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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington D.C. 20549**

**FORM 10-Q**

(Mark One)

☒ QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2015

☐ TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission File No.: 333-167960

**IZEA, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Nevada**

(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

**37-1530765**

(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**480 N. Orlando Avenue, Suite 200  
Winter Park, FL**

(Address of principal executive offices)

**32789**

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(407) 674-6911**

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant: (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by  
tion 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was  
required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data  
File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months  
(or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting  
company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange  
Act.

Large accelerated filer ☐

Accelerated filer ☐

Non-accelerated filer ☐

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Smaller reporting company ☒

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. Yes ☐ No ☒

As of May 11, 2015, there were 57,697,666 shares of our common stock outstanding.

## Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2015

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# PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## ITEM 1 - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### IZEA, Inc. Consolidated Balance Sheets

	March 31, 2015	December 31, 2014
	(Unaudited)	
Assets		
Current:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,960,219	\$ 6,521,930
Accounts receivable	2,525,961	2,156,378
Prepaid expenses	305,341	190,604
Other current assets	12,056	61,424
Total current assets	6,803,577	8,930,336
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$287,287 and \$239,521	597,332	588,919
Goodwill	2,826,540	—
Intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization of \$98,833 and \$0	2,271,167	—
Software development costs, net of accumulated amortization of \$113,775 and \$85,331	455,100	483,544
Security deposits	119,194	100,641
Total assets	\$ 13,072,910	\$ 10,103,440
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 836,823	\$ 310,611
Accrued expenses	481,355	394,617
Unearned revenue	1,619,427	1,767,074
Deferred rent	2,994	—
Current portion of capital lease obligations	47,075	54,376
Current portion of acquisition costs payable	1,055,489	—
Total current liabilities	4,043,163	2,526,678
Deferred rent	113,985	106,531
Capital lease obligations, less current portion	—	7,291
Acquisition costs payable, less current portion	3,062,588	—
Warrant liability	5,709,416	3,203,465
Total liabilities	12,929,152	5,843,965
Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock, \$.0001 par value; 200,000,000 shares authorized; 57,697,666 issued and outstanding	5,770	5,770
Additional paid-in capital	27,350,250	27,195,055
Accumulated deficit	(27,212,262)	(22,941,350)
Total stockholders' equity	143,758	4,259,475
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 13,072,910	\$ 10,103,440

See accompanying notes to the unaudited consolidated financial statements.

IZEA, Inc.  
Unaudited Consolidated Statements of Operations

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2015	2014
Revenue	\$ 4,135,494	\$ 1,957,040
Cost of sales	2,441,491	649,533
Gross profit	1,694,003	1,307,507
Operating expenses:		
General and administrative	1,860,514	1,092,221
Sales and marketing	1,581,487	912,786
Total operating expenses	3,442,001	2,005,007
Loss from operations	(1,747,998)	(697,500)
Other income (expense):		
Interest expense	(18,770)	(9,017)
Change in fair value of derivatives, net	(2,505,951)	135,601
Other income (expense), net	1,807	1,605
Total other income (expense)	(2,522,914)	128,189
Net loss	\$ (4,270,912)	\$ (569,311)
Weighted average common shares outstanding – basic	57,697,666	37,135,738
Basic loss per common share	\$ (0.07)	\$ (0.02)
Weighted average common shares outstanding – diluted	57,697,666	37,135,738
Diluted loss per common share	\$ (0.07)	\$ (0.02)

*See accompanying notes to the unaudited consolidated financial statements.*

IZEA, Inc.  
Unaudited Consolidated Statement of Stockholders' Equity

	Common Stock		Additional Paid-In	Accumulated	Total Stockholders'
	Shares	Amount	Capital	Deficit	Equity
Balance, December 31, 2014	57,697,666	\$ 5,770	\$ 27,195,055	\$(22,941,350)	\$ 4,259,475
Stock purchase plan subscriptions	—	—	5,164	—	5,164
Fair value of warrants issued	—	—	7,700	—	7,700
Stock-based compensation	—	—	142,331	—	142,331
Net loss	—	—	—	(4,270,912)	(4,270,912)
Balance, March 31, 2015	57,697,666	\$ 5,770	\$ 27,350,250	\$(27,212,262)	\$ 143,758

*See accompanying notes to the unaudited consolidated financial statements.*

IZEA, Inc.  
Unaudited Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2015	2014
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net loss	\$ (4,270,912)	\$ (569,311)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used for operating activities:		
Depreciation	47,019	17,867
Amortization of software development costs and other intangible assets	127,277	5,842
Stock-based compensation	142,331	115,338
Stock issued or to be issued for payment of services	35,050	58,360
Change in fair value of derivatives, net	2,505,951	(135,601)
Cash provided by (used for):		
Accounts receivable	34,698	730,048
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	(23,845)	6,590
Accounts payable	4,949	(9,549)
Accrued expenses	50,363	(41,870)
Unearned revenue	(181,541)	(242,361)
Deferred rent	548	42,536
Net cash used for operating activities	(1,528,112)	(22,111)
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchase of equipment	(28,985)	(9,563)
Increase in software development costs	—	(206,529)
Acquisition, net of cash acquired	(995,286)	—
Security deposits	—	(4,242)
Net cash used for investing activities	(1,024,271)	(220,334)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Proceeds from issuance of common stock and warrants, net	—	10,982,169
Proceeds from stock purchase plan subscriptions & issuance of warrants	5,264	—
Payments on notes payable and capital leases	(14,592)	(19,845)
Net cash provided by (used for) financing activities	(9,328)	10,962,324
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(2,561,711)	10,719,879
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	6,521,930	530,052
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 3,960,219	\$ 11,249,931
Supplemental cash flow information:		
Cash paid during period for interest	\$ 2,362	\$ 3,175
Non-cash financing and investing activities:		
Fair value of warrants issued	\$ —	\$ 12,382,216
Acquisition costs payable for assets acquired	\$ 4,192,639	\$ —
Acquisition of assets through capital lease	\$ —	\$ 41,339

*See accompanying notes to the unaudited consolidated financial statements.*

**NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Unaudited Interim Financial Information**

The accompanying consolidated balance sheet as of March 31, 2015, the consolidated statements of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, the consolidated statement of stockholders' equity (deficit) for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and the consolidated statements of cash flows for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 are unaudited but include all adjustments that are, in the opinion of management, necessary for a fair presentation of our financial position at such dates and our results of operations and cash flows for the periods then ended in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("U.S. GAAP"). The consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2014 has been derived from the audited consolidated financial statements at that date but, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), does not include all of the information and notes required by U.S. GAAP for complete financial statements. Operating results for the three months ended March 31, 2015 are not necessarily indicative of results that may be expected for the entire fiscal year. These unaudited consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on March 19, 2015.

**Nature of Business**

IZEA, Inc. (the "Company") was founded in February 2006 under the name PayPerPost, Inc. and became a public company incorporated in the state of Nevada in May 2011. The Company is headquartered in Winter Park, Florida with additional field offices in Chicago, Los Angeles, New York, Texas and Michigan.

The Company is a leading company in the social sponsorship space, creating the first social sponsorship marketplace in 2006 with the launch of our first platform, *PayPerPost.com*. Social sponsorship is when a company compensates a social media publisher or influencer such as a blogger or tweeter ("creators") to share sponsored content with their social network audience. This sponsored content is shared within the body of a content stream, a practice also referred to as "native advertising" and "sponsored content." The Company generates its revenue primarily through the sale of sponsorship campaigns to its advertisers. The Company fulfills these campaigns through its platforms by utilizing its network of creators to complete sponsorship opportunities for its advertisers. The Company also generates revenue from the posting of targeted display advertising and from various service fees.

On January 30, 2015, the Company purchased all of the outstanding shares of capital stock of Ebyline, Inc. ("Ebyline"), pursuant to the terms of a Stock Purchase Agreement, dated as of January 27, 2015, by and among IZEA, Ebyline and the stockholders of Ebyline (see Note 2). Based in Los Angeles, California, Ebyline operates an online marketplace that enables publishers to access a network of over 12,000 content creators ranging from writers to illustrators in 73 countries. Over 2,000 fully vetted individuals in the Ebyline network have professional journalism credentials with backgrounds at well-known media outlets. Ebyline's proprietary workflow is utilized by leading media organizations to obtain the content they need from professional content creators. In addition to publishers, Ebyline is leveraged by brands to produce custom branded content for use on their owned and operated sites, as well as third party content marketing and native advertising efforts. After the acquisition, the Company has added content sales as another revenue stream into its operations.

The Company currently operates an online marketplace that connects brands with creators at IZEA.com as well as other white label marketplaces. IZEA.com and all white label sites are powered by the IZEA Exchange ("*IZEAx*"), a platform that handles content workflow, creator search and targeting, bidding, analytics and payment processing. *IZEAx* is designed to provide a unified ecosystem that enables the creation of multiple types of content including blog posts, status updates, videos and photos through a wide variety of social channels including blogs, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and Tumblr, among others. Prior to the launch of *IZEAx*, the Company had independent technology platforms including *PayPerPost.com*, *SocialSpark.com* and *SponsoredTweets.com*, all of which were transitioned to the *IZEAx* system by the end of 2014.

**Principles of Consolidation**

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of IZEA, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiary, IZEA Innovations, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Ebyline, Inc. (together, the "Company"). All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

The consolidated financial statements were prepared using the acquisition method of accounting with IZEA considered the accounting acquirer of Ebyline. Under the acquisition method of accounting, the purchase price is allocated to the underlying Ebyline tangible and intangible assets acquired and liabilities assumed based on their respective fair market values with any excess purchase price allocated to goodwill. The acquisition method of accounting is dependent upon certain valuations and other studies

**IZEA, Inc.**  
**Notes to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements**

that are preliminary, based on work performed to date. IZEA anticipates that all the information needed to identify and measure values assigned to the assets acquired and liabilities assumed will be obtained and finalized during the one-year measurement period following the acquisition date. Differences between these preliminary estimates and the final acquisition accounting may occur, and these differences could have a material impact on the unaudited consolidated financial statements.

**Cash and Cash Equivalents**

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the Company considers all highly liquid debt instruments purchased with a maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

**Accounts Receivable and Concentration of Credit Risk**

Accounts receivable are customer obligations due under normal trade terms. Uncollectibility of accounts receivable is not significant since most customers are bound by contract and are required to fund the Company for all the costs of an “opportunity,” defined as an order created by an advertiser for a creator to write about the advertiser’s product. If a portion of the account balance is deemed uncollectible, the Company will either write-off the amount owed or provide a reserve based on the uncollectible portion of the account. Management determines the collectibility of accounts by regularly evaluating individual customer receivables and considering a customer’s financial condition, credit history and current economic conditions. The Company does not have a reserve for doubtful accounts as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014. Management believes that this estimate is reasonable, but there can be no assurance that the estimate will not change as a result of a change in economic conditions or business conditions within the industry, the individual customers or the Company. Any adjustments to this account are reflected in the consolidated statements of operations as a general and administrative expense. Bad debt expense was less than 1% of revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014.

Concentrations of credit risk with respect to accounts receivable are typically limited because a large number of geographically diverse customers make up the Company’s customer base, thus spreading the trade credit risk. The Company also controls credit risk through credit approvals, credit limits and monitoring procedures. The Company performs credit evaluations of its customers but generally does not require collateral to support accounts receivable. At March 31, 2015, the Company had two customers which accounted for 24% of total accounts receivable in the aggregate. At December 31, 2014, the Company had two customers which accounted for 29% of total accounts receivable in the aggregate. The Company had no customers that accounted for more than 10% of its revenue during the three months ended March 31, 2015. The Company had two customers that accounted for 22% of its revenue during the three months ended March 31, 2014.

