### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## Form 10-K

of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for the fiscal year ended
August 28, 1999,
or
[ ] Transition report pursuant to section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 For the transition period
fromto
·
Commission file number 1-10714

Annual Report under section 13 or 15(d)

[Y]

## AUTOZONE, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

### 123 South Front Street, Memphis, Tennessee 38103

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(901) 495-6500

Registrant's telephone number, including area code

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

62-1482048

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

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

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 [X] No [

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K 0(§ 229.405 of this chapter) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. [X]

The aggregate market value of the 126,263,042 shares of voting stock of the registrant held by non-affiliates of the registrant (excluding, for this purpose, shares held by officers, directors, or 10% stockholders) was \$3,432,776,454 based on the last sales price of the Common Stock on October 12, 1999 as reported on the New York Stock Exchange. The number of shares of Common Stock outstanding as of October 12, 1999, was 138,935,636.

## Documents Incorporated By Reference

Portions of the Annual Report to Stockholders for the year ended August 28, 1999, are incorporated by reference into Parts I and II.

Portions of the definitive Proxy Statement dated October 25, 1999, for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held December 9, 1999, are incorporated by reference into Part III.

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## Forward-Looking Statements

Certain statements contained in this Annual Report on Form 10-K are forward-looking statements. These statements discuss, among other things, expected growth, domestic and international development and expansion strategy, business strategies, and future performance. The forward-looking statements are subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions including, without limitation, competition, product demand, domestic and international economies, government approvals, inflation, the ability to hire and retain qualified employees, consumer debt levels and the weather. Actual results may materially differ from anticipated results. Please refer to the Risk Factors section of this Form 10-K for more details.

#### PART I

#### Item 1. Business

#### Introduction

We are the nation's leading specialty retailer of automotive parts and accessories, primarily focusing on do-it-yourself customers. We began operations in 1979 and at August 28, 1999, operated 2,711 auto parts stores in 39 states and six in Mexico. Each auto parts store carries an extensive product line for cars, vans and light trucks, including new and re-manufactured automotive hard parts, maintenance items, and accessories. At August 28, 1999, 1,377 of our domestic auto parts stores also had a commercial sales program, which provides commercial credit and prompt delivery of parts and other products to local repair garages, dealers and service stations. We do not sell tires nor do we perform automotive repairs or installations.

In addition, we sell heavy-duty truck parts and accessories through 46 TruckPro stores and automotive diagnostic and repair information software through our ALLDATA subsidiary.

At August 28, 1999, our auto parts stores were in the following locations:

Title of each class	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock (\$.01 par value)	New York Stock Exchange

### Marketing and Merchandising Strategy

We are dedicated to providing customers with superior service, value, and quality parts selection at conveniently located, well-designed stores. Key elements of this strategy are:

#### Customer Service

We believe that our customers

value customer service; therefore, customer service is the most important element in our marketing and merchandising strategy. We emphasize that our AutoZoners should always put customers first. To do so, we employ parts personnel with technical expertise to advise customers regarding the correct part type and application, utilize a wide range of training methods to educate and motivate our AutoZoners, and provide store personnel with significant opportunities for promotion and incentive compensation. Our electronic parts catalogs assist in the selection of parts; we offer free testing of starters, alternators, batteries, sensors and actuators; and we were among the first auto parts companies to offer lifetime warranties on many of the parts we sell. Our satellite system in our auto parts stores helps us to speed up credit card and check approval processes and locate parts at neighboring AutoZone stores. Our auto parts stores generally open at 8 a.m. and close between 8 and 10 p.m. (with some open 24 hours) Monday through Saturday and typically open at 9 a.m. and close between 6 and 8 p.m. on Sunday.

### Through ALLDATA, we provide

electronic diagnostic and repair information. We offer the professional technician a complete software package, and the do-it-yourselfer can purchase vehicle-specific information on CD-ROM or via the internet at alldatadiy.com.

### Products

This table shows the types of products we sell in our auto parts stores:

Alabama	82	Louisiana	78	Pennsylvania	60
Arizona	74	Maryland	14	Rhode Island	13
Arkansas	46	Massachusetts	52	South Carolina	51
California	374	Michigan	83	Tennessee	109
Colorado	38	Mississippi	66	Texas	335
Connecticut	20	Missouri	80	Utah	20
Delaware	4	Nevada	26	Vermont	1
Florida	132	New Hampshire	10	Virginia	49
Georgia	100	New Jersey	9	Washington, DC	6
Illinois	103	New Mexico	24	West Virginia	14
Indiana	96	New York	69	Wisconsin	17
Iowa	22	North Carolina	94	Wyoming	3
Kansas	41	Ohio	179	Mexico	6
Kentucky	55	Oklahoma	62	TOTAL	<u>2,717</u>

Our auto parts stores generally

offer between 16,000 and 21,000 stock keeping units ("SKUS") covering a broad range of vehicle types. Each auto parts store carries the same basic product line with some regional differences based on climate, demographics and age and type of vehicle registration. Our "flexogram" program enables us to tailor our hard parts inventory to the makes and models of the automobiles in each store's trade area. The auto parts stores sell a number of products, including batteries, engines, starters, alternators, brake parts, and filters, under our private label names. We also offer a range of products, consisting principally of hard parts, through our express parts program, which provides overnight delivery of lower turnover products to our auto parts stores.

#### Pricing

We employ an everyday low

price strategy and attempt to be the price leader in hard parts categories. We believe that our prices overall compare favorably to those of our competitors.

#### Commercial Sales Program

Our commercial sales program

in the auto parts stores provides credit and prompt delivery of parts and other products to local repair garages, dealers and service stations. At August 28, 1999, this program was offered in 1,377 auto parts stores. Commercial customers generally pay the same everyday low prices as paid by do-it-yourself customers.

### Store Design and Visual Merchandising

We design and build stores

for a high visual impact. The typical AutoZone store has an industrial "high tech" appearance by utilizing colorful exterior signage, exposed beams and ductwork, and brightly lighted interiors. Maintenance products, accessories, and miscellaneous items are attractively displayed for easy browsing by customers, with specialized gravity-feed racks for batteries and, in many stores, oil. We employ a uniform ("planogrammed") store layout system to promote consistent merchandise presentation in all of our auto parts stores. In-store signage and special displays aid customers in locating merchandise and promoting products.

### Store Development and Expansion Strategy

This table shows the domestic auto parts store development during the past five fiscal years:

<u>Hard Parts</u>	Maintenance Items	Accessories	<u>Miscellany</u>
Alternators Batteries Brake Drums, Rotors Shoes & Pads Carburetors Clutches Engines Mufflers Shock Absorbers Spark Plugs Starters Struts Water Pumps	Antifreeze Brake Fluid Oil Oil and Fuel Additives Oil, Air, and Fuel Filters Power Steering Fluid Transmission Fluid Wash and Wax Chemicals Windshield Wipers	Floor Mats Lights Mirrors Stereos	Air Fresheners Dent Filler Hand Cleaner Paint Repair Manuals Tools

lincludes
stores obtained through Chief and Auto Palace acquisitions in 1998, and
stores opened on real estate acquired from Pep Boys in 1999.

2Closed
stores include replaced stores.

We believe that expansion

opportunities exist both in markets that we do not currently serve, and in markets where we can achieve a larger presence, for both AutoZone and TruckPro stores. We attempt to obtain high visibility sites in high traffic locations and undertake substantial research prior to entering new markets. Key factors in selecting new site and market locations include population, demographics, vehicle profile, and number and strength of competitors' stores. We generally seek to open new stores within or contiguous to existing market areas and attempt to cluster development in new urban markets in a relatively short period of time in order to achieve economies of scale in advertising and distribution costs. In addition to continuing to construct

our own stores, we regularly evaluate potential acquisition candidates in new as well as in existing markets.

Our net sales have grown

significantly in recent years, increasing from \$1.8 billion in fiscal 1995 to \$4.1 billion in fiscal 1999. Continued growth and financial performance will be dependent, in large part, upon our ability to open new stores on a profitable basis in existing and new markets and also upon our ability to continue to increase sales in existing stores. We make no assurance that we can continue to open and operate new stores on a timely and profitable basis, successfully integrate stores that we acquire from third parties or continue to attain increases in comparable store sales.

