

BENCHMARK ELECTRONICS INC

Form 10-K

February 28, 2013

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

(Mark One)

Annual Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012

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 1-10560

BENCHMARK ELECTRONICS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Texas **74-2211011**
(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer
incorporation or organization) Identification Number)
3000 Technology Drive

Angleton, Texas 77515

(979) 849-6550

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of principal executive offices)

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

Title of each class	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, par value \$0.10 per share	New York Stock Exchange, Inc.
Preferred Stock Purchase Rights	New York Stock Exchange, Inc.

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

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.
Yes No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate website, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter periods that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

Yes No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K 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.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Act.

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer Smaller Reporting Company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act).

Yes No

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As of June 30, 2012, the number of outstanding Common Shares was 56,581,208. As of such date, the aggregate market value of the Common Shares held by non-affiliates, based on the closing price of the Common Shares on the New York Stock Exchange on such date, was approximately \$777 million.

As of February 25, 2013, there were 55,195,329 Common Shares of Benchmark Electronics, Inc., par value \$0.10 per share, outstanding.

Documents Incorporated by Reference:

Portions of the Company's Proxy Statement for the 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders (Part III, Items 10-14).

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PART I

Item 1. *Business.*

Background

Benchmark Electronics, Inc. (Benchmark), formerly named Electronics, Inc., began operations in 1979 and was incorporated under Texas law in 1981 as a wholly owned subsidiary of Intermedics, Inc., a medical implant manufacturer based in Angleton, Texas. In 1986, Intermedics sold 90% of the outstanding common shares of the Company to Electronic Investors Corp. In 1988, Electronic Investors Corp. was merged into Benchmark, and in 1990 we completed the initial public offering of our common shares.

General

We are a worldwide provider of integrated electronic manufacturing services. We provide our services to original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) of computers and related products for business enterprises, medical devices, industrial control equipment (which includes equipment for the aerospace and defense industry), testing and instrumentation products, and telecommunication equipment. The services that we provide are commonly referred to as electronics manufacturing services (EMS). We offer our customers comprehensive and integrated design and manufacturing services from initial product design to volume production including direct order fulfillment and post-deployment services. Our manufacturing and assembly operations include printed circuit boards and subsystem assembly, box build and systems integration, the process of integrating subsystems and, often, downloading and integrating software, to produce a fully configured product. Our precision technology manufacturing capabilities complement our proven electronic manufacturing expertise by providing further vertical integration of critical mechanical components. These capabilities include precision machining, advanced metal joining, assembly and functional testing for multiple industries including medical, instrumentation, aerospace and semiconductor capital equipment. We also are able to provide specialized engineering services, including product design, printed circuit board layout, prototyping, and test development. We believe that we have developed strengths in the manufacturing process for large, complex, high-density printed circuit boards as well as the ability to manufacture high and low volume products in lower cost regions such as Brazil, China, Malaysia, Mexico, Romania and Thailand.

We believe that our global manufacturing presence increases our ability to be responsive to our customers' needs by providing accelerated time-to-market and time-to-volume production of high quality products. These capabilities enable us to build stronger strategic relationships with our customers and to become a more integral part of their operations. Our customers face challenges in planning, procuring and managing their inventories efficiently due to fluctuations in customer demand, product design changes, short product life cycles and component price fluctuations.

We employ production management systems to manage their procurement and manufacturing processes in an efficient and cost-effective manner so that, where possible, components arrive on a just-in-time, as-and-when-needed basis. We are a significant purchaser of electronic components and other raw materials, and can capitalize on the economies of scale associated with our relationships with suppliers to negotiate price discounts, obtain components and other raw materials that are in short supply, and return excess components. Our expertise in supply chain management and our relationships with suppliers across the supply chain enable us to reduce our customers' cost of goods sold and inventory exposure.

Our worldwide facilities include 1.1 million square feet in our domestic facilities in Alabama, Arizona, California, Minnesota, New Hampshire, North Dakota and Texas; and 1.9 million square feet in our international facilities in Brazil, China, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, Romania, Singapore and Thailand.

Our capabilities have continued to grow through acquisitions and through internal expansion. In January 2011, we acquired facilities and certain other assets to expand our precision technology capabilities in Penang, Malaysia. In 2009, we added certain precision machining assets and capabilities in Arizona, California and Mexico through a business acquisition, and we leased a larger facility in Brasov, Romania that expanded our manufacturing capability in Eastern Europe. In 2008, we completed the construction of a new building in Suzhou, China and increased our China manufacturing capacity. Our global operations include 21 facilities in nine countries.

We believe our primary competitive advantages are our design, manufacturing, testing and supply chain management capabilities. We offer our customers flexible manufacturing solutions throughout the life cycle of their products. These solutions provide accelerated time-to-market, time-to-volume production, and reduced production costs. As a result of working closely with our customers and responding promptly to their needs, we have become an integral part of their operations.

