

LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS INC

Form 10-Q

May 15, 2006

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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, 2006 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: 0-20720**

**LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS INCORPORATED  
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)**

**Delaware  
(State or Other Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation or Organization)**

**77-0160744  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)**

**10275 Science Center Drive  
San Diego, CA  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)**

**92121-1117  
(Zip Code)**

**Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code: (858) 550-7500**

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 is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. Large Accelerated Filer  Accelerated Filer  Non-Accelerated Filer

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 April 30, 2006, the registrant had 78,509,410 shares of common stock outstanding.

**LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS INCORPORATED**  
**QUARTERLY REPORT**  
**FORM 10-Q**  
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\* No information  
provided due to

inapplicability  
of item.

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CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS****(Unaudited)****(in thousands, except share data)**

	<b>March 31, 2006</b>	<b>December 31, 2005</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 49,808	\$ 66,756
Short-term investments	17,897	20,174
Accounts receivable, net	20,046	20,954
Current portion of inventories, net	8,232	9,333
Other current assets	16,357	15,750
Total current assets	112,340	132,967
Restricted investments	1,826	1,826
Long-term portion of inventories, net	5,486	5,869
Property and equipment, net	21,758	22,483
Acquired technology, product rights and royalty buy-down, net	143,268	146,770
Other assets	4,011	4,704
Total assets	\$ 288,689	\$ 314,619
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS DEFICIT</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 16,325	\$ 15,360
Accrued liabilities	43,502	59,587
Current portion of deferred revenue, net	151,021	157,519
Current portion of co-promote termination liability	42,533	
Current portion of equipment financing obligations	2,298	2,401
Current portion of long-term debt	350	344
Total current liabilities	256,029	235,211
Long-term debt	140,553	166,745
Long-term portion of co-promote termination liability	93,708	
Long-term portion of equipment financing obligations	3,251	3,430
Long-term portion of deferred revenue, net	4,124	4,202
Other long-term liabilities	3,037	3,105
Total liabilities	500,702	412,693
Commitments and contingencies		
Common stock subject to conditional redemption; 997,568 shares issued and outstanding at March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005	12,345	12,345

Stockholders' deficit:

Convertible preferred stock, \$0.001 par value; 5,000,000 shares authorized;  
none issued

Common stock, \$0.001 par value; 200,000,000 shares authorized; 77,496,166  
and 73,136,340 shares issued at March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005,  
respectively

Additional paid-in capital

Accumulated other comprehensive income

Accumulated deficit

Treasury stock, at cost; 73,842 shares

Total stockholders' deficit

	78	73
	748,742	720,988
	1,021	490
	(973,288)	(831,059)
	(223,447)	(109,508)
	(911)	(911)
	(224,358)	(110,419)
	\$ 288,689	\$ 314,619

*See accompanying notes.*

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**LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS INCORPORATED**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**

(Unaudited)

(in thousands, except share data)

	<b>Three Months Ended March</b>	
	<b>31,</b>	
	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>
Revenues:		
Product sales	\$ 47,984	\$ 35,045
Collaborative research and development and other revenues	2,972	1,940
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>50,956</b>	<b>36,985</b>
Operating costs and expenses:		
Cost of products sold	9,740	11,065
Research and development	12,218	14,735
Selling, general and administrative	22,201	19,215
Co-promotion	10,957	7,740
Co-promote termination charges	132,941	
<b>Total operating costs and expenses</b>	<b>188,057</b>	<b>52,755</b>
<b>Loss from operations</b>	<b>(137,101)</b>	<b>(15,770)</b>
Other income (expense):		
Interest income	573	444
Interest expense	(6,067)	(3,127)
Other, net	383	1
<b>Total other expense, net</b>	<b>(5,111)</b>	<b>(2,682)</b>
<b>Loss before income taxes</b>	<b>(142,212)</b>	<b>(18,452)</b>
Income tax expense	(17)	(20)
<b>Net loss</b>	<b>\$ (142,229)</b>	<b>\$ (18,472)</b>
Basic and diluted per share amounts:		
Net loss	\$ (1.84)	\$ (0.25)
Weighted average number of common shares	77,496,969	73,916,470

*See accompanying notes.*

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**LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS INCORPORATED**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
**(Unaudited)**  
**(in thousands)**