### Store Operations

### Store Formats

As of August 28, 1999, we

had domestic auto parts stores in the following square footage ranges:

### Fiscal Year

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>
Beginning Stores	933	1,143	1,423	1,728	2 <b>,</b> 657
New Stores <sup>1</sup>	210	280	308	952	245
Replaced Stores <sup>2</sup>	29	31	17	12	59
Closed Stores <sup>2</sup>	<u>(29</u> )	<u>(31</u> )	<u>(20</u> )	<u>(35</u> )	(250)
Ending Stores	<u>1,143</u>	<u>1,423</u>	<u>1,728</u>	<u>2,657</u>	<u>2,711</u>

## Substantially all AutoZone

stores are based on standard store formats resulting in generally consistent appearance, merchandising and product mix. Approximately 85% to 90% of each store's square footage is selling space, of which approximately 30% to 40% is dedicated to hard parts inventory. The hard parts inventory area is fronted by a counter that generally runs the depth or length of the store, dividing the hard parts area from the remainder of the store. The remaining selling space contains displays of accessories and maintenance items.

## At the hard parts counter,

we have knowledgeable parts personnel available to assist customers with their parts needs utilizing our proprietary electronic parts catalog with a video screen which is visible to both the AutoZoner (employee) and the customer. The parts catalog will suggest additional items that a customer should purchase in order to properly install the part being purchased.

## Approximately 2,000 of our

auto parts stores are freestanding, with the balance principally located within strip shopping centers. Freestanding large format stores typically have parking for approximately 45 to 50 cars on a lot of approximately 3/4 to one acre. Our smaller auto parts stores typically have parking for approximately 25 to 40 cars and are usually located on a lot of approximately 1/2 to 3/4 acre.

## Store Personnel and Training

Each auto parts store typically

employs from 9 to 20 AutoZoners, including a manager and an assistant manager.

AutoZoners typically have prior automotive experience. Although we rely primarily on on-the-job training, we also provide formal training programs, which include regular store meetings on specific sales and product issues, standardized training manuals and a specialist program where AutoZoners can obtain certification in several areas of technical expertise from both the company and from independent certification agencies. Training is supplemented with frequent store visits by management.

## Store managers get financial

incentives through performance-based bonuses and grants of stock options. In addition, our growth has provided opportunities for the promotion of qualified AutoZoners. We believe these opportunities are important to attract, motivate and retain quality personnel.

## Our domestic auto parts stores

are primarily supervised through district managers (formerly named area advisors) who oversee approximately five to six stores each and who report to regional managers (formerly named district managers). Regional managers

with approximately 45 to 60 stores each, in turn, report to seven Vice Presidents-Stores (formerly named regional managers). Purchasing, merchandising, advertising, accounting, cash management, store development, systems technology and support and other store support functions are centralized in our store support center in Memphis, Tennessee. We believe that this centralization enhances consistent execution of our merchandising and marketing strategy at the store level.

#### Store Automation

All auto parts stores have

proprietary electronic parts catalogs that provide parts information based on the make, model and year of an automobile. The catalog display screens are placed on the hard parts counter where both AutoZoners and customers can view the screen. In addition, our satellite system enables the auto parts stores to speed up credit card and check approval processes and locate parts at neighboring AutoZone stores.

Our domestic auto parts stores

utilize our computerized Store Management System, which includes bar code scanning and point-of-sale data collection terminals. The Store Management System provides administrative assistance and improved personnel scheduling at the store level, as well as enhanced merchandising information and improved inventory control. We believe the Store Management System also enhances customer service through faster processing of transactions and simplified warranty and product return procedures.

### Purchasing and Distribution

Merchandise is selected and

purchased for all stores at our store support center in Memphis. No one class of product accounts for as much as 10% of our total sales. In fiscal 1999, no single supplier accounted for more than 8% of our total purchases, and our ten largest suppliers accounted for approximately 35% of our purchases. We generally have few long-term contracts for the purchase of merchandise. We believe that we have excellent relationships with suppliers. We also believe that alternative sources of supply exist, at similar cost, for substantially all types of product sold.

Our vendors ship substantially all of our merchandise to our distribution centers. Stores typically place orders on a weekly basis and the merchandise is shipped from the warehouse in our trucks on the following day.

## Competition

We compete principally in

the do-it-yourself and, more recently, the commercial automotive aftermarket. Although the number of competitors and the level of competition experienced by our stores varies by market area, the automotive aftermarket is fragmented and generally very competitive. We principally compete using store location, customer service, product selection, product warranty and price. While we believe that we compete effectively across the United States, some of our competitors have been operating longer in particular geographic areas and may be more familiar with particular regional needs or may have a name more recognizable in a particular region.

In addition to competing

with other auto parts retailers, we compete with jobber stores, which principally sell to wholesale accounts and installers, but also have significant sales to do-it-yourself customers. In addition, we also compete with mass merchants that sell automotive maintenance products such as oil, filters, windshield wiper blades, wash and wax chemicals, and batteries.

Recently, several large auto parts chains have merged. We do not know what impact these mergers will have upon competition in the retail automotive aftermarket.

### Trademarks and Patents

We have registered several

service marks and trademarks in the United States Patent and Trademark office, including our service mark "AutoZone" and trademarks "AutoZone," "Duralast," "Valucraft," "Ultra Spark," "Deutsch," "Albany," "ALLDATA" and "TruckPro". We believe that the "AutoZone" service mark and trademarks have become an important component in our merchandising and marketing strategy.

In the 1998 fiscal year we

were granted a patent by the Patent and Trademark Office for a starter and alternator tester which is being used exclusively in our AutoZone stores. This tester gives us greater testing accuracy and improved customer service.

### **Employees**

As of August 28, 1999, we

employed approximately 40,500 persons, approximately 29,500 of whom were employed full-time. Approximately 88% of our employees were employed in stores or in direct field supervision, approximately 8% in distribution centers and approximately 4% in store support functions.

We have never experienced any material labor disruption, and believe that our labor relations are generally good.

### Executive Officers of the Registrant

The following table lists

our executive officers. The title of each executive officer includes the words "Customer Satisfaction" which reflects our commitment to customer service as part of our marketing and merchandising strategy. Officers are elected by and serve at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

John C. Adams, Jr., 51 --- Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, and Director

John C. Adams, Jr., has

been a director since 1996. Mr. Adams was elected Chairman and Chief Executive Officer in March 1997, had been President and Chief Executive Officer since December 1996, and had been Vice Chairman and Chief Operating Officer since March 1996. Previously, he was Executive Vice President-Distribution since 1995. From 1990 to 1994, Mr. Adams was a co-owner of Nicotiana Enterprises, Inc., a food distribution company. From 1983 to 1990, Mr. Adams was President of the Miami Division of Malone & Hyde, Inc. ("Malone & Hyde"), AutoZone's former parent company.

Timothy D. Vargo, 48 --- President, Chief Operating Officer, and Director

Timothy D. Vargo has been

a director since 1996 and was elected President and Chief Operating Officer in March 1997. Previously, Mr. Vargo had been Vice Chairman and Chief Operating Officer since 1996, Executive Vice President-Merchandising and Systems Technology since 1995 and had been Senior Vice President in 1995. Mr. Vargo was Senior Vice President-Merchandising from 1986 to 1992 and was Director of Stores for AutoZone from 1984 to 1986.

Robert J. Hunt, 50 --- Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Director

Robert J. Hunt was elected

a director in 1997 and has been Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer since 1994. Prior to that time, Mr. Hunt was Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and a Director of The Price Company from 1991 to 1993. Previously, Mr. Hunt had been employed by Malone & Hyde since 1984, where he was Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer from 1988 to 1991.

Eugene E. Auerbach, 54 --- Senior Vice President-Store Development

Eugene E. Auerbach was appointed

Senior Vice President-Store Development in February 1999. Prior to that time, Mr. Auerbach was Asian Regional Director of the Dairy Farm Company from 1995 to 1999. Previously, Mr. Auerbach had been employed by Costco Wholesale where he was Senior Vice President-Information Technology and Senior Vice President- International.

Michael B. Baird, 42 --- Senior Vice President and President, TruckPro

Michael B. Baird was elected

Senior Vice President in October 1999, and had been President of TruckPro since its acquisition in 1998. Prior to that, he had been Vice President-Commercial from 1995, and had been Vice President-Merchandising since 1993. Mr. Baird has been employed by AutoZone or Malone & Hyde since 1994.

Bruce G. Clark, 54 --- Senior Vice President-Systems, Technology, and Support, and Chief Information Officer

Bruce G. Clark has been

Senior Vice President since January 1999. Previously Mr. Clark had been Senior Vice President-MIS/Telemarketing of Brylane and its predecessors since 1988. Mr. Clark joined Brylane, at that time a division of The Limited, in 1983, and served as Vice President-MIS/Telemarketing from 1983 to May 1988. Prior to joining Brylane, Mr. Clark was a partner in the consulting division of Arthur Andersen & Co.

