

F5 Networks Announces Fourth Quarter and Fiscal Year 2019 Results; Delivers Second Consecutive Quarter of 91% Software Revenue Growth

Oct 23, 2019 4:05 PM

Generates Fourth Quarter GAAP EPS of \$1.57 and non-GAAP EPS of \$2.59 per diluted share

SEATTLE--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- F5 Networks, Inc. (NASDAQ: FFIV) today announced financial results for its fiscal fourth quarter and year ended September 30, 2019.

“Customer demand for consistent application security and reliable application performance across private, public and multi-cloud environments drove 5% total revenue growth in our fourth quarter, fueled by software revenue growth of 91% for the second consecutive quarter,” said François Locoh-Donou, F5 President and Chief Executive Officer.

“F5’s multi-cloud application services are making it possible for enterprises and service providers across the globe to deliver digital experiences with the reliability, speed and security their end customers expect,” continued Locoh-Donou. “From the growth and interest we are seeing in our new software, SaaS and container solutions, it is clear that customers view F5 as a critical partner in their transition to multi-cloud architectures.”

Fourth Quarter Performance Summary

Revenue of \$590.4 million for the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2019 reflects 5% growth from \$562.7 million in the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2018, driven by software solutions revenue growth of 91%.

GAAP net income for the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2019 was \$94.8 million, or \$1.57 per diluted share compared to fourth quarter fiscal year 2018 GAAP net income of \$132.9 million, or \$2.18 per diluted share.

Non-GAAP net income for the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2019 was \$156.7 million, or \$2.59 per diluted share, compared to \$177.0 million, or \$2.90 per diluted share, in the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2018. Non-GAAP net income for the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2019 excludes \$43.7 million in stock-based compensation, \$15.0 million in facility-exit costs, \$8.1 million in costs related to the acquisition of NGINX, \$6.3 million in impairment charges and \$4.6 million in amortization of purchased intangible assets.

Fiscal Year 2019 Performance Summary

For fiscal year 2019, F5 delivered revenue of \$2,242.4 million, representing growth of 4% from revenue of \$2,161.4 million in fiscal year 2018.

GAAP net income in fiscal year 2019 was \$427.7 million, or \$7.08 per diluted share, compared to fiscal year 2018 GAAP net income of \$453.7 million, or \$7.32 per diluted share.

Non-GAAP net income for fiscal year 2019 was \$626.3 million, or \$10.36 per diluted share, compared to \$612.1 million, or \$9.87 per diluted share in fiscal year 2018. Non-GAAP net income for fiscal year 2019 excludes \$162.9 million in stock-based compensation, \$41.7 million in costs related to the acquisition of NGINX, \$28.8 million in facility-exit costs, \$11.8 million in amortization of purchased intangible assets and \$6.3 million in impairment charges.

A reconciliation of net income, earnings per share, and other measures on a GAAP to non-GAAP basis is included in the attached Consolidated Income Statements. Additional information about non-GAAP financial information is included in this release.

Business Outlook

For the first quarter of fiscal year 2020 ending December 31, 2019, the Company expects to deliver revenue in the range of \$560 million to \$570 million with non-GAAP earnings in the range of \$2.41 to \$2.44 per diluted share.

All forward-looking non-GAAP measures included in the outlook exclude estimates for amortization of intangible assets, share-based compensation expenses, significant effects of tax legislation and judicial or administrative interpretation of tax regulations, including the impact of income tax reform, non-recurring income tax adjustments, valuation allowance on deferred tax assets, and the income tax effect of non-GAAP exclusions, and do not include the impact of any future acquisitions or divestitures, restructuring charges, facility exit costs, or other non-recurring charges that may occur in the period. F5 is unable to provide a reconciliation of non-GAAP guidance measures to corresponding U.S. generally accepted accounting principles or GAAP measures on a forward-looking basis without unreasonable effort due to the overall high variability and low visibility of most of the foregoing items that have been excluded. Material changes to any one of these items could have a significant effect on our guidance and future GAAP results. Certain exclusions, such as amortization of intangible assets and share-based compensation expenses, are generally incurred each quarter, but the amounts have historically varied and may continue to vary significantly from quarter to quarter.