**Property and Equipment**

Depreciation and amortization is computed using the straight-line method and half-year convention over the estimated useful lives of the assets as follows:

Computer Equipment	3 years
Software Costs	3 years
Office Equipment	3 - 10 years
Furniture and Fixtures	5 - 10 years
Leasehold Improvements	5 years

Major additions and improvements are capitalized, while replacements, maintenance and repairs, which do not improve or extend the life of the respective assets, are expensed as incurred. When assets are retired or otherwise disposed of, related costs and accumulated depreciation and amortization are removed and any gain or loss is recognized in net income or loss. Depreciation expense recorded in general and administrative expense in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations was \$47,019 and \$17,867 for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

**Software Development Costs**

Throughout 2013 and the first quarter of 2014, the Company developed a new web-based advertising exchange platform called the *IZEA Exchange (IZEAx)*. *IZEAx* is designed to provide a unified ecosystem that enables the creation of multiple types of content including blog posts, status updates, videos and photos through a wide variety of social channels including blogs, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Tumblr and LinkedIn, among others. This platform is utilized both internally and externally to facilitate native advertising campaigns on a greater scale. In accordance with ASC 350-40, *Internal Use Software* and ASC 985-730, *Computer Software Research and Development*, research phase costs should be expensed as incurred and development phase costs including direct materials and services, payroll and benefits and interest costs may be capitalized. The Company is amortizing the software development costs for *IZEAx* equally over 5 years. Amortization expense will be \$113,775 for the next four years



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**Notes to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements**

and \$28,444 in 2019. Amortization expense on software development costs recorded in general and administrative expense in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations was \$28,444 for the three months ended March 31, 2015.

**Intangible Assets**

The Company acquired intangible assets through its acquisition of Ebyline on January 30, 2015. The Company is amortizing the identifiable intangible assets over a period of 12 to 60 months.

**Goodwill**

Goodwill represents the excess of the purchase consideration of an acquired business over the fair value of the underlying net tangible and intangible assets. In accordance with ASC Topic 350, *Intangibles - Goodwill and Other*, goodwill resulting from business combinations is tested for impairment at least annually or more frequently, if certain indicators are present. In the event that management determines that the value of goodwill has become impaired, the Company will record a charge for the amount of impairment during the fiscal quarter in which the determination is made.

**Revenue Recognition**

The Company derives its revenue from four sources: revenue from an advertiser when it pays for a social media publisher or influencer such as a blogger or tweeter ("creators") to share sponsored content with their social network audience ("Sponsored Revenue"), revenue when a publisher or company purchases custom branded content for use on its owned and operated sites, as well as third party content marketing and native advertising efforts ("Content Revenue"), revenue from the posting of targeted display advertising ("Media Revenue") and revenue derived from various service and license fees charged to users of our platforms ("Service Fee Revenue"). Sponsored revenue is recognized and considered earned after an advertiser's sponsored content is posted through *IZEAx* and shared through a creator's social network for a requisite period of time. The requisite period ranges from 3 days for a tweet to 30 days for a blog, video or other form of content. Management fees related to Sponsored Revenue from advertising campaigns managed by the Company are recognized ratably over the term of the campaign which may range from a few days to months. Content Revenue is recognized when the content is delivered to and accepted by the customer. Media Revenue is recognized and considered earned when the Company's creators place targeted display advertising in blogs. Service fees charged to customers are primarily related to subscription fees for different levels of service within a platform, licensing fees for white-label use of *IZEAx*, early cash-out fees if a creator wishes to take proceeds earned for services from their account when the account balance is below certain minimum balance thresholds and inactivity fees for dormant accounts. Service fees are recognized immediately when the service is performed or at the time an account becomes dormant or is cashed out. Self-service advertisers must prepay for services by placing a deposit in their account with the Company. The deposits are typically paid by the advertiser via credit card. Advertisers who use the Company to manage their social advertising campaigns or content requests may prepay for services or request credit terms. Payments received or billings in advance of services are recorded as unearned revenue until earned as described above.

All of the Company's revenue is generated through the rendering of services and is recognized under the general guidelines of SAB Topic 13 A.1 which states that revenue will be recognized when it is realized or realizable and earned. The Company considers its revenue as generally realized or realizable and earned once (i) persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, (ii) services have been rendered, (iii) the price to the advertiser or customer is fixed (required to be paid at a set amount that is not subject to refund or adjustment) and determinable, and (iv) collectibility is reasonably assured. The Company records revenue on the gross amount earned since it generally is the primary obligor in the arrangement, it takes on credit risk, it establishes the pricing and determines the service specifications.

**Advertising Costs**

Advertising costs are charged to expense as they are incurred, including payments to contact creators to promote the Company. Advertising expense charged to operations for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 were approximately \$118,000 and \$31,000, respectively. Advertising costs are included in sales and marketing expense in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations.

**Deferred Rent**

The Company's operating leases for its office facilities contain rent abatements and predetermined fixed increases of the base rental rate during the lease term. The Company accounts for rental expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term. The Company records the difference between the straight-line expense versus the actual amounts paid under the lease as deferred rent in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets.

**Income Taxes**

The Company has not recorded federal income tax expense due to the generation of net operating losses. Deferred income taxes are accounted for using the balance sheet approach which requires recognition of deferred tax assets and liabilities for the expected

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future consequences of temporary differences between the financial reporting basis and the tax basis of assets and liabilities. A valuation allowance is provided when it is more likely than not that a deferred tax asset will not be realized. The Company incurs minimal state franchise taxes in two states which is included in general and administrative expenses in the statements of operations.

The Company identifies and evaluates uncertain tax positions, if any, and recognizes the impact of uncertain tax positions for which there is a less than more-likely-than-not probability of the position being upheld when reviewed by the relevant taxing authority. Such positions are deemed to be unrecognized tax benefits and a corresponding liability is established on the balance sheet. The Company has not recognized a liability for uncertain tax positions. If there were an unrecognized tax benefit, the Company would recognize interest accrued related to unrecognized tax benefits in interest expense and penalties in operating expenses. The Company's tax years, subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service, generally remain open for three years from the date of filing.

**Derivative Financial Instruments**

Derivative financial instruments are defined as financial instruments or other contracts that contain a notional amount and one or more underlying factor (e.g., interest rate, security price or other variable), require no initial net investment and permit net settlement. Derivative financial instruments may be free-standing or embedded in other financial instruments. Further, derivative financial instruments are initially, and subsequently, measured at fair value and recorded as liabilities or, in rare instances, assets. The Company accounts for derivative instruments in accordance with ASC 815, *Derivatives and Hedging* ("ASC 815"), which requires additional disclosures about the Company's objectives and strategies for using derivative instruments, how the derivative instruments and related hedged items are accounted for, and how the derivative instruments and related hedging items affect the financial statements. The Company does not use derivative instruments to hedge exposures to cash flow, market or foreign currency risk. Terms of convertible debt and equity instruments are reviewed to determine whether or not they contain embedded derivative instruments that are required under ASC 815 to be accounted for separately from the host contract, and recorded on the balance sheet at fair value. The fair value of derivative liabilities, if any, is required to be revalued at each reporting date, with corresponding changes in fair value recorded in current period operating results. Pursuant to ASC 815, an evaluation of specifically identified conditions is made to determine whether the fair value of warrants issued is required to be classified as equity or as a derivative liability.

The Company records a beneficial conversion feature ("BCF") related to the issuance of convertible debt and equity instruments that have conversion features at fixed rates that are in-the-money when issued, and the fair value of warrants issued in connection with those instruments. The BCF for the convertible instruments is recognized and measured by allocating a portion of the proceeds to warrants, based on their relative fair value, and as a reduction to the carrying amount of the convertible instrument equal to the intrinsic value of the conversion feature. The discounts recorded in connection with the BCF and warrant valuation are recognized (a) for convertible debt as interest expense over the term of the debt, using the effective interest method or (b) for preferred stock as dividends at the time the stock first becomes convertible.

**Fair Value of Financial Instruments**

The Company's financial instruments are recorded at fair value. Fair value is defined as the exchange price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. The valuation techniques are based on observable and unobservable inputs. Observable inputs reflect readily obtainable data from independent sources, while unobservable inputs reflect certain market assumptions. There are three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value:

- Level 1 – Valuation based on quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities.
- Level 2 – Valuation based on quoted market prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets.
- Level 3 – Valuation based on unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity, therefore requiring management's best estimate of what market participants would use as fair value.

Fair value estimates discussed herein are based upon certain market assumptions and pertinent information available to management. The Company does not have any Level 1 or 2 financial assets or liabilities. The Company's Level 3 financial liabilities measured at fair value consisted of a warrant liability (see Note 4) and its acquisition cost liability (see Note 2) as of March 31, 2015. Significant unobservable inputs used in the fair value measurement of the warrants include the estimated term. Significant increases (decreases) in the estimated remaining period to exercise would result in a significantly higher (lower) fair value measurement. In developing our credit risk assumption used in the fair value of warrants, consideration was made of publicly available bond rates and US Treasury Yields. However, since the Company does not have a formal credit-standing, management estimated its standing among various reported levels and grades for use in the model. During all periods, management estimated

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that the Company's standing was in the speculative to high-risk grades (BB- to CCC in the Standard and Poor's Rating). A significant increase (decrease) in the risk-adjusted interest rate could result in a significantly lower (higher) fair value measurement.

The respective carrying value of certain on-balance-sheet financial instruments approximated their fair values due to the short-term nature of these instruments. These financial instruments include cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable, unearned revenue and accrued expenses. Unless otherwise disclosed, the fair value of the Company's capital lease obligations approximate their carrying value based upon current rates available to the Company.

**Stock-Based Compensation**

Stock-based compensation cost related to stock options granted under the May 2011 Equity Incentive Plan and August 2011 B Equity Incentive Plan (together, the "2011 Equity Incentive Plans") (see Note 6) is measured at grant date, based on the fair value of the award, and is recognized as an expense over the employee's requisite service period. The Company estimates the fair value of each option award on the date of grant using a Black-Scholes option-pricing model that uses the assumptions noted in the table below. The Company estimates the fair value of its common stock using the closing stock price of its common stock as quoted in the OTCQB marketplace on the date of the agreement. The Company estimates the volatility of its common stock at the date of grant based on the volatility of comparable peer companies that are publicly traded and have had a longer trading history than itself. The Company determines the expected life based on historical experience with similar awards, giving consideration to the contractual terms, vesting schedules and post-vesting forfeitures. The Company uses the risk-free interest rate on the implied yield currently available on U.S. Treasury issues with an equivalent remaining term approximately equal to the expected life of the award. The Company has never paid any cash dividends on its common stock and does not anticipate paying any cash dividends in the foreseeable future. The Company used the following assumptions for options granted under the 2011 Equity Incentive Plans during the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014:

<b><i>2011 Equity Incentive Plans Assumptions</i></b>	<b>Three Months Ended</b>	
	<b>March 31, 2015</b>	<b>March 31, 2014</b>
Expected term	6 years	5 years
Weighted average volatility	54.00%	43.32%
Weighted average risk free interest rate	1.50%	1.60%
Expected dividends	—	—

The Company estimates forfeitures when recognizing compensation expense and this estimate of forfeitures is adjusted over the requisite service period based on the extent to which actual forfeitures differ, or are expected to differ, from such estimates. Changes in estimated forfeitures are recognized through a cumulative catch-up adjustment, which is recognized in the period of change, and also impact the amount of unamortized compensation expense to be recognized in future periods. Average expected forfeiture rates were 13.93% and 14.42% during the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

**Non-Employee Stock-Based Compensation**

The Company's accounting policy for equity instruments issued to consultants and vendors in exchange for goods and services follows the provisions of ASC 505, "*Equity-Based Payments to Non-Employees*." The measurement date for the fair value of the equity instruments issued is determined at the earlier of (i) the date at which a commitment for performance by the consultant or vendor is reached or (ii) the date at which the consultant or vendor's performance is complete. The fair value of equity instruments issued to consultants that vest immediately is expensed when issued. The fair value of equity instruments issued to consultants that have future vesting and are subject to forfeiture if performance does not occur is recognized as expense over the vesting period. Fair values for the unvested portion of issued instruments are adjusted each reporting period. The change in fair value is recorded to additional paid-in capital. Stock-based compensation related to non-employees is accounted for based on the fair value of the related stock or the fair value of the services, whichever is more readily determinable.

**Segment Information**

The Company does not identify separate operating segments for management reporting purposes. The results of operations are the basis on which management evaluates operations and makes business decisions.

**Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

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**Reclassifications**

Certain items have been reclassified in the 2014 financial statements to conform to the 2015 presentation. The Company has reclassified wages and other expenses related to its sales and marketing personnel out of general and administrative expense and into sales and marketing expense.

**Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

There are new accounting pronouncements issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") which are not yet effective. Management does not believe any of these accounting pronouncements will have a material impact on the Company's financial position or operating results.

In May 2014, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2014-09, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* (ASU 2014-09), which supersedes nearly all existing revenue recognition guidance under U.S. GAAP. The core principle of ASU 2014-09 is to recognize revenues when promised goods or services are transferred to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which an entity expects to be entitled for those goods or services. ASU 2014-09 defines a five step process to achieve this core principle and, in doing so, more judgment and estimates may be required within the revenue recognition process than are required under existing U.S. GAAP.

The standard is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2016, and interim periods therein, using either of the following transition methods: (i) a full retrospective approach reflecting the application of the standard in each prior reporting period with the option to elect certain practical expedients, or (ii) a retrospective approach with the cumulative effect of initially adopting ASU 2014-09 recognized at the date of adoption (which includes additional footnote disclosures). The Company is currently evaluating the impact of the adoption of ASU 2014-09 on its consolidated financial statements and has not yet determined the method by which it will adopt the standard in 2017.

**NOTE 2. EBYLINE ACQUISITION**

**Purchase Price**

On January 30, 2015, the Company purchased all of the outstanding shares of capital stock of Ebyline, Inc. ("Ebyline"), pursuant to the terms of a Stock Purchase Agreement, dated as of January 27, 2015, by and among IZEA, Ebyline and the stockholders of Ebyline for a maximum purchase price to be paid over the next three years of \$8,850,000. The total consideration is made up of four components:

- (a) a cash payment of \$1,200,000 paid at closing;
- (b) an issuance of IZEA Common Stock valued at \$250,000 to be paid six months after closing (July 30, 2015);
- (c) a cash or stock payment of up to an additional \$1,900,000 (subject to proportional reduction in the event Ebyline's final 2014 revenue is below \$8,000,000). Ebyline's final gross revenue for 2014 was \$7,903,429. As such, the total amount owed is \$1,877,064 to be paid in two equal installments of \$938,532 on January 30, 2016 and January 30, 2017; and
- (d) total performance payments up to \$5,500,000 based on Ebyline meeting certain revenue targets for each of the three years ending December 31, 2015, 2016 and 2017. Performance payments are due no later than 90 days after the measuring period and subject to payment or adjustment as follows:

- (i) **Fiscal Year 2015.** For the year ending December 31, 2015, Ebyline should achieve Content-Only Revenue of not less than \$17,000,000. IZEA will pay an amount up to \$1,800,000 in the form of at least 50% in cash and the remaining portion in the form of cash and/or shares of IZEA Common Stock at ZEA's discretion based on the following scale:

% of 2015 Revenue Target Achieved by Ebyline	% of Performance Payment Owed	Year 1 Performance Payment Owed (at least 50% payable in cash)
<90%	—	\$—
90%	90%	\$1,620,000
95%	95%	\$1,710,000
100%	100%	\$1,800,000

- (ii) **Fiscal Year 2016.** For the year ending December 31, 2016, Ebyline should achieve Content-Only Revenue of not less than \$27,000,000. IZEA will pay an amount up to \$1,800,000 in the form of cash and/or shares of IZEA Common Stock at IZEA's discretion based on the following scale:

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% of 2016 Revenue Target Achieved by Ebyline	% of Performance Payment Owed	Year 2 Performance Payment Owed
<90%	—	\$—
90%	60%	\$1,080,000
95%	75%	\$1,350,000
100%	100%	\$1,800,000

(iii) **Fiscal Year 2017.** For the year ending December 31, 2017, Ebyline should achieve Content-Only Revenue of not less than \$32,000,000. IZEA will pay an amount up to \$1,900,000 in the form of cash and/or shares of IZEA Common Stock at IZEA's discretion based on the following scale:

% of 2017 Revenue Target Achieved by Ebyline	% of Performance Payment Owed	Year 3 Performance Payment Owed
<90%	—	\$—
90%	60%	\$1,140,000
95%	75%	\$1,425,000
100%	100%	\$1,900,000

**Consideration Payable**

The fair value of the total estimated future consideration to be paid is as follows:

	Estimated Gross Purchase Consideration 1/30/2015	Initial Present Value 1/30/2015	Remaining Present and Fair Value 3/31/2015
Cash paid at closing	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ —
Present value of the guaranteed purchase price (a)	2,127,064	1,982,639	1,997,777
Fair value of contingent performance payments (b)	2,210,000	2,210,000	2,210,000
Acquisition costs to be paid by Ebyline shareholders (c)			(89,700)
<b>Total estimated consideration</b>	<b>\$ 5,537,064</b>	<b>\$ 5,392,639</b>	<b>\$ 4,118,077</b>
Current portion of acquisition costs payable			1,055,489
Long term portion of acquisition costs payable			3,062,588
<b>Total acquisition costs payable</b>			<b>\$ 4,118,077</b>

- (a) The guaranteed purchase price consideration, as detailed above, was discounted to present value using our current borrowing rate of prime plus 2% (5.25%). Interest expense imputed on the acquisition costs payable in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations was \$15,138 for the three months ended March 31, 2015.
- (b) The fair value of the \$5,500,000 of contingent performance payments described above was calculated using a Monte-Carlo simulation to simulate revenue over the next three years. Since the contingent consideration has an option like structure, a risk-neutral framework is considered appropriate for the valuation. The Company started with a risk-adjusted measure of forecasted revenue (using a risk-adjusted discount rate of 8.5%) and assumed it will follow geometric brownian motion to simulate the revenue at future dates. Once the revenue was estimated, payout was calculated for each year and present valued to incorporate the credit risk associated with these payments. The Company's initial value conclusion was based on the average payment from 100,000 simulation trials. The volatility used for the simulation was 35%. The calculations using the Monte Carlo simulation resulted in a calculated fair value of \$2,210,000.
- (c) According to the stock purchase agreement, certain acquisition costs paid by Ebyline during the acquisition process are to be paid by the selling shareholders. These costs will be deducted from the guaranteed payment on January 30, 2016.

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**Purchase Price Allocation**

The preliminary allocation of the purchase price as of January 30, 2015 is summarized as follows:

	Initial Purchase Price Allocation
Current assets	\$ 737,532
Property and equipment	27,194
Identifiable intangible assets	2,370,000
Goodwill	2,826,540
Security deposits	18,553
Current liabilities	(587,180)
Total estimated consideration	<u>\$ 5,392,639</u>

**Intangible Assets and Goodwill**

The identifiable intangible assets in the purchase price allocation consist of the following assets:

Identifiable Intangible Asset	Initial Value	Accumulated Amortization 3/31/2015	Net Book Value 3/31/2015	Useful Life (in years)
Content provider network	\$ 30,000	5,000	25,000	1
Ebyline trade name	40,000	6,667	33,333	1
Workflow customers	210,000	17,500	192,500	2
Developed technology	300,000	10,000	290,000	5
NewsDesk customers	1,790,000	59,666	1,730,334	5
Total identifiable intangible assets	<u>\$ 2,370,000</u>	<u>\$ 98,833</u>	<u>\$ 2,271,167</u>	

The Company is amortizing the identifiable intangible assets over a weighted average period of 4 years. Amortization expense on the identifiable intangible assets costs recorded in general and administrative expense in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations was \$98,833 for the three months ended March 31, 2015.

The estimated amortization expense for future years is as follows:

	2015	\$ 543,583
	2016	528,834
	2017	426,750
	2018	418,000
	2019	418,000
	Thereafter	34,833
Total		<u>\$ 2,370,000</u>

The Company recorded \$2,826,540 in goodwill on the Ebyline acquisition. This amount represents the excess of the purchase consideration of an acquired business over the fair value of the underlying net tangible and intangible assets. There are many synergies between the business operations of Ebyline and IZEA including a database of creators that can provide content and advertising and synergies between our online marketplaces that appeal to customers on both sides. The Ebyline operations contributed revenue of \$1,368,607 and gross profit of \$135,406 in the consolidated statements of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2015.

**NOTE 3. NOTES PAYABLE**

**Bridge Bank Credit Agreement**

On March 1, 2013, the Company entered into a secured credit facility agreement with Bridge Bank, N.A. of San Jose, California, and expanded this facility with an agreement on April 13, 2015. Pursuant to this agreement, the Company may submit requests for funding up to 80% of its eligible accounts receivable up to a maximum credit limit of \$5 million. This agreement is secured by the Company's accounts receivable and substantially all of the Company's other assets. The agreement renews annually and requires the Company to pay an annual facility fee of \$20,000 (0.4% of the credit limit) and an annual due diligence fee of \$1,000. Interest accrues on the advances at the prime plus 2% per annum. The default rate of interest is prime plus 7%. If the agreement is terminated prior to May 1, 2016, the Company will be required to pay a termination fee of .70% of the credit limit divided by 80%. As of March 31, 2015, the Company had no advances outstanding under this agreement.

The Company incurred \$50,510 in costs related to this loan acquisition in prior years and an additional \$23,184 in costs related to the loan expansion in April 2015. These costs are capitalized in the Company's consolidated balance sheet as loan acquisition costs within other current assets and are amortized to interest expense over one year. The Company amortized \$1,000 and \$5,842 of these costs through interest expense during the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

**NOTE 4. DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

The Company evaluates its convertible debt, warrants or other contracts to determine if those contracts or embedded components of those contracts qualify as derivatives to be separately accounted for in accordance with paragraph 810-10-05-4 of the FASB Accounting Standards Codification and paragraph 815-40-25 of the FASB Accounting Standards Codification. The result of this accounting treatment is that the fair value of the embedded derivative is marked-to-market each balance sheet date and recorded as a liability. In the event that the fair value is recorded as a liability, the change in fair value is recorded in the Statement of Operations as other income or expense. Upon registration, conversion or exercise, as applicable, of a derivative instrument, the instrument is marked to fair value at the conversion date and then that fair value is reclassified to equity.

The classification of derivative instruments, including whether such instruments should be recorded as liabilities or as equity, is re-assessed at the end of each reporting period. Equity instruments that are initially classified as equity that become subject to reclassification are reclassified to liability at the fair value of the instrument on the reclassification date. Derivative instrument liabilities will be classified in the balance sheet as current or non-current based on whether or not net-cash settlement of the derivative instrument is expected within 12 months after the balance sheet date.

**Warrant Liability**

*2014 Activity:*

On February 21, 2014, the Company issued five-year warrants to purchase 17,142,864 shares of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of \$0.35 per share and five-year warrants to purchase 17,142,864 shares of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of \$0.50 per share pursuant to the terms of the securities purchase agreements entered into in connection with a private placement of its shares in February 2014 (the "2014 Private Placement"). As part of the transaction, the Company also issued a five-year warrant to purchase up to 750,511 shares of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of \$0.35 per share and a five-year warrant to purchase up to 750,511 shares of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of \$0.50 per share to the placement agent.

The Company determined that these warrants require classification as a liability due to certain registration rights and listing requirements that required the Company to file a registration statement with the SEC for purposes of registering the resale of the shares underlying these warrants. The warrants also require classification as a liability due to provisions for potential exercise price adjustments. The Company determined that the fair value of these warrants on their issuance date on February 21, 2014 was \$12,382,216. The fair value and outstanding derivative warrant liability related to these warrant shares as of March 31, 2015 was \$5,707,986. These shares are currently registered with the SEC pursuant to the Post-Effective Amendment No. 2 to the Registration Statement on Form S-1 (File No. 333-195081) filed by the Company on April 30, 2015, which was declared effective by the SEC on May 4, 2015. Although the warrants are currently registered, they still require liability classification due to the provisions for potential exercise price adjustments.