### Gerald E. Colley was elected

Senior Vice President-Stores in 1997. He had been Vice President-Stores since April 1997, and had been a Regional Manager since February 1997. Previously, Mr. Colley had been an Executive Vice President for Tire Kingdom, Inc., in 1996, and had been President of Rose Auto Stores Florida, Inc., in 1995. Prior to that time Mr. Colley had been employed by AutoZone since 1987, and had been a Vice President from 1988 to 1995.

Brett D. Easley, 41 --- Senior Vice President - E-Commerce and President,

### Brett D. Easley was elected

Senior Vice President - E-Commerce in October 1999, and had been President of ALLDATA since 1998. Prior to that, he had been Vice President-Information and Training since 1997 and Vice President-Merchandising Systems since 1994. Mr. Easley has been employed by AutoZone or Malone & Hyde since 1984.

Joseph M. Fabiano, 43 --- Senior Vice President-Human Resources

### Joseph M. Fabiano joined

AutoZone in July 1999 as Senior Vice President-Human Resources. Previously Mr. Fabiano was Vice President-Human Resources for Northwestern Corporation from January 1999 to March 1999. Prior to that Mr. Fabiano was employed by Tricon Global Restaurants as Vice President, Human Resources-Americas from 1997 to 1999, and as Vice President, Human Resources-Latin America from 1996 to 1997. Prior to that Mr. Fabiano was Senior Vice President-Human Resources for Gruma, S.A. de C.V. from 1995 to 1996. From 1992 to 1995, Mr. Fabiano was Vice President-Human Resources for Gruma Corporation.

Harry L. Goldsmith, 48 --- Senior Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel

## Harry L. Goldsmith was elected

Senior Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel in 1996. Previously he was Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary from 1993 to 1996.

Michael E. Longo, 38 --- Senior Vice President-Distribution

### Michael E. Longo has been

Senior Vice President-Distribution since 1998. Prior to that time, he had been Vice President-Distribution since 1996. Mr. Longo began working with AutoZone in 1992.

William C. Rhodes, III, 34 --- Senior Vice President-Finance

### William C. Rhodes, III was

elected Senior Vice President-Finance since October 1999. Previously, Mr. Rhodes was Vice President-Finance from June 1999 and prior to that was Vice President-Operations Analysis and Support from 1997, and served as a Director in various capacities in both Store Operations and Finance since joining the Company in 1994.

Anthony Dean Rose, Jr., 39 --- Senior Vice President-Advertising

### Anthony Dean Rose, Jr. has

been Senior Vice President-Advertising since 1995. Prior to that time, he had been Vice President-Advertising since 1989 and a Director of Advertising since 1987. Mr. Rose has been employed by AutoZone or Malone & Hyde since 1982.

Stephen W. Valentine, 37 --- Senior Vice President-International

## Stephen W. Valentine has

been Senior Vice President-International since October 1998, and had been Senior Vice President-Systems Technology and Support since 1995. Prior to that time, he had been Vice President-Systems Technology and Support since 1994, and a Director of Store Management Systems since 1990. Mr. Valentine began working with AutoZone in 1989.

David J. Wilhite, 37 --- Senior Vice President-Merchandising

## David J. Wilhite was elected

Senior Vice President-Merchandising in September 1997. Previously Mr. Wilhite was a Vice President-Merchandising since 1996. He has been an employee of AutoZone or Malone & Hyde since 1984.

Andrew M. Clarkson, 62 --- Director and Chairman of the Finance Committee

### Andrew M. Clarkson has been

a director since 1986 and is an employee serving as Chairman of the Finance Committee. Mr. Clarkson had been Vice President and Treasurer in 1986, Senior Vice President and Treasurer from 1986 to 1988, was Secretary from 1988 to 1993 and was Treasurer from 1990 to 1995. Previously, Mr. Clarkson was Chief Financial Officer of Malone & Hyde from 1983 to 1988.

## RISK FACTORS

## We may not be able to increase sales by the same historic growth rates.

We have significantly increased our store count in the past five fiscal years, growing from 933 stores at August 27, 1994, to 2,717 stores at August 28, 1999, an average store count increase per year of 24%. We do not plan to continue our store count growth rate at the historic pace. In addition, a portion of our total sales increases each year results from increases in sales at existing stores. We cannot make any assurance that we can continue to increase same store sales as our stores mature in their markets.

# We may not be as successful in newer markets as we had been in our existing, older markets.

Other auto parts retailers competing in California and in New England have been in those markets for a longer period of time, have a trade name more recognizable than the name AutoZone in those markets, and may have a better understanding of the particular customer needs and expectations in these markets.

### We have an ever-increasing need for qualified employees.

In fiscal year 1998, our consolidated employee count increased from approximately 28,700 at the beginning of the year to about 38,500, a 34% increase in the year. We do not know if we can continue to hire and retain qualified employees at current wage rates.

# The acquired Chief Auto Parts stores are smaller in size than the traditional AutoZone store and may not be as profitable.

The Chief stores are substantially smaller than our traditionally sized AutoZone auto parts stores and therefore, the Chief stores, even after conversion, may not achieve the sales and profitability of a traditional AutoZone store.

### Industry consolidation may impact our business.

Recently, several large auto parts chains have merged. We do not know what impact these mergers will have upon competition in the retail automotive aftermarket. If our merging competitors are able to achieve efficiencies in their mergers, then there may be greater competitive pressures in the markets in which they are strongest.

# If demand for our products slows, then our business may be materially affected.

 $$\operatorname{\textsc{Demand}}$  for products sold by our stores depends on many factors. In the short term, it may depend upon:

the weather, as vehicle maintenance may be deferred during periods of inclement weather.

the economy, as during periods of good economic conditions, more of our do-it-yourself customers may pay others to repair and maintain their cars instead of working on their own cars. This factor is tempered by our commercial parts sales program that sells parts to installers. In periods of declining economic conditions, both do-it-yourself and do-it-for-me customers may defer vehicle maintenance or repair.

For the long term, demand for our products may depend upon:

the quality of the vehicles manufactured by the original vehicle manufacturers, and the length of the warranty offered on new vehicles.

the law. Contrary to the terms of the federal Clean Air Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has adopted regulations that would limit access to computerized diagnostic information (commonly referred to as "on-board diagnostics")

relating to vehicle emission systems on cars and light trucks beginning with the 1996 model year. Legislation is pending in several states to negate the effect of these regulations upon do-it-yourself customers and commercial installers not associated with the original manufacturers. If these regulations remain in effect, our customers will have little or no access to on-board diagnostic information for vehicles, which may limit their ability to diagnose, maintain, or repair the emissions systems of vehicles.

# If we cannot profitably open stores in international markets, our potential for growth may be limited.

We opened our first auto

parts stores in Mexico during the 1999 fiscal year. Although we believe that great potential exists for auto parts stores in the fragmented international auto parts market, we have little experience opening or operating stores outside of the United States, and no assurances can be made that we can open stores in any other country in a timely or profitable manner.

# If our vendors continue to consolidate, we may pay higher prices for our merchandise.

Recently, several of our

vendors have merged and others have announced plans to merge. Further vendor consolidation could limit the number of vendors from which we may purchase products and could materially affect the prices we pay for these products.

# If we are unable to successfully sell products on the Internet, we may lose market share to our competitors that can.

Recently, several

current and new competiors have established Internet sites that sell automotive parts, products and services. While we do sell automotive information over teh Internet at *alldatadiy.com*, we do not currently sell automotive parts or products. If our competitors establish successful Interenet sites prior to our entry into electornic commerce, then we may lose market share.

## Item 2. Properties

This table shows the square footage and number of leased and owned properties for our domestic auto parts stores:

<u>Square Footage</u>	Number of Stores
Less than 4,000	233
4,000 to 7,000	1,692
More than 7,000	786

We have 3,652,739 square

feet in our distribution centers, all of which is owned, except for 880,965 square feet, which is leased. The distribution centers are located in Arizona, California, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Ohio, Tennessee, and Texas.

Our store support center, which we own, is located in Memphis, Tennessee, and consists of 360,000 square feet.

We also own and lease other properties that are not material in the aggregate.

