

CLEARSIGN COMBUSTION CORP  
Form 10-Q  
May 12, 2016

**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, 2016**

**OR**

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

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

**Commission File Number 001-35521**

**CLEARSIGN COMBUSTION CORPORATION**

**(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

**WASHINGTON**

**26-2056298**

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(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer  
incorporation or organization) Identification No.)

**12870 Interurban Avenue South**

**Seattle, Washington 98168**

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

**(206) 673-4848**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

**No change**

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 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 than 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, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of "accelerated filer," and "large accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

(Do not check if a 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 12, 2016 the issuer has 12,943,354 shares of common stock, par value \$.0001, issued and outstanding.

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**PART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATION****ITEM 1. CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

ClearSign Combustion Corporation

Condensed Balance Sheets

(Unaudited)

	March 31, 2016	December 31, 2015
<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>		
Current Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$7,881,000	\$10,985,000
Prepaid expenses	174,000	203,000
Total current assets	8,055,000	11,188,000
Fixed assets, net		
Patents and other intangible assets, net	3,178,000	2,881,000
Other assets	10,000	10,000
Total Assets	\$11,343,000	\$14,202,000
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$530,000	\$495,000
Accrued compensation and taxes	593,000	1,109,000
Deferred rent	16,000	20,000
Total current liabilities	1,139,000	1,624,000
Commitments		
Stockholders' Equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.0001 par value, zero shares issued and outstanding	-	-
Common stock, \$0.0001 par value, 12,882,471 and 12,868,943 shares issued and outstanding at March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, respectively	1,000	1,000
Additional paid-in capital	41,950,000	41,735,000

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Accumulated deficit	(31,747,000)	(29,158,000)
Total stockholders' equity	10,204,000	12,578,000
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	\$ 11,343,000	\$ 14,202,000

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed financial statements.

ClearSign Combustion Corporation

Condensed Statements of Operations

(Unaudited)

	For the Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2016	2015
Operating expenses:		
Research and development	\$1,325,000	\$573,000
General and administrative	1,276,000	1,019,000
Total operating expenses	2,601,000	1,592,000
Loss from operations	(2,601,000 )	(1,592,000 )
Other income:		
Interest income	12,000	9,000
Net Loss	\$(2,589,000 )	\$(1,583,000 )
Net Loss per share - basic and fully diluted	\$(0.20 )	\$(0.14 )
Weighted average number of shares outstanding - basic and fully diluted	12,869,092	11,363,356

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed financial statements.

ClearSign Combustion Corporation

Condensed Statement of Stockholders' Equity

(Unaudited)

For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2016

	Common Stock		Additional	Accumulated	Total
	Shares	Amount	Paid-In Capital	Deficit	Stockholders' Equity
Balances at December 31, 2015	12,868,943	\$ 1,000	\$41,735,000	\$(29,158,000)	\$ 12,578,000
Shares issued for services (\$3.40 per share)	11,028	-	37,000	-	37,000
Shares issued for services (\$3.96 per share)	2,500	-	10,000	-	10,000
Share based compensation	-	-	168,000	-	168,000
Net loss	-	-	-	(2,589,000 )	(2,589,000 )
Balances at March 31, 2016	12,882,471	\$ 1,000	\$41,950,000	\$(31,747,000)	\$ 10,204,000

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed financial statements.



## ClearSign Combustion Corporation

## Condensed Statements of Cash Flows

(Unaudited)

	For the Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2016	2015
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net loss	\$(2,589,000 )	\$(1,583,000 )
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating activities:		
Common stock issued for services	47,000	25,000
Share based payments	168,000	116,000
Depreciation and amortization	42,000	56,000
Abandonment of capitalized patents pending	65,000	-
Deferred rent	(4,000 )	(3,000 )
Change in operating assets and liabilities:		
Prepaid expenses	29,000	(2,000 )
Accounts payable	35,000	(53,000 )
Accrued compensation	(516,000 )	(391,000 )
Net cash used in operating activities	(2,723,000 )	(1,835,000 )
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Acquisition of fixed assets	(11,000 )	(17,000 )
Disbursements for patents and other intangible assets	(370,000 )	(335,000 )
Net cash used in investing activities	(381,000 )	(352,000 )
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Proceeds from issuance of common stock for cash, net of offering costs	-	16,279,000
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	-	253,000
Net cash provided by financing activities	-	16,532,000
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(3,104,000 )	14,345,000
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	10,985,000	1,845,000
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$7,881,000	\$16,190,000

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed financial statements.



