



March 29, 2012

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# RESEARCH IN MOTION REPORTS YEAR-END AND FOURTH QUARTER RESULTS FOR FISCAL 2012

*Waterloo, ON* – Research In Motion Limited (RIM) (Nasdaq: RIMM; TSX: RIM), a world leader in the mobile communications market, today reported fourth quarter results for the three months and fiscal year ended March 3, 2012 (all figures in U.S. dollars and U.S. GAAP, except where otherwise indicated).

#### **Highlights:**

- \$2.1 billion in cash, cash equivalents, short-term and long-term investments at the end of the quarter, which increased by approximately \$610 million in the quarter
- Cash flow from operations of approximately \$1.1 billion, up from approximately \$900 million in O3
- Revenue of \$4.2 billion, down 19% from the third quarter
- GAAP net loss in Q4 of \$125 million or \$0.24 per share diluted; adjusted net income of \$418 million or \$0.80 per share diluted
- BlackBerry smartphone shipments of 11.1 million in Q4, down 21% from Q3
- RIM to discontinue providing specific quantitative guidance
- RIM provides update on organizational changes

## **Q4 Results:**

Revenue for the fourth quarter of fiscal 2012 was \$4.2 billion, down 19% from \$5.2 billion in the previous quarter and down 25% from \$5.6 billion in the same quarter of fiscal 2011. The revenue breakdown for the quarter was approximately 68% for hardware, 27% for service and 5% for software and other revenue. During the quarter, RIM shipped approximately 11.1 million BlackBerry smartphones and over 500,000 BlackBerry PlayBook tablets.

"I have assessed many aspects of RIM's business during my first 10 weeks as CEO. I have confirmed that the Company has substantial strengths that can be further leveraged to improve our financial performance, including RIM's global network infrastructure, a strong enterprise offering and a large and growing base of more than 77 million subscribers. I'm very excited about the prospects for the BlackBerry 10 platform, which is on track for the latter part of calendar 2012. Notwithstanding these strengths and opportunities, the business challenges we face over the next several quarters are significant and I am taking the necessary steps to address them," said Thorsten Heins, President & CEO of Research In Motion. "In addition to delivering the BlackBerry 10 platform and refocusing resources on RIM's key opportunities, such as BlackBerry Mobile Fusion and new integrated service offerings, we will also drive greater operational performance through a variety of initiatives including increased management accountability and process discipline. In parallel, we are undertaking a comprehensive review of strategic opportunities including partnerships and joint ventures, licensing, and other ways to leverage RIM's assets and maximize value for our stakeholders."

The Company's GAAP net loss for the fourth quarter of fiscal 2012 was \$125 million, or \$0.24 per share diluted, compared with GAAP net income of \$265 million, or \$0.51 per share diluted, in the prior quarter and GAAP net income of \$934 million, or \$1.78 per share diluted, in the same quarter of fiscal 2011. Adjusted net income for the fourth quarter was \$418 million, or \$0.80 per share diluted. Adjusted net income and adjusted

diluted earnings per share for the fourth quarter exclude the impact of pre-tax charges of \$355 million which are predominantly non-cash (\$346 million after tax) for the impairment of goodwill and \$267 million (\$197 million after-tax) for an inventory provision taken primarily on certain BlackBerry7 products. These charges and their related impacts on GAAP net income and diluted earnings per share are summarized in the tables below.

Reconciliation of GAAP gross margin, gross margin percentage, net income and diluted EPS to adjusted gross margin, gross margin percentage, net income and diluted EPS:

(United States dollars, in millions except per share data)

	For the quarter ended March 3, 2012							
	M	Gross argin <sup>(1)</sup> ore taxes)	Gross Margin % <sup>(1)</sup> (before taxes)	Net	Income or (Loss)	Diluted EPS		
As reported	\$	1,401	33.4%	\$	(125)		(0.24)	
Adjustments: Impairment of Goodwill <sup>(2)</sup> Inventory Provision <sup>(3)</sup>		- 267	- 6.4%		346 197		0.66 0.38	
Adjusted	\$	1,668	39.8%	\$	418	\$	0.80	

Note: Adjusted gross margin, adjusted net income and adjusted diluted earnings per share do not have a standardized meaning prescribed by GAAP and thus are not comparable to similarly titled measures presented by other issuers. The Company believes that the presentation of adjusted gross margin, adjusted gross margin percentage, adjusted net income and adjusted diluted earnings per share enables the Company and its shareholders to better assess RIM's operating results relative to its operating results in prior periods and improves the comparability of the information presented. Investors should consider these non-GAAP measures in the context of RIM's GAAP results.