## Item 3. Legal Proceedings

Chief Auto Parts Inc. is

a defendant in a class action lawsuit entitled "Doug Winfrey, et al. on their own behalf and on behalf of a class and all others similarly situated, v. Chief Auto Parts Inc. et al.," filed in the Superior Court of California, County of San Joaquin in August 1995 and then transferred to The Superior Court of California, County of San Francisco, in October 1995. In the complaint, the plaintiffs allege that Chief had a policy and practice of denying hourly employees in California mandated rest periods during their scheduled hours of work. The plaintiffs are seeking damages, restitution, disgorgement of profits, statutory penalties, declaratory relief, injunctive relief, prejudgment interest, and reasonable attorneys' fees, expenses and costs.

### On November 1998, the Superior

Court certified the class as to all persons considered by Chief to be non-exempt hourly employees who, from August 1991, to the present, either work or did work in one of Chief's California retail stores, in excess of total work time of three and one-half (3.5) hours in any one work day and who were denied an off-duty rest break. In September 1999, the parties agreed to settle the suit. The settlement is subject to approval of the court and grants an option to each class member to exclude himself or herself from the class and allows each of them to file an independent action. The settlement, if approved by the court and accepted by substantially all members of the plaintiff class, will not have a material effect upon our financial results or operations.

### AutoZone, Inc., is a defendant

in a purported class action lawsuit entitled "Melvin Quinnie on behalf of all others similarly situated v. AutoZone, Inc., and DOES 1 through 100, inclusive" filed in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, in November 1998. The plaintiff claims that the defendants failed to pay overtime to store managers as required by California law and failed to pay terminated managers in a timely manner as required by California law. The plaintiff is seeking injunctive relief, restitution, statutory penalties, prejudgment interest, and reasonable attorneys' fees, expenses and costs. The case is in early stages of pre-class certification discovery and therefore we are unable to predict the outcome of this lawsuit at this time. We are vigorously defending against this action.

### AutoZone, Inc., and Chief

Auto Parts Inc. are defendants in a purported class action lawsuit entitled "Paul D. Rusch, on behalf of all other similarly situated, v. Chief Auto Parts Inc. and AutoZone, Inc." filed in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, in May 1999. The plaintiffs claim that the defendants have failed to pay their store managers overtime pay from March 1997 to the present. The plaintiffs are seeking back overtime pay, interest, an injunction against the defendants committing such practices in the future, costs, and attorneys' fees. In September 1999, the Court denied our motion to strike the complaint's request for class certification based on a prior case of Chief based on similar facts in which the class certification was denied. We appealed the Court's decision and the decision of the trial court was sustained and has been returned to the trial court. We are unable to predict the outcome of this lawsuit at this time, but believe that the potential damages recoverable by any single plaintiff against us are minimal. However, if the plaintiff class were to be certified and to prevail on all of its claims, the aggregate amount of damages could be substantial. We are vigorously defending against this action.

### We are also involved in various

other legal proceedings incidental to the conduct of our business. Although the amount of liability that may result from these other proceedings cannot be ascertained, we do not currently believe that, in the aggregate, they will result in liabilities material to our financial condition or results of operations.

### PART II

# Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Stock and Related Stockholder Matters

Common Stock Market Prices

for our common stock as traded on the New York Stock Exchange as shown in the section labeled "Quarterly Summary" of the Annual Report to Stockholders for the fiscal year ended August 28, 1999, are incorporated herein by reference.

At October 12, 1999, we had

3,337 stockholders of record, excluding the number of beneficial owners whose shares were represented by security position listings.

## Item 6. Selected Financial Data

Selected financial data contained in the section entitled "Ten-Year Review" of the Annual Report to Stockholders for the fiscal year ended August 28, 1999, are incorporated herein by reference.

## Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

The section entitled "Financial Review" of the Annual Report to Stockholders for the fiscal year ended August 28, 1999, is incorporated herein by reference.

## Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

The subsection entitled "Financial
Market Risk" of the section entitled "Financial Review" of the Annual Report
to Stockholders for the fiscal year ended August 28, 1999, is incorporated
herein by reference.

## Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

The financial statements

and related notes and the section entitled "Quarterly Summary" of the Annual Report to Stockholders for the fiscal year ended August 28, 1999, are incorporated herein by reference.

#### PART III

### Item 10. Directors and Officers of the Registrant

The information required

by this item is incorporated by reference to Part I of this document and to the definitive Proxy Statement dated October 25, 1999, filed pursuant to Regulation 14A under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 in connection with the annual meeting of stockholders to be held December 9, 1999.

### Item 11. Executive Compensation

The information required

by this item is incorporated by reference to the definitive Proxy Statement dated October 25, 1999, filed pursuant to Regulation 14A under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 in connection with the annual meeting of stockholders to be held December 9, 1999.

# Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management

The information required

by this item is incorporated by reference to the definitive Proxy Statement dated October 25, 1999, filed pursuant to Regulation 14A under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 in connection with the annual meeting of stockholders to be held December 9, 1999.

## Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions

The sections entitled "Certain

Relationships and Related Transactions" and "Employment Agreements" of the definitive Proxy Statement dated October 25, 1999, filed pursuant to Regulation 14A under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 in connection with the annual meeting of stockholders to be held December 9, 1999, are incorporated herein by reference.

## Indebtedness of Management

Effective as of the beginning

of the 2000 fiscal year, the Board of Directors has adopted the AutoZone, Inc. Management Stock Ownership Plan. Under this plan, each executive officer is encouraged to purchase and maintain ownership of AutoZone stock in an amount that is a set multiple of that officer's annual salary. As a part of the program, we have agreed to loan each executive officer up to one-half of the funds required to purchase the stock. The notes are demand notes that mature in five years or upon termination of the officer's employment. Interest accrues at a 6% annually compounded rate, which approximates the applicable federal rate as set by the Internal Revenue Service. As of November 24 1999, the following executive officers had executed notes in the principal amounts stated:

Leased	1,193	6,893,195
Owned	<u>1,518</u>	<u>10,511,805</u>
Total	<u>2,711</u>	<u>17,405,000</u>

#### PART TV

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### (a) 1. Financial Statements

The following financial statements included in the Annual Report to Stockholders for the fiscal year ended August 28, 1999, are incorporated by reference in Item 8:

Report of Independent Auditors

Consolidated Statements of Income for the fiscal years ended August 28, 1999, August 29, 1998, and August 30, 1997

Consolidated Balance Sheets as of August 28, 1999, and August 29, 1998

Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity for the fiscal years ended August 28, 1999, August 29, 1998, and August 30, 1997

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the fiscal years ended August 28, 1999, August 29, 1998, and August 30, 1997

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

### 2. Financial Statement Schedule II - Valuation and Qualifying Accounts

All other schedules are omitted because the information is not required or because the information required is included in the financial statements or notes thereto.

## 3. The following exhibits are filed as a part of this report:

3.1 Restated Articles of Incorporation of AutoZone, Inc. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Form 10-Q

for the quarter ended February 13, 1999.

3.2 Amended and Restated By-laws of AutoZone, Inc. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.3 to the Form 10-K

for the fiscal year ended August 29, 1998.

4.2 Registration Rights
Agreement between AutoZone, Inc. and J. Dale Dawson and Judith S. Dawson dated

May 1, 1998. Incorporated by reference to the Form 10-Q for the quarter ended May 9, 1998.

4.3 Senior Indenture, dated as of July 22, 1998, between AutoZone, Inc. and the First National Bank of Chicago.

Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Form 8-K dated July 17, 1998.

\*10.1 Amended and Restated Director Stock Option Plan. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the

Form S-8 (No. 333-88243) dated October 1, 1999.

\*10.2 Amended and Restated 1998 Director Compensation Plan. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the

- \*10.3 Amended and Restated Stock Option Plan, as amended on February 26, 1991. Incorporated by reference to
- Exhibit 10.4 to the Form S-1 (No. 33-39197) filed April 1, 1991.
  - \*10.4 Amendment No. 1 dated December 18, 1992, to the Amended and Restated Stock Option Plan. Incorporated
- by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to the Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 28, 1993.
  - \*10.5 Second Amended and Restated 1996 Stock Option Plan. Incorporated by reference to Appendix B to the
- definitive Proxy Statement as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 2, 1998.
  - \*10.6 Employment and Non-Compete Agreement between John C. Adams, Jr., and AutoZone, Inc., dated June 11,
  - 1997. Incorporated by reference to the Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 29, 1997.
    - \*10.7 Employment and Non-Compete Agreement between Timothy D. Vargo, and AutoZone, Inc., dated June 11,
  - 1997. Incorporated by reference to the Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 29, 1997.
    - \*10.8 Employment and Non-Compete Agreement between Robert J. Hunt, and AutoZone, Inc., dated June 11, 1997.
  - Incorporated by reference to the Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 29, 1997.
    - \*10.9 Employment and Non-Compete Agreement between Stephen W. Valentine, and AutoZone, Inc., dated July 7,
  - 1997. Incorporated by reference to the Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 29, 1997.
    - \*10.10 Employment and Non-Compete Agreement between Harry L. Goldsmith, and AutoZone, Inc., dated June 11,
  - 1997. Incorporated by reference to the Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 29, 1997.
    - \*10.11 Executive Incentive Compensation Plan. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit A to the definitive Proxy

Statement dated November 14, 1994.