Our Industry

The EMS industry experienced rapid change in growth during the 1990s as an increasing number of OEMs outsourced their manufacturing requirements. In mid-2001 and again in late 2008, the industry's revenue declined as a result of significant cutbacks in its customers' production requirements, which was consistent with overall global economic downturns. OEMs have continued to turn to outsourcing in order to reduce product cost, achieve accelerated time-to-market and time-to-volume production, access advanced design and manufacturing technologies, improve inventory management and purchasing power, and reduce their capital investment in manufacturing resources. Outsourcing enables OEMs to concentrate on what they believe to be their core strengths, such as new product definition, marketing and sales. In addition, the number of industries serviced by EMS providers and these providers' market penetration in certain industries has increased in recent years. We believe further growth opportunities exist for EMS providers to penetrate the worldwide electronics markets.

Our Strategy

Our goal is to be the EMS outsourcing provider of choice to leading OEMs in the electronics industry that we perceive from time to time to offer the greatest potential for growth. To meet this goal, we have implemented the following strategies:

Maintain and Develop Close, Long-Term Relationships with Customers. Our core strategy is to maintain and establish long-term relationships with leading OEMs in expanding industries by becoming an integral part of our customers' manufacturing operations. To accomplish this, we work closely with our customers throughout the design, manufacturing and distribution process, and we offer flexible and responsive services. We rely on our local management teams to respond to frequently changing customer design specifications and production requirements, which develops stronger customer relationships.

Focus on High-End Products in Growth Industries. EMS providers produce products for a wide range of OEMs in different industries, such as consumer electronics, internet-focused businesses and information technology equipment. The product scope ranges from easy to assemble, low-cost high-volume products targeted for the consumer market to complicated state-of-the-art, mission critical electronic hardware targeted for military, medical and other high-end computer use. Similarly, OEMs' customers range from consumer-oriented companies that compete

primarily on price and redesign their products every year to manufacturers of high-end telecommunications equipment and computer and related products for business enterprises that compete on technology and quality. We currently offer state-of-the-art products for industry leaders who require specialized engineering design and production services, as well as high volume manufacturing capabilities to our customer base. Our ability to offer both of these types of services enables us to expand our business relationships.

Deliver Complete High and Low Volume Manufacturing Solutions Globally. We believe OEMs are increasingly requiring a wide range of specialized engineering and manufacturing services from EMS providers in order to reduce costs and accelerate their time-to-market and time-to-volume production. Building on our integrated engineering and manufacturing capabilities, we offer services from initial product design and test to final product assembly and distribution to OEM customers. Our systems integration assembly and direct order fulfillment services allow our customers to reduce product cost and risk of product obsolescence by reducing their total work-in-process and finished goods inventory. These services are available at many of our manufacturing locations. In 2009, we added certain precision machining assets and capabilities to provide precision machining, metal joining and complex electromechanical manufacturing services in Arizona, California and Mexico. In January 2011, we acquired facilities and certain other assets to expand our precision technologies capabilities in Penang, Malaysia. This expansion added sheet metal and frames fabrication services, advanced metal joining and grinding services, along with complex mechanical assembly and machining services to our Asia service offerings. We also offer our customers high volume production in low cost regions of the world, such as Brazil, China, Malaysia, Mexico, Romania and Thailand. These full service capabilities allow us to offer customers the flexibility to move quickly from design and initial product introduction to production and distribution. We offer our customers the opportunity to combine the benefits of low cost manufacturing (for the portions of their products or systems that can benefit from the use of these geographic areas) with the benefits and capabilities of our higher complexity support of systems integration in Asia, Europe or the United States.

Leverage Advanced Technological Capabilities. In addition to traditional strengths in manufacturing large, complex high-density printed circuit boards and systems, we offer customers specialized and tailored advanced design, technology and manufacturing solutions for their primary products. We provide this engineering expertise through our design capabilities at our design centers and our advanced technology process development in each of our facilities. We believe our capabilities help our customers utilize cutting edge technologies to improve product performance and reduce costs.

Continue to Seek Cost Savings and Operational Excellence. We seek to optimize all of our facilities to provide cost-efficient services for our customers. This is done through our culture of continuous improvement, sharing best practices and implementing lean principles. We also provide operations in lower cost locations to further offer cost saving solutions to our customers. These sites include Brazil, China, Malaysia, Mexico, Romania and Thailand, and we continue to expand our presence and footprint in these lower cost locations as appropriate to meet the needs of our customers.

Continue Our Global Focus. A network of strategically positioned facilities can reduce costs, simplify and shorten an OEM's supply chain and provide regional solutions, thus reducing the time it takes to bring product to market. We are committed to maintaining our global focus in order to support our customers with cost-effective and timely delivery of quality products and services worldwide. Our ongoing acquisition of facilities has in recent years expanded our presence globally to include Malaysia, Romania and the Netherlands. These added sites provide a global manufacturing solution to our customers through our 21 facilities in nine countries located in Brazil, China, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, Romania, Singapore, Thailand and the United States.

Pursue Strategic Acquisitions. Our capabilities have continued to grow through acquisitions and we will continue to selectively seek acquisition opportunities. Our acquisitions have enhanced our business in the following ways:

- expanded geographic presence;
- enhanced customer growth opportunities;
- developed strategic relationships;
- broadened service offerings;
- provided vertical solutions;
- diversified into new market sectors; and
- added experienced management teams.

We believe that growth by selective acquisitions is critical for achieving the scale, flexibility and breadth of customer services required to remain competitive in the EMS industry.