## **ClearSign Combustion Corporation**

### **Notes to Unaudited Condensed Financial Statements**

#### **Note 1 – Organization and Description of Business**

ClearSign Combustion Corporation (ClearSign or the Company) designs and is developing technologies for the purpose of improving key performance characteristics of combustion systems, including emission and operational performance, energy efficiency and overall cost-effectiveness. The Company's primary technologies include its Duplex™ technology, which achieves very low emissions without the need of external flue gas recirculation, selective catalytic reduction, or higher excess air operation, and its Electrodynamic Combustion Control™ or ECC™ technology, which introduces a computer-controlled electric field into the combustion region which may better control gas-phase chemical reactions and improve system performance and cost-effectiveness. The Company is headquartered in Seattle, Washington and was incorporated in the state of Washington in 2008.

The Company's technologies are currently in field development and have generated de minimis revenues from operations to date to meet operating expenses. In order to generate meaningful revenues, the technologies must be fully developed, gain market recognition and acceptance, and develop a critical level of successful sales and product installations. The Company has historically financed its operations primarily through issuances of equity securities. The Company has incurred losses since its inception totaling \$31,747,000 and expects to experience operating losses and negative cash flow for the foreseeable future. Management believes that the successful growth and operation of the Company's business is dependent upon its ability to obtain adequate sources of funding through co-development agreements, strategic partnering agreements, or equity or debt financing to adequately support research and development efforts, protect intellectual property, form relationships with strategic partners, and provide for working capital and general corporate purposes. There can be no assurance that the Company will be successful in achieving its long-term plans as set forth above, or that such plans, if consummated, will enable the Company to obtain profitable operations or continue in the long-term as a going concern.

#### **Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

##### Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited condensed financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission for Form 10-Q. Accordingly, certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting

principles have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such rules and regulations. The condensed balance sheet at December 31, 2015 has been derived from the Company's audited financial statements.

In the opinion of management, these financial statements reflect all normal recurring and other adjustments necessary for a fair presentation. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015. Operating results for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of operating results for an entire fiscal year or any other future periods.

#### Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make certain 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.

### Revenue Recognition and Cost of Revenue

Revenues from design and installation of the Company's products are recognized on the completed contract method. Revenues from contracts and related costs of goods sold are recognized once the contract is completed or substantially completed. Contract costs include all direct material and labor costs and those indirect costs related to contract performance, such as indirect labor, supplies, and depreciation costs. Provisions for estimated losses on uncompleted contracts are made in the period in which such losses are determined.

### Cash and Cash Equivalents

Highly liquid investments purchased with an original maturity of three months or less are considered cash equivalents. Cash is maintained with a commercial bank where accounts are generally guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation up to \$250,000. The Company's deposits may at times exceed this limit. The Company has not experienced losses in such accounts and believes it is not exposed to any significant credit risk on cash and cash equivalents.

### Fixed Assets

Fixed assets are recorded at cost. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the respective assets. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the life of the lease or their useful life, whichever is shorter. All other fixed assets are depreciated over two to four years. Maintenance and repairs are expensed as incurred.

### Patents and Trademarks

Patents and trademarks are recorded at cost. Amortization is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets once they are awarded.

### Impairment of Long-Lived Assets

The Company tests long-lived assets for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable through the estimated undiscounted cash flows expected to result from the use and eventual disposition of the assets. In that event, a loss is recognized based on the amount by which the carrying amount exceeds the fair value of the long-lived assets. Loss on long-lived assets to be disposed of is determined in a similar manner, except that fair values are reduced for the cost of disposal.

#### Fair Value of Financial Instruments

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Assets and liabilities measured at fair value are categorized based on whether or not the inputs are observable in the market and the degree that the inputs are observable. The categorization of financial assets and liabilities within the valuation hierarchy is based upon the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

The Company's financial instruments primarily consist of cash and cash equivalents, accounts payable and accrued expenses. As of the balance sheet dates, the estimated fair values of the financial instruments were not materially different from their carrying values as presented on the balance sheets. This is primarily attributable to the short term maturities of these instruments. The Company did not identify any other non-recurring assets and liabilities that are required to be presented in the balance sheets at fair value.

#### Research and Development

The cost of research and development is expensed as incurred. Research and development costs consist of salaries, benefits, share based compensation, consulting fees, rent, utilities, depreciation, and consumables used in laboratory and field testing.

### Deferred Rent

Operating lease agreements which contain provisions for future rent increases or periods in which rent payments are reduced or abated are recorded in monthly rent expense in the amount of the total payments over the lease term divided by the number of months of the lease term. The difference between rent expense recorded and the amount paid is credited or charged to deferred rent which is reflected on the accompanying balance sheets.