*2013 Activity:*

From August 15, 2013 through September 23, 2013, the Company issued five-year warrants to purchase 7,118,236 shares of its common stock at an exercise price of \$0.25 per share and five-year warrants to purchase 7,118,236 shares of its common stock at an exercise price of \$0.50 per share pursuant to the terms of the Securities Purchase Agreements entered into in connection with a private placement of its shares (the "2013 Private Placement"). The Company determined that these warrants required



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classification as a liability due to certain registration rights in the agreements that required the Company to file a registration statement with the SEC for purposes of registering the resale of the shares underlying these warrants. The Company determined that the fair value of these warrants on their issuance date was \$2,344,899.

On April 11, 2013 and May 22, 2013, we entered into unsecured loan agreements with a director of our Company. Pursuant to these agreements, we received short-term loans totaling \$750,000. On May 31, 2013, we signed an extension and conversion agreement that allowed these notes and all accrued interest thereon to be converted into equity upon closing of the next private placement on the same terms and conditions that will be applicable to other investors in the private placement. In consideration for the extension and conversion agreement, we issued a five-year warrant to purchase 1,000,000 shares of our common stock at \$0.25 per share. We also agreed that upon the first closing of our next private placement, we would issue an additional five-year warrant to purchase 3,187,500 shares of our common stock at \$0.25 per share and 1,687,500 shares of restricted stock for future issuance upon the earlier of two years from the first closing (August 15, 2015) or completion of a transaction resulting in a change of control of our Company.

The Company originally filed a registration statement on Form S-1 (No. 333-191743) with the SEC on October 16, 2013, which was declared effective by the SEC on November 8, 2013 for the registration of 174,732 of these warrant shares. We later filed a registration statement on Form S-1 (No. 333-197482) related to the remaining warrant shares on July 17, 2014, which was declared effective by the SEC on July 29, 2014. The fair value and outstanding derivative warrant liability related to these warrant shares as of July 29, 2014 was \$3,166,482. As a result of the registration, the warrants no longer require liability classification and the fair value was reclassified to equity in July 2014.

*2012 Activity:*

The Company determined that 110,000 warrant shares issued in its September 2012 public offering still require classification as a liability due to certain registration rights and listing requirements in the agreements. The fair value and outstanding derivative warrant liability related to these warrant shares as of March 31, 2015 was \$1,430.

*2011 Activity:*

The Company determined that 13,554 warrant shares remaining from its May 2011 Stock Offering and 250 warrant shares issued in July 2011 for a customer list acquisition still require classification as a liability due to certain registration rights and listing requirements in the agreements. The fair value and outstanding derivative warrant liability related to these warrant shares as of March 31, 2015 was \$0.

During the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, the Company recorded a loss of \$2,505,951 and a gain of \$135,601, respectively, due to the change in the fair value of its warrant liability.

The following table summarizes the Company's activity and fair value calculations of its derivative warrants for the year ended December 31, 2014 and the three months ended March 31, 2015:

	Linked Common Shares to Derivative Warrants	Warrant Liability
Balance, December 31, 2013	14,360,276	\$ 1,832,945
Issuance of warrants to investors in 2014 Private Placement	35,786,750	12,382,216
Reclassification of fair value of 2013 Private Placement warrants to equity	(14,236,472)	(3,166,482)
Change in fair value of derivatives	—	(7,845,214)
Balance, December 31, 2014	35,910,554	\$ 3,203,465
Change in fair value of derivatives	—	2,505,951
Balance, March 31, 2015	35,910,554	\$ 5,709,416

The Company's warrants were valued on the applicable dates using a Binomial Lattice Option Valuation Technique ("Binomial"). Significant inputs into this technique as of December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015 are as follows:



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<i><b>Binomial Assumptions</b></i>	<b>December 31, 2014</b>	<b>March 31, 2015</b>
Fair market value of asset <sup>(1)</sup>	\$0.28	\$0.40
Exercise price	\$0.35-\$1.25	\$0.35-\$1.25
Term <sup>(2)</sup>	2.7 - 4.2 years	2.4 - 3.9 years
Implied expected life <sup>(3)</sup>	2.7 - 4.2 years	2.4 - 3.9 years
Volatility range of inputs <sup>(4)</sup>	42%--71%	42%--66%
Equivalent volatility <sup>(3)</sup>	48%--54%	47%--53%
Risk-free interest rate range of inputs <sup>(5)</sup>	1.10%--1.38%	0.56%--1.13%
Equivalent risk-free interest rate <sup>(3)</sup>	1.10%--1.38%	0.56%--1.13%

(1) The fair market value of the asset was determined by using the Company's closing stock price as reflected in the over-the-counter market.

(2) The term is the contractual remaining term, allocated among twelve equal intervals for purposes of calculating other inputs, such as volatility and risk-free rate.

(3) The implied expected life, and equivalent volatility and risk-free interest rate amounts are derived from the binomial.

(4) The Company does not have a market trading history upon which to base its forward-looking volatility. Accordingly, the Company selected peer companies that provided a reasonable basis upon which to calculate volatility for each of the intervals described in (2), above.

(5) The risk-free rates used for inputs represent the yields on zero coupon U.S. Government Securities with periods to maturity consistent with the intervals described in (2), above.

#### **NOTE 5. COMMITMENTS & CONTINGENCIES**

From time to time, the Company may become involved in various lawsuits and legal proceedings that arise in the ordinary course of business. Litigation is, however, subject to inherent uncertainties, and an adverse result in these or other matters may harm the Company's business. Other than as described below, the Company is currently not aware of any legal proceedings or claims that it believes would or could have, individually or in the aggregate, a material adverse effect on its operations or financial position.

On October 17, 2012, Blue Calypso, Inc. filed a complaint against the Company in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas. Blue Calypso's complaint alleges that we infringe their patents related to peer-to-peer advertising between mobile communication devices and seeks unspecified damages. On July 19, 2013, Blue Calypso's case against the Company was consolidated, along with patent infringement cases against Yelp, Inc. and Foursquare Labs, Inc., into Blue Calypso, Inc. v. Groupon, Inc. for all pretrial purposes, including discovery and claim construction.

On December 16, 2013, the Patent Trial and Appeal Board's (PTAB) instituted a Covered Business Method Review (CBMR) for three of the five patents Blue Calypso asserts in its case against IZEA. In its decisions granting the CMBRs, the PTAB explained that several of Blue Calypso's asserted patents are likely invalid. In particular, the PTAB found it more likely than not that each of these three patents was invalid based on two independent grounds of anticipation, and one ground of obviousness. Additionally, the PTAB preliminarily found it more likely than not that many of the claims of one of Blue Calypso's patents were invalid due to a lack of written description. On January 16, 2014, the court granted a joint motion to stay Blue Calypso's patent infringement case until the PTAB's review of Blue Calypso's asserted patents is complete. On January 17, 2014, the PTAB expanded its review to all five of Blue Calypso's assert patents.

On December 16, 2014, the PTAB issued its Final Decisions concerning the five patents-in-suit. The Final Decisions eliminated the vast majority of claims asserted by Blue Calypso. While some claims did survive the PTAB's Final Decisions, those claims are potentially invalid in view of factual findings made by the PTAB. The PTAB decisions are now on appeal before the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. The potential outcomes of these appeals ranges from invalidation of all of Blue Calypso's asserted claims to complete reversal of the PTAB's Final Decisions. On April 1, 2015, the district court lifted the stay and set a trial date for December 14, 2015. The district court has also set a claim construction hearing for June 29, 2015. The parties are now exchanging discovery and preparing for claim construction.

At this stage, the Company does not have an estimate of the likelihood or the amount of any potential exposure to it. The Company believes that there is no merit to Blue Calypso's suit and continues to vigorously defend itself against Blue Calypso's allegations.

## **NOTE 6. STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY**

### **Authorized Shares**

The Company has 200,000,000 authorized shares of common stock and 10,000,000 authorized shares of preferred stock, each with a par value of \$0.0001 per share.

### **Warrant Transactions**

On January 22, 2015, the Company issued a warrant for 100,000 shares of its common stock to an investor relations consultant. The warrant has an exercise price of \$0.51 per share, vests equally over twelve months from issuance and expires on January 22, 2020. The fair value of the warrant upon issuance was \$7,700 and the Company received \$100 as compensation for the warrant. The fair value of the warrant issuance was recorded in the Company's consolidated balance sheet as an increase in additional paid-in capital and the net \$7,600 compensation expense was recorded in general and administrative expense during the three months ended March 31, 2015.

### **Stock Options**

In May 2011, the Board of Directors adopted the 2011 Equity Incentive Plan of IZEA, Inc. (the "May 2011 Plan"). The May 2011 Plan allows the Company to grant options up to 20,000,000 shares as an incentive for its employees and consultants. As of March 31, 2015, the Company had 6,357,638 shares of common stock available for future grants under the May 2011 Plan.

On August 22, 2011, the Company adopted the 2011 B Equity Incentive Plan (the "August 2011 Plan") reserving for issuance an aggregate of 87,500 shares of common stock under the August 2011 Plan. As of March 31, 2015, the Company had no shares of common stock available for future grants under the August 2011 Plan.

Under both the May 2011 Plan and the August 2011 Plan (together, the "2011 Equity Incentive Plans"), the Board of Directors determines the exercise price to be paid for the shares, the period within which each option may be exercised, and the terms and conditions of each option. The exercise price of the incentive and non-qualified stock options may not be less than 100% of the fair market value per share of the Company's common stock on the grant date. If an individual owns stock representing more than 10% of the outstanding shares, the price of each share of an incentive stock option must be equal to or exceed 110% of fair market value. Unless otherwise determined by the Board of Directors at the time of grant, the right to purchase shares covered by any options under the 2011 Equity Incentive Plans typically vest over the requisite service period as follows: 25% of options shall vest one year from the date of grant and the remaining options shall vest monthly, in equal increments over the following three years. The term of the options is up to ten years. The Company issues new shares to the optionee for any stock awards or options exercised pursuant to its equity incentive plans.

A summary of option activity under the 2011 Equity Incentive Plans for the year ended December 31, 2014 and three months ended March 31, 2015 is presented below:

<b><i>Options Outstanding</i></b>	<b>Common Shares</b>	<b>Weighted Average Exercise Price</b>	<b>Weighted Average Remaining Life (Years)</b>
Outstanding at December 31, 2013	7,750,478	\$ 0.51	8.1
Granted	4,358,831	\$ 0.38	
Exercised	(1,250)	\$ 0.24	
Forfeited	(194,285)	\$ 0.85	
Outstanding at December 31, 2014	11,913,774	\$ 0.46	6.5
Granted	1,868,333	\$ 0.32	
Exercised	—	\$ —	
Forfeited	(54,729)	\$ 0.81	
Outstanding at March 31, 2015	13,727,378	\$ 0.44	6.8
Exercisable at March 31, 2015	5,102,812	\$ 0.56	6.8

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During the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, no options were exercised. There is no aggregate intrinsic value on the outstanding or exercisable options as of March 31, 2015 since the weighted average exercise price per share exceeded the fair value of \$0.40 on such date.

A summary of the nonvested stock option activity under the 2011 Equity Incentive Plans for the year ended December 31, 2014 and three months ended March 31, 2015 is presented below:

<i><b>Nonvested Options</b></i>	Common Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value	Weighted Average Remaining Years to Vest
Nonvested at December 31, 2013	5,809,363	\$ 0.24	3.3
Granted	4,358,831	0.38	
Vested	(2,566,848)	0.23	
Forfeited	(159,508)	0.21	
Nonvested at December 31, 2014	7,441,838	\$ 0.20	3.0
Granted	1,868,333	0.16	
Vested	(635,084)	0.23	
Forfeited	(50,521)	0.15	
Nonvested at March 31, 2015	8,624,566	\$ 0.19	3.1

Stock-based compensation cost related to stock options granted under the 2011 Equity Incentive Plans is measured at grant date, based on the fair value of the award, and is recognized as an expense over the employee's requisite service period. The Company estimates the fair value of each option award on the date of grant using a Black-Scholes option-pricing model that uses the assumptions stated in Note 1. Total stock-based compensation expense recognized on awards outstanding during the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 was \$142,331 and \$115,338, respectively. Stock-based compensation expense is recorded as a general and administrative expense in the Company's consolidated statements of operations. Future compensation related to nonvested awards expected to vest of \$1,477,668 is estimated to be recognized over the weighted-average vesting period of approximately three years.