- 10.12 Amended and Restated Agreement between J.R. Hyde, III, and AutoZone, Inc., dated October 23, 1997.
- Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Form 10-Q for the quarter ended November 22, 1997.
  - 10.13  $\,$  Credit Agreement among AutoZone, Inc., as Borrower, the several lenders from time to time party thereto,
- NationsBank, N.A., as Agent, and SunTrust Bank, Nashville, N.A. as Co-Agent, dated December 20, 1996.
- Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Form 10-Q/A for the quarter ended February 15, 1997.
  - 10.14 Amendment No. 1, dated February 10, 1998, to Credit Agreement among AutoZone, Inc., as Borrower, the
  - several lenders from time to time party thereto, NationsBank, N.A., as Agent, and SunTrust Bank, Nashville,

N.A. as Co-Agent, dated December 20, 1996. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Form 10-Q for

the quarter ended February 14, 1998.

10.15 Amendment No. 2 to Credit Agreement among AutoZone, Inc., as Borrower, the several lenders from time to

time party thereto, NationsBank, N.A., as Agent, and SunTrust Bank, Nashville, N.A. as Co-Agent, dated

December 20, 1996. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Form 10-Q for the quarter ended

November 21, 1998.

10.16 Credit Agreement, dated November 13, 1998, between AutoZone, Inc., as Borrower, the several lenders from

time to time party thereto, and NationsBank, N.A., as Agent. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to the

Form 10-Q for the quarter ended November 21, 1998.

10.17 Amendment No. 1, dated July 16, 1999, to Credit Agreement dated November 13, 1998, between AutoZone,

Inc., as Borrower, the several lenders from time to time party thereto, and NationsBank, N.A., as Agent.

13.1 Annual Report to Stockholders for the fiscal year ended August 28, 1999. Incorporated by reference to the

Annual Report filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission via EDGAR pursuant to Rule  $101\,(b)\,(1)$  of

Regulation S-T.

- 21.1 Subsidiaries of the Registrant.
  - 23.1 Consent of Ernst & Young LLP.
  - 27.1 Financial Data Schedule (SEC Use Only).

(b) Reports on Form 8-K.

The Company filed a Current Report on Form 8-K dated May 26, 1999, which contained a press release announcing the Company's financial results for the quarter ended May 8, 1999.

SIGNATURES

 $<sup>{}^{\</sup>star}{\rm Management}$  contract or compensatory plan or arrangement.

## Pursuant to the requirements

of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

AUTOZONE, INC.

By: /s/ J.C. Adams, Jr.

Date: November 24, 1999

J.C. Adams, Jr.

Chairman, Chief Executive Officer

and Director

(Principal Executive Officer)

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated:

<u>Name</u>	Principal Amount of Loan
John C. Adams, Jr.	\$402,941
Timothy D. Vargo	\$848,800
Robert J. Hunt	\$408,063
Eugene E. Auerbach	\$280,000
Michael B. Baird	\$203,604
Bruce G. Clark	\$125,000
Gerald E. Colley	\$300,000
Joseph M. Fabiano	\$230,000
Harry L. Goldsmith	\$211,412
Michael E. Longo	\$103,994
William C. Rhodes,	\$174,473
Stephen W. Valentine	\$288,332

SIGNATURE	TITLE	DATE
/s/ J.C. Adams, Jr. J.C. Adams, Jr.	Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer)	November 24, 1999
/s/ Timothy D. Vargo Timothy D. Vargo	President, Chief Operating Officer, and Director	November 24, 1999
/s/ Robert J. Hunt Robert J. Hunt	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Director (Principal Financial Officer)	November 24, 1999
/s/ William C. Rhodes, <u>III</u> William C. Rhodes, III	Senior Vice President (Principal Accounting Officer)	November 24, 1999
/s/ Andrew M. Clarkson Andrew M. Clarkson	Director	November 24, 1999

SCHEDULE II

## AUTOZONE, INC.

## VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS

## (In thousands)

/s/ N. Gerry House N. Gerry House	Director	November	24,	1999
/s/ J.R. Hyde, <u>III</u> J.R. Hyde, III	Director	November	24,	. 1999
<u>/s/ James F. Keegan</u> James F. Keegan	Director	November	24,	1999
/s/ Michael W. Michelson Michael W. Michelson	Director	November	24,	1999
/s/ Ronald A. Terry Ronald A. Terry	Director	November	24,	1999

- (1) Cost of product for warranty replacements, net of salvage and amounts collected from customers.
- (2) Purchase accounting adjustments related to the acquisition of Chief Auto Parts Inc.
  - (3) Amount includes items classified in other accrued expenses and other long-term liabilities.

### EXHIBIT INDEX

3.1 Restated Articles of Incorporation of AutoZone, Inc. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Form 10-Q

for the quarter ended February 13, 1999.

\$3.2\$ Amended and Restated By-laws of AutoZone, Inc. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.3 to the  $$\rm Form\ 10-K$$ 

for the fiscal year ended August 29, 1998.

- 4.2 Registration Rights
  Agreement between AutoZone, Inc. and J. Dale Dawson and Judith S. Dawson
- May 1, 1998. Incorporated by reference to the Form 10-Q for the quarter ended May 9, 1998.
- 4.3 Senior Indenture, dated as of July 22, 1998, between AutoZone, Inc. and the First National Bank of Chicago.
- Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Form 8-K dated July 17, 1998.
  - $^{\star}10.1$   $\,$  Amended and Restated Director Stock Option Plan. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the

Form S-8 (No. 333-88243) dated October 1, 1999.

\*10.2 Amended and Restated 1998 Director Compensation Plan. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the

Form S-8 (No. 333-88241) dated October 1, 1999.

- \*10.3 Amended and Restated Stock Option Plan, as amended on February 26, 1991. Incorporated by reference to
- Exhibit 10.4 to the Form S-1 (No. 33-39197) filed April 1, 1991.
  - \*10.4 Amendment No. 1 dated December 18, 1992, to the Amended and Restated Stock Option Plan. Incorporated
- by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to the Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 28, 1993.
  - $^{\star}10.5$  Second Amended and Restated 1996 Stock Option Plan. Incorporated by reference to Appendix B to the
- definitive Proxy Statement as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 2, 1998.
  - \*10.6 Employment and Non-Compete Agreement between John C. Adams, Jr., and AutoZone, Inc., dated June 11,
  - 1997. Incorporated by reference to the Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 29, 1997.
    - \*10.7 Employment and Non-Compete Agreement between Timothy D. Vargo, and AutoZone, Inc., dated June 11,
  - 1997. Incorporated by reference to the Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 29, 1997.
    - \*10.8 Employment and Non-Compete Agreement between Robert J. Hunt, and AutoZone, Inc., dated June 11, 1997.

Incorporated by reference to the Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 29, 1997.

- \*10.9 Employment and Non-Compete Agreement between Stephen W. Valentine, and AutoZone, Inc., dated July 7,
- 1997. Incorporated by reference to the Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 29, 1997.
  - \*10.10 Employment and Non-Compete Agreement between Harry L. Goldsmith, and AutoZone, Inc., dated June 11,
- 1997. Incorporated by reference to the Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 29, 1997.
  - \*10.11 Executive Incentive Compensation Plan. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit A to the definitive Proxy

Statement dated November 14, 1994.

- 10.12 Amended and Restated Agreement between J.R. Hyde, III, and AutoZone, Inc., dated October 23, 1997.
- Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Form 10-Q for the quarter ended November 22, 1997.
  - 10.13 Credit Agreement among AutoZone, Inc., as Borrower, the several lenders from time to time party thereto,
- NationsBank, N.A., as Agent, and SunTrust Bank, Nashville, N.A. as Co-Agent, dated December 20, 1996.
- Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Form 10-Q/A for the quarter ended February 15, 1997.
  - 10.14 Amendment No. 1, dated February 10, 1998, to Credit Agreement among AutoZone, Inc., as Borrower, the
  - several lenders from time to time party thereto, NationsBank, N.A., as Agent, and SunTrust Bank, Nashville,
  - N.A. as Co-Agent, dated December 20, 1996. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Form 10-Q for

the quarter ended February 14, 1998.