- (1) During the fourth quarter of fiscal 2012, the Company reported GAAP gross margin of \$1.4 billion or 33.4% of revenue. Excluding the impact of charges primarily related to inventory valuation of certain BlackBerry 7 products, the adjusted gross margin was \$1.7 billion, or 39.8% of revenue.
- (2) Subsequent to the fourth quarter of fiscal 2012, the Company performed a goodwill impairment test and based on the results of that test, the Company recorded a non-cash pre-tax goodwill impairment charge of \$355 million, \$346 million after tax.
- (3) During the fourth quarter of fiscal 2012, the Company recorded a pre-tax provision of approximately \$267 million, \$197 million after tax, which was mostly non-cash, primarily related to its inventory valuation of certain BlackBerry 7 products.

The total of cash, cash equivalents, short-term and long-term investments was \$2.1 billion as of March 3, 2012, compared to \$1.5 billion at the end of the previous quarter, an increase of approximately \$610 million from the prior quarter. Cash flow from operations in Q4 was approximately \$1.1 billion, up from \$900 million in Q3. Uses of cash included intangible asset additions of approximately \$260 million and capital expenditures of approximately \$190 million.

#### Fiscal 2012 Results

Revenue for the fiscal year ended March 3, 2012 was \$18.4 billion, down 7% from \$19.9 billion in fiscal 2011. The Company's GAAP net income for fiscal 2012 was \$1.2 billion, or \$2.22 per share diluted, compared with GAAP net income of \$3.4 billion, or \$6.34 per share diluted in fiscal 2011. Adjusted net income for fiscal 2012 was \$2.2 billion, or \$4.20 per share diluted. Adjusted net income and adjusted diluted earnings per share for fiscal 2012 exclude the adjustments described above as well as the impact of pre-tax charges of \$54 million (\$40 million after tax) to revenue related to the service interruption experienced in the third quarter, \$485 million (\$356 million after tax) for the PlayBook inventory provision taken in the third quarter and \$125 million (\$96 million after tax) for the Company's cost optimization program that was implemented in the second quarter of fiscal 2012. These charges and their related impacts on GAAP net income and diluted earnings per share are summarized in the tables below.

Reconciliation of GAAP revenue, gross margin, gross margin percentage, net income and diluted EPS to adjusted revenue, gross margin, gross margin percentage, net income, and diluted EPS: (United States dollars, in millions except per share data)

	For the year ended March 3, 2012								
		Revenue (before taxes)		Gross Iargin <sup>(1)</sup> fore taxes)	Gross Margin% <sup>(1)</sup> (before taxes)	Net Income		Diluted EPS	
As reported	\$	18,435	\$	6,579	35.7%	\$	1,164	\$	2.22
Adjustments:									
PlayBook Inventory Provision <sup>(2)</sup>		-		485	2.6%		356		0.68
Cost Optimization Program <sup>(3)</sup>		-		14	-		96		0.18
Q3 Service Interruption <sup>(4)</sup>		54		54	0.3%		40		0.08
Impairment of Goodwill <sup>(5)</sup>		-		-	-		346		0.66
Inventory Provision <sup>(6)</sup>		19		267	1.4%		197		0.38
Adjusted	\$	18,508	\$	7,399	40.0%	\$	2,199	\$	4.20

Note: Adjusted revenue, adjusted gross margin, adjusted gross margin percentage, adjusted net income and adjusted diluted earnings per share do not have a standardized meaning prescribed by GAAP and thus are not comparable to similarly titled measures presented by other issuers. The Company believes that the presentation of adjusted revenue, adjusted gross margin, adjusted gross margin percentage, adjusted net income and adjusted diluted earnings per share enables the Company and its shareholders to better assess RIM's operating results relative to its operating results in prior periods and improves the comparability of the information presented. Investors should consider these non-GAAP measures in the context of RIM's GAAP results.