### Income Taxes

The Company accounts for income taxes using an asset and liability approach which allows for the recognition and measurement of deferred tax assets based upon the likelihood of realization of tax benefits in future years. Under the asset and liability approach, deferred taxes are provided for the net tax effects of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for income tax purposes. A valuation allowance is provided for deferred tax assets if it is more likely than not these items will either expire before the Company is able to realize their benefits, or that future deductibility is uncertain. Tax benefits from an uncertain tax position are recognized only if it is more likely than not that the tax position will be sustained on examination by the taxing authorities based on the technical merits of the position. The tax benefits recognized in the financial statements from such a position are measured based on the largest benefit that has a greater than 50 percent likelihood of being realized upon ultimate resolution.

### Stock-Based Compensation

The costs of all employee stock options, as well as other equity-based compensation arrangements, are reflected in the financial statements based on the estimated fair value of the awards on the grant date. That cost is recognized over the period during which an employee is required to provide service in exchange for the award. Stock compensation for stock granted to non-employees is determined as the fair value of the consideration received or the fair value of equity instruments issued, whichever is more reliably measured.

### Net Loss per Common Share

Basic loss per share is computed by dividing loss available to common stockholders by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding. Diluted loss per share is computed similar to basic loss per share except that the denominator is increased to include additional common shares available upon exercise of stock options and warrants

using the treasury stock method, except for periods for which no common share equivalents are included because their effect would be anti-dilutive. At March 31, 2016 and 2015, potentially dilutive shares outstanding amounted to 1,285,296 and 1,120,214, respectively.

### Reclassifications

Certain prior period financial statement amounts have been reclassified to conform to current period presentation.

### Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements

In February 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2016-02 regarding leases. The new standard requires lessee recognition on the balance sheet of a right-of-use asset and a lease liability, initially measured at the present value of the lease payments. It further requires recognition in the income statement of a single lease cost, calculated so that the cost of the lease is allocated over the lease term on a generally straight-line basis. Finally, it requires classification of all cash payments within operating activities in the statement of cash flows. It is effective for fiscal years commencing after December 15, 2018 and early adoption is permitted. Management does not believe that this standard or any other recently issued, but not yet effective standards, if adopted, will have a material effect on the financial statements.

### Emerging Growth Company

The Company is an emerging growth company as defined under the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act of 2012 (JOBS Act). An emerging growth company may delay the adoption of certain accounting standards until those standards would otherwise apply to private companies. The Company will remain an emerging growth company until December 31, 2017, although it will lose that status sooner if its revenues exceed \$1 billion, if it issues more than \$1 billion in non-convertible debt in a three year period, or if the market value of its common stock that is held by non-affiliates exceeds \$700 million as of any June 30. At June 30, 2015, the market value of the Company's common stock held by non-affiliates totaled \$61 million.



**Note 3 – Fixed Assets**

Fixed assets are summarized as follows:

	March 31, 2016 (unaudited)	December 31, 2015
Machinery and equipment	\$ 639,000	\$ 639,000
Office furniture and equipment	126,000	115,000
Leasehold improvements	130,000	130,000
Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(795,000 )	(761,000)
	\$ 100,000	\$ 123,000

**Note 4 – Patents and Other Intangible Assets**

Patents and other intangible assets are summarized as follows:

	March 31, 2016 (unaudited)	December 31, 2015
Patents		
Patents pending	\$2,959,000	\$2,730,000
Issued patents	191,000	115,000
	3,150,000	2,845,000
Trademarks		
Trademarks pending	18,000	18,000
Registered trademarks	23,000	23,000
	41,000	41,000
Other	8,000	8,000
	3,199,000	2,894,000
Accumulated amortization	(21,000 )	(13,000 )
	\$3,178,000	\$2,881,000

Future amortization expense associated with issued patents and registered trademarks as of March 31, 2016 is estimated as follows:

2016	\$25,000
2017	33,000
2018	33,000
2019	33,000
2020	31,000
Thereafter	38,000
	\$193,000

During the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, the Company recorded an impairment loss of \$65,000 and \$0, respectively, from abandonment of capitalized patents.

### **Note 5 – Termination of Employment Agreement**

The Company and its former Chief Executive Officer, Richard F. Rutkowski, entered into an agreement in December 2014 terminating a prior employment agreement. Under this agreement, Mr. Rutkowski will be paid his annual salary of \$359,000 through December 31, 2016, was paid a bonus of \$60,000 in 2015, has received employee benefits through December 2015, and received accelerated vesting on 15,625 stock options with an exercise price of \$4.88 per share and 14,219 stock options with an exercise price of \$9.90 per share. The options were not exercised prior to March 2015, therefore, pursuant to the terms of the option agreements and the ClearSign Combustion Company 2011 Equity Incentive Plan, the right to exercise the options terminated.

The liability incurred under this agreement totaled \$943,000 which was recognized in general and administrative expense in 2014 and included a fair value of \$50,000 attributable to the stock option provisions. At March 31, 2016, the remaining liability totaled \$275,000 and is due through December 2016.

