

April 21, 2015

# Aware, Inc. Reports First Quarter 2015 Financial Results

BEDFORD, Mass., April 21, 2015 /PRNewswire/ -- Aware, Inc. (NASDAQ: AWRE), a leading supplier of biometrics software and services, today reported financial results for its first quarter ended March 31, 2015.

Revenue for the first quarter of 2015 was \$4.1 million, a decrease of 38% compared to \$6.6 million in the same quarter last year. Net income in the first quarter of 2015 was \$0.3 million, or \$0.01 per diluted share, which compared to \$0.9 million, or \$0.04 per diluted share, in the same period a year ago.

Lower revenue and net income in the first quarter of this year versus last year were primarily due to \$2.6 million less hardware revenue and, to a lesser degree, lower DSL royalties. Revenue from software licenses, software maintenance and services increased 10% over the first quarter of last year.

Rick Moberg, Aware's co-chief executive officer and chief financial officer, said, "Over the past two quarters our financial results have been affected by lower revenue from a large government contract that has been winding down. We have been working on replacing revenue from that contract with new sources of revenue from government and commercial customers. For example, approximately 23% of first quarter revenue was derived from two biometrics projects with commercial customers. These projects in particular and commercial biometrics markets in general represent potential areas of growth for us. It is too early to predict the longer term trajectory of these opportunities, but we are optimistic they may develop into meaningful sources of revenue.

We would like to remind shareholders that our quarterly revenue fluctuates based on project wins and the timing of delivery of licenses and services for those projects."

# **About Aware**

Aware is a leading provider of biometrics software products and development services to governments, system integrators, and solution providers globally. Our products include SDKs, software components, workstation applications, and a modular, centralized, service-oriented platform. They fulfill a broad range of functions critical to biometric authentication and search, including face, fingerprint, and iris autocapture, image quality assurance, data compliance, capture hardware peripheral abstraction, centralized data processing and workflow, subsystem connectivity, and biometric matching algorithms. The products are used to enable identity-centric security solutions with biometrics for applications including border management, credentialing and access control, intelligence and defense, and law enforcement. Aware is a publicly held company (Nasdaq: AWRE) based in Bedford, Massachusetts.

See Aware's website for more information about our biometrics software products.

# Safe Harbor Warning

Portions of this release contain forward-looking statements regarding future events and are subject to risks and uncertainties, such as estimates or projections of future revenue and earnings, and the growth of the biometrics markets. Aware wishes to caution you that there are factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the results indicated by such statements.

Risk factors related to our business include, but are not limited to: i) our operating results may fluctuate significantly and are difficult to predict; ii) we derive a significant portion of our revenue from government customers, and our business may be adversely affected by changes in the contracting or fiscal policies of those governmental entities; iii) a significant commercial market for biometrics technology may not develop, and if it does, we may not be successful in that market; iv) we derive a significant portion of our revenue from third party channel partners; v) hardware revenue is likely to decline in future periods; vi) we face intense competition from other biometrics solution providers; vii) our business is subject to rapid technological change; viii) our software products may have errors, defects or bugs which could harm our business; ix) our business may be adversely affected by our use of open source software; x) our intellectual property is subject to limited protection; xi) we may be sued by third parties for alleged infringement of their proprietary rights; xii) we must attract and retain key personnel; xiii) we rely on single sources of supply for certain components used in our hardware products; xiv) our business may be affected by

government regulations and adverse economic conditions; xv) we may make acquisitions that could adversely affect our results, and xvi) we may have additional tax liabilities.

We refer you to the documents Aware files from time to time with the Securities and Exchange Commission, specifically the section titled Risk Factors in our annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 and other reports and filings made with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

## Aware is a trademark or registered trademark of Aware, Inc. Any other trademarks appearing herein are the property of their respective owners.

### AWARE, INC. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (In thousands, except per share data) (unaudited)

|  | Three Months Ended<br>March 31, |         |
|--|---------------------------------|---------|
|  | 2015                            | 2014    |
| Revenue:                                 |                                 |         |
| Software licenses                        | \$1,649                         | \$1,617 |
| Software maintenance                     | 1,153                           | 1,045   |
| Services                                 | 1,220                           | 1,008   |
| Hardware                                 | -                               | 2,633   |
| Royalties                                | 101                             | 314     |
| Total revenue                            | 4,123                           | 6,617   |
| Costs and expenses:                      |                                 |         |
| Cost of hardware                         | -                               | 1,902   |
| Cost of services                         | 547                             | 463     |
| Research and development                 | 1,435                           | 1,279   |
| Selling and marketing                    | 972                             | 858     |
| General and administrative               | 785                             | 804     |
| Total costs and expenses                 | 3,739                           | 5,306   |
| Operating income                         | 384                             | 1,311   |
| Other income                             | 12                              | -       |
| Interest income                          | 41                              | 86      |
| Income before provision for income taxes | 437                             | 1,397   |
| Provision for income taxes               | 165                             | 517     |
| Net income                               | \$272                           | \$880   |
|  |                                 |         |
| Net income per share - basic             | \$0.01                          | \$0.04  |
| Net income per share - diluted           | \$0.01                          | \$0.04  |
|  |                                 |         |
| Weighted-average shares - basic          | 22,866                          | 22,626  |
| Weighted-average shares - diluted        | 22,887                          | 22,699  |

#### AWARE, INC. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (In thousands) (unaudited)

| March 31,<br>2015 | December 31,<br>2014 |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| \$45,610          | \$45,413             |

| Accounts receivable, net             | 3,251    | 3,619    |
|--------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Inventories                          | 2        | 2        |
| Property and equipment, net          | 5,195    | 5,289    |
| Deferred tax assets                  | 787      | 972      |
| Other assets, net                    | 1,395    | 598      |
|                                      |          |          |
| Total assets                         | \$56,240 | \$55,893 |
|                                      |          |          |
| LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY |          |          |
|                                      |          |          |

| Total current liabilities                  | \$2,976  | \$3,430  |
|--|----------|----------|
| Long-term deferred revenue                 | 79       | 74       |
| Total stockholders' equity                 | 53,185   | 52,389   |
| Total liabilities and stockholders' equity | \$56,240 | \$55,893 |

To view the original version on PR Newswire, visit:<u>http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/aware-inc-reports-first-quarter-2015-financial-results-300069355.html</u>

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