(1) During fiscal 2012, the Company reported GAAP gross margin of \$6.6 billion, or 35.7% of revenue. Excluding the impact of charges related to the PlayBook Inventory Provision, the Cost Optimization Program, the Q3 Service Interruption and the Inventory Provision, the adjusted gross margin was \$7.4 billion, or 40.0% of revenue.

- (2) During fiscal 2012, the Company recorded a pre-tax provision of approximately \$485 million, \$356 million after tax, related to its inventory valuation of BlackBerry PlayBook tablets. The charge was predominantly non-cash.
- (3) Cost of sales, research and development, and selling, marketing and administration expenses in fiscal 2012 included approximately \$11 million, \$18 million, and \$67 million, respectively, in after-tax charges related to the cost optimization program to streamline operations across the Company.
- (4) During fiscal 2012, the Company experienced a service interruption which resulted in the loss of service revenue and the payment of service credits totally approximately \$54 million, approximately \$40 million after tax, related to the interruption in the availability of the Company's network.
- (5) Subsequent to fiscal 2012, the Company performed a goodwill impairment test and based on the results of that test, the Company recorded a non-cash pre-tax goodwill impairment charge of approximately \$355 million, approximately \$346 after tax.
- (6) In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2012, the Company recorded a pre-tax provision of approximately \$267 million, \$197 million after tax, which was mostly non-cash, primarily related to its inventory valuation of certain BlackBerry 7 products.

## **Change to Guidance Practices and Outlook:**

The company expects continued pressure on revenue and earnings throughout fiscal 2013. Due to a desire to focus on long term value creation and the current business environment, RIM will no longer provide specific quantitative guidance. Some of the factors contributing to this include, ongoing weakness in the Company's U.S. smartphone business, an increased focus on selling BlackBerry 7 smartphones to grow the subscriber base in advance of the BlackBerry 10 launch, increasing competitive pressure in the Company's international markets and the introduction of certain new lower tier service pricing initiatives and a higher mix of sales coming from entry level products.

## **Organizational and Board of Directors Update:**

Jim Balsillie, former Co-CEO of the Company, has resigned as a Director on the Company's Board.

"As I complete my retirement from RIM, I'm grateful for this remarkable experience and for the opportunity to have worked with outstanding professionals who helped turn a Canadian idea into a global success," said Jim Balsillie.

"On behalf of the Board and everyone at RIM, I would like to thank Jim for his 20 years of service to RIM," said Barb Stymiest, Chair of RIM's Board of Directors. "His energy, drive and enthusiasm helped build one of the most successful technology companies of our time."

In addition, David Yach will be retiring from his role as CTO, Software after 13 years with the Company and after 4 years with the company and following an open dialogue on the future of global operations, Jim Rowan, COO, Global Operations, has decided to pursue other interests. The Company is currently undertaking a search to hire a single COO with responsibilities to run the Company's operations.

"RIM would like to thank David Yach and Jim Rowan for their years of service and many contributions to RIM," said Thorsten Heins, President and CEO. "We wish them well in their future pursuits."

## **Conference Call and Webcast**

A conference call and live webcast will be held beginning at 5 pm ET, March 29, 2012, which can be accessed by dialing 1-800-814-4859 (North America), (+1)416-644-3414 (outside North America) or through your personal computer or BlackBerry® PlayBook<sup>TM</sup> tablet at <a href="www.rim.com/investors/events/index.shtml">www.rim.com/investors/events/index.shtml</a>. A replay of the conference call will also be available at approximately 7 pm ET by dialing (+1)416-640-1917 and entering passcode 4466496#. A replay of the webcast will be available on your personal computer or BlackBerry PlayBook tablet by clicking the link above. This replay will be available until midnight ET, April 12, 2012.

#### **About Research In Motion**

Research In Motion (RIM), a global leader in wireless innovation, revolutionized the mobile industry with the introduction of the BlackBerry® solution in 1999. Today, BlackBerry products and services are used by millions of customers around the world to stay connected to the people and content that matter most throughout their day. Founded in 1984 and based in Waterloo, Ontario, RIM operates offices in North America, Europe, Asia Pacific and Latin America. RIM is listed on the NASDAQ Stock Market (NASDAQ: RIMM) and the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX: RIM). For more information, visit www.rim.com or www.blackberry.com.