- 10.15 Amendment No. 2 to Credit Agreement among AutoZone, Inc., as Borrower, the several lenders from time to
- time party thereto, NationsBank, N.A., as Agent, and SunTrust Bank, Nashville, N.A. as Co-Agent, dated
  - December 20, 1996. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Form 10-Q for the quarter ended

November 21, 1998.

- 10.16 Credit Agreement, dated November 13, 1998, between AutoZone, Inc., as Borrower, the several lenders from
- time to time party thereto, and NationsBank, N.A., as Agent. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to the

Form 10-Q for the quarter ended November 21, 1998.

- 10.17 Amendment No. 1, dated July 16, 1999, to Credit Agreement dated November 13, 1998, between AutoZone,
- Inc., as Borrower, the several lenders from time to time party thereto, and NationsBank, N.A., as Agent.
- \$13.1\$ Annual Report to Stockholders for the fiscal year ended August 28, 1999. Incorporated by reference to

Regulation S-T.

21.1 Subsidiaries of the Registrant.

23.1 Consent of Ernst & Young LLP.

27.1 Financial Data Schedule (SEC Use Only).

\*Management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement.

## AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO CREDIT AGREEMENT

THIS AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO CREDIT AGREEMENT (this "AMENDMENT"), dated as of July 16, 1999, is entered into by and among AUTOZONE, INC., a Nevada corporation (the "BORROWER"), EACH PERSON IDENTIFIED AS AN "EXISTING LENDER" ON THE SIGNATURE PAGES HERETO (the "EXISTING LENDERS"), EACH PERSON IDENTIFIED AS A "NEW LENDER" ON THE SIGNATURE PAGES HERETO (the "NEW LENDERS" and, together with those Existing Lenders that are listed on Schedule 2.1(a) attached hereto, the "LENDERS"), BANK OF AMERICA, N.A. (formerly known as NationsBank, N.A.), as Agent for the Lenders (in such capacity, the "AGENT"), SUNTRUST BANK, NASHVILLE, N.A., as Syndication Agent for the Lenders (in such capacity, the "SYNDICATION AGENT"), and THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF CHICAGO, as Documentation Agent for the Lenders (in such capacity, the "DOCUMENTATION AGENT").

### WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, pursuant to a Credit Agreement dated as of November 13, 1998 (the "EXISTING 364-DAY CREDIT AGREEMENT") among the Borrower, the Existing Lenders, the Agent and SunTrust Bank, Nashville, N.A., as Documentation Agent, the Existing Lenders have extended commitments to make a revolving credit facility available to the Borrower; and

WHEREAS, the parties hereto have agreed to amend the Existing 364-Day Credit Agreement as set forth herein;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the agreements herein contained, the parties hereby agree as follows:

## PART I

SUBPART 1.1. CERTAIN DEFINITIONS. Unless otherwise defined herein or the context otherwise requires, the following terms used in this Amendment, including its preamble and recitals, have the following meanings:

"AMENDED CREDIT AGREEMENT" means the Existing 364-Day Credit Agreement as amended hereby.

"AMENDMENT NO. 1 EFFECTIVE DATE" as defined in SUBPART 4.1.

SUBPART 1.2. OTHER DEFINITIONS. Unless otherwise defined herein or the context otherwise requires, terms used in this Amendment, including its preamble and recitals, have the meanings provided in the Amended Credit Agreement.

## PART II ASSIGNMENTS AND ASSUMPTIONS

The Existing Lenders hereby sell and assign, without recourse, to the Lenders, and the Lenders hereby purchase and assume, without recourse, from the Existing Lenders, effective as of the Amendment No. 1Effective Date, such interests in the Existing Lenders' rights and obligations under the Existing 364-Day Credit Agreement (including, without limitation, the Commitments of the Existing Lenders on the Amendment No. 1 Effective Date and the Loans owing to the Existing Lenders which are outstanding on the Amendment No. 1 Effective Date) as shall be necessary in order to give effect to the reallocations of the Committed Amounts and Commitment Percentages effected by the amendment to Schedule 2.1(a) to the Existing 364-Day Credit Agreement pursuant to Subpart 3.2. Each of the Lenders hereby makes and agrees to be bound by all the representations, warranties and agreements set forth in Section 10.3(b) of the Existing 364-Day Credit Agreement, except that this Amendment shall serve in lieu of the assignment agreement referenced in Section 10.3(b). From and after the Amendment No. 1 Effective Date (i) each of the Lenders shall be a party to and be bound by the provisions of the Amended Credit Agreement and, to the extent of the interests assigned hereby, have the rights and obligations of a Lender thereunder and under the other Credit Documents and (ii) each of the Existing Lenders shall, to the extent of the interests assigned hereby, relinquish its rights and be released from its obligations under the Existing 364-Day Credit Agreement. The Agent shall record in the register referred to in Section 11.3(c) of the Existing 364-Day Credit Agreement on the Amendment No. 1 Effective Date the information relating to the assignments and assumptions effected pursuant to this Part II. The Agent hereby agrees that no transfer fee shall be payable under Section 11.3(b) of the Existing 364-Day Credit Agreement or otherwise in connection with the assignments effected pursuant to this Part II.

Effective on (and subject to the occurrence of) the Amendment No. 1 Effective Date, the Lenders agree with the Borrower that the Existing 364-Day Credit Agreement shall be amended in accordance with this PART III. Except as so amended, the Existing 364-Day Credit Agreement shall continue in full force and effect.

SUBPART 3.1. AMENDMENT TO SECTION 1.1. The definition of "Termination Date" set forth in Section 1.1 of the Existing 364-Day Credit Agreement is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

"TERMINATION DATE" means July 15, 2000; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, such date may be extended with the consent of each of the Lenders.

- SUBPART 3.2. AMENDMENT TO SECTION 2.1(A). The reference to "ONE HUNDRED FIFTY MILLION DOLLARS (\$150,000,000)" in Section 2.1(a) of the Existing 364-Day Credit Agreement is hereby replaced with a reference to "THREE HUNDRED FIFTY MILLION DOLLARS (\$350,000,000)".
- SUBPART 3.3. AMENDMENT TO SECTION 2.1(D). Section 2.1(d) of the Existing 364-Day Credit Agreement is hereby amended by adding a new clause (iii) immediately following clause (ii) as follows:
  - (iii) UTILIZATION PREMIUM. (A) During such periods as the aggregate principal amount of all outstanding Loans is greater than or equal to 33% of the Committed Amount but less than 66% of the Committed Amount, the otherwise applicable interest rate determined pursuant to clause (i) or (ii) above shall be increased by 6.5 bps. (B) During such periods as the aggregate principal amount of all outstanding Loans is greater than or equal to 66% of the Committed Amount, the otherwise applicable interest rate determined pursuant to clause (i) or (ii) above shall be increased by 13 bps.
- SUBPART 3.4. NEW SECTION 5.7. The Existing 364-Day Credit Agreement is hereby amended by adding a new Section 5.7 as follows:

### 5.7 YEAR 2000 COMPLIANCE.

The Borrower has (a) initiated a review and assessment of all areas within its material business and operations that could reasonably be expected to be adversely affected by what is commonly referred to as the "YEAR 2000 PROBLEM" (I.E., the inability of certain computer applications to recognize and perform date sensitive functions involving certain dates prior to and after December 31, 1999), (b) developed a plan, strategy or other approach for addressing the Year 2000 Problem on a timely basis, and (c) implemented that plan, strategy or other approach. Based on the foregoing and upon the Borrower's reliance on (i) any Year 2000 consulting services, study, report or any other information performed or provided by any Person other than the Borrower or any of its Subsidiaries and (ii) any certification or assurance of Year 2000 compliance provided by any vendor, supplier, servicer, manufacturer, customer or other provider of any hardware or software product or other computer applications installed at the Borrower or any of its Subsidiaries, the Borrower believes, as of July 16, 1999, that all computer applications (including, limited to the Borrower's inquiries, those disclosed by its suppliers, vendors and customers) that are material to its business and operations are reasonably expected on a timely basis to be able to perform properly datesensitive functions for all dates before and after December 31, 1999 (that is, be "YEAR 2000 COMPLIANT"), except to the extent that a failure to do so could not reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

SUBPART 3.5. NEW SECTION 6.3. The Existing 364-Day Credit Agreement is hereby amended by adding a new Section 6.3 as follows:

## 6.3 YEAR 2000 COMPATIBILITY.

The Borrower will take all actions reasonably necessary to assure that its computer based systems (which if not functional would have a Material Adverse Effect) are able to operate and effectively process data in a manner that is Year 2000 compliant (as defined in Section 5.7). At the reasonable request of the Agent, the Borrower shall provide information to the Agent concerning the Year 2000 compliance of () the Borrower and () each Subsidiary of the Borrower that is material to the business and/or financial condition of the Borrower and its Subsidiaries taken as a whole.