**Employee Stock Purchase Plan**

On April 16, 2014, stockholders holding a majority of the Company's outstanding shares of common stock, upon previous recommendation and approval of the Board of Directors, adopted the IZEA, Inc. 2014 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the "ESPP") and reserved 1,500,000 shares of the Company's common stock for issuance thereunder. Any employee regularly employed by our company for 90 days or more on a full-time or part-time basis (20 hours or more per week on a regular schedule) will be eligible to participate in the ESPP. The ESPP will operate in successive six month offering periods commencing at the beginning of each fiscal year half. Each eligible employee who has elected to participate may purchase up to 10% of their annual compensation in common stock not to exceed \$21,250 annually or 20,000 shares per offering period. The purchase price will be the lower of (i) 85% of the fair market value of a share of common stock on the first trading day of the offering period or (ii) 85% of the fair market value of a share of common stock on the last trading day of the offering period. The ESPP will continue until January 1, 2024, unless otherwise terminated by the Board. As of March 31, 2015, \$5,164 subscription payments were received to purchase shares at the end of the offering period on June 30, 2015. As of March 31, 2015, the Company had 1,492,397 shares of common stock available for future grants under the ESPP.

**Restricted Stock Issued for Services**

Effective January 1, 2014, the Company entered into a one year agreement to pay \$7,500 per month and 100,000 shares of restricted stock per quarter to a firm to provide investor relations services. In accordance with the agreement, the Company issued 100,000 shares of restricted common stock valued at \$30,110 on January 1, 2014 and 100,000 shares of restricted common stock valued at \$52,000 on April 1, 2014. This agreement was canceled in June 2014 and no further amounts are owed.

The Company issued 64,144 shares of restricted common stock valued at \$25,000 to each Brian W. Brady, Lindsay A. Gardner and Dan R. Rua (192,432 total shares) for their service as directors of the Company during the year ended December 31, 2014.

The Company has reserved 19,096 shares of restricted common stock valued at \$6,250 to each Brian W. Brady, Lindsay A. Gardner and Dan R. Rua (57,288 total shares) for their service as directors of the Company during the three months ended March 31, 2015.

The Company also reserved 25,000 shares of restricted common stock valued at \$8,700 for an employee stock award during the three months ended March 31, 2015.

**IZEA, Inc.**  
**Notes to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements**

The following table contains summarized information about nonvested restricted stock outstanding during the year ended December 31, 2014 and the three months ended March 31, 2015:

<b><i>Restricted Stock</i></b>	<b>Common Shares</b>
Nonvested at December 31, 2013	—
Granted	392,432
Vested	(392,432)
Forfeited	—
Nonvested at December 31, 2014	—
Granted	82,288
Vested	(82,288)
Forfeited	—
Nonvested at March 31, 2015	—

Total stock-based compensation expense recognized for vested restricted stock awards during the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 was \$35,050 and \$58,360, respectively, all of which is included in general and administrative expense in the consolidated statements of operations. The fair value of the services is based on the value of the Company's common stock over the term of service.

**NOTE 7. EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE**

Basic earnings per share is computed by dividing the net income or loss by the weighted-average number of shares of common stock outstanding during each period presented. Diluted earnings per share is computed by dividing the net income or loss by the weighted-average number of shares of common stock outstanding plus the additional dilutive securities that could be exercised or converted into common shares during each period presented less the amount of shares that could be repurchased using the proceeds from the exercises.

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31, 2015	March 31, 2014
Net Loss	\$ (4,270,912)	\$ (569,311)
Weighted average shares outstanding - basic and diluted	57,697,666	37,135,738
Basic and diluted loss per share	\$ (0.07)	\$ (0.02)

The Company excluded the following items from the above computation of diluted earnings per common share as their effect would be anti-dilutive:

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31, 2015	March 31, 2014
Stock options	12,739,847	8,053,268
Warrants	54,019,416	54,392,749
Restricted stock units	1,708,332	1,729,431
Total excluded shares	68,467,595	64,175,448

**NOTE 8. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

No material events have occurred since March 31, 2015 that require recognition or disclosure in the financial statements.

## ITEM 2 – MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

### Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Information

The following discussion and analysis is provided to increase the understanding of, and should be read in conjunction with, our consolidated financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this report. Historical results and percentage relationships among any amounts in these financial statements are not necessarily indicative of trends in operating results for any future period. This report contains “forward-looking statements.” The statements, which are not historical facts contained in this report, including this Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, and notes to our consolidated financial statements, particularly those that utilize terminology such as “may” “will,” “should,” “expects,” “anticipates,” “estimates,” “believes,” or “plans” or comparable terminology are forward-looking statements. Such statements are based on currently available operating, financial and competitive information, and are subject to various risks and uncertainties. Future events and our actual results may differ materially from the results reflected in these forward-looking statements. Factors that might cause such a difference include, but are not limited to, our ability to raise additional funding, our ability to maintain and grow our business, variability of operating results, our ability to maintain and enhance our brand, our development and introduction of new products and services, the successful integration of acquired companies, technologies and assets into our portfolio of software and services, marketing and other business development initiatives, competition in the industry, general government regulation, economic conditions, dependence on key personnel, the ability to attract, hire and retain personnel who possess the technical skills and experience necessary to meet the service requirements of our clients, our ability to protect our intellectual property, the potential liability with respect to actions taken by our existing and past employees, risks associated with international sales, and other risks described herein and in our other filings with the SEC.

All forward-looking statements in this document are based on information currently available to us as of the date of this report, and we assume no obligation to update any forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results to differ materially from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements.

### Company History

IZEA, Inc. was founded in February 2006 under the name PayPerPost, Inc. and became a public company incorporated in the state of Nevada in May 2011. We are headquartered in Winter Park, Florida with additional field offices in Chicago, Los Angeles, New York, Texas and Michigan.

### Company Overview

IZEA, Inc. is a leading company in the social sponsorship space. We believe that we pioneered the concept of a marketplace for sponsorships on the social web in 2006 with the launch of our first platform, *PayPerPost.com*, and have focused on scaling our offerings ever since. We compensate bloggers, tweeters and other types of social media content creators to share information about companies, products, websites and events within their social media content streams. Advertisers benefit from buzz, traffic, awareness and sales, and creators earn cash compensation in exchange for their posts.

Social sponsorship is when a company compensates a social media publisher or influencer such as a blogger or tweeter (“creators”) to share sponsored content with their social network audience. This sponsored content is shared within the body of a content stream, a practice also referred to as “native advertising” and “sponsored content.” We generate our revenue primarily through the sale of sponsorship campaigns to our advertisers. We fulfill these campaigns through our platforms by utilizing our network of creators to complete sponsorship opportunities for our advertisers. We also generate revenue from the posting of targeted display advertising and from various service fees.

On January 30, 2015, we purchased all of the outstanding shares of capital stock of Ebyline, Inc. (“Ebyline”), pursuant to the terms of a Stock Purchase Agreement, dated as of January 27, 2015, by and among IZEA, Ebyline and the stockholders of Ebyline. Based in Los Angeles, California, Ebyline operates an online marketplace that enables publishers to access a network of over 12,000 content creators ranging from writers to illustrators in 73 countries. Over 2,000 fully vetted individuals in the Ebyline network have professional journalism credentials with backgrounds at well-known media outlets. Ebyline’s proprietary workflow is utilized by leading media organizations to obtain the content they need from professional content creators. In addition to publishers, Ebyline is leveraged by brands to produce custom branded content for use on their owned

and operated sites, as well as third party content marketing and native advertising efforts. After the acquisition, we added content sales as another revenue stream into our operations.

We operate an online marketplace that connects brands with creators at IZEA.com as well as other white label marketplaces. IZEA.com and all white label sites are powered by the IZEA Exchange (“IZEAx”), a platform that handles content workflow, creator search and targeting, bidding, analytics and payment processing. IZEAx is designed to provide a unified ecosystem that enables the creation of multiple types of content including blog posts, status updates, videos and photos through a wide variety of social channels including blogs, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and Tumblr, among others. Prior to the launch of IZEAx, we had independent technology platforms including *PayPerPost.com*, *SocialSpark.com* and *SponsoredTweets.com*, all of which were transitioned to the IZEAx system by the end of 2014.

IZEAx takes the existing concepts of product placement and endorsements commonly found in movies, television and radio and applies them to the social web. We democratize the sponsorship process, allowing everyone from college students and stay at home moms to celebrities the opportunity to monetize their content, creativity and influence in social media. We direct bloggers, tweeters and other types of social media content creators to share information about companies, products, websites and events within their social media content streams. Advertisers benefit from buzz, traffic, awareness and sales, and creators earn cash compensation in exchange for their posts.

### Results of Operations for the Three Months Ended March 31, 2015 Compared to the Three Months Ended March 31, 2014

	(Unaudited) Three Months Ended		\$ Change	% Change
	March 31, 2015	March 31, 2014		
Revenue	\$ 4,135,494	\$ 1,957,040	\$ 2,178,454	111.3 %
Cost of sales	2,441,491	649,533	1,791,958	275.9 %
Gross profit	1,694,003	1,307,507	386,496	29.6 %
Operating expenses:				
General and administrative	1,860,514	1,092,221	768,293	70.3 %
Sales and marketing	1,581,487	912,786	668,701	73.3 %
Total operating expenses	3,442,001	2,005,007	1,436,994	71.7 %
Loss from operations	(1,747,998)	(697,500)	(1,050,498)	(150.6)%
Other income (expense):				
Interest expense	(18,770)	(9,017)	(9,753)	108.2 %
Change in fair value of derivatives, net	(2,505,951)	135,601	(2,641,552)	(1,948.0)%
Other income (expense), net	1,807	1,605	202	12.6 %
Total other income (expense)	(2,522,914)	128,189	(2,651,103)	2,068.1 %
Net loss	\$ (4,270,912)	\$ (569,311)	\$ (3,701,601)	(650.2)%

### Non-GAAP Financial Measures

To supplement our consolidated financial statements presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States (“U.S. GAAP”), we consider certain financial measures that are not prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP, including Operating EBITDA. These non-GAAP financial measures are not based on any standardized methodology prescribed by GAAP. These non-GAAP financial measures should not be considered in isolation from, or as a substitute for, financial information prepared in accordance with GAAP.

We believe that Operating EBITDA provides useful information to investors as it excludes transactions not related to the core cash operating business activities including non-cash transactions. We believe that excluding these transactions allows investors to meaningfully trend and analyze the performance of our core cash operations. All companies do not calculate EBITDA in the same manner, and Operating EBITDA as presented by IZEA may not be comparable to EBITDA presented by other companies. IZEA defines Operating EBITDA as earnings or loss before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, non-cash stock related compensation, gain or loss on asset disposals or impairment and all other income and expense items such as loss on exchanges and changes in fair value of derivatives, if applicable.



**Reconciliation of Net Loss to Operating EBITDA:**

(Unaudited)

Three Months Ended

	March 31, 2015	March 31, 2014
Net loss	\$ (4,270,912)	\$ (569,311)
Non-cash stock-based compensation	142,331	115,338
Non-cash stock issued for payment of services	35,050	58,360
Change in the fair value of derivatives	2,505,951	(135,601)
Interest expense	18,770	9,017
Depreciation & amortization	174,296	17,867
Operating EBITDA	\$ (1,394,514)	\$ (504,330)

**Revenues**

We derive revenue from four sources: revenue from an advertiser when it pays for a social media publisher or influencer such as a blogger or tweeter ("creators") to share sponsored content with their social network audience ("Sponsored Revenue"), revenue when a publisher or company purchases custom branded content for use on its owned and operated sites, as well as third party content marketing and native advertising efforts ("Content Revenue"), revenue from the posting of targeted display advertising ("Media Revenue") and revenue derived from various service and license fees charged to users of our platforms ("Service Fee Revenue").