Live Webcast and Conference Call

F5 will host a live webcast and conference call to review its financial results and outlook today, October 23, 2019, at 1:30 pm PT. The [live webcast](#) can be accessed from the [investor relations portion](#) of [F5.com](#). To participate in the live call via telephone in the U.S., dial 866-209-3822 and request the F5 Networks call. Outside the U.S., dial +1-647-689-5683. Please call 10 minutes prior to the call start time. The webcast replay will be archived on the [investor relations portion](#) of F5's website.

Forward Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements including, among other things, statements regarding the continuing strength and momentum of F5's business, future financial performance, sequential growth, projected revenues including target revenue and earnings ranges, income, earnings per share, share amount and share price assumptions, share repurchases, demand for application delivery networking, application delivery services, security, and software products, expectations regarding future services and products, expectations regarding future customers, markets and the benefits of products, and other statements that are not historical facts and which are forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are subject to the safe harbor provisions created by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Actual results could differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements as a result of certain risk factors. Such forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, as well as assumptions

and other factors that, if they do not fully materialize or prove correct, could cause the actual results, performance or achievements of the company, or industry results, to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include, but are not limited to: customer acceptance of our new traffic management, security, application delivery, optimization, and software and SaaS offerings; the timely development, introduction and acceptance of additional new products and features by F5 or its competitors; competitive factors, including but not limited to pricing pressures, industry consolidation, entry of new competitors into F5's markets, and new product and marketing initiatives by our competitors; increased sales discounts; uncertain global economic conditions which may result in reduced customer demand for our products and services and changes in customer payment patterns; global economic conditions and uncertainties in the geopolitical environment; overall information technology spending; litigation involving patents, intellectual property, shareholder and other matters, and governmental investigations; natural catastrophic events; a pandemic or epidemic; F5's ability to sustain, develop and effectively utilize distribution relationships; F5's ability to attract, train and retain qualified product development, marketing, sales, professional services and customer support personnel; F5's ability to expand in international markets; the unpredictability of F5's sales cycle; F5's share repurchase program; future prices of F5's common stock; and other risks and uncertainties described more fully in our documents filed with or furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission, including our most recent reports on Form 10-K and Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K and other documents that we may file or furnish from time to time, which could cause actual results to vary from expectations. The financial information contained in this release should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in F5's most recent reports on Forms 10-Q and 10-K as each may be amended from time to time. All forward-looking statements in this press release are based on information available as of the date hereof and qualified in their entirety by this cautionary statement. F5 assumes no obligation to revise or update these forward-looking statements.

GAAP to non-GAAP Reconciliation

F5's management evaluates and makes operating decisions using various operating measures. These measures are generally based on the revenues of its products, services operations and certain costs of those operations, such as cost of revenues, research and development, sales and marketing and general and administrative expenses. One such measure is GAAP net income excluding, as applicable, stock-based compensation, amortization of purchased intangible assets, acquisition-related charges, net of taxes, restructuring charges, facility-exit costs, significant litigation and other contingencies and certain non-recurring tax expenses and benefits, which is a non-GAAP financial measure under Section 101 of Regulation G under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. This measure of non-GAAP net income is adjusted by the amount of additional taxes or tax benefit that the company would accrue if it used non-GAAP results instead of GAAP results to calculate the company's tax liability.

The non-GAAP adjustments, and F5's basis for excluding them from non-GAAP financial measures, are outlined below:

Stock-based compensation. Stock-based compensation consists of expense for stock options, restricted stock and employee stock purchases through the company's ESPP. Although stock-based compensation is an important aspect of the compensation of F5's employees and executives, management believes it is useful to exclude stock-based compensation expenses to better understand the long-term performance of the company's core business and to facilitate comparison of the company's results to those of peer companies.