Services We Provide

We offer a wide range of engineering, automation, test, manufacturing and fulfillment solutions that support our customers' products from initial design through prototyping, design validation, testing, ramp-to-volume production, worldwide distribution and aftermarket support. We support all of our service offerings with supply chain management systems, superior quality program management and sophisticated information technology systems. Our comprehensive service offerings enable us to provide a complete solution for our customers' outsourcing requirements.

Engineering Solutions

Our approach is to coordinate and integrate our design, prototype and other engineering capabilities. Through this approach, we provide a broad range of engineering services and, in some cases, dedicated production lines for prototypes. These services strengthen our relationships with manufacturing customers and attract new customers requiring specialized engineering services.

New Product Design, Prototype, Test and Related Engineering Solutions. We offer a full spectrum of new product design, automation, test development, prototype and related engineering solutions. Our concurrent engineering approach shortens product development cycles and gives our customers a competitive advantage in time-to-market and time-to-profit. Our multi-disciplined engineering teams provide expertise in a number of core competencies critical to serving OEMs in our target markets, including award-winning industrial design, mechanical and electrical hardware, firmware, software and systems integration and support. We create specifications, designs and quick-turn prototypes, and validate and ramp our customers' products into high volume manufacturing.

Custom Test and Automation Equipment Design and Build Solutions. We provide our customers with a comprehensive range of custom automated test equipment, functional test equipment, process automation and replication solutions. We have expertise in tooling, testers, equipment control, systems planning, automation, floor control, systems integration, replication and programming. Our custom functional test equipment, process automation and replication solutions are available to our customers as part of our full service product design and manufacturing solutions package or on a stand-alone basis for products designed and manufactured elsewhere. We also provide custom test equipment and automation system solutions to OEMs. Our ability to provide these solutions allows us to capitalize on OEMs' increasing needs for custom manufacturing solutions and provides an additional opportunity for us to introduce these customers to our comprehensive engineering and manufacturing services.

Manufacturing and Fulfillment Solutions

As OEMs seek to provide greater functionality in smaller products, they increasingly require more sophisticated manufacturing technologies and processes. Our investment in advanced manufacturing equipment and process development as well as our experience in innovative packaging and interconnect technologies enable us to offer a variety of advanced manufacturing solutions. These packaging and interconnect technologies include:

Printed Circuit Board Assembly & Test. We offer a wide range of printed circuit board assembly and test solutions, including printed circuit board assembly, assembly of subsystems, circuitry and functionality testing of printed assemblies, environmental and stress testing and component reliability testing.

Flex Circuit Assembly & Test. We provide our customers with a wide range of flex circuit assembly and test solutions. We utilize specialized tooling strategies and advanced automation procedures to minimize circuit handling and ensure that consistent processing parameters are maintained throughout the assembly process.

Systems Assembly & Test. We work with our customers to develop product-specific test strategies. Our test capabilities include manufacturing defect analysis, in-circuit tests to test the circuitry of the board and functional tests to confirm that the board or assembly operates in accordance with its final design and manufacturing specifications. We either custom design test equipment and software ourselves or use test equipment and software provided by our customers. We also offer our own internally designed functional test solutions for cost effective and flexible test solutions. In addition, we provide environmental stress tests of assemblies of boards or systems.

We also have expertise in advanced precision and electromechanical technologies and optical manufacturing services. In order to meet our customers' demand for systems assembly and test solutions, we offer subassembly build, final assembly, functionality testing, configuration and software installation and final packaging services.

Precision Electromechanical Assembly and Test. We offer a full spectrum of precision subsystem and system integration services. These services include assembly, configuration and testing of complex computers and related products for business enterprises, medical devices, industrial control equipment (which includes equipment for the aerospace and defense industry), testing and instrumentation products, and telecommunication equipment. We design, develop and build product specific manufacturing processes utilizing manual, mechanized or fully automated lines to meet our customers' product volume and quality requirements. All of our assembly and test processes are developed according to customer specifications and replicated within our facilities. Product life cycle testing services are provided such as Ongoing Reliability Testing where units are continuously cycled for extended testing while monitoring for early life failures.

Failure Analysis. We offer an array of analytical solutions and expertise to challenging issues that face our customers. This includes focused techniques for failure mode, failure mechanism, and root cause determination. Specialized analytical skill sets associated with electrical, mechanical, and metallurgical disciplines are used in conjunction with a vast array of equipment such as ion chromatography, x-ray fluorescence, and scanning electron microscopy. Our state-of-the-art lab facilities provide customers with detailed reporting and support in an unbiased, timely, and cost-effective manner. Mastering emerging technologies coupled with a complete understanding of potential failure mechanisms positions us to exceed customer expectations and maintain our technological diversity.

Direct Order Fulfillment. We provide direct order fulfillment for certain of our OEM customers. Direct order fulfillment involves receiving customer orders, configuring products to quickly fill the orders and delivering the products either to the OEM, a distribution channel or directly to the end customer. We manage our direct order fulfillment processes using a core set of common systems and processes that receive order information from the customer and provide comprehensive supply chain management, including procurement and production planning. These systems and processes enable us to process orders for multiple system configurations and varying production quantities, including single units. Our direct order fulfillment services include build-to-order (BTO) and configure-to-order (CTO) capabilities. BTO involves building a complete system in real-time to a highly customized configuration ordered by the OEM customer. CTO involves configuring systems to an end customer's specifications at the time the product is ordered. The end customer typically places this order by choosing from a variety of possible system configurations and options. We are capable of meeting a 2 to 24 hour turnaround time for BTO and CTO. We support our direct order fulfillment services with logistics that include delivery of parts and assemblies to the final

assembly site, distribution and shipment of finished systems, and processing of customer returns.

