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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Adobe Systems Reports Strong First Quarter Fiscal 2003 Results

Company Achieves 11 Percent Year-Over-Year Quarterly Revenue Growth

SAN JOSE, Calif. — **March 13, 2003 (NASDAQ: ADBE)** — Adobe Systems Incorporated, the leader in network publishing, today reported financial results for its first quarter ended February 28, 2003 that exceeded the Company's prior revenue and earnings per share target ranges.

In the first quarter of fiscal 2003, Adobe achieved revenue of \$296.9 million, compared to \$267.9 million reported for the first quarter of fiscal 2002 and \$294.7 million reported in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2002. Adobe's first quarter revenue target range was \$275 to \$290 million.

Pro forma diluted earnings per share for the first quarter of fiscal 2003, which does not include an investment loss from the Company's venture program, were \$0.25. Adobe's first quarter pro forma earnings target range was \$0.21 to \$0.23 per share.

"Our second consecutive quarter of double digit revenue growth is an excellent start to 2003," said Bruce Chizen, president and CEO. "These results are particularly encouraging given our strong product line up for the remainder of the year, beginning with a new version of Acrobat targeted to launch in Q2."

GAAP net income was \$54.2 million for the first quarter of fiscal 2003, compared to 49.8 million reported in the first quarter of fiscal 2002, and \$40.1 million in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2002. This represents 9 percent year-over-year growth in GAAP net income.

Pro forma net income, which does not include restructuring and other charges, acquired in-process research and development, and investment gains and losses, was \$58.9 million for the first quarter of fiscal 2003, compared to \$52.8 million in the first quarter of fiscal 2002, and \$59.1 million in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2002. This represents 12 percent year-over-year growth in pro forma net income.

GAAP diluted earnings per share for the first quarter of fiscal 2003 were \$0.23, based on 235.3 million weighted average shares. This compares with diluted earnings per share of \$0.20 reported in the first quarter of fiscal 2002, based on 245.2 million weighted average shares, and diluted earnings per share of \$0.17 reported in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2002, based on 238.4 million weighted average shares.

Adobe's pro forma operating profit, which does not include the amortization of goodwill, restructuring and other charges, and acquired in-process research and development, was \$80.5 million in the first quarter of fiscal 2003, compared to \$72.7 million in the first quarter of fiscal 2002 and \$83.8 million in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2002. As a percent of revenue, pro forma operating profit for the first quarter was 27.1 percent, compared to 27.1 percent in the first quarter of fiscal 2002 and 28.4 percent in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2002.

For the second quarter of fiscal 2003, the Company announced that it is targeting revenue at \$300 to \$315 million, a gross margin of 92 percent, and, GAAP and pro forma operating margin ranges of 26 to 28 percent.

As a percent of revenue, Adobe is targeting second quarter expenses as follows:

Research & Development – approximately 21 to 22 percent Sales & Marketing – approximately 33 to 34 percent General & Administrative – approximately 10 percent

In addition, Adobe is targeting its share count range to be between 238 and 240 million shares in the second quarter of fiscal 2003. The Company also is targeting other income to be approximately \$2 to \$3 million, and a tax rate of 30 percent. These targets lead to GAAP and pro forma target ranges of \$0.24 to \$0.27 earnings per share in the quarter.

The Adobe Board of Directors declared this quarter's cash dividend of \$0.0125 per share, payable on April 7, 2003 to stockholders of record as of March 24, 2003.

Forward Looking Statements Disclosure

This press release contains forward looking statements, including those related to revenue, earnings per share, expenses, margins, profitability and product releases, which involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially. Factors that might cause or contribute to such differences include, but are not limited to: adverse changes in general economic or political conditions in any of the major countries in which we do business; introduction of new products by existing and new competitors; delays in shipment of our new products or major new versions of existing products; difficulties in transitions to new markets, including the enterprise, government, corporate business and consumer markets; inability to attract and retain key personnel; lack of market acceptance of new products and upgrades; weakness in demand for application software, computers, and printers; downward sales price adjustments; intellectual property disputes and litigation; industry transitions to new business models; renegotiation or termination of royalty or intellectual property licensing arrangements; changes in accounting rules; and market risks associated with our equity investments. For further discussion of these and other risks and

uncertainties, individuals should refer to the Company's SEC filings, including the 2002 annual report on Form 10-K and quarterly reports on Form 10-Q to be filed in 2003. The Company does not undertake an obligation to update forward looking statements.

About Adobe Systems Incorporated

Founded in 1982, Adobe Systems Incorporated (www.adobe.com), the leader in network publishing, offers a comprehensive line of software for enterprise and creative professional customers. Its products enable customers to create, manage and deliver visually rich, compelling and reliable content. Based in San Jose, Calif., Adobe is one of the world's largest software companies.