SUBPART 3.6. AMENDMENT TO SCHEDULE 1.1. The pricing grid in Schedule 1.1 to the Existing 364-Day Credit Agreement is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows.

RICING LEVEL	S&P/MOODY'S RATING	CONSOLIDATED LEVERAGE	Applicable Percentage for EURODOLLAR LOANS RATIO	Applicable Percentage for FACILITY FEE
Level I	AA/Aa2 or above	N.A.	13.75 bps	6.25 bps
Level II	A/A2 or above	Less than or equal to	18.0 bps 0.25:1.00	7.0 bps
Level III	A-/A3 or above	Greater than 0.25 but	23.0 bps less than or equal to 0.30	9.0 bps
Level IV	BBB+/Baal or above	Greater than 0.30:1.00 but	26.0 bps t less than or equal to 0.35:1.00	9.0 bps
Level V	BBB/Baa2 or above	Greater than 0.35:1.00, but	37.5 bps t less than or equal to 0.40:1.00	12.5 bps
Level VI	BBB-/Baa3	Greater than 0.40:1.00	60.0 bps	15.0 bps

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- All other provisions in the definition of "Applicable Percentage" shall remain unchanged and shall continue in full force and effect.
  - SUBPART 3.7. AMENDMENTS TO SCHEDULE 2.1(A). Schedule 2.1(a) to the Existing 364-Day Credit Agreement is hereby deleted in its entirety and a new schedule in the form of SCHEDULE 2.1(A) attached hereto is substituted therefor.
  - SUBPART 3.8. AMENDMENTS TO SCHEDULE 5.12. Schedule 5.12 to the Existing 364-Day Credit Agreement is hereby deleted in its entirety and a new schedule in the form of SCHEDULE 5.12 attached hereto is substituted therefor.

# PART IV CONDITIONS TO EFFECTIVENESS

- SUBPART 4.1. AMENDMENT NO. 1 EFFECTIVE DATE. This Amendment shall be and become effective as of the date hereof (the "AMENDMENT NO. 1 EFFECTIVE DATE") when all of the conditions set forth below in this SUBPART 4.1 shall have been satisfied, and thereafter this Amendment shall be known, and may be referred to, as "AMENDMENT NO. 1."
  - SUBPART 4.1.1. EXECUTION OF COUNTERPARTS OF AMENDMENT.
    The Agent shall have received counterparts (or other evidence of execution, including telephonic message, satisfactory to the Agent) of this Amendment, which collectively shall have been duly executed on behalf of each of the Borrower, the Agent, the Documentation Agent and the Lenders.
  - SUBPART 4.1.2. DELIVERY OF NEW PROMISSORY NOTES. The Agent shall have received from the Borrower new promissory notes for the Lenders in the amounts of their respective Commitments under the Amended Credit Agreement and substantially in the form of the original Notes under the Existing 364-Day Credit Agreement (but with notation thereon that such Notes are given in substitution for and replacement of the original Notes).
  - SUBPART 4.1.3. PAYMENT OF UPFRONT FEE. The Agent, for the pro rata benefit of the Lenders, shall have received from the Borrower payment in full of an upfront fee equal to 2 bps on the Committed Amount (as increased pursuant to Subpart 3.2).
  - SUBPART 4.1.4. LEGAL OPINION, ETC. The Agent, for the benefit of the Lenders, and its counsel shall have received a legal opinion from the Borrower's General Counsel in form and substance acceptable to the Agent, together with such corporate authority, officer's certificates and supporting documentation as the Agent may reasonably request.

### PART V MISCELLANEOUS

- SUBPART 5.1. CROSS-REFERENCES. References in this Amendment to any Part or Subpart are, unless otherwise specified, to such Part or Subpart of this Amendment.
- SUBPART 5.2. INSTRUMENT PURSUANT TO EXISTING 364-DAY CREDIT AGREEMENT. This Amendment is a Credit Document executed pursuant to the Existing 364-Day Credit Agreement and shall (unless otherwise expressly indicated therein) be construed, administered and applied

in accordance with the terms and provisions of the Existing 364-Day Credit Agreement.

- SUBPART 5.3. REFERENCES IN OTHER CREDIT DOCUMENTS. At such time as this Amendment shall become effective pursuant to the terms of SUBPART 4.1, all references in the Credit Documents to the "Credit Agreement" shall be deemed to refer to the Credit Agreement as amended by this Amendment.
  - SUBPART 5.4. REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES. The Borrower hereby represents and warrants that:
    - (a) It has taken all necessary action to authorize the execution, delivery and performance of this Amendment.
  - (b) This Amendment has been duly executed and delivered by the Borrower and constitutes the Borrower's legal, valid and binding obligations, enforceable in accordance with its terms, except as such enforceability may be subject to (i) bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, fraudulent conveyance or transfer, moratorium or similar laws affecting creditors' rights generally and (ii) general principles of equity (regardless of whether such enforceability is considered in a proceeding at law or in equity).
    - (c) No consent, approval, authorization or order of, or filing, registration or qualification with, any court or governmental authority or third party is required in connection with the execution, delivery or performance by the Borrower of this Amendment.
  - (d) The representations and warranties set forth in Section 5 of the Amended Credit Agreement are, subject to the limitations set forth therein, true and correct in all material respects as of the Amendment No. 1 Effective Date (except for those which expressly relate to an earlier date).
  - (e) Subsequent to the execution and delivery of this Amendment and after giving effect hereto, no Default or Event of Default exists under the Amended Credit Agreement or any of the other Credit Documents.
    - (f) All of the provisions of the Credit Documents, except as amended hereby, are in full force and effect.
- SUBPART 5.5. NO OTHER CHANGES. Except as expressly modified and amended in this Amendment, all the terms, provisions and conditions of the Credit Documents shall remain unchanged and shall continue in full force and effect.
  - SUBPART 5.6. COUNTERPARTS/TELECOPY. This Amendment may be executed by the parties hereto in several counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original and all of which shall constitute together but one and the same agreement. Delivery of an executed counterpart by telecopy shall be effective as an original and shall constitute a representation that an original will be delivered.
- SUBPART 5.7. GOVERNING LAW. THIS AMENDMENT SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE A CONTRACT MADE UNDER AND GOVERNED BY THE INTERNAL LAWS OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA WITHOUT GIVING EFFECT TO THE CONFLICT OF LAW PRINCIPLES THEREOF.
  - SUBPART 5.8. SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS. This Amendment shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns.
- SUBPART 5.9. ENTIRETY. THIS AMENDMENT, THE AMENDED CREDIT AGREEMENT AND THE OTHER CREDIT DOCUMENTS EMBODY THE ENTIRE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PARTIES AND SUPERSEDE ALL PRIOR AGREEMENTS AND UNDERSTANDINGS, IF ANY, RELATING TO THE SUBJECT MATTER HEREOF. THESE CREDIT DOCUMENTS REPRESENT THE FINAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PARTIES AND MAY NOT BE CONTRADICTED BY EVIDENCE OF PRIOR, CONTEMPORANEOUS OR SUBSEQUENT ORAL AGREEMENTS OF THE PARTIES.
- SUBPART 5.10. SURRENDER OF OLD PROMISSORY NOTES. Upon the occurrence of the Amendment No. 1 Effective Date and, if applicable, receipt of a new promissory note, each Existing Lender hereby agrees to surrender its original Note under the Existing 364-Day Credit Agreement to the Borrower for cancellation.
  - This Amendment No. 1 to Credit Agreement is executed as of the day and year first written above.

By: /s/ James A. Cook, III Name: James A. Cook, III Title: V.P. & Treasurer

By: /s/ Harry L. Goldsmith, Sr. V.P.