Aftermarket Non-Warranty Services. We provide our customers with a range of aftermarket non-warranty services, including repair, replacement, refurbishment, remanufacturing, exchange, systems upgrade and spare part manufacturing throughout a product's life cycle. These services are tracked and supported by specific information technology systems that can be tailored to meet our customers' individual requirements.

Value-Added Support Systems. We support our engineering, manufacturing, distribution and aftermarket support services with an efficient supply chain management system and a superior quality management program. Our value-added support services are primarily implemented and managed through web-based information technology systems that enable us to collaborate with our customers throughout all stages of the engineering, manufacturing and order fulfillment processes.

Supply Chain Management. Our inventory management and volume procurement capabilities contribute to assurance of supply, cost reductions and reduce total cycle time. Our materials strategy is focused on leveraging our procurement volume companywide while providing local execution for maximum flexibility at the division level. In addition, our systems integration facilities have developed material processes required to support system integration operations.

We utilize a full complement of electronic data interchange transactions with our suppliers to coordinate forecasts, orders, reschedules, and inventory and component lead times. Our enterprise resource planning systems provide product and production information to our supply chain management, engineering change management and floor control systems. Our information systems also control serialization, production and quality data for all of our facilities around the world utilizing state-of-the-art statistical process control techniques for continuous process improvements. To enhance our ability to rapidly respond to changes in our customers' requirements by effectively managing changes in our supply chain, we utilize web-based interfaces and real-time supply chain management software products which allow for scaling operations to meet customer needs, shifting capacity in response to product demand fluctuations, reducing materials costs and effectively distributing products to our customers or their end-customers.

Manufacturing Technologies. We offer our customers expertise in a wide variety of traditional and advanced manufacturing technologies. Our technical expertise supports standard printed circuit board assembly as well as complex products that require advanced engineering skills and equipment.

We also provide our customers with a comprehensive set of manufacturing technologies and solutions which include:

- Pin Thru Hole;
- Surface Mount Technology;
- Fine Pitch;
- Ball Grid Array;
- Part on Part;
- Flip Chip;
- Chip On Board/Wire Bonding;
- In-Circuit Test;
- Board Level Functional Test; and
- Stress Testing.

We also provide specialized solutions in support of our customers' components, products and systems which include:

Adhesives;
Conformal Coating;
Ultrasonic Welding;
Splicing and Connectorization for Optical Applications;
Hybrid Optical/Electrical Printed Circuit Board Assembly and Testing; and
Sub-Micron Alignment of Optical Sub-Assemblies.

Through our Component Engineering Services, we are helping our customers deal with the changing international environmental laws or regulations on content, packaging, labeling of their products or similar issues concerning the environmental impact of their products including: "RoHS" (EU Directive 2002/95/EC on Restriction of the Use of Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment); "WEE" (EU Directive 2002/96/EC on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment); "REACH" (EC Regulation No 1907/20067 on Registration, Evaluation and Authorization of Chemicals); EU Member State's Implementation of the foregoing; and the People's Republic of China (PRC) Measures for Administration of the Pollution Control of Electronic Information Products of 2006. Manufacturing sites in the Americas, Asia and European regions are certified in both water soluble and no-clean processes and are currently producing products that are compliant with these environmental laws and regulations.

Precision Technologies. We provide precision machining, metal joining and complex electromechanical manufacturing services and utilize the following precision technologies:

- Complex Small / Medium / Large Computer Numerical Controlled Machining;
- Precision Multi-Axis Grinding of Aerospace Engine Blades, Vanes and Nozzles;
- Precision Grinding of Mass Spectrometer Components;
- Sinker Electrical Discharge Machining;
- Turnkey Precision Clean Room Module Assembly and Functional Test;
- Major Electromechanical Sub Assembly;
- Laser Welding; and
- Advanced Metal Joining.

Marketing and Customers

We market our services primarily through a direct sales force and, in select markets, independent marketing representatives. In addition, our divisional and executive management teams are an integral part of our sales and marketing teams. We generally enter into supply arrangements with our customers. These arrangements, similar to purchase orders, generally govern the conduct of business between our customer and ourselves relating to, among other things, the manufacture of products which in many cases were previously produced by the customer itself. Such arrangements generally identify the specific products to be manufactured, quality and production requirements, product pricing and materials management. There can be no assurance that at any time these arrangements will remain in effect or be renewed.

Our key customer accounts are supported by a dedicated team, including a global account manager who is directly responsible for account management. Global account managers coordinate activities across divisions to effectively satisfy customer requirements and have direct access to our executive management to quickly address customer concerns. Local customer account teams further support the global teams and are linked by a comprehensive communications and information management infrastructure. In addition, our executive management is heavily involved in customer relations and devotes significant attention to broadening existing and developing new customer relationships.

The following table sets forth the percentages of our sales by industry for 2012, 2011 and 2010.