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Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income

(In thousands, except per share data) (Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended		
	February 28 2003	March 1 2002	
Revenue: Products \$ Services and support	290,755 6,140	\$ 267,896	
Total revenue	296,895	267,896	
Cost of revenue: Products Services and support	19,360 3,002	20,997	
Gross profit	274,533	246,899	
Operating expenses: Research and development Sales and marketing General and administrative Acquired in-process research and development Amortization of goodwill and purchased intangibles	65,956 98,028 30,041 —	59,297 89,318 25,599 5,359 3,541	
Total operating expenses	194,025	183,114	
Operating income	80,508	63,785	
Nonoperating income, net: Investment gain (loss) Interest and other income	(6,692) 3,649	4,533 4,929	
Total nonoperating income (loss), net	(3,043)	9,462	
Income before income taxes	77,465	73,247	
Provision for income taxes	23,240	23,439	
Net income	\$ 54,225	\$ 49,808	
Basic net income per share Shares used in computing basic net income per share	<u>\$</u> .23	<u>\$</u> .21	
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Diluted net income per share Shares used in computing diluted	\$.23	\$.20	
net income per share	235,294	245,245	

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets

(In thousands, except per share data)

	(Unaudited) February 28 2003		(Audited) November 29 2002	
ASSETS				
Current assets: Cash and cash equivalents Short-term investments Receivables Other receivables Deferred income taxes Other current assets	\$	142,097 510,560 135,626 23,313 22,976 18,475	\$	183,684 434,053 116,506 30,367 31,530 18,032
Total current assets		853,047		814,172
Property and equipment, net Goodwill and other intangible assets, net Other assets Deferred income taxes, long-term		70,228 97,179 41,134 26,243		71,090 99,772 42,126 24,450
Total assets	\$	1,087,831	\$	1,051,610
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDER	S' E	QUITY		
Current liabilities: Trade and other payables Accrued expenses Income taxes payable Deferred revenue	\$	34,191 145,521 178,202 32,484	\$	37,765 135,028 173,311 31,185
Total current liabilities		390,398	_	377,289
Stockholders' equity:				
Common stock, \$0.0001 par value Additional paid-in capital Retained earnings Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) Treasury stock at cost, net of reissuances		29,576 718,286 1,597,107 (3,657) (1,643,879)		29,576 710,273 1,545,776 (3,950) (1,607,354)
Total stockholders' equity		697,433		674,321
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$	1,087,831	\$	1,051,610

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

(In thousands) (Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended		
	February 28, 2003	March 1, 2002	
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net income	\$ 54,225	\$ 49,808	
activities: Depreciation and amortization	11,992	13,803	
Stock compensation expense	952	2,787	
Deferred income taxes	5,744	2,751	
Provision for losses on receivables.	495	2,731 77	
Tax benefit from employee stock plans	2,014	6,036	
		2,236	
Loss on equity and cost method investments	3,554		
Loss on other-than-temporary declines of equity securities	(771)	(6,865) 96	
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:	3,910	90	
Receivables	(12,560)	(21,495)	
Other current assets	(2,492)		
Trade and other payables	(3,574)	3,552	
Accrued expenses	14,410	(755)	
Accrued restructuring	(4,742)	(7,900)	
Income taxes payable	4,891	(10,048)	
Deferred revenue	1,299	1,914	
Net cash provided by operating activities	79,347	38,063	
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchases of short-term investments	(124,464)	(380,564)	
Maturities and sales of short-term investments	45,568	333,550	
Acquisitions of property and equipment	(7,490)	(5,729)	
Purchases of long-term investments	(2,193)	(3,018)	
Additions to other assets	(1,323)	(9,031)	
Proceeds from the sale of equity securities	1,764	10,308	
Net cash used for investing activities	(88,138)	(54,484)	
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Purchase of treasury stock	(45,207)	(10,952)	
Proceeds from re-issuance of treasury stock	13,729	32,941	
Payment of dividends	(2,887)		
Net cash (used for) provided by financing activities	(34,365)	19,028	
Effect of foreign currency exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents	1,569	(569)	
Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	(41,587)	2,038	
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	183,684	218,662	
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 142,097	\$ 220,700	

Pro Forma Results

(In thousands, except per share data) (Unaudited)

The following table shows the Company's pro forma results reconciled to the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP") Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income table included on page 4 of this release. The Company's pro forma results do not include restructuring and other charges, acquired in-process research and development, amortization and impairment of goodwill and purchased intangibles, or gains and losses on investments in equity securities.

		Three Months Ended			
	Fel	February 28 2003		March 1 2002	
Income before income taxes	\$	77,465	\$	73,247	
Acquired in-process research and					
development		_		5,359	
Amortization of goodwill and					
purchased intangibles		_		3,541	
Investment (gain) loss		6,692		(4,533)	
Proforma income before					
income taxes		84,157		77,614	
Income tax provision		<u>25,247</u>		24,836	
Proforma net income		58,910		52,778	
Basic proforma net income					
per share	<u>\$</u>	.25	\$.22	
Shares used in computing basic					
net income per share	===	231,084		236,581	
Diluted net income per share	\$.25	\$.22	
Shares used in computing diluted					
net income per share		235,294		245,245	

The above results do not reflect GAAP, but are supplied because Adobe believes they help to more meaningfully evaluate and compare the results of our ongoing operations from quarter to quarter by removing certain non-operating items from the financial information.