EXISTING

LENDERS:

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.
(formerly known as NationsBank, N.A.),
individually in its capacity as a Lender
and in its capacity as Agent

By: /s/ Timothy H. Spanos Name: TIMOTHY H. SPANOS Title: Senior Vice President

SUNTRUST BANK, NASHVILLE, N.A., individually in its capacity as a Lender and in its capacity as Syndication Agent

By: /s/ Bryan W. Ford Name: Bryan W. Ford Title: Vice President

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF CHICAGO

By: /s/ Catherine A. Muszynski Name: Catherine A. Muszynski Title: Vice President

FLEET BANK

By: /s/ Thomas J. Bullard Name: THOMAS J. BULLARD Title: Vice President

KEYBANK

By: /s/ Mark A. LoSchiavo Name: Mark A. LoSchiavo Title: Assistant Vice President

NORWEST BANK MINNESOTA, N.A.

By: /s/ Scott D. Bjelde Name: Scott D. Bjelde Title: Vice President

FIRST UNION NATIONAL BANK

By: /s/ Michael T. Grady Name: Michael T. Grady Title: Managing Director

NEW

LENDERS:

CITIBANK, N.A.

By: /s/ Charles C. Philipp Name: Charles C. Philipp Title: Managing Director

UNION BANK OF CALIFORNIA, N.A.

By: /s/ J. William Bloore Name: J. William Bloore Title: Vice President

MERCANTILE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

By: /s/ Stephen M. Reese Name: Stephen M. Reese Title: Vice President

THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK

By: /s/ Barry K. Bergman Name: Barry K. Bergman Title: Vice President

LENDERS

		COMMITMENT
LENDER	PERCENTAGE	COMMITMENT
BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.	17.142857142	\$60,000,000
В	ank of America Corporate Center	
	NC1-007-16-11 Charlotte, NC 28255	
	Attn: Timothy H. Spanos	
	Tel: (704) 386-4507	
	Fax: (704) 388-8268	
SUNTRUST BANK, NASHVILLE, N.A.	17.142857142	\$60,000,000
	6410 Poplar Avenue	
	Suite 320 Memphis, TN 38119	
	Attn: Bryan W. Ford	
	Tel: (901) 762-9862	
	Fax: (901) 766-7565	
THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF CHI		\$50,000,000
	One First National Plaza Mail Suite 0086	
	Chicago, IL 60670-0086	
	Attn: John Runger	
	Tel: (312) 732-7101 Fax: (312) 732-1117	
FLEET BANK	11.428571429	\$40,000,000
	One Federal Street Mail Stop MA OF 0320	
	Boston, MA 02110-2010	
	Attn: Thomas J. Bullard	
	Tel: (617) 346-0146 Fax: (617) 346-0689	
	= 4400==4400	
NORWEST BANK MINNESOTA, N.A.	7.142857143% P.O. Box 2019	\$25,000,000
	Austin, TX 78768-2019	
	Attn: Scott Bjelde	
	Tel: (512) 336- 9153 Fax: (512) 336-9154	
FIRST UNION CAPITAL MARKETS CO	RP. 7.142857143% 301 S. College Street	\$25,000,000
	10th Floor	
	Charlotte, NC 28288-0745	
	Attn: Mike Grady Tel: (704) 383-7514	
	Fax: (704) 383-7236	
CITIBANK, N.A.	7.142857143%	\$25,000,000
•	Park Avenue, 12th Floor/Zone 16	¥23,000,000
	New York, NY 10043	
	Attn: Mr. Gregory W. Frenzel Tel: (212) 559-6422	
	Fax: (212) 793-7585	
UNION BANK OF CALIFORNIA, N.A.	7.142857143%	\$25,000,000
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	350 California Street 6th floor	\$23,000,000
	San Francisco, CA 94104	
	Attn: Mr. J. William Bloore Tel: (415) 705-5041	
	Fax: (415) 705-7085	
MERCANTILE BANK NATIONAL ASSOC	IATION 7.142857143%	\$25,000,000
	#1 Mercantile Center 12th floor	923,000,000
	Saint Louis, MO 63101	
	Attn: Mr. Stephen M. Reese Tel: (314) 418-2459	
	Fax: (314) 418-1963	
THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK	4.285714286%	\$15,000,000
THE CHARLES PANIETTAN DANK	270 Park Avenue 48th floor	Q±3,000,000
	New York, NY 10017-2070	
	Attn: Mr. Barry Bergman Tel: (212) 270-0203	
	Fax: (212) 270-5646	

TOTAL: 100.0% \$350,000,000

## LIST OF SUBSIDIARIES

ADAP, Inc. ALLDATA LLC

AutoZone de Mexico, S. de R.L. de C.V
AutoZone de Puerto Rico, Inc. (Inactive)
AutoZone Development Corporation
AutoZone Leadership, Inc. (in dissolution)
AutoZone Marketing Company (inactive)
AutoZone Properties, Inc.

AutoZone Stores, Inc.
AutoZone Texas, L.P.
AutoZone, Inc.
AutoZoners, Inc.
BBH Development, Inc.
Chief Auto Parts Inc.
DataZone, S. de R.L. de C.V.

Service Zone, S. de R.L. de C.V. Speedbar, Inc.

TruckZone, Inc. Zone Compra, S. de R.L. de C.V.

EXHIBIT 21.1

### SUBSIDIARIES OF THE REGISTRANT

Name under State or Country which subsidiary of Incorporation is doing business or Organization other than its own Name AutoZone ADAP, Inc. New Jersey Nevada ALLDATA LLC AutoZone Stores, Inc. Nevada AutoZone Development Corporation Nevada
AutoZone de Mexico, S. de R.L. de C.V. Mexico AutoZone Texas, L.P. Delaware Chief Auto Parts Inc. Delaware AutoZone Speedbar, Inc. Nevada TruckZone, Inc. Nevada TruckPro

In addition, three subsidiaries operating in the United States and four subsidiaries operating outside of the United States have been omitted as they would not, considered in the aggregate as a single subsidiary, constitute a significant subsidiary as defined by Rule 1-02(w) of Regulation S-X.

### CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

We consent to the incorporation by reference in this Annual Report (Form 10-K) of AutoZone, Inc. of our report dated September 29, 1999, included in the 1999 Annual Report to Stockholders of AutoZone, Inc.

Our audits also included the financial statement schedule of AutoZone, Inc. listed in Item 14(a). This schedule is the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion based on our audits. In our opinion, the financial statement schedule referred to above, when considered in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole, presents fairly in all material respects the information set forth therein.

We also consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 333-42797) pertaining to the Amended and Restated AutoZone, Inc. Employee Stock Purchase Plan, the Registration Statement (Form S-8 and S-3 No. 33-41618) pertaining to the AutoZone, Inc. Amended and Restated Stock Option Plan, the Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 333-88245) pertaining to the AutoZone, Inc. Second Amended and Restated 1996 Stock Option Plan, the Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 333-88241) pertaining to the AutoZone, Inc. Amended and Restated Director Compensation Plan, the Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 333-88243) pertaining to the AutoZone, Inc. Amended and Restated 1998 Director Stock Option Plan and the Registration Statement (Form S-3 No. 333-58565), of our report dated September 29, 1999, with respect to the consolidated financial statements and schedule of AutoZone, Inc. included or incorporated by reference in this Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended August 28, 1999.

Memphis, Tennessee

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

November 22, 1999

This schedule contains summary financial information extracted from financial statements for fiscal year ended August 28, 1999, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to such financial statements.

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YEAR AUG-28-1999 AUG-28-1999 5,917 0 25,917 0 1,129,693 1,225,084 2,089,052 450,566 3,284,766 1,000,554 350,000 0 1,490 1,322,311 3,284,766 4,116,392 4,116,392 2,384,970 2,384,970 1,298,327 45,312 387,783 143,000 244,783 0 0 244,783 1.64 1.63

COL A	COL B	CC	)L C	COL D	COL E
CLASSIFICATION	Balance Beginning of Period	ADDI	TIONS	Deductions- Describe	Balance at End of
					Period
		(1)	(2)		
		Charged to Costs and			
		Expenses	Charged to Other Accounts- Describe		
Year Ended August 30, 1997:					
Reserve for warranty claims	\$14,152	\$40,303		\$35,333 (1)	\$19,122
Other reserves	9,015				11,227
Year Ended August 29, 1998:					
Reserve for warranty claims	\$19,122	\$58,511		\$56,847 (1)	\$20,786
Other reserves	11,227				14,296
Year Ended August 28, 1999:					
Reserve for warranty claims	\$20,786	\$90,310	\$3,473 (2)	\$81,619 (1)	\$32,950
Other reserves	14,296				94,640 (3)