	2012	2011	2010
Computers and related products for business enterprises	31 %	29 %	32 %
Industrial control equipment	27	29	25
Telecommunication equipment	26	23	23
Testing and instrumentation products	6	10	10
Medical devices	10	9	10

Historically, a substantial percentage of our sales have been made to a small number of customers. Sales to our ten largest customers represented 56%, 53% and 47% of our sales in 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively. In 2012, sales to International Business Machines Corporation represented 21% of our sales. The loss of a major customer, if not replaced, would adversely affect us. Our future sales are dependent on the success of our customers, some of which operate in businesses associated with rapid technological change and consequent product obsolescence. Developments adverse to our major customers or their products, or the failure of a major customer to pay for components or services, could have an adverse effect on us.

Seasonality

Seasonality in our business has historically been driven by customer and product mix, particularly the industries which our customers serve. Although we have in the past experienced higher levels of sales during the fourth quarter, this pattern has not repeated itself every year. The extent to which our business will become more seasonal in the future depends upon our future customer base and the industries that they serve, which we are unable to predict. Sales to our customers in the computers and related products for business enterprises industry have recently exhibited particular strength toward the end of the calendar year. As a result, we may experience stronger revenues in our fourth quarter as compared to our first quarter.

Suppliers

We maintain a network of suppliers of components and other materials used in our operations. We procure components when a purchase order or forecast is received from a customer and occasionally utilize components or other materials for which a supplier is the single source of supply. If any of these single source suppliers were to be unable to provide these materials, a shortage of these components could temporarily interrupt our operations and lower our profits until such time as an alternate component could be identified and qualified for use. Although we experience component shortages and longer lead times for various components from time to time, we have generally been able to reduce the impact of the component shortages by working with customers to reschedule deliveries, by working with suppliers to provide the needed components using just-in-time inventory programs, or by purchasing components at somewhat higher prices from distributors rather than directly from manufacturers. In addition, by developing long-term relationships with suppliers, we have been better able to minimize the effects of component shortages compared to manufacturers without such relationships. The goal of these procedures is to reduce our inventory risk.

Backlog

We had sales backlog of approximately \$1.5 billion at December 31, 2012, as compared to the 2011 year-end backlog of \$1.6 billion. Backlog consists of purchase orders received, including, in some instances, forecast requirements released for production under customer contracts. Although we expect to fill substantially all of our year-end backlog during 2013, we currently do not have long-term agreements with all of our customers and customer orders can be canceled, changed or delayed. The timely replacement of canceled, changed or delayed orders with orders from new customers cannot be assured, nor can there be any assurance that any of our current customers will continue to utilize our services. Because of these factors, our backlog is not a meaningful indicator of future financial results.

Competition

The electronics manufacturing services we provide are available from many independent sources as well as from the in-house manufacturing capabilities of current and potential customers. Our competitors include Celestica Inc., Flextronics International Ltd., Hon Hai Precision Industry Co., Ltd., Jabil Circuit, Inc., Plexus Corp and Sanmina-SCI Corporation, who may be more established in the industry and have substantially greater financial, manufacturing or marketing resources than we do. We believe that the principal competitive factors in our targeted markets are engineering capabilities, product quality, flexibility, cost and timeliness in responding to design and schedule changes, reliability in meeting product delivery schedules, pricing, technological sophistication and geographic location.

In addition, in recent years, original design manufacturers (ODMs) that provide design and manufacturing services to OEMs have significantly increased their share of outsourced manufacturing services provided to OEMs in markets such as notebook and desktop computers, personal computer motherboards, and consumer electronic products. Competition from ODMs may increase if our business in these markets grows or if ODMs expand further into or beyond these markets.

Sustainability

Benchmark is committed to being a responsible corporate citizen. We use the term “sustainability” to describe our long-term approach to address social, economic and environmental responsibilities that achieve our business objectives and contribute to a more sustained world. Our sustainability priorities include: upholding the principle of human rights and observing fair labor practices within our organization and our supply chain; protecting the environment by conserving energy and natural resources and preventing pollution through appropriate management technology and practices; ensuring ethical organizational governance; and applying fair, transparent and accountable operating practices. All Benchmark manufacturing facilities are either currently certified or undergoing certification to ISO 14001. We have endorsed the Electronics Industry Citizenship Coalition Code of Conduct, and flowed specific requirements to our supply chain through our Purchase Order Terms and Conditions, Supplier Assurance Manual, and Supplier Code of Conduct. We have also completed a B-level Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Report as a baseline for our sustainability efforts.

Governmental Regulation

Our operations, and the operations of businesses that we acquire, are subject to certain foreign, federal, state and local regulatory requirements relating to security clearance, environmental, waste management, and health and safety matters. We believe we operate in substantial compliance with all applicable requirements. However, material costs and liabilities may arise from these requirements or from new, modified or more stringent requirements, which could affect our earnings and competitive position. In addition, our past, current and future operations, and those of businesses we acquire, may give rise to claims of exposure by employees or the public or to other claims or liabilities relating to environmental, waste management or health and safety concerns.

We periodically generate and temporarily handle limited amounts of materials that are considered hazardous waste under applicable law. We contract for the off-site disposal of these materials and have implemented a waste management program to address related regulatory issues.