### **Note 6 – Stockholders' Equity**

#### Common Stock and Preferred Stock

The Company is authorized to issue 62,500,000 shares of common stock and 2,000,000 shares of preferred stock. Preferences, limitations, voting powers and relative rights of any preferred stock to be issued may be determined by the Company's Board of Directors. The Company has not issued any shares of preferred stock.

In February 2015, the Company completed an underwritten public offering of common stock whereby 2,990,000 shares were issued at \$5.85 per share. Gross proceeds from the offering totaled \$17.5 million and net cash proceeds approximated \$16.3 million. Expenses of the offering approximated \$1.2 million, including underwriting fees of \$1,049,000, underwriter legal fees and other costs of \$55,000, and other costs of \$108,000.

#### Equity Incentive Plan

The Company has an Equity Incentive Plan (the Plan) which provides for the granting of options to purchase shares of common stock, stock awards to purchase shares at no less than 85% of the value of the shares, and stock bonuses to

officers, employees, board members, consultants, and advisors. The Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors is authorized to administer the Plan and establish the grant terms, including the grant price, vesting period and exercise date. As of March 31, 2016, the number of shares reserved for issuance under the Plan totaled 1,397,124 shares. The Plan provides for quarterly increases in the available number of authorized shares equal to the lesser of 10% of any new shares issued by the Company during the quarter immediately prior to the adjustment date or such lesser amount as the Board of Directors shall determine.

In March 2016, the Company authorized 44,112 shares of common stock to be issued under the Plan to its three independent directors in accordance with board agreements and which will be earned quarterly for service in 2016. The fair value of the stock at the time of grant was \$3.40 per share for a total value of \$150,000. The Company recognized \$37,000 in general and administrative expense for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and will recognize the remaining \$113,000 in the remainder of 2016.

In accordance with the Plan, options for the purchase of 7,504 shares of common stock were exercised in 2014 prior to vesting and the shares of common stock purchased were issued with a declining repurchase right in favor of the Company at the exercise price of \$4.88 per share. The Company may repurchase shares if, prior to December 31, 2016, the employee terminates employment or certain other designated events occur. At March 31, 2016, 3,335 shares remained subject to this repurchase right.

Outstanding stock option grants at March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015 totaled 721,024 shares and 723,400 shares with the right to purchase 474,160 shares and 257,391 shares being vested and exercisable at March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, respectively. Stock grants made to date through March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015 totaled 224,486 shares and 213,458 shares, respectively. Of these amounts, 8,000 shares and 12,000 shares at March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, respectively, are subject to declining repurchase rights by the Company at \$0.0001 per share through September 30, 2016. The recognized compensation expense associated with these grants for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015 totaled \$205,000 and \$141,000, respectively. At March 31, 2016, the number of shares reserved under the Plan but unissued totaled 451,614. At March 31, 2016, there was \$754,000 of total unrecognized compensation cost related to non-vested share based compensation arrangements granted under the Plan. That cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 1.69 years.

Consultant Stock Plan

The Company has a 2013 Consultant Stock Plan (the Consultant Plan) which provides for the granting of shares of common stock to consultants who provide services related to capital raising, investor relations, and making a market in or promoting the Company's securities. The Company's officers, employees, and board members are not entitled to receive grants from the Consultant Plan. The Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors is authorized to administer the Consultant Plan and establish the grant terms. The number of shares reserved for issuance under the Consultant Plan on March 31, 2016 totaled 115,869 with 90,119 of those shares unissued. The Consultant Plan provides for quarterly increases in the available number of authorized shares equal to the lesser of 1% of any new shares issued by the Company during the quarter immediately prior to the adjustment date or such lesser amount as the Board of Directors shall determine. In August 2015, the Company granted 10,000 shares of common stock under the Consultant Stock Plan to a consultant for services from June 2015 to May 2016 and subject to completion of service each quarter. The fair value of the stock at the time of grant was \$3.96 per share for a total value of \$40,000 which the Company will recognize in general and administrative expense on a pro-rated quarterly basis. The Consultant Plan expense for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015 was \$10,000 and \$0, respectively.

Warrants

The Company has the following warrants outstanding at March 31, 2016:

Exercise Price	Total Outstanding Warrants		
	Warrants	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Life (in years)
\$1.80	80,000	\$1.80	4.88
\$2.20	118,959	\$2.20	0.11
\$5.00	345,000	\$5.00	1.07
\$10.00	20,313	\$10.00	2.93
	564,272	\$4.14	

**Note 7 – Related Party Transactions**

In connection with the February 2015 underwritten public offering described in Note 6, the Company paid the underwriter, MDB Capital Group, LLC (MDB), underwriting fees of \$1,049,000 and underwriter legal fees and other

costs of \$55,000. As of their last public filing in March 2015, MDB and its chief executive officer beneficially own, in the aggregate, approximately 8.0% of the Company's common stock.