The following table breaks down our revenue, cost of sales and profit margin by revenue stream as of the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014:

	Three Months Ended			
	March 31, 2015	March 31, 2015	March 31, 2014	March 31, 2014
<b>Revenue</b>				
Sponsored Revenue	\$ 2,692,000	65%	\$ 1,818,000	93%
IZEA Media	\$ 43,000	1%	\$ 58,000	3%
Content Revenue	\$ 1,365,000	33%	\$ —	—%
Service Fees & Other	\$ 35,000	1%	\$ 81,000	4%
Total Revenue	\$ 4,135,000	100%	\$ 1,957,000	100%
<b>Cost of Sales</b>				
Sponsored Revenue	\$ 1,186,000	49%	\$ 600,000	92%
IZEA Media	\$ 22,000	—%	\$ 50,000	8%
Content Revenue	\$ 1,233,000	51%	\$ —	—%
Service Fees & Other	\$ —	—%	\$ —	—%
Total Cost of Sales	\$ 2,441,000	100%	\$ 650,000	100%
<b>Gross Margin &amp; GP%</b>				
Sponsored Revenue	\$ 1,506,000	56%	\$ 1,218,000	67%
IZEA Media	\$ 21,000	49%	\$ 9,000	16%
Content Revenue	\$ 132,000	10%	\$ —	—%
Service Fees & Other	\$ 35,000	100%	\$ 81,000	100%
Total Profit	\$ 1,694,000	41%	\$ 1,308,000	67%

Revenues for the three months ended March 31, 2015 increased by \$2,178,454, or 111.3%, compared to the same period in 2014. The increase was primarily attributable to increases in our Sponsored Revenue of \$874,000 and Content

Revenue of \$1,365,000 during three months ended March 31, 2015 compared to the same period in 2014. Our sales mix has changed in the current year due to the acquisition of Ebyline in January 2015. The increase in Sponsored Revenue income was primarily attributable to our larger sales force, concentrated sales efforts toward larger IZEA managed campaigns rather than smaller advertiser self-service campaigns and generating repeat business from existing customers. Content Revenue increased as a result of the Ebyline acquisition in January 2015. Service fees decreased in the three months ended March 31, 2015 due to less fees received from inactive accounts since there are relatively few inactive accounts in *IZEAx*.

Our net bookings of \$4.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015 were approximately 155% higher than the net bookings of \$1.7 million for the three months ended March 31, 2014. Net bookings is a measure of sales orders minus any cancellations or refunds in a given period. Management uses net bookings as a leading indicator of future revenue recognition as revenue is typically recognized within 90 days of booking. We experienced higher bookings as a result of the Ebyline acquisition, new customers, larger IZEA managed campaigns and an increase in repeat clients. These bookings are expected to translate into higher revenue in 2015 as compared to 2014.

### **Cost of Sales and Gross Profit**

Our cost of sales is comprised primarily of amounts paid to our content creators for fulfilling a customer's request for content or advertising services to push that content through a blog post, tweet, click or action.

Cost of sales for the three months ended March 31, 2015 increased by \$1,791,958, or 275.9%, compared to the same period in 2014. The increase in cost of sales was primarily related to the increase in our sales and higher cost of those sales due to the acquisition of Ebyline in January 2015.

Gross profit for the three months ended March 31, 2015 increased by \$386,496, or 29.6%, compared to the same period in 2014. Our gross profit as a percentage of revenue decreased from 67% for the three months ended March 31, 2014 to 41% for the same period in 2015. The gross profit decrease during the three months ended March 31, 2015 compared to 2014 was primarily attributable to substantially lower profit margins on Content Revenue that was added to our product mix during the three months ended March 31, 2015, as well as increased participation by *IZEAx* partners.

The acquisition of Ebyline in January 2015 that currently generates Content Revenue at a gross profit of 10% on 33% of our total revenue has a significant affect on our overall gross profit percentage. Additionally, the addition of white label partners to *IZEAx* translates into lower margins on our Sponsored Revenue. White label partners receive a percentage of each transaction generated by users within their system. As a result, we expect that our total revenue will increase but our margins will decrease to an expected range of 30%-35%.

### **Operating Expenses**

Operating expenses consist of general and administrative, and sales and marketing expenses. Total operating expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2015 increased by \$1,436,994, or 71.7%, compared to the same period in 2014. The increase was primarily attributable to increased personnel costs, additional overhead from the Ebyline acquisition and an increase in advertising, marketing and public relations efforts in order to improve consumer and investor awareness.

General and administrative expenses consist primarily of administrative and engineering personnel costs, general operating costs, public company costs, including non-cash stock compensation, facilities costs, insurance, depreciation, professional fees, and investor relations costs. General and administrative expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2015 increased by \$768,293, or 70.3%, compared to the same period in 2014. The increase was primarily attributable to a \$494,000 increase in personnel costs as a result of the increase in the number of our administrative and engineering personnel by nearly 73% since the prior year. Increased personnel costs are expected to continue in 2015 due to the realization of an entire year of salaries, taxes and benefits for the 2014 new hires and planned increases in the total number of engineering personnel. The increase in general and administrative expenses is also attributable a \$156,000 increase in depreciation and amortization expense as a result of the amortization of software development costs for *IZEA Exchange (IZEAx)* and the Ebyline intangible assets acquired; and a \$61,000 increase in rent for our expanded facilities and additional offices in California.

Sales and marketing expenses consist primarily of costs personnel costs related to those who support sales and marketing efforts, promotional and advertising costs and trade show expenses. Sales and marketing expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2015 increased by \$668,701 or 73.3%, compared to the same period in 2014. The increase was primarily attributable to a \$493,000 increase in personnel costs as a result of a 71% increase in the number of our sales personnel since the prior year and increased commissions paid as a result of the increase in customer bookings. The additional



increase was attributable to increased advertising, marketing and public relations efforts in order to improve consumer awareness.

### **Other Income (Expense)**

Other income (expense) consists primarily of interest expense and the change in the fair value of derivatives carried at fair value.

Interest expense during the three months ended March 31, 2015 increased by \$9,753 compared to the same period in 2014 primarily due to the imputed interest on the acquisition costs payable.

During the current periods and in prior periods, we entered into financing transactions that gave rise to derivative liabilities. These financial instruments are carried at fair value in our financial statements. Changes in the fair value of derivative financial instruments are required to be recorded in other income (expense) in the period of change. We recorded a loss of \$2,505,951 and a gain of \$135,601 resulting from the increase (decrease) in the fair value of certain warrants during the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. We have no control over the amount of change in the fair value of our derivative instruments as this is a factor based on fluctuating interest rates and stock prices and other market conditions outside of our control. We have 35,910,554 warrants that are required to be fair valued each period. When the price of our stock decreases, it causes the fair value of our warrant liability in our consolidated balance sheets to decrease causing substantial income from the change in fair value in our consolidated statement of operations. Alternatively, when the price of our stock increases, it causes the fair value of our warrant liability to increase causing a substantial loss from the change in fair value.

### **Net Loss**

Net loss for the three months ended March 31, 2015 was \$4,270,912, which increased from a net loss of \$569,311 for the same period in 2014. The increase in net loss was primarily the result of the increase in operating expenses and the change in fair value of derivative financial instruments as discussed above.

### **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

Our cash position was \$3,960,219 as of March 31, 2015 as compared to \$6,521,930 as of December 31, 2014, an decrease of \$2,561,711 primarily as a result of the funding of our operating losses and our acquisition of Ebyline, Inc. as described below. We have incurred significant net losses and negative cash flow from operations since our inception which has resulted in a total accumulated deficit of \$27,212,262 as of March 31, 2015.

Cash used for operating activities was \$1,528,112 during the three months ended March 31, 2015 and was primarily a result of our loss from operations during the period of \$1,747,998. Cash used for investing activities was \$1,024,271 during the three months ended March 31, 2015 due primarily to the acquisition of Ebyline, Inc. and increases in computer equipment purchases. Cash used for financing activities was \$9,328 during the three months ended March 31, 2015 and was primarily a result of principal payments on our capital leases of \$14,592.

To date, we have financed our operations through internally generated revenue from operations and the sale of our equity securities.

On January 30, 2015, we purchased all of the outstanding shares of capital stock of Ebyline, Inc. ("Ebyline"), pursuant to the terms of a Stock Purchase Agreement, dated as of January 27, 2015, by and among IZEA, Ebyline and the stockholders of Ebyline. The aggregate consideration payable by us will be an amount in the aggregate of up to \$8,850,000, including a cash payment at closing of \$1,200,000, a stock issuance six months after the closing valued at \$250,000, up to an additional \$1,900,000 in two equal installments of \$950,000 on the first and second anniversaries of the closing (subject to proportional reduction in the event Ebyline's final 2014 revenue is below \$8,000,000), and up to \$5,500,000 in performance payments based on Ebyline meeting certain revenue targets for each of the three years ending December 31, 2015, 2016 and 2017. Both the \$1,900,000 in annual payments and the \$5,500,000 in performance payments may be made in cash or common stock, at our option. The performance payments will be made only if Ebyline achieves at least 90% of Content-Only Revenue, as defined in the agreement, of \$17,000,000 in 2015, \$27,000,000 in 2016 and \$32,000,000 in 2017. If Ebyline achieves at least 90% but less than 100% of the Content-Only Revenue targets, the performance payments owed of \$1,800,000, \$1,800,000 and \$1,900,000 for each of the three years ending December 31, 2015, 2016 and 2017, respectively, will be subject to adjustment.

On April 13, 2015, we expanded our secured credit facility agreement with Bridge Bank, N.A. of San Jose, California. Pursuant to this agreement, we may submit requests for funding up to 80% of its eligible accounts receivable up to a maximum credit limit of \$5 million. This agreement is secured by our accounts receivable and substantially all of our other assets. The agreement renews annually and requires us to pay an annual facility fee of \$20,000 (0.4% of the credit limit) and an annual due diligence fee of \$1,000. Interest accrues on the advances at the prime plus 2% per annum. The default rate of interest is prime plus 7%. If the agreement is terminated prior to May 1, 2016, we will be required to pay a termination fee of .70% of the credit limit divided by 80%. As of March 31, 2015, we had no advances outstanding under this agreement.

We believe that with the expanded credit line and our current cash position, we have sufficient cash reserves available to cover expenses for the future year.

## **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

We do not engage in any activities involving variable interest entities or off-balance sheet arrangements.

## **Critical Accounting Policies and Use of Estimates**

The preparation of the accompanying financial statements and related disclosures in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires us to make judgments, assumptions and estimates that affect the amounts reported in the accompanying financial statements and the accompanying notes. The preparation of these financial statements requires managements to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. When making these estimates and assumptions, we consider our historical experience, our knowledge of economic and market factors and various other factors that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results could differ from these estimates. The following critical accounting policies are significantly affected by judgments, assumptions and estimates used in the preparation of the financial statements.

Accounts receivable are customer obligations due under normal trade terms. Uncollectibility of accounts receivable is not significant since most customers are bound by contract and are required to fund us for all the costs of an “opportunity,” defined as an order created by an advertiser for a creator to write about the advertiser’s product. If a portion of the account balance is deemed uncollectible, we will either write-off the amount owed or provide a reserve based on the uncollectible portion of the account. Management determines the collectibility of accounts by regularly evaluating individual customer receivables and considering a customer’s financial condition, credit history and current economic conditions. We do not have a reserve for doubtful accounts as of March 31, 2015. We believe that this estimate is reasonable, but there can be no assurance that the estimate will not change as a result of a change in economic conditions or business conditions within the industry, the individual customers or our company. Any adjustments to this account are reflected in the consolidated statements of operations as a general and administrative expense. Bad debt expense was less than 1% of revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014.

Throughout 2013 and the first quarter of 2014, we developed our new web-based advertising exchange platform, *IZEAx*. This platform will be utilized both internally and externally to facilitate native advertising campaigns on a greater scale. In accordance with ASC 350-40, *Internal Use Software* and ASC 985-730, *Computer Software Research and Development*, research phase costs should be expensed as incurred and development phase costs including direct materials and services, payroll and benefits and interest costs may be capitalized. As a result, we have capitalized \$568,875 in direct materials, payroll and benefit costs to software development costs in the consolidated balance sheet as of March 31, 2015. We estimate the useful life for *IZEAx* will be 5 years, consistent with the amount of time our legacy platforms were in-service, and are amortizing the software development costs over this period.