Employees

As of December 31, 2012, we employed 9,949 people, of whom 7,160 were engaged in manufacturing and operations, 1,486 in materials control and procurement, 510 in design and development, 271 in marketing and sales, and 522 in administration. None of our domestic employees are represented by a labor union. In certain international locations, our employees are represented by labor unions and by works councils. Some European countries also often have mandatory legal provisions regarding terms of employment, severance compensation and other conditions of employment that are more restrictive than U.S. laws. We have never experienced a strike or similar work stoppage and

we believe that our employee relations are satisfactory.

Segments and International Operations

We have manufacturing facilities in the Americas, Asia and Europe regions to serve our customers. Benchmark is operated and managed geographically and management evaluates performance and allocates resources on a geographic basis. We currently operate outside the United States in Brazil, China, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, Romania, Singapore and Thailand. During 2012, 2011 and 2010, 50%, 51% and 48%, respectively, of our sales were from our international operations. Our foreign sales and operations are subject to risk of doing business abroad, including fluctuations in the value of currency, export duties, import controls and trade barriers, including stoppages, longer payment cycles, burdens of complying with a wide variety of foreign laws and, in certain parts of the world, political instability. Additionally, some of our operations are in developing countries. Certain events, including natural disasters, can impact the infrastructure of a developing country more severely than they would impact the infrastructure of a developed country. A developing country can also take longer to recover from such events, which could lead to delays in our ability to resume full operations. There can be no assurances that these factors will not have an adverse impact on our results of operations in the future. See Item 1A for factors pertaining to our international sales and fluctuations in the exchange rates of foreign currency and for further discussion of potential adverse effects in operating results associated with the risks of doing business abroad. See Note 8 and Note 12 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this report for segment and geographical information.

Available Information

Our internet address is <http://www.bench.com>. We make available free of charge through our internet website our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), including our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act as soon as reasonably practicable after electronically filing such material with, or furnishing it to, the SEC. All reports we file with the SEC are also available free of charge via EDGAR through the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov> or to read and copy at the SEC Public Reference Room located at 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549. Information can be obtained on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330.

Item 1A. Risk Factors.

Adverse market conditions in the electronics industry could reduce our future sales and earnings per share.

Uncertainty over an erosion of global consumer confidence amidst concerns over declining asset values, inflation, volatility in energy costs, geopolitical issues, the availability and cost of credit, rising unemployment, and the stability and solvency of financial institutions, financial markets, businesses, and sovereign nations slowed global economic growth and have resulted in recessions in many countries, including in the United States, Europe and certain countries in Asia over the past several years. Even though we have seen signs of an overall economic recovery, such recovery may be weak and/or short-lived and recessionary conditions may return. If any of these potential negative economic conditions occur, they may result in lower spending by businesses in the future, which in turn may affect demand for our customers' products and thus adversely affect our sales. Consequently, our past operating results, earnings and cash flows may not be indicative of our future operating results, earnings and cash flows.

In addition to our customers or potential customers reducing or delaying orders, a number of other negative effects on our business could materialize, including the insolvency of key suppliers, which could result in production delays, shorter payment terms from suppliers due to reduced availability of credit default insurance in the market, the inability of customers to obtain credit, and the insolvency of one or more customers. Any of these effects could impact our ability to effectively manage inventory levels and collect receivables, increase our need for cash, and decrease our net revenue and profitability.

We are exposed to general economic conditions, which could have a material adverse impact on our business, operating results and financial condition.

Our business is cyclical and has experienced economic and industry downturns. If the economic conditions and demand for our customers' products deteriorate, we may experience a material adverse impact on our business, operating results and financial condition.

In cases where the evidence suggests a customer may not be able to satisfy its obligation to us, we set up reserves in an amount we determine appropriate for the perceived risk. There can be no assurance that our reserves will be adequate. If the financial condition of our customers were to deteriorate, resulting in an impairment of their ability to make payments, additional receivable and inventory reserves may be required and restructuring charges may be incurred.

Shortages or price increases of components specified by our customers would delay shipments and adversely affect our profitability.

Substantially all of our sales are derived from manufacturing services in which we purchase components specified by our customers. In the past, supply shortages have substantially curtailed production of all assemblies using a particular component and industry-wide shortages of electronic components, particularly of memory and logic devices, have occurred. For example, the 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan disrupted the global supply chain for certain components manufactured in Japan that were incorporated in the products we manufactured, and the flooding in Thailand in 2011 had a similar impact. Any such component shortages may result in delayed shipments, which could have an adverse effect on our profit margins. Also, because of the continued increase in demand for surface mount components, we anticipate component shortages and longer lead times for certain components to occur from time to time. Also, we may bear the risk of component price increases that occur between periodic re-pricings of product during the term of a customer contract. Accordingly, certain component price increases could adversely affect our gross profit margins.

We are dependent on the success of our customers. When our customers experience a downturn in their business, we may be similarly affected.

We are dependent on the continued growth, viability and financial stability of our customers. Our customers are OEMs of:

computers and related products for business enterprises;
medical devices;
industrial control equipment;
testing and instrumentation products; and
telecommunication equipment.

Often, these industries are subject to rapid technological change, vigorous competition, short product life cycles and consequent product obsolescence. When our customers are adversely affected by these factors, we may be similarly affected.

The loss of a major customer would adversely affect us.