#### **Note 8 – Commitments**

On February 3, 2015, the Company and its newly-appointed Chief Executive Officer, Stephen E. Pirnat, entered into an employment agreement (the Agreement) which terminates on December 31, 2017, unless earlier terminated. Compensation under the Agreement includes an annual salary of \$350,000 with annual cost-of-living adjustments, a grant of stock options to purchase 300,000 shares of the Company's common stock, annual cash bonuses that may equal up to 60% of his annual salary and equity bonuses based on performance standards established by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors, medical and dental benefits for Mr. Pirnat and his family, other employee benefits offered to employees generally and relocation expenses up to approximately \$100,000. The Agreement may be terminated by the Company without cause under certain circumstances, as defined in the Agreement, whereby a severance payment would be due in the amount of compensation that would have been due had employment not been terminated or one year of the current annual compensation, whichever is greater. In the event of a change in control, Mr. Pirnat would receive one year's compensation and all previously granted stock options would vest in full.

The Company has a triple net lease for office and laboratory space through February 2017. Under the terms of the lease, the Company paid no rent for the period November 2011 to February 2012 and for February 2014. Rent escalates annually by 3%. The Company records monthly rent expense equal to the total of the payments over the lease term divided by the number of months of the lease term. For the three months ended March 31, 2016, the deferred rent was reduced by \$4,000 and \$3,000, respectively. Under the terms of the lease, the Company also pays monthly triple net operating costs which currently approximate \$3,000 per month. Minimum future payments under the Company's lease at March 31, 2016 are as follows:

2016	\$ 106,000
2017	24,000
	\$ 130,000

For the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, rent expense amounted to \$51,000 and \$42,000, respectively.

The Company has a field test agreement with a customer to demonstrate and test the Duplex technology in a once through steam generator (OTSG) used to facilitate a thermally enhanced oil recovery process. Under the terms of the agreement, the Company has retrofitted an OTSG unit in order to achieve certain performance criteria. The agreement also includes time-sensitive pricing, delivery and installation terms, if elected, that will apply to future purchases of this Duplex application by this customer.

**SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS AND OTHER INFORMATION  
CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT**

This report contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and the provisions of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Forward-looking statements give our current expectations or forecasts of future events. You can identify these statements by the fact that they do not relate strictly to historical or current facts. You can find many (but not all) of these statements by looking for words such as “approximates,” “believes,” “hopes,” “expects,” “anticipates,” “estimates,” “projects,” “intends,” “plans,” “would,” “should,” “could,” “may,” or other similar expressions in the report. In particular, these include statements relating to future actions; prospective products, applications, customers, or technologies; future performance or results of anticipated products; anticipated expenses, and future financial results. These forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from our historical experience and our present expectations or projections. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to:

- our limited cash and our history of losses;
- our ability to successfully develop and implement our technology and achieve profitability;
- our limited operating history;
- emerging competition and rapidly advancing technology in our industry that may outpace our technology;
- customer demand for the products and services we develop;
- the impact of competitive or alternative products, technologies and pricing;
- our ability to manufacture any products we design;
- general economic conditions and events and the impact they may have on us and our potential customers;
- our ability to obtain adequate financing in the future;
- our ability to continue as a going concern;
- our success at managing the risks involved in the foregoing items; and
- other factors discussed in this report.

Forward-looking statements may appear throughout this report, including, without limitation, Item 2 “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.” The forward-looking statements are based



upon management's beliefs and assumptions and are made as of the date of this report. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements included in this report. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements.

Unless otherwise stated or the context otherwise requires, the terms "ClearSign," "we," "us," "our" and the "Company" refer to ClearSign Combustion Corporation.

## **ITEM MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS 2. OF OPERATIONS**

*The following discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations should be read in conjunction with the unaudited condensed financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q as well as our audited financial statements and related notes included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K. In addition to historical information, this discussion and analysis here and throughout this Form 10-Q contains forward-looking statements that involve risks, uncertainties and assumptions. Our actual results may differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements due to a number of factors, including but not limited to, the risks described in the section titled "Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K.*

### **OVERVIEW**

We design and are developing technologies for the purpose of improving key performance characteristics of combustion systems, including emission and operational performance, energy efficiency and overall cost-effectiveness. Our patent-pending Duplex™ and Electrodynamic Combustion Control™ (ECC™) platform technologies enhance the performance of combustion systems in a broad range of markets, including the refinery, petrochemical, chemical, power and commercial boiler industries. Our Duplex technology uses a porous ceramic tile above a standard burner to significantly reduce flame length and achieve very low emissions without the need for external flue gas recirculation, selective catalytic reduction, or excess air systems. Our ECC technology introduces a computer-controlled high voltage electric field into a combustion volume in order to better control gas-phase chemical reactions and improve system performance and cost-effectiveness. To date, our operations have been funded primarily through sales of our common stock. We have earned no significant revenue since inception on January 23, 2008. We are headquartered in Seattle, Washington with an office in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