Amortization of purchased intangible assets. Purchased intangible assets are amortized over their estimated useful lives and generally cannot be changed or influenced by management after the acquisition. Management does not believe these charges accurately reflect the performance of the company's ongoing operations, therefore, they are not considered by management in making operating decisions. However, investors should note that the use of intangible assets contributed to F5's revenues earned during the periods presented and will contribute to F5's future period revenues as well.

Acquisition-related charges, net. F5 does not acquire businesses on a predictable cycle and the terms and scope of each transaction can vary significantly and are unique to each transaction. F5 excludes acquisition-related charges from its non-GAAP financial measures to provide a useful comparison of the company's operating results to prior periods and to its peer companies. Acquisition-related charges consist of planning, execution and integration costs incurred directly as a result of an acquisition.

Impairment charges. In fiscal year 2019, F5 recorded impairment of capitalized software development costs reflecting strategy changes in certain product development initiatives. These charges are not representative of ongoing costs to the business and are not expected to recur. As a result, these charges are being excluded to provide investors with a more comparable measure of costs associated with ongoing operations.

Restructuring charges. F5 has incurred restructuring charges that are included in its GAAP financial statements, primarily related to workforce reductions and costs associated with exiting facility lease commitments. F5 excludes these items from its non-GAAP financial measures when evaluating its continuing business performance as such items vary significantly based on the magnitude of the restructuring action and do not reflect expected future operating expenses. In addition, these charges do not necessarily provide meaningful insight into the fundamentals of current or past operations of its business.

Facility-exit costs. In fiscal year 2019, F5 relocated its headquarters in Seattle, Washington and recorded charges in connection with this facility exit as well as other non-recurring lease activity. These charges are not representative of ongoing costs to the business and are not expected to recur. As a result, these charges are being excluded to provide investors with a more comparable measure of costs associated with ongoing operations.

Significant litigation and other contingencies. F5, from time to time, may incur charges or benefits that are outside of the ordinary course of F5's business related to litigation and other contingencies. F5 believes it is useful to exclude such charges or benefits, when significant, because it does not consider such amounts to be part of the ongoing operation of F5's business and because of the singular nature of the claims underlying such matters.

Management believes that non-GAAP net income per share provides useful supplemental information to management and investors regarding the performance of the company's core business operations and facilitates comparisons to the company's historical operating results. Although F5's management finds this non-GAAP measure to be useful in evaluating the performance of the core business, management's reliance on this measure is limited because items excluded from such measures could have a material effect on F5's earnings and earnings per share calculated in accordance with GAAP. Therefore, F5's management will use its non-GAAP earnings and earnings per share measures, in conjunction with GAAP earnings and earnings per share measures, to address these limitations when evaluating the performance of the company's core business. Investors should consider these non-GAAP measures in addition to, and not as a substitute for, financial performance measures in accordance with GAAP.

F5 believes that presenting its non-GAAP measures of earnings and earnings per share provides investors with an additional tool for evaluating the performance of the company’s core business and is used by management in its own evaluation of the company’s performance. Investors are encouraged to look at GAAP results as the best measure of financial performance. However, while the GAAP results are more complete, the company provides investors these supplemental measures since, with reconciliation to GAAP, it may provide additional insight into the company’s operational performance and financial results.

For reconciliation of these non-GAAP financial measures to the most directly comparable GAAP financial measures, please see the section in our attached Consolidated Income Statements entitled “Non-GAAP Financial Measures.”

About F5

F5 (NASDAQ: FFIV) gives the world’s largest businesses, service providers, governments, and consumer brands the freedom to securely deliver every app, anywhere—with confidence. F5 delivers cloud and security application services that enable organizations to embrace the infrastructure they choose without sacrificing speed and control. For more information, go to f5.com. You can also follow [@f5networks](https://twitter.com/f5networks) on Twitter or visit us on [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#) for more information about F5, its partners, and technologies.

F5 is a trademark and service mark of F5 Networks, Inc., in the U.S. and other countries.