	<b>Three Months Ended March</b>	
	<b>31,</b>	
	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>
<b>Operating activities</b>		
Net loss	\$ (142,229)	\$ (18,472)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating activities:		
Amortization of acquired technology and license rights	3,570	3,236
Depreciation and amortization of property and equipment	913	969
Amortization of debt issue costs	244	254
Gain on sale of Exelixis stock	(343)	
Stock-based compensation	814	
Non-cash interest expense converted into additional paid-in capital	57	
Other	(8)	28
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable, net	908	12,523
Inventories, net	1,484	(1,144)
Other current assets	(144)	637
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(14,912)	(958)
Other liabilities	(3)	(2)
Deferred revenue, net	(6,576)	332
Co-promote termination liability	136,241	
Net cash used in operating activities	(19,984)	(2,597)
<b>Investing activities</b>		
Purchases of short-term investments	(4,726)	(21,425)
Proceeds from sale of short-term investments	7,884	2,945
Purchases of property and equipment	(190)	(597)
Payment to buy-down ONTAK royalty obligation		(20,000)
Capitalized portion of payment of lasofoxifene royalty rights		(558)
Other, net	27	60
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	2,995	(39,575)
<b>Financing activities</b>		
Principal payments on equipment financing obligations	(680)	(723)
Proceeds from equipment financing arrangements	398	880
Repayment of long-term debt	(86)	(82)
Proceeds from issuance of common stock	468	773
Decrease in other long-term liabilities	(59)	(30)
Net cash provided by financing activities	41	818
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(16,948)	(41,354)



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Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	66,756	92,310
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 49,808	\$ 50,956

**Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information**

Interest paid	\$ 517	\$ 328
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**Non-cash impact of the conversion of 6% convertible subordinated notes into common stock:**

Conversion of principal amount of convertible notes	\$ 26,100	\$
Conversion of unamortized debt issue costs	(351)	
Conversion of unpaid accrued interest	264	
	\$ 26,013	\$

**Non-cash impact of stock option exercises where cash was received subsequent to quarter-end**

	\$ 469	\$
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*See accompanying notes.*

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**LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS INCORPORATED**  
**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**(Unaudited)**

**1. Basis of Presentation**

The accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements of Ligand Pharmaceuticals Incorporated (the Company or Ligand) were prepared in accordance with instructions for Form 10-Q and, therefore, do not include all information necessary for a complete presentation of financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. However, all adjustments, consisting of normal recurring adjustments, which, in the opinion of management, are necessary for a fair presentation of the condensed consolidated financial statements, have been included. The results of operations for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2006 and 2005 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the entire fiscal year or any other future period. These statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and related notes, which are included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005.

*Principles of Consolidation.* The condensed consolidated financial statements include the Company's wholly owned subsidiaries, Ligand Pharmaceuticals International, Inc., Ligand Pharmaceuticals (Canada) Incorporated, Seragen, Inc. (Seragen) and Nexus Equity VI LLC (Nexus). Intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

*Use of Estimates.* The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires the use of estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, including disclosure of contingent assets and contingent liabilities, at the date of the consolidated financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. The Company's critical accounting policies are those that are both most important to the Company's financial condition and results of operations and require the most difficult, subjective or complex judgments on the part of management in their application, often as a result of the need to make estimates about the effect of matters that are inherently uncertain. Because of the uncertainty of factors surrounding the estimates or judgments used in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements, actual results may materially vary from these estimates.

*Loss Per Share.* Net loss per share is computed using the weighted average number of common shares outstanding. Basic and diluted net loss per share amounts are equivalent for the periods presented as the inclusion of potential common shares in the number of shares used for the diluted computation would be anti-dilutive. Potential common shares, the shares that would be issued upon the conversion of convertible notes and the exercise of outstanding warrants and stock options were 28.9 million and 32.7 million at March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively.