### **Plan of Operation**

We are pursuing development of our technologies to enable future sales. These activities entail (i) field development projects in the case of our Duplex technology where we have successfully demonstrated our proprietary technology operating in our field testing with thermal output of up to 52 million BTU/hr, (ii) laboratory research in the case of our ECC technology where we have demonstrated certain attributes of our proprietary technology operating in our research facility with thermal output of up to 2 million BTU/hr, and (iii) business development and marketing activities with established entities that use steam generators, process heaters, boilers, solid fuel burners, and other combustion systems as well as original equipment manufacturers. We intend to continue to enter into collaborative arrangements which would enable us to work closely with established companies in targeted industries to apply solutions developed in our laboratory and field settings.

We currently have eight field test projects using our Duplex technology: three related to OTSGs in the enhanced oil recovery industry, one related to wellhead enclosed flares, and four related to process heaters in the oil refining industry. Four of these projects are in the design phase and four are in the fieldwork stage. Our fieldwork has been successful to date in registering NOx emission levels within the specifications of the customer and relevant regulatory bodies. However, there remains certain additional fieldwork required before we can complete the installations and commissioning processes. Six of the eight field test project agreements include payments once the project is completed and the installed unit is operating to the customer's satisfaction. As each of these trials are completed, we expect to recognize small amounts of revenue. As we move forward with commercial sales of Duplex, we anticipate more traditional sales terms, but will continue to recognize the revenue only following customer acceptance. We believe that successful completion of field development projects is critical to the commercialization of a Duplex product.

In April 2016, we announced an agreement with a major Canadian oil sands producer to design and engineer our Duplex technology for application to their fleet of OTSGs. These OTSGs typically have thermal output of approximately 250 million Btu/hr and are instrumental to extracting heavy, viscous oil deposits from Alberta oil sands. Based upon customer communications, the project is expected to be completed in the next six months.

We intend to continue field validation of our Duplex technology in order to produce sufficient data to demonstrate product attributes and dependability.

Our business plan contemplates licensing our technology after we prove commercial viability and generate interest from original equipment manufacturers (OEMs). Licensing would significantly change the makeup of our revenue mix, revenue recognition, and margins. Licensing our technology within one or an array of selected vertical markets (e.g. packaged boilers) could dramatically accelerate the global sales and market adoption rate of our technology. However, in order to create channel flexibility and meet end user demand for our technologies, we intend to continue pursuit of our sales capabilities to end user customers through direct sales, sub-contractors, or channel partners. While we are currently pursuing various licensing arrangements, we have no agreements at this time and do not anticipate entering into any such agreements prior to completion of the field development projects discussed above. We believe that the continuing development of Duplex, the completion of sales and an increase in end-users will enhance our ability to license our technology.

Our initial target markets center on the energy sector, including upstream crude oil production through the use of OTSGs and wellhead enclosed flares and downstream oil refineries through the use of process heaters. In recent years, the energy sector has been significantly affected by the volatile market price of crude oil. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, the spot price of West Texas intermediate crude oil in the last five years has ranged from approximately \$110 per barrel to approximately \$25 per barrel. Regardless of the effect of crude oil prices, based upon our experience and feedback from prospective customers, we believe that the market continues to validate the appeal of our Duplex technology to oil producers due to the technology's lower emissions and the operational efficiencies that result from increased fuel efficiency and/or reduced downtime for maintenance. These operational efficiencies become more important in times of lower crude oil prices as operators become more focused on minimizing costs, including both operating costs and capital expenditures. Further, we believe that operators in all of our target markets are under intense pressure to meet current and proposed federal, state and local emissions standards. We believe that our Duplex technology can provide a unique, cost-effective pollution control solution for operators.

Historically, we have funded our operations through the sale of our common stock, including the following sales of common stock in the public market:

In April and May 2012, we completed an initial public offering (IPO) of our common stock whereby we sold 3,450,000 shares of common stock at \$4.00 per share, which included the exercise of the underwriter's overallotment option, resulting in gross proceeds of \$13.8 million and, after deducting certain costs paid with common stock, net proceeds of \$11.6 million.

-In March 2014, we completed a registered direct offering of our common stock whereby we sold 812,500 shares of common stock at \$8.00 per share resulting in gross proceeds of \$6.5 million and net proceeds of approximately \$5.8

million.

In February 2015, we completed an underwritten public offering of our common stock whereby we sold 2,990,000 -shares of common stock at \$5.85 per share resulting in gross proceeds of \$17.5 million and net proceeds of approximately \$16.3 million.