We derive revenue from four sources: revenue from an advertiser when it pays for a social media publisher or influencer such as a blogger or tweeter (“creators”) to share sponsored content with their social network audience (“Sponsored Revenue”), revenue when a publisher or company purchases custom branded content for use on its owned and operated sites, as well as third party content marketing and native advertising efforts (“Content Revenue”), revenue from the posting of targeted display advertising (“Media Revenue”) and revenue derived from various service and license fees charged to users of our platforms (“Service Fee Revenue”). Sponsored revenue is recognized and considered earned after an advertiser’s sponsored content is posted through *IZEAx* and shared through a creator’s social network for a requisite period of time. The requisite period ranges from 3 days for a tweet to 30 days for a blog, video or other form of content. Management fees related to Sponsored Revenue from advertising campaigns managed by us are recognized ratably over the term of the campaign which may range from a few days to months. Content Revenue is recognized when the content is delivered to and accepted by the

customer. Media Revenue is recognized and considered earned when our creators place targeted display advertising in blogs. Service fees charged to customers are primarily related to subscription fees for different levels of service within a platform, licensing fees for white-label use of *IZEAx*, early cash-out fees if a creator wishes to take proceeds earned for services from their account when the account balance is below certain minimum balance thresholds and inactivity fees for dormant accounts. Service fees are recognized immediately when the service is performed or at the time an account becomes dormant or is cashed out. Self-service advertisers must prepay for services by placing a deposit in their account with the Company. The deposits are typically paid by the advertiser via credit card. Advertisers who use us to manage their social advertising campaigns or content requests may prepay for services or request credit terms. Payments received or billings in advance of services are recorded as unearned revenue until earned as described above.

All of our revenue is generated through the rendering of services and is recognized under the general guidelines of SAB Topic 13 A.1 which states that revenue will be recognized when it is realized or realizable and earned. We consider our revenue as generally realized or realizable and earned once (i) persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, (ii) services have been rendered, (iii) the price to the advertiser or customer is fixed (required to be paid at a set amount that is not subject to refund or adjustment) and determinable, and (iv) collectibility is reasonably assured. We record revenue on the gross amount earned since we generally are the primary obligor in the arrangement, take on credit risk, establish the pricing and determine the service specifications.

Stock-based compensation is measured at grant date, based on the fair value of the award, and is recognized as an expense over the employee's requisite service period. We estimate the fair value of each stock option as of the date of grant using the Black-Scholes pricing model. Options typically vest ratably over four years with one-fourth of options vesting one year from the date of grant and the remaining options vesting monthly, in equal increments over the remaining three-year period and generally have five or ten-year contract lives. We estimate the fair value of our common stock using the closing stock price of our common stock as quoted in the OTCQB marketplace on the date of the agreement. We estimate the volatility of our common stock at the date of grant based on the volatility of comparable peer companies that are publicly traded and have had a longer trading history than us. We determine the expected life based on historical experience with similar awards, giving consideration to the contractual terms, vesting schedules and post-vesting forfeitures. We use the risk-free interest rate on the implied yield currently available on U.S. Treasury issues with an equivalent remaining term approximately equal to the expected life of the award. We have never paid any cash dividends on our common stock and do not anticipate paying any cash dividends in the foreseeable future. We estimate forfeitures when recognizing compensation expense and this estimate of forfeitures is adjusted over the requisite service period based on the extent to which actual forfeitures differ, or are expected to differ, from such estimates. Changes in estimated forfeitures are recognized through a cumulative catch-up adjustment, which is recognized in the period of change. Changes also impact the amount of unamortized compensation expense to be recognized in future periods.

The following table shows the number of options granted under our May 2011 and August 2011 Equity Incentive Plans and the assumptions used to determine the fair value of those options during the quarterly periods in 2014 and 2015:

#### 2011 Equity Incentive Plans - Options Granted

Period Ended	Total Options Granted	Weighted Average Fair Value of Common Stock	Weighted Average Expected Term	Weighted Average Volatility	Weighted Average Risk Free Interest Rate	Weighted Average Fair Value of Options Granted
March 31, 2014	330,000	\$0.48	5 years	43.32%	1.60%	\$0.19
June 30, 2014	1,066,680	\$0.46	5 years	41.38%	1.66%	\$0.18
September 30, 2014	1,992,151	\$0.38	5 years	40.38%	1.74%	\$0.14
December 31, 2014	970,000	\$0.26	9 years	46.76%	2.14%	\$0.15
March 31, 2015	1,868,333	\$0.32	6 years	54.00%	1.50%	\$0.16

There were 13,727,378 total options outstanding with a weighted average exercise price of \$0.44 per share and 5,102,812 exercisable options outstanding with a weighted average exercise price of \$0.56 per share as of March 31, 2015. There is no aggregate intrinsic value on the exercisable, outstanding options as of March 31, 2015 since the weighted average exercise price per share exceeded the market price of \$0.40 of our common stock on such date.

We account for derivative instruments in accordance with ASC 815, *Derivatives and Hedging*, which requires additional disclosures about the our objectives and strategies for using derivative instruments, how the derivative instruments and related hedged items are accounted for, and how the derivative instruments and related hedging items affect the financial

statements. We do not use derivative instruments to hedge exposures to cash flow, market or foreign currency risk. Terms of convertible debt and equity instruments are reviewed to determine whether or not they contain embedded derivative instruments that are required under ASC 815 to be accounted for separately from the host contract, and recorded on the balance sheet at fair value. The fair value of derivative liabilities, if any, is required to be revalued at each reporting date, with corresponding changes in fair value recorded in current period operating results. Pursuant to ASC 815, an evaluation of specifically identified conditions is made to determine whether the fair value of warrants issued is required to be classified as equity or as a derivative liability.

### **Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

There are new accounting pronouncements issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") which are not yet effective. Management does not believe any of these accounting pronouncements will have a material impact on our financial position or operating results.

In May 2014, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2014-09, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* (ASU 2014-09), which supersedes nearly all existing revenue recognition guidance under U.S. GAAP. The core principle of ASU 2014-09 is to recognize revenues when promised goods or services are transferred to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which an entity expects to be entitled for those goods or services. ASU 2014-09 defines a five step process to achieve this core principle and, in doing so, more judgment and estimates may be required within the revenue recognition process than are required under existing U.S. GAAP.

The standard is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2016, and interim periods therein, using either of the following transition methods: (i) a full retrospective approach reflecting the application of the standard in each prior reporting period with the option to elect certain practical expedients, or (ii) a retrospective approach with the cumulative effect of initially adopting ASU 2014-09 recognized at the date of adoption (which includes additional footnote disclosures). We are currently evaluating the impact of the adoption of ASU 2014-09 on our consolidated financial statements and have not yet determined the method by which we will adopt the standard in 2017.

### **ITEM 3 – QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK**

Not applicable to smaller reporting companies.

### **ITEM 4 – CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

Disclosure controls and procedures are controls and other procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports that we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms. Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports that we file under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our principal executive and financial officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosures.

In designing and evaluating the disclosure controls and procedures, our management recognizes that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving the desired control objectives, and our management necessarily was required to apply its judgment in evaluating the cost-benefit relationship of possible controls and procedures. Furthermore, controls and procedures could be circumvented by the individual acts of some persons, by collusion or two or more people or by management override of the control. Misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected on a timely basis.

#### **Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

In connection with the preparation of this quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2015, an evaluation was performed under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's management including our Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") and Principal Financial and Accounting Officer ("PFO") to determine the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act) as of March 31, 2015. Based on this evaluation, our management concluded that our disclosure controls and

procedures were effective as of March 31, 2015 to provide reasonable assurance that the information required to be disclosed by us in reports or submitted under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in the rules and forms of the SEC and that such information is accumulated and communicated to management, including the Company's principal executive and financial officers, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

### **Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act). Internal control over financial reporting is a process designed by, or under the supervision of, our principal executive officer and principal financial officer and effected by our Board of Directors, management and other personnel, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of our financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Internal control over financial reporting includes policies and procedures that:

- (i) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the Company's transactions;
- (ii) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary for the preparation of our financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and that receipts and expenditures are made only in accordance with authorizations of our management and directors; and
- (iii) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of any unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of our assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect financial statement misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of internal control effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) that occurred during the quarter ended March 31, 2015 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.



## PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

### ITEM 1 – LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

From time to time, we may become involved in various lawsuits and legal proceedings that arise in the ordinary course of business. Litigation is, however, subject to inherent uncertainties, and an adverse result in these or other matters may arise from time to time that may harm our business. Other than as described below, we are currently not aware of any legal proceedings or claims that we believe would or could have, individually or in the aggregate, a material adverse effect on us.

On October 17, 2012, Blue Calypso, Inc. filed a complaint against us in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas. Blue Calypso's complaint alleges that we infringe their patents related to peer-to-peer advertising between mobile communication devices and seeks unspecified damages. On July 19, 2013, Blue Calypso's case against us was consolidated, along with patent infringement cases against Yelp, Inc. and Foursquare Labs, Inc., into Blue Calypso, Inc. v. Groupon, Inc. for all pretrial purposes, including discovery and claim construction.

On December 16, 2013, the Patent Trial and Appeal Board's (PTAB) instituted a Covered Business Method Review (CBMR) for three of the five patents Blue Calypso asserts in its case against IZEA. In its decisions granting the CMBRs, the PTAB explained that several of Blue Calypso's asserted patents are likely invalid. In particular, the PTAB found it more likely than not that each of these three patents was invalid based on two independent grounds of anticipation, and one ground of obviousness. Additionally, the PTAB preliminarily found it more likely than not that many of the claims of one of Blue Calypso's patents were invalid due to a lack of written description. On January 16, 2014, the court granted a joint motion to stay Blue Calypso's patent infringement case until the PTAB's review of Blue Calypso's asserted patents is complete. On January 17, 2014, the PTAB expanded its review to all five of Blue Calypso's assert patents.

On December 16, 2014, the PTAB issued its Final Decisions concerning the five patents-in-suit. The Final Decisions eliminated the vast majority of claims asserted by Blue Calypso. While some claims did survive the PTAB's Final Decisions, those claims are potentially invalid in view of factual findings made by the PTAB. The PTAB decisions are now on appeal before the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. The potential outcomes of these appeals ranges from invalidation of all of Blue Calypso's asserted claims to complete reversal of the PTAB's Final Decisions. On April 1, 2015, the district court lifted the stay and set a trial date for December 14, 2015. The district court has also set a claim construction hearing for June 29, 2015. The parties are now exchanging discovery and preparing for claim construction.

At this stage, we do not have an estimate of the likelihood or the amount of any potential exposure to us. We believe that there is no merit to Blue Calypso's suit and continue to vigorously defend ourselves against Blue Calypso's allegations.

### ITEM 1A – RISK FACTORS

*In addition to the information set forth at the beginning of Management's Discussion and Analysis entitled "Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Information", investors should consider that there are numerous and varied risks, known and unknown, that may prevent us from achieving our goals. If any of these risks actually occur, our business, financial condition or results of operation may be materially and adversely affected. In such case, the trading price of our common stock could decline and investors could lose all or part of their investment.*

#### **Risks Related to our Business and Industry**

***We have a history of losses, expect future losses and cannot assure you that we will achieve profitability or obtain the financing necessary for future growth.***

We have incurred significant net losses and negative cash flow from operations since our inception which has resulted in a total accumulated deficit of \$27,212,262 as of March 31, 2015. Although our revenue has increased since inception, we have not achieved profitability and cannot be certain that we will be able to sustain these growth rates or realize sufficient revenue to achieve profitability. If we achieve profitability, we may not be able to sustain it.

***We (and others) are currently defending a patent infringement claim related to peer-to-peer advertising between mobile communication devices seeking unspecified damages, which may materially impact our business.***

On October 17, 2012, Blue Calypso, Inc. filed a complaint against us in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas. Blue Calypso's complaint alleges that we infringe on their patents related to peer-to-peer advertising between mobile communication devices and seeks unspecified damages. On July 19, 2013, Blue Calypso's case against us was consolidated, along with patent infringement cases against Yelp, Inc. and Foursquare Labs, Inc., into Blue Calypso, Inc. v. Groupon, Inc. for all pretrial purposes, including discovery and claim construction.