*Guarantees and Indemnifications.* The Company accounts for and discloses guarantees in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Interpretation No. 45 (FIN 45), *Guarantor's Accounting and Disclosure Requirements for Guarantees Including Indirect Guarantees of Indebtedness of Others, an interpretation of FASB Statements No. 5, 57 and 107 and rescission of FIN 34*. The following is a summary of the Company's agreements that the Company has determined are within the scope of FIN 45:

Under its bylaws, the Company has agreed to indemnify its officers and directors for certain events or occurrences arising as a result of the officer's or director's serving in such capacity. The term of the indemnification period is for the officer's or director's lifetime. The maximum potential amount of future payments the Company could be required to make under these indemnification agreements is unlimited. However, the Company has a directors and officers liability insurance policy that limits its exposure and enables it to recover a portion of any future amounts paid. As a result of its insurance policy coverage, the Company believes the estimated fair value of these indemnification agreements is minimal and has no liabilities recorded for these agreements as of March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005.

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The Company enters into indemnification provisions under its agreements with other companies in its ordinary course of business, typically with business partners, contractors, customers and landlords. Under these provisions the Company generally indemnifies and holds harmless the indemnified party for direct losses suffered or incurred by the indemnified party as a result of the Company's activities or, in some cases, as a result of the indemnified party's activities under the agreement. The maximum potential amount of future payments the Company could be required to make under these indemnification provisions is unlimited. The Company has not incurred material costs to defend lawsuits or settle claims related to these indemnification agreements. As a result, the Company believes the estimated fair value of these agreements is minimal. Accordingly, the Company has no liabilities recorded for these agreements as of March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005.

*Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation.* Prior to January 1, 2006, the Company accounted for stock-based compensation in accordance with Accounting Principles Board (APB) Opinion No. 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees*, and related interpretations. The pro forma effects of employee stock options were disclosed as required by *Financial Accounting Standard Board Statement No. 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation* (SFAS 123).

Effective January 1, 2006, the Company adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) 123 (revised 2004), *Share-Based Payment* (SFAS 123(R)), using the modified prospective transition method. No stock-based employee compensation cost was recognized prior to January 1, 2006, as all options granted prior to 2006 had an exercise price equal to the market value of the underlying common stock on the date of the grant. In March 2005, the Securities and Exchange Commission issued Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 107 (SAB 107) relating to SFAS 123(R). The Company has applied the provisions of SAB 107 in its adoption of SFAS 123(R). Under the transition method, compensation cost recognized in 2006 includes: (a) compensation cost for all share-based payments granted prior to, but not yet vested as of January 1, 2006, based on the grant date fair value estimated in accordance with the original provisions of SFAS 123, and (b) compensation cost for all share-based payments granted in the first quarter 2006, based on grant-date fair value estimated in accordance with the provisions of SFAS 123(R).

Additionally, the Company accounts for the fair value of options granted to non-employee consultants under Emerging Issues Task Force (EITF) 96-18, *Accounting for Equity Instruments That Are Issued to Other Than Employees for Acquiring, or in Conjunction With Selling, Goods or Services*.

Total compensation expense for stock-based compensation for the three months ended March 31, 2006 was approximately \$0.8 million. There was no deferred tax benefit recognized in connection with this cost.

Results for the quarter ended March 31, 2005 have not been retrospectively adjusted. The fair value of the options was estimated using a Black-Scholes option-pricing formula and amortized to expense over the options' vesting periods.

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The following table illustrates the pro forma effect of share-based compensation on net loss and loss per share for the quarter ended March 31, 2005 (in thousands, except per share data):

	<b>Three Months Ended March 31, 2005</b>
Net loss, as reported	\$ (18,472)
Stock-based employee compensation expense included in reported net loss	
Less: total stock-based compensation expense determined under fair value based method for all awards continuing to vest	(757)
Less: total stock-based compensation expense determined under fair value based method for options accelerated in January 2005 (1)	(12,455)
Net loss, pro forma	\$ (31,684)
Basic and diluted per share amounts:	
Net loss per share as reported	\$ (0.25)
Net loss per share pro forma	\$ (0.43)

(1) Represents pro forma unrecognized expense for accelerated options as of the date of acceleration.

On January 31, 2005, Ligand accelerated the vesting of certain unvested and out-of-the-money stock options previously awarded to the executive officers and other employees under the Company's 1992 and 2002 stock option plans which had an exercise price greater than \$10.41, the closing price of the Company's stock on that date. The vesting for options to purchase approximately 1.3 million shares of common stock (of which approximately 450,000 shares were subject to options held by the executive officers) were accelerated. Options held by non-employee directors were not accelerated.

