



DIVISION OF
CORPORATION FINANCE

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

May 5, 2011

Vincent P. Pangrazio
Senior Vice President and General Counsel
Cavium Networks, Inc.
805 Middlefield Road
Mountain View, California 94043

Re: Cavium Networks, Inc.
Registration Statement on Form S-3
Filed April 8, 2011
File No. 333-173416

Dear Mr. Pangrazio:

We have limited our review of your registration statement to those issues we have addressed in our comment. In some of our comments, we may ask you to provide us with information so we may better understand your disclosure.

Please respond to this letter by amending your registration statement and providing the requested information. Where you do not believe our comments apply to your facts and circumstances or do not believe an amendment is appropriate, please tell us why in your response.

After reviewing any amendment to your registration statement and the information you provide in response to this comment, we may have additional comments.

1. We note the comments on your Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010 that were issued on May 5, 2011. Please confirm that you will resolve any comments on your Form 10-K before requesting acceleration of the effective date of this registration statement.

We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filing to be certain that the filing includes the information the Securities Act of 1933 and all applicable Securities Act rules require. Since the company and its management are in possession of all facts relating to a company's disclosure, they are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosures they have made.

Vincent P. Pangrazio
Cavium Networks, Inc.
May 5, 2011
Page 2

Notwithstanding our comment, in the event you request acceleration of the effective date of the pending registration statement please provide a written statement from the company acknowledging that:

- should the Commission or the staff, acting pursuant to delegated authority, declare the filing effective, it does not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the filing;
- the action of the Commission or the staff, acting pursuant to delegated authority, in declaring the filing effective, does not relieve the company from its full responsibility for the adequacy and accuracy of the disclosure in the filing; and
- the company may not assert staff comments and the declaration of effectiveness as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States.

Please refer to Rules 460 and 461 regarding requests for acceleration. We will consider a written request for acceleration of the effective date of the registration statement as confirmation of the fact that those requesting acceleration are aware of their respective responsibilities under the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as they relate to the proposed public offering of the securities specified in the above registration statement. Please allow adequate time for us to review any amendment prior to the requested effective date of the registration statement.

You may contact Aslynn Hogue at (202) 551-3841 or Mary Beth Breslin, Senior Attorney, at (202) 551-3625 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Amanda Ravitz
Assistant Director

CC (by facsimile): Mark Tanoury, Esq. — Cooley LLP