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## ###

This news release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and Canadian securities laws, including: statements relating to RIM's plans, strategies and objectives, statements relating to RIM's ability to leverage its business strengths, the anticipated timing of the launch of RIM's BlackBerry 10 platform, statements regarding the challenges RIM faces, opportunities and initiatives that RIM intends to consider or pursue, statements regarding RIM's guidance practices in the future, and the Company's expectations regarding revenue and earnings in fiscal 2012. The terms and phrases "discontinue", "can", "leverage", "offering", "challenges", "plan", "next several quarters", "take", "on track", "refocus", "opportunities", "drive", "initiatives", "undertaking", "maximize", "outlook", "will", "ongoing", "expects" and similar terms and phrases are intended to identify these forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are based on estimates and assumptions made by RIM in light of its experience and its perception of historical trends, current conditions and expected future developments, as well as other factors that RIM believes are appropriate in the circumstances, including but not limited to general economic conditions, product pricing levels and competitive intensity, supply constraints, the timing and success of new product introductions, RIM's expectations regarding its business, strategy and prospects, and RIM's confidence in the cash flow generation of its business. Many factors could cause RIM's actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from those expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements, including, without limitation: RIM's ability to enhance current products and develop new products and services in a timely manner or at competitive prices, including risks related to further delays in new product introductions, such as the Company's BlackBerry 10 smartphones; risks related to intense competition, including RIM's ability to compete in the tablet market, and strategic alliances or transactions within the wireless communications industry; risks relating to RIM's ability to maintain or grow its services revenue; RIM's reliance on carrier partners and distributors; security risks and risks related to the collection, storage, transmission, use and disclosure of user and personal information; risks relating to network disruptions and

other business interruptions, including costs, potential liabilities, lost revenue and reputational damage associated with service disruptions; RIM's ability to manage inventory and asset risk; RIM's ability to implement and realize the anticipated benefits of its Be Bold Excellence program (formerly referred to as the CORE program); RIM's ability to maintain or increase its cash balance; potential additional charges relating to the impairment of goodwill or other intangible assets recorded on RIM's balance sheet: RIM's ability to attract and retain key personnel; RIM's reliance on suppliers of functional components for its products and risks relating to its supply chain; RIM's ability to maintain and enhance the BlackBerry brand; risks related to RIM's international operations; risks related to government regulations, including regulations relating to encryption technology; RIM's reliance on third-party network infrastructure developers, software platform vendors and service platform vendors; RIM's ability to expand and manage its BlackBerry App World applications catalogue; RIM's reliance on third-party manufacturers; risks relating to litigation, including litigation claims arising from the Company's past practice of providing forward-looking guidance; potential defects in RIM's products; RIM's ability to manage its past growth and its ongoing development of service and support operations; disruptions to RIM's business as a result of shareholder activism; risks related to intellectual property; and difficulties in forecasting RIM's financial results, particularly over longer periods given the rapid technological changes, evolving industry standards, intense competition and short product life cycles that characterize the wireless communications industry. These risk factors and others relating to RIM are discussed in greater detail in the "Risk Factors" section of RIM's Annual Information Form, which is included in its Annual Report on Form 40-F and the "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" section of RIM's MD&A (copies of which filings may be obtained at www.sedar.com or www.sec.gov). These factors should be considered carefully, and readers should not place undue reliance on RIM's forward-looking statements. RIM has no intention and undertakes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law.