Our costs include but, depending on new or changed circumstances, may not be limited to employee salaries and benefits, compensation paid to consultants, capital costs for research and other equipment, costs associated with development activities including travel and administration, legal expenses, sales and marketing costs, general and administrative expenses, and other costs associated with an early stage, publicly-traded technology company. We currently have 20 full-time employees and 1 part-time employee. We anticipate increasing the number of employees required to support our activities in the areas of operations, research and development, sales and marketing, and general and administrative functions. We expect to incur increasing consulting expenses related to technology development and increasing expenses to protect our intellectual property.

The amount that we spend for any specific purpose may vary significantly, and could depend on a number of factors including, but not limited to, the pace of progress of our commercialization and development efforts, actual needs with respect to product testing, development and research, market conditions, and changes in or revisions to our marketing strategies.

Research, development, and commercial acceptance of new technologies are, by their nature, unpredictable. Although we will undertake development and commercialization efforts with reasonable diligence, there can be no assurance that the net proceeds from our securities offerings will be sufficient to enable us to develop our technology to the extent needed to create future sales to sustain operations. If the net proceeds from these offerings are insufficient for this purpose, we will consider other options to continue our path to commercialization, including, but not limited to: additional financing through follow-on equity offerings, debt financing, co-development agreements, sale or licensing of developed intellectual or other property, or other alternatives.

If management is unable to implement its proposed business plan or employ alternative financing strategies, it does not presently have any alternative proposals. In that case, we may be required to scale back our development plans by reducing expenditures for employees, consultants, business development and marketing efforts, and other envisioned expenditures or curtail or even suspend our operations.

We cannot assure that our technology will be accepted, that we will ever earn revenues sufficient to support our operations, or that we will ever be profitable. Furthermore, we have no committed source of financing and we cannot assure that we will be able to raise money as and when we need it to continue our operations. If we cannot raise funds as and when we need them, we may be required to severely curtail, or even to cease, our operations.

## **CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The following discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations is based upon our financial statements, which have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Certain accounting policies and estimates are particularly important to the understanding of our financial position and results of operations and require the application of significant judgment by our management or can be materially affected by changes from period to period in economic factors or conditions that are outside of our control. As a result, they are subject to an inherent degree of uncertainty. In applying these policies, our management uses their judgment to determine the appropriate assumptions to be used in the determination of certain estimates. Those estimates are based on our historical operations, our future business plans and projected financial results, the terms of existing contracts, our observance of trends in the industry, information provided by our customers and information available from other outside sources, as appropriate. See Note 2 to our unaudited condensed financial statements for a more complete description of our significant accounting policies.

Revenue Recognition and Cost of Revenue. Revenues from design and installation of the Company's products are recognized on the completed contract method. Revenues from contracts and related costs of goods sold are recognized once the contract is completed or substantially completed. Contract costs include all direct material and labor costs and those indirect costs related to contract performance, such as indirect labor, supplies, and depreciation costs. Provisions for estimated losses on uncompleted contracts are made in the period in which such losses are determined.

Research and Development. The cost of research and development is expensed as incurred. Research and development costs consist of salaries, benefits, share based compensation, consulting fees, rent, utilities, depreciation, and consumables used in laboratory and field testing.

Patents and Trademarks. Patents and trademarks are recorded at cost. Amortization is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets once they are issued.

Stock-Based Compensation. The costs of all employee stock options, as well as other equity-based compensation arrangements, are reflected in the financial statements based on the estimated fair value of the awards on the grant date. That cost is recognized over the period during which an employee is required to provide service in exchange for the award. Stock compensation for stock granted to non-employees is determined as the fair value of the consideration received or the fair value of equity instruments issued, whichever is more reliably measured.

Fair Value of Financial Instruments. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Assets and liabilities measured at fair value are categorized based on whether or not the inputs are observable in the market and the degree that the inputs are observable. The categorization of financial assets and liabilities within the valuation hierarchy is based upon the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

The Company's financial instruments primarily consist of cash and cash equivalents, accounts payable and accrued expenses. As of the balance sheet dates, the estimated fair values of the financial instruments were not materially different from their carrying values as presented on the balance sheets. This is primarily attributed to the short maturities of these instruments. The Company did not identify any other non-recurring assets and liabilities that are required to be presented in the balance sheets at fair value.

## **RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

### **Comparison of the Three Months Ending March 31, 2016 and 2015**

*Operating Expenses.* Operating expenses, consisting of research and development (R&D) and general and administrative (G&A) expenses, increased by approximately \$1,009,000 to \$2,601,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2016, referred to herein as Q1 2016, compared to the same period in 2015 (Q1 2015). The Company increased its R&D expenses by \$752,000 to \$1,325,000 for Q1 2016 primarily due to increased field and laboratory testing costs of our Duplex technology. Specifically, personnel levels increased from 9.5 full time equivalent employees (FTEs) to 15 FTEs increasing personnel costs by \$292,000 and field testing and consulting costs increased by \$417,000. G&A expenses increased by \$257,000 to \$1,276,000 in Q1 2016 resulting primarily from \$165,000 of increased consulting fees, \$65,000 in impairment loss from abandoned capitalized patents, and \$54,000 of increased costs as a public company.

