present our results of operations, financial position, shareholders' equity and cash flows of HSN, Inc. on a combined basis up through the Spin-Off and on a consolidated basis thereafter.

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007, we computed basic earnings per share using the number of shares of common stock outstanding immediately following the Spin-Off, as if such shares were outstanding for the entire period. The diluted earnings per share for prior periods was computed based upon the dilutive impact of all stock-based awards outstanding immediately following the Spin-Off, as if such awards were outstanding for the entire period.

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