## Research In Motion Limited Incorporated under the Laws of Ontario (United States dollars, in millions except share and per share amounts) (unaudited)

# **Consolidated Statements of Operations**

	Three months ended				For the year ended						
		March 3, 2012		November 26, 2011				March 3, 2012		February 26, 2011	
Revenue	\$	4,190	\$	5,169	\$	5,556	\$	18,435	\$	19,907	
Cost of sales		2,789		3,759		3,103		11,856		11,082	
Gross margin		1,401		1,410		2,453		6,579		8,825	
Gross margin %		33.4%		27.3%		44.2%		35.7%		44.3%	
Operating expenses											
Research and development		386		369		383		1,559		1,351	
Selling, marketing and administration		650		567		705		2,604		2,400	
Amortization		152		146		125		571		438	
Impairment of goodwill		355		-		_		355		-	
		1,543		1,082		1,213		5,089		4,189	
Income (Loss) from operations		(142)		328		1,240		1,490		4,636	
Investment income, net		5		2		3		21		8	
Income (Loss) before income taxes		(137)		330		1,243		1,511		4,644	
Provision for (recovery of) income taxes	1	(12)		65		309		347		1,233	
Net income (loss)	\$	(125)	\$	265	\$	934	\$	1,164	\$	3,411	
Earnings (loss) per share Basic	\$	(0.24)	\$	0.51	\$	1.79	\$	2.22	\$	6.36	
Diluted	\$	(0.24)		0.51		1.78	\$	2.22		6.34	
Weighted-average number of common shares outstanding (000's)											
Basic		524,160		524,139		522,764		524,101		535,986	
Diluted		524,160		524,139		524,334		524,190		538,330	
Total common shares outstanding (000's)		524,160		524,160		523,869		524,160		523,869	

# Research In Motion Limited Incorporated under the Laws of Ontario (United States dollars, in millions except per share data) (unaudited)

# **Consolidated Balance Sheets**

at		arch 3, 2012	February 26, 2011		
Assets					
Current					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	1,527	\$	1,791	
Short-term investments		247		330	
Accounts receivable, net		3,062		3,955	
Other receivables		496		324	
Inventories		1,027		618	
Income taxes receivable		135		-	
Other current assets		365		241	
Deferred income tax asset		197		229	
		7,056		7,488	
Long-term investments		337		577	
Property, plant and equipment, net		2,748		2,504	
Goodwill		304		508	
Intangible assets, net		3,286		1,798	
	\$	13,731	\$	12,875	
Liabilities					
Current					
Accounts payable	\$	744	\$	832	
Accrued liabilities		2,382		2,511	
Income taxes payable		-		179	
Deferred revenue		263		108	
		3,389		3,630	
Deferred income tax liability		232		276	
Income taxes payable		10		31	
F		3,631		3,937	
Shareholders' Equity					
Capital stock and additional paid-in capital		2,446		2,359	
Treasury stock		(299)		(160)	
Retained earnings		7,913		6,749	
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)		40		(10)	
-		10,100		8,938	
	\$	13,731	\$	12,875	

# Research In Motion Limited Incorporated under the Laws of Ontario (United States dollars, in millions except per share data) (unaudited)

# **Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows**

	For the year ended				
		ch 3. 2012	February 26, 2011		
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net income	\$	1,164	\$ 3,411		
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by					
operating activities:					
Amortization		1,523	927		
Deferred income taxes		(5)	92		
Income taxes payable		(21)	2		
Stock-based compensation		97	72		
Impairment of goodwill		355	-		
Other		9	1		
Net changes in working capital items		(210)	(496)		
Net cash provided by operating activities		2,912	4,009		
Cash flows from investing activities					
Acquisition of long-term investments		(355)	(784)		
Proceeds on sale or maturity of long-term investments		376	893		
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment		(902)	(1,039)		
Acquisition of intangible assets		(2,217)	(557)		
Business acquisitions, net of cash acquired		(226)	(494)		
Acquisition of short-term investments		(250)	(503)		
Proceeds on sale or maturity of short-term investments		550	786		
Net cash used in investing activities		(3,024)	(1,698)		
Cash flows from financing activities					
Issuance of common shares		9	67		
Tax deficiencies related to stock-based compensation		(2)	(1)		
Purchase of treasury stock		(156)	(76)		
Common shares repurchased		(100)	(2,077)		
Net cash used in financing activities		(149)	(2,087)		
Effect of foreign exchange gain (loss) on cash and cash		(2.5)	(2,007)		
equivalents		(3)	16		
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents for the period		(264)	240		
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period		1,791	1,551		
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$	1,527			
			,		
As at	Marc	ch 3, 2012	November 26, 2011		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	1,527	\$ 1,123		
Short-term investments	•	247	184		
Long-term investments		337	195		
0	\$	2,111			