Holders of incentive stock options (ISOs) within the meaning of Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, were given the election to decline the acceleration of their options if such acceleration would have the effect of changing the status of such option for federal income tax purposes from an ISO to a non-qualified stock option. In addition, the executive officers plus other members of senior management agreed that they will not sell any shares acquired through the exercise of an accelerated option prior to the date on which the exercise would have been permitted under the option's original vesting terms. This agreement does not apply to a) shares sold in order to pay applicable taxes resulting from the exercise of an accelerated option or b) upon the officers' retirement or other termination of employment.

The purpose of the acceleration was to eliminate any future compensation expense the Company would have otherwise recognized in its statement of operations with respect to these options upon the implementation of SFAS 123(R).

Other Stock-Related Information

The 2002 Stock Incentive Plan contains four separate equity programs Discretionary Option Grant Program, Automatic Option Grant Program, Stock Issuance Program and Director Fee Option Grant Program ( the 2002

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Plan ). On January 31, 2006, shareholders of the Company approved an amendment to the 2002 Plan to increase the number of shares of the Company's common stock authorized for issuance by 750,000 shares, from 8.3 million shares to 9.1 million shares. As of March 31, 2006, options for 7,370,866 shares of common stock were outstanding under the 2002 plan and 304,674 shares remained available for future option grant or direct issuance.

The Company grants options to employees, non-employees consultants, and non-employee directors. Additionally, the Company granted restricted stock to non-employee directors in the first quarter of 2006. Non-employee directors are accounted for as employees under SFAS 123(R). Options and restricted stock granted to certain directors vest in equal monthly installments over one year. Options granted to employees vests 1/8 on the six month anniversary and 1/48 each month thereafter for forty-two months. Options granted to non-employee consultants generally vest between 24 and 36 months. All option awards generally expire ten years from the date of the grant.

Stock-based compensation cost for awards to employees and non-employee directors is recognized on a straight-line basis over the vesting period until the last tranche vests. Compensation cost for consultant awards is recognized over each separate tranche's vesting period. The Company recognized compensation expense of approximately \$0.8 million for the three months ended March 31, 2006 associated with option awards and restricted stock. Of the total compensation expense associated with option awards, approximately \$0.2 million related to options granted to non-employee consultants.

The fair-value for options that were awarded to employees and directors was estimated at the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option valuation model with the following weighted average assumptions:

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>	
	<b>March 31</b>	
	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>
Risk-free interest rate	4.7%	4.2%
Dividend yield		
Expected volatility	70%	75%
Expected term	5.94 years	5 years

The expected term of the employee and non-employee director options is the estimated weighted-average period until exercise or cancellation of vested options (forfeited unvested options are not considered). SAB 107 guidance permits companies to use a safe harbor expected term assumption for grants up to December 31, 2007 based on the mid-point of the period between vesting date and contractual term, averaged on a tranche-by-tranche basis. The Company used the safe harbor in selecting the expected term assumption in 2006. The expected term for consultant awards is the remaining period to contractual expiration.

Volatility is a measure of the expected amount of variability in the stock price over the expected life of an option expressed as a standard deviation. SFAS 123(R) requires an estimate of future volatility. In selecting this assumption, the Company used the historical volatility of the Company's stock price over a period equal to the expected term.

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	Shares	Weighted- Average Exercise Price	Weighted- Average Remaining Contractual Term in Years	Aggregate Intrinsic Value (in thousands)
Balance at December 31, 2005	7,001,657	\$ 11.76		
Granted	595,617	11.96		
Exercised	116,315	8.01		
Forfeited	43,288	8.60		
Cancelled	66,805	14.73		
Balance at March 31, 2006	7,370,866	\$ 11.82	6.01	\$ 14,273
Exercisable at March 31, 2006	5,671,045	\$ 12.44	5.11	\$ 9,022
Options expected to vest as of March 31, 2006	7,172,385	\$ 11.87	5.92	\$ 13,688

The weighted-average grant-date fair value of all stock options granted during the three months ended March 31, 2006 was \$7.87 per share. The total intrinsic value of all options exercised during the three months ended March 31, 2006 was \$4.69 per share. As of March 31, 2006, there was approximately \$9.0 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to nonvested stock options. That cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 2.91 years.