Historically, a substantial percentage of our sales have been made to a small number of customers. The loss of a major customer, if not replaced, would adversely affect us. Sales to our ten largest customers represented 56%, 53% and

47% of our sales in 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively. In 2012, sales to International Business Machines Corporation represented 21% of our sales. Our future sales are dependent on the success of our customers, some of which operate in businesses associated with rapid technological change and consequent product obsolescence. Developments adverse to our major customers or their products, or the failure of a major customer to pay for components or services, could have an adverse effect on us.

We expect to continue to depend on the sales to our largest customers and any material delay, cancellation or reduction of orders from these customers or other significant customers would have a material adverse effect on our results of operations. In addition, we generate significant accounts receivables in connection with providing manufacturing services to our customers. If one or more of our customers were to become insolvent or otherwise unable to pay for the manufacturing services provided by us, our operating results and financial condition would be adversely affected.

Most of our customers do not commit to long-term production schedules, which makes it difficult for us to schedule production and achieve maximum efficiency of our manufacturing capacity.

The volume and timing of sales to our customers may vary due to:

- variation in demand for our customers' products;
- our customers' attempts to manage their inventory;
- design changes;
- changes in our customers' manufacturing strategy; and
- acquisitions of or consolidations among customers.

Due in part to these factors, most of our customers do not commit to firm production schedules for more than one quarter in advance. Our inability to forecast the level of customer orders with certainty makes it difficult to schedule production and maximize utilization of manufacturing capacity. In the past, we have been required to increase staffing and other expenses in order to meet the anticipated demand of our customers. Anticipated orders from many of our customers have, in the past, failed to materialize or delivery schedules have been deferred as a result of changes in our customers' business needs, thereby adversely affecting our results of operations. On other occasions, our customers have required rapid increases in production, which have placed an excessive burden on our resources. Such customer order fluctuations and deferrals have had a material adverse effect on us in the past, and we may experience such effects in the future. A business downturn resulting from any of these external factors could have a material adverse effect on our operating income. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in Item 7 of this report.

Our customers may cancel their orders, change production quantities, delay production or change their sourcing strategy.

EMS providers must provide increasingly rapid product turnaround for their customers. We generally do not obtain firm, long-term purchase commitments from our customers and we continue to experience reduced lead-times in customer orders. Customers may cancel their orders, change production quantities, delay production or change their sourcing strategy for a number of reasons. The degree of success or failure of our customers' products in the market affects our business. Cancellations, reductions, delays or changes in the sourcing strategy by a significant customer or by a group of customers could negatively impact our operating income.

In addition, we make significant decisions, including determining the levels of business that we will seek and accept, production schedules, component procurement commitments, personnel needs, capital expenditures and other resource requirements, based on our estimate of customer requirements. The short-term nature of our customers' commitments and the possibility of rapid changes in demand for their products may impede our ability to accurately estimate the

future requirements of those customers.

On occasion, customers may require rapid increases in production, which can stress our resources and reduce operating margins. In addition, because many of our costs and operating expenses are relatively fixed, a reduction in customer demand can harm our gross profits and operating results. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in Item 7 of this report.

We may encounter significant delays or defaults in payments owed to us by customers for products we have manufactured or components that are unique to particular customers.

We structure our agreements with customers to mitigate our risks related to obsolete or unsold inventory. However, enforcement of these contracts may result in material expense and delay in payment for inventory. If any of our significant customers become unable or unwilling to purchase such inventory, our business may be materially harmed. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in Item 7 of this report.

Our international operations may be subject to certain risks.

We currently operate outside the United States in Brazil, China, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, Romania, Singapore and Thailand. During 2012, 2011 and 2010, 50%, 51% and 48%, respectively, of our sales were from our international operations. These international operations may be subject to a number of risks, including:

- difficulties in staffing and managing foreign operations;
- coordinating communications and logistics across geographic distances and multiple time zones;
- less flexible employee relationships which can be difficult and expensive to terminate;
- political and economic instability (including acts of terrorism and outbreaks of war), which could impact our ability to ship and/or receive product;
- changes in government policies, regulatory requirements and laws, which could impact our business;
- longer customer payment cycles and difficulty collecting accounts receivable;
- export duties, import controls and trade barriers (including quotas);
- governmental restrictions on the transfer of funds;
- risk of governmental expropriation of our property;
- burdens of complying with a wide variety of foreign laws and labor practices, including minimum wage regulations;
- fluctuations in currency exchange rates, which could affect component costs, local payroll, utility and other expenses;
- and
- inability to utilize net operating losses incurred by our foreign operations to reduce our U.S. income taxes.

In addition, several of the countries where we operate have emerging or developing economies, which may be subject to greater currency volatility, negative growth, high inflation, limited availability of foreign exchange and other risks. Additionally, some of our operations are in developing countries. Certain events, including natural disasters, can impact the infrastructure of a developing country more severely than they would impact the infrastructure of a developed country. A developing country can also take longer to recover from such events, which could lead to delays in our ability to resume full operations. These factors may harm our results of operations, and any measures that we may implement to reduce the effect of volatile currencies and other risks of our international operations may not be effective. In our experience, entry into new international markets requires considerable management time as well as start-up expenses for market development, hiring and establishing office facilities before any significant revenues are generated. As a result, initial operations in a new market may operate at low margins or may be unprofitable.