F5 Networks, Inc.

Consolidated Balance Sheets (unaudited, in thousands)

	September 30,	September 30,
	2019	2018
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 599,219	\$ 424,707
Short-term investments	373,063	614,705
Accounts receivable, net of allowances of 3,259 and \$2,040	322,029	295,352
Inventories	34,401	30,568

Other current assets	182,874	52,326
Total current assets	1,511,586	1,417,658
Property and equipment, net	223,426	145,042
Long-term investments	358,402	411,184
Deferred tax assets	27,701	33,441
Goodwill	1,065,379	555,965
Other assets, net	203,781	42,186
Total assets	\$3,390,275	\$2,605,476
Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$62,627	\$57,757
Accrued liabilities	235,869	180,979
Deferred revenue	807,030	715,697
Total current liabilities	1,105,526	954,433
Other long-term liabilities	131,853	65,892
Deferred revenue, long-term	391,086	299,624
Deferred tax liabilities	313	35
Total long-term liabilities	523,252	365,551

Commitments and contingencies		
Shareholders' equity		
Preferred stock, no par value; 10,000 shares authorized, no shares outstanding	-	-
Common stock, no par value; 200,000 shares authorized, 60,367 and 60,215 shares issued and outstanding	142,597	20,427
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(19,190)	(22,178)
Retained earnings	1,638,090	1,287,243
Total shareholders' equity	1,761,497	1,285,492
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$3,390,275	\$2,605,476

F5 Networks, Inc.

Consolidated Income Statements

(unaudited, in thousands, except per share amounts)

	Three Months Ended Years Ended			
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
Net revenues				
Products	\$264,926	\$256,412	\$985,591	\$960,108
Services	325,462	306,297	1,256,856	1,201,299
Total	590,388	562,709	2,242,447	2,161,407
Cost of net revenues (1)(2)(3)				
Products	44,693	48,505	174,986	181,061

Services	46,225	44,935	181,591	180,420
Total	90,918	93,440	356,577	361,481
Gross profit	499,470	469,269	1,885,870	1,799,926
Operating expenses (1)(2)(3)(4)(5)				
Sales and marketing	217,554	160,425	748,619	664,135
Research and development	102,812	95,078	408,058	366,084
General and administrative	64,390	41,748	210,730	160,382
Restructuring charges	-	18,426	-	18,426
Total	384,756	315,677	1,367,407	1,209,027
Income from operations	114,714	153,592	518,463	590,899
Other income, net (6)	3,397	5,667	22,648	12,861
Income before income taxes	118,111	159,259	541,111	603,760
Provision for income taxes	23,274	26,378	113,377	150,071
Net income	\$94,837	\$132,881	\$427,734	\$453,689
Net income per share - basic	\$1.57	\$2.20	\$7.12	\$7.41
Weighted average shares - basic	60,283	60,462	60,044	61,262
Net income per share - diluted	\$1.57	\$2.18	\$7.08	\$7.32

Weighted average shares - diluted	60,448	61,070	60,456	62,013
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Non-GAAP Financial Measures

Net income as reported	\$94,837	\$132,881	\$427,734	\$453,689
Stock-based compensation expense (7)	43,732	36,848	162,914	157,855
Amortization of purchased intangible assets	4,586	2,667	11,846	11,080
Facility-exit costs	15,048	2,514	28,800	2,514
Acquisition-related charges	8,079	-	41,742	-
Impairment charges	6,273	-	6,273	-
Restructuring charges	-	18,426	-	18,426
Gain on sale of patent	-	(534)	-	(534)
Tax effects related to above items	(15,807)	(15,769)	(53,048)	(49,557)
Tax on deemed repatriation of undistributed foreign earnings	-	-	-	7,000
Remeasurement of net deferred tax assets due to change in U S tax rate	-	-	-	11,584
Net income excluding stock-based compensation expense, amortization of purchased intangible assets, facility-exit costs, acquisition-related charges, impairment charges, restructuring charges, gain on sale of patent and non-recurring tax expenses and benefits (non-GAAP) - diluted	\$156,748	\$177,033	\$626,261	\$612,057
Net income per share excluding stock-based compensation expense, amortization of purchased intangible assets, facility-exit costs, acquisition-related charges, impairment charges, restructuring charges, gain on sale of patent and	\$2.59	\$2.90	\$10.36	\$9.87

non-recurring tax expenses and benefits (non-GAAP) - diluted

Weighted average shares - diluted	60,448	61,070	60,456	62,013
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(1) Includes stock-based compensation expense as follows:

Cost of net revenues	\$5,233	\$5,182	\$20,385	\$21,122
Sales and marketing	19,832	14,347	69,477	61,533
Research and development	10,288	10,892	40,886	47,327
General and administrative	8,379	6,427	32,166	27,873
	\$43,732	\$36,848	\$162,914	\$157,855

(2) Includes amortization of purchased intangible assets as follows:

Cost of net revenues	\$3,096	\$1,890	\$7,653	\$7,973
Sales and marketing	961	252	2,083	1,007
General and administrative	529	525	2,110	2,100
	\$4,586	\$2,667	\$11,846	\$11,080

(3) Includes facility-exit costs as follows:

Cost of net revenues	\$1,806	\$352	\$3,520	\$352
Sales and marketing	3,838	630	7,470	630
Research and development	4,403	1,247	9,994	1,247
General and administrative	5,001	285	7,816	285

	\$ 15,048	\$ 2,514	\$ 28,800	\$ 2,514
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(4) Includes acquisition-related charges as follows:

Sales and marketing	\$ 445	\$ -	\$ 6,551	\$ -
Research and development	205	-	16,321	-
General and administrative	7,429	-	18,870	-
	\$ 8,079	\$ -	\$ 41,742	\$ -

(5) Includes impairment charges as follows:

General and administrative	\$ 6,273	\$ -	\$ 6,273	\$ -
	\$ 6,273	\$ -	\$ 6,273	\$ -

(6) Includes gain on sale of patent as follows:

Other income, net	\$ -	\$ (534)	\$ -	\$ (534)
	\$ -	\$ (534)	\$ -	\$ (534)

(7) Stock-based compensation is accounted for in accordance with the fair value recognition provisions of Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) Topic 718, Compensation – Stock Compensation (“FASB ASC Topic 718”)

F5 Networks, Inc.

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows
(unaudited, in thousands)

Years Ended

September 30,

2019

2018

Operating activities

Net income	\$ 427,734	\$ 453,689
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Realized loss (gain) on disposition of assets and investments	1,106	(267)
Stock-based compensation	162,914	157,855
Provisions for doubtful accounts and sales returns	556	1,461
Depreciation and amortization	68,507	59,491
Deferred income taxes	7,440	20,810
Impairment of assets	6,273	-
Non-cash provisions for exit costs	8,211	-
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(18,305)	(4,889)
Inventories	(3,832)	(734)
Other current assets	(75,449)	15,607
Other assets	(22,742)	446
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	74,710	6,583
Deferred revenue	110,718	51,016
Net cash provided by operating activities	747,841	761,068
Investing activities		
Purchases of investments	(602,987)	(855,424)

Maturities of investments	625,201	439,130
Sales of investments	278,244	12,736
Acquisition of businesses, net of cash acquired	(611,550)	-
Cash provided by sale of fixed asset	-	1,000
Purchases of property and equipment	(103,542)	(53,465)
Net cash used in investing activities	(414,634)	(456,023)
Financing activities		
Proceeds from the exercise of stock options and purchases of stock under employee stock purchase plan	45,598	48,818
Repurchase of common stock	(201,045)	(600,081)
Net cash used in financing activities	(155,447)	(551,263)
Net increase (decrease) in cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash	177,760	(246,218)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash	(1,400)	(2,340)
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash, beginning of period	425,894	674,452
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash, end of period	\$ 602,254	\$ 425,894

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