Cash received from options exercised for each of the quarters ended March 31, 2006 and 2005 was approximately \$0.5 million for each period. An additional \$0.5 million was received subsequent to March 31, 2006 for options exercised during the three months ended March 31, 2006. There is no current tax benefit related to options exercised because of net operating losses (NOLs) for which a full valuation allowance has been established.

**Restricted Stock Activity**

	Shares	Weighted- Average Stock Price
Balance at December 31, 2005		\$
Granted	15,566	11.56
Vested	3,895	11.56
Forfeited		
Nonvested at March 31, 2006	11,671	\$ 11.56

The weighted-average grant-date fair value of restricted stock granted during the three months ended March 31, 2006 was \$11.56 per share. As of March 31, 2006, there was \$137,574 of total unrecognized compensation cost related to nonvested restricted stock. That cost is expected to be recognized over the remainder of 2006.

**Employee Stock Purchase Plan**

The Company also has an employee stock purchase plan (the ESPP ). Since its adoption in 2002, a total of 510,248 shares of common stock have been reserved for issuance under the ESPP. As of March 31, 2006, 362,738 shares of common stock had been issued under the ESPP, and 147,510 shares are available for future issuance. For the quarter ended March 31, 2006, there were no issuances of common shares under the ESPP.



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*Accounts Receivable.* Accounts receivable consist of the following (in thousands):

	<b>March 31, 2006</b>	<b>December 31, 2005</b>
Trade accounts receivable	\$ 2,739	\$ 1,344
Due from finance company (Note 2)	18,243	20,464
Less: discounts and allowances	(936)	(854)
	<b>\$ 20,046</b>	<b>\$ 20,954</b>

*Inventories.* Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market. Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out method. Inventories consist of the following (in thousands):

	<b>March 31, 2006</b>	<b>December 31, 2005</b>
Raw materials	\$ 1,655	\$ 1,508
Work-in-process	8,671	9,115
Finished goods	5,388	6,324
Less: inventory reserves	(1,996)	(1,745)
	13,718	15,202
Less: current portion	(8,232)	(9,333)
Long-term portion of inventories, net	<b>\$ 5,486</b>	<b>\$ 5,869</b>

In 2005, the Company completed a multi-year process of transferring its filling and finishing of ONTAK from Eli Lilly and Company (Lilly) to Hollister-Stier. In anticipation of this transfer, the Company used Lilly to fill and finish, in 2003, a higher than normal number of ONTAK lots each of which required a forward dating determination. ONTAK otherwise has a shelf life projection of up to 36 months. If commercial and clinical usage of these lots does not approximate the estimated pattern of usage as determined for purposes of dating, the Company could be required to write-off the value of one or more of these lots. In this regard, as of March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005, inventory reserves relating to ONTAK finished goods inventory totaled approximately \$1.1 million and \$0.7 million, respectively. As of March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005, total ONTAK inventory amounted to approximately \$7.4 million and \$7.8 million, respectively, of which \$3.0 million and \$2.7 million is classified as long-term, respectively.

During 2005, the Company manufactured a higher than normal amount of drug substance (bexarotene) for Targretin capsules in the event the Company's non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) clinical trials were successful. In March 2005, the Company disclosed that the trials did not meet their endpoints of improved overall survival and projected two year survival. The Company believes, however, that the additional manufactured bexarotene, which has a shelf life projection of approximately 10 years, will be fully used for ongoing production of the Company's marketed products, Targretin capsules and Targretin gel. As of March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005, total Targretin capsules inventory amounted to \$3.9 million and \$4.2 million, respectively, of which \$2.5 million and \$3.2 million is classified as long-term, respectively.

*Property and Equipment.* Property and equipment is stated at cost and consists of the following (in thousands):

<b>March 31,</b>	<b>December 31,</b>
----------------------	-------------------------

	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>
Land	\$ 5,176	\$ 5,176
Equipment, building, and leasehold improvements	61,832	61,732
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(45,250)	(44,425)
	\$ 21,758	\$ 22,483

Depreciation of equipment and building is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets which range from three to thirty years. Leasehold improvements are amortized using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives or their related lease term, whichever is shorter.

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*Other Current Assets.* Other current assets consist of the following (in thousands):