*Loss from Operations.* Due to the increase in operating expenses, our loss from operations increased during Q1 2016 by \$1,009,000 to \$2,601,000.

*Net Loss.* Primarily as a result of the increase in operating expenses, our net loss for Q1 2016 was \$2,589,000 as compared to a net loss of \$1,583,000 for Q1 2015, resulting in an increased net loss of \$1,006,000.

## **Liquidity and Capital Resources**



At March 31, 2016, our cash and cash equivalent balance totaled \$7,881,000 compared to \$10,985,000 at December 31, 2015. This decrease resulted primarily from our operating costs for the three months ended March 31, 2016 associated with the ongoing research and development of our technology.

Although we are pursuing sales, licensing and co-development agreements, there is no assurance that we will be successful in pursuing these strategies or that, even if we are successful, they will be adequate to fund our operations and commercialize our technology. To the extent sales, licensing and co-development agreement funding is insufficient for these purposes, we may undertake offerings of our securities, debt financing, selling or licensing our developed intellectual or other property, or other alternatives. The Company filed a Form S-3 shelf registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 29, 2015 that was declared effective on January 7, 2016. The registration statement allows the Company to offer up to an aggregate of \$30,000,000 of common stock, preferred stock, warrants or units from time to time as market conditions permit. We expect to use this equity funding to enable further investment in our technology and product development and to maintain a strong balance sheet. This information does not constitute an offer of any securities for sale.

At March 31, 2016, our current assets were in excess of current liabilities resulting in working capital of \$6,916,000 compared to \$9,564,000 at December 31, 2015. The decrease in working capital resulted primarily from the funds used in operations and invested in intangible and fixed assets.

Operating activities for the three months ended March 31, 2016 resulted in cash outflows of \$2,723,000, which were due primarily to the loss for the period of \$2,589,000 and net changes in working capital, exclusive of cash, which reduced cash flow by \$452,000. These were offset by services paid with common stock and stock options of \$215,000, and other non-cash expenses of \$103,000.

Investing activities for the three months ended March 31, 2016 resulted in cash outflows of \$370,000 for development of patents and \$11,000 for acquisition of fixed assets.

There were no financing activities for the three months ended March 31, 2016.

**Off-Balance Sheet Transactions**

We do not have any off-balance sheet transactions.

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

As a smaller reporting company we are not required to provide this information.

### **ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by an issuer in the reports that it files or submits under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Act”) is accumulated and communicated to the issuer’s management, including its principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. Our management, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer (principal executive officer) and our Chief Financial Officer (principal financial and accounting officer), has concluded that, as of March 31, 2016, our disclosure controls and procedures are effective.

There have been no material changes in our internal controls over financial reporting that occurred during the quarter ended March 31, 2016 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal controls 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 which arise in the ordinary course of business. However, litigation is subject to inherent uncertainties and an adverse result in these or other matters may arise from time to time that may harm our business. We are currently not aware of any such legal proceedings or claims that we believe will have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or operating results.

### **ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS**

We incorporate herein by reference the risk factors included under Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 which we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 3, 2016.

**ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS**

Not applicable.

**ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES**

Not applicable.

**ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES**

Not applicable.

**ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION**

Not applicable.

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**ITEM 6. EXHIBITS**

<b>Exhibit Number</b>	<b>Document</b>
3.1	Articles of Incorporation of ClearSign Combustion Corporation, amended on February 2, 2011 (1)
3.1.1	Articles of Amendment to Articles of Incorporation of ClearSign Combustion Corporation filed on December 22, 2011 (1)
3.2	Bylaws (1)
31.1	Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of Chief Executive Officer*
31.2	Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of Chief Financial Officer*
32.1	Section 1350 Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer+*
101.INS	XBRL Instant Document*
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document*
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document*
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document*
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document*
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document*

\*Filed herewith

+Furnished herewith

(1) Incorporated by reference from the registrant's registration statement on Form S-1, as amended, file number 333-177946, originally filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 14, 2011.

**SIGNATURES**

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

**CLEARSIGN  
COMBUSTION  
CORPORATION**  
(Registrant)

Date: May 12, 2016    By:    /s/ Stephen E.  
Pirnat  
Stephen E. Pirnat  
Chief Executive  
Officer

By:    /s/ James N.  
Harmon  
James N. Harmon  
Chief Financial  
Officer