On December 16, 2013, the Patent Trial and Appeal Board's (PTAB) instituted a Covered Business Method Review (CBMR) for three of the five patents Blue Calypso asserts in its case against IZEA. In its decisions granting the CMBRs, the PTAB explained that several of Blue Calypso's asserted patents are likely invalid. In particular, the PTAB found it more likely than not that each of these three patents was invalid based on two independent grounds of anticipation, and one ground of obviousness. Additionally, the PTAB preliminarily found it more likely than not that many of the claims of one of Blue Calypso's patents were invalid due to a lack of written description. On January 17, 2014, the PTAB expanded its review to all five of Blue Calypso's assert patents. The PTAB's final decision regarding the asserted patents is expected by the end of this year. On January 16, 2014, the court granted a joint motion to stay Blue Calypso's patent infringement case until the PTAB's review of Blue Calypso's asserted patents is complete. On January 17, 2014, the PTAB expanded its review to all five of Blue Calypso's assert patents.

On December 16, 2014, the PTAB issued its Final Decisions concerning the five patents-in-suit. The Final Decisions eliminated the vast majority of claims asserted by Blue Calypso. While some claims did survive the PTAB's Final Decisions, those claims are potentially invalid in view of factual findings made by the PTAB. The PTAB decisions are now on appeal before the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. The potential outcomes of these appeals ranges from invalidation of all of Blue Calypso's asserted claims to complete reversal of the PTAB's Final Decisions. On April 1, 2015, the district court lifted the stay and set a trial date for December 14, 2015. The district court has also set a claim construction hearing for June 29, 2015. The parties are now exchanging discovery and preparing for claim construction.

At this stage, we do not have an estimate of the likelihood or the amount of any potential exposure to us. Although we believe that there is no merit to Blue Calypso's suit, there can be no assurance that we will prevail in the suit. In the event that a favorable outcome for us is not obtained, we could potentially be limited in certain ways in the use of our current social sponsorship platforms. Even if the litigation is resolved in our favor, it is possible that the litigation will be protracted, resulting in substantial legal costs to defend against the action and the diversion of management's attention and other resources of our company. In either event, the continuation of this action could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

***Exercise of stock options, warrants and other securities will dilute your percentage of ownership and could cause our stock price to fall.***

As of May 11, 2015, we have 57,697,666 shares of common stock issued, outstanding stock options to purchase 14,584,480 shares of common stock at an average price of \$0.43 per share, outstanding warrants to purchase 54,042,749 shares of common stock at an average price of \$0.41 per share, and 1,788,016 shares of vested, yet unissued, shares of restricted common stock. Additionally, we have reserved shares to issue stock options, restricted stock or other awards to purchase or receive up to 5,500,536 shares of common stock under our May 2011 Equity Incentive Plan and 1,492,397 shares of common stock under our 2014 Employee Stock Purchase Plan. In the future, we may grant additional stock options, warrants and convertible securities. The exercise, conversion or exchange of stock options, warrants or convertible securities will dilute the percentage ownership of our other stockholders. Sales of a substantial number of shares of our common stock could cause the price of our common stock to fall and could impair our ability to raise capital by selling additional securities.

***There may be substantial issuances of our common stock to satisfy our obligations under the Stock Purchase Agreement for our acquisition of Ebyline, Inc.***

On January 30, 2015, we purchased all of the outstanding shares of capital stock of Ebyline pursuant to the terms of a Stock Purchase Agreement, dated as of January 27, 2015, by and among IZEA, Ebyline and the stockholders of Ebyline. The aggregate consideration payable by us will be an amount in the aggregate of up to \$8,850,000, including a cash payment made at closing of \$1,200,000, a stock issuance six months after the closing valued at \$250,000, up to an additional \$1,900,000 in two equal installments of \$950,000 on the first and second anniversaries of the closing (subject to reduction) and up to \$5,500,000 in performance payments paid over three years based on Ebyline meeting certain revenue targets for each of the three years ending December 31, 2015, 2016 and 2017. Both the \$1,900,000 in annual payments and the \$5,500,000 in performance payments may be made in cash or common stock, at our option.

If Ebyline achieves all of the revenue targets, we do not have enough cash reserves to pay for the complete purchase price in cash. As such, we may issue shares of our common stock to satisfy the future payment obligations or raise funds through additional financing opportunities. Stock payments are to be based on the 30-day volume-weighted average closing price prior to the payment date. Additional financing transactions may include the issuance of equity or convertible debt securities, obtaining credit facilities or other financing alternatives. The issuance of a substantial number of shares of common stock to raise additional capital to satisfy the future payment obligations could significantly dilute the percentage ownership interests of and may be at prices more beneficial than those paid by our existing common stockholders.

***There may be substantial sales of our common stock under the prospectus relating to our 2013 and 2014 Private Placements, which could cause our stock price to drop.***

We agreed with the investors in our 2013 and 2014 Private Placements to file a shelf registration statement with the SEC with respect to the resale of all of the shares of our common stock, as well as shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of warrants, purchased by investors. We filed two post-effective registration statements on Form S-1 on April 30, 2014 and they were declared effective on May 4, 2015.

The first post-effective registration statement (File No. 333-191743) and (File No. 333-197482) included 27,565,517 shares of our common stock that may be offered by certain stockholders who participated in our private placement and loan consideration from August through September 2013 or who obtained restricted shares of common stock for services. The number of shares the selling stockholders may sell consists of 9,141,545 shares of common stock that are currently issued and outstanding and 18,423,972 shares of common stock that they may receive if they exercise their warrants.

The second registration statement (File No. 333-195081) included a total of 68,571,456 shares of our common stock that may be offered by certain stockholders who participated in our 2014 private placement. The number of shares the selling stockholders may sell consists of 34,285,728 shares of common stock that are currently issued and outstanding and 34,285,728 shares of common stock that they may receive if they exercise their warrants. There are currently no agreements or understandings in place with these selling stockholders to restrict their sale of those shares. Sales of a substantial number of shares of our common stock by the selling stockholders over a short period of time could cause the market price of our common stock to drop and could impair our ability to raise capital in the future by selling additional securities.

## **ITEM 2 – UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS**

None

## **ITEM 3 – DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES**

None

## **ITEM 4 – MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES**

Not applicable

## **ITEM 5 - OTHER INFORMATION**

None



## EXHIBITS

3.1	Articles of Incorporation (Incorporated by reference to the Company's registration statement on Form S-1 filed with the SEC on July 2, 2010).
3.2	Certificate of Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation (Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on February 15, 2013).
3.3	Certificate of Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation (Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on May 16, 2011).
3.4	Bylaws (Incorporated by reference to the Company's registration statement on Form S-1 filed with the SEC on July 2, 2010).
3.5	Certificate of Designation (Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on May 27, 2011).
3.6	Amendment to Certificate of Designation (Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on May 27, 2011).
3.7	Certificate of Change of IZEA, Inc., filed with the Nevada Secretary of State on July 30, 2012 (Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on August 1, 2012).
3.8	Certificate of Amendment to Articles of Incorporation filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Nevada on April 17, 2014 (Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on April 18, 2014).
3.9	Certificate of Withdrawal of Certificate of Designation filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Nevada effective January 23, 2015 (Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on January 29, 2015).
4.1	Form of Warrant to Purchase Common Stock of IZEA, Inc. issued to Investors in the 2013 Private Placement (Incorporated by reference to Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on August 21, 2013).
4.2	Form of Warrant to Purchase Common Stock of IZEA, Inc. issued to Investors in the 2014 Private Placement (Incorporated by reference to Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on February 24, 2014).
10.1	Amended 2011 Equity Incentive Plan as of February 6, 2013 (Incorporated by reference to Form 10-K, filed with the SEC on March 29, 2013).
10.2	Financing Agreement between the Company and Bridge Bank, dated March 1, 2013 (Incorporated by reference to Form 10-K, filed with the SEC on March 29, 2013).
10.3	Form of Securities Purchase Agreement executed by IZEA, Inc. and Investors in the 2013 Private Placement (Incorporated by reference to Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on August 21, 2013).
10.4	Form of Securities Purchase Agreement, dated as of February 12, 2014, by and among IZEA, Inc. and the Investors (Incorporated by reference to Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on February 19, 2014).
10.5	Form of Registration Rights Agreement, dated as of February 21, 2014, among IZEA, Inc. and each of the Investors (Incorporated by reference to Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on February 24, 2014).
10.6	Amended and Restated 2011 Equity Incentive Plan as of April 16, 2014 (Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on April 18, 2014).
10.7	2014 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on April 18, 2014).
10.8	Employment Agreement between IZEA, Inc. and LeAnn Hitchcock dated August 25, 2014 (Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on August 25, 2014).
10.9	Employment Agreement between IZEA, Inc. and Edward Murphy dated December 26, 2014 (Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on December 31, 2014).
10.10	Employment Agreement between IZEA, Inc. and Ryan Schram dated January 25, 2015 (Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on January 29, 2015).
10.11	Stock Purchase Agreement, dated as of January 27, 2015, by and among IZEA, Inc., Ebyline, Inc. and the Stockholders of Ebyline, Inc. listed on the signature pages thereto (Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on January 29, 2015).
10.12	Business Financing Modification Agreement between IZEA, Inc., Ebyline, Inc. and Bridge Bank, NA, dated as of April 13, 2015 (Incorporated by reference to the Company's current report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on April 14, 2015).
101	*** The following materials from IZEA, Inc.'s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the three months ended March 31, 2015 are formatted in XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language): (i) the Consolidated Balance Sheets, (ii) the Consolidated Statements of Operations, (iii) the Consolidated Statement of Stockholders' Equity (Deficit), (iv) the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flow, and (iv) Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

- \* Filed herewith.
- \*\* In accordance with Item 601 of Regulation S-K, this Exhibit is hereby furnished to the SEC as an accompanying document and is not deemed “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933.
- \*\*\* In accordance with Rule 406T of Regulation S-T, the XBRL related information in Exhibit 101 to this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q shall not be deemed to be “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Exchange Act, or otherwise subject to the liability of that section, and shall not be incorporated by reference into any registration statement or other document filed under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

**IZEA, Inc.**  
**a Nevada corporation**

May 14, 2015

By: /s/ Edward H. Murphy

Edward H. Murphy  
Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer  
(Principal Executive Officer)

May 14, 2015

By: /s/ LeAnn C. Hitchcock

LeAnn C. Hitchcock  
Chief Financial Officer  
(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

Certification by Principal Executive Officer  
pursuant to Section 302 of Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002

I, Edward H. Murphy, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this report on Form 10-Q of IZEA, Inc.;

2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;

3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;

4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:

(a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;

(b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;

(c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and

(d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and

5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):

(a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and

(b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Dated: May 14, 2015

/s/ Edward H. Murphy

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Edward H. Murphy

Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer

(Principal Executive Officer)

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO  
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,  
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the Quarterly Report of IZEA, Inc., a Nevada corporation (the "Company"), on Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2015, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Edward Murphy, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934;  
and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and result of operations of the Company.

Dated: May 14, 2015

/s/ Edward Murphy

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Edward Murphy  
Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer  
(Principal Executive Officer)

Certification by Principal Financial and Accounting Officer  
pursuant to Section 302 of Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002

I, LeAnn C. Hitchcock, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this report on Form 10-Q of IZEA, Inc.;

2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;

3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;

4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:

(a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;

(b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;

(c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and

(d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and

5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):

(a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and

(b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Dated: May 14, 2015

/s/ LeAnn C. Hitchcock

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LeAnn C. Hitchcock

Chief Financial Officer

(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO  
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,  
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the Quarterly Report of IZEA, Inc., a Nevada corporation (the “Company”), on Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2015, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the “Report”), I, LeAnn C. Hitchcock, Chief Financial Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934;  
and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and result of operations of the Company.

Dated: May 14, 2015

/s/ LeAnn C. Hitchcock

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LeAnn C. Hitchcock  
Chief Financial Officer  
(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)