Our operations in certain foreign locations receive favorable income tax treatment in the form of tax holidays or other incentives. In the event that such tax holidays or other incentives are not extended or are repealed, or in the event that we no longer qualify for such programs, our taxes may increase, which would reduce our net income.

Additionally, certain foreign jurisdictions restrict the amount of cash that can be transferred to the U.S or impose taxes and penalties on such transfers of cash. To the extent we have excess cash in foreign locations that could be used in, or is needed by, our operations in the United States, we may incur significant penalties and/or taxes to repatriate

these funds.

Another significant legal risk resulting from our international operations is compliance with the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA). In many foreign countries, particularly in those with developing economies, it may be a local custom that businesses operating in such countries engage in business practices that are prohibited by the FCPA, other U.S. laws and regulations, or similar laws of host countries and related anti-bribery conventions. Although we have implemented policies and procedures designed to cause compliance with the FCPA and similar laws, there can be no assurance that all of our employees, and agents, as well as those companies to which we outsource certain of our business operations, will not take actions in violation of our policies. Any such violation, even if prohibited by our policies, could have a material adverse effect on our business.

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We operate in a highly competitive industry; if we are not able to compete effectively in the EMS industry, our business could be adversely affected.

We compete against many providers of electronics manufacturing services. Certain of our competitors have substantially greater resources and more geographically diversified international operations than we do. Our competitors include large independent manufacturers such as Celestica Inc., Flextronics International Ltd., Hon Hai Precision Industry Co., Ltd., Jabil Circuit, Inc., Plexus Corp and Sanmina-SCI Corporation. In addition, we may in the future encounter competition from other large electronic manufacturers that are selling, or may begin to sell, electronics manufacturing services.

We also face competition from the manufacturing operations of our current and future customers, who are continually evaluating the merits of manufacturing products internally against the advantages of outsourcing to EMS providers. In addition, in recent years, ODMs that provide design and manufacturing services to OEMs, have significantly increased their share of outsourced manufacturing services provided to OEMs in several markets, such as notebook and desktop computers, personal computer motherboards, and consumer electronic products. Competition from ODMs may increase if our business in these markets grows or if ODMs expand further into or beyond these markets.

During periods of recession in the electronics industry, our competitive advantages in the areas of quick turnaround manufacturing and responsive customer service may be of reduced importance to electronics OEMs, who may become more price sensitive. We may also be at a competitive disadvantage with respect to price when compared to manufacturers with lower cost structures, particularly those with more offshore facilities located where labor and other costs are lower.

We experience intense competition, which can intensify further as more companies enter the markets in which we operate, as existing competitors expand capacity and as the industry consolidates. The availability of excess manufacturing capacity at many of our competitors creates intense pricing and competitive pressure on the EMS industry as a whole and Benchmark in particular. To compete effectively, we must continue to provide technologically advanced manufacturing services, maintain strict quality standards, respond flexibly and rapidly to customers' design and schedule changes and deliver products globally on a reliable basis at competitive prices. Our inability to do so could have an adverse effect on us.

The integration of acquired operations may pose difficulties for us.

Our capabilities have continued to grow through acquisitions and we may pursue additional acquisitions over time. These acquisitions involve risks, including:

- integration and management of the operations;
- retention of key personnel;
- integration of purchasing operations and information systems;
- retention of the customer base of acquired businesses;
- management of an increasingly larger and more geographically disparate business; and
- diversion of management's attention from other ongoing business concerns.

Our profitability will suffer if we are unable to successfully integrate any acquisition and manage any future acquisitions that we might pursue, or if we do not achieve sufficient revenue to offset the increased expenses associated with these acquisitions.

We may experience fluctuations in quarterly results.

Our quarterly results may vary significantly depending on various factors, many of which are beyond our control. These factors include:

- the volume of customer orders relative to our capacity;
- customer introduction and market acceptance of new products;
- changes in demand for customer products;
- pricing and other competitive pressures;
- the timing of our expenditures in anticipation of future orders;
- our effectiveness in managing manufacturing processes;
- changes in cost and availability of labor and components;
- changes in our product mix;
- changes in political and economic conditions; and
- local factors and events that may affect our production volume, such as local holidays or natural disasters.

Additionally, as is the case with many high technology companies, a significant portion of our shipments typically occur in the last few weeks of a given quarter. Accordingly, sales shifts from quarter to quarter may not be readily apparent until the end of a given quarter, and may have a significant effect on reported results.

Our investments in auction rate securities are subject to risks which may cause losses and affect the liquidity of these investments.

As of December 31, 2012, we held \$12.2 million (par value) of auction rate securities, classified as long-term investments, whose underlying assets were in guaranteed student loans backed by a U. S. Government agency and municipal issue bonds. Auction rate securities are adjustable rate debt instruments whose interest rates were intended to reset every 7 to 35 days through an auction process. Overall changes in the global credit and capital markets led to failed auctions for these securities beginning in early 2008. These failed auctions, in addition to overall global economic conditions, impacted the liquidity of these investments and resulted in our continuing to hold these securities beyond their typical auction reset dates. The market for these types of securities remains illiquid as of December 31, 2012. As a result, our ability to liquidate and fully recover the carrying value of our adjustable rate securities in the near term may be limited or not exist. If the issuers of these adjustable rate securities are unable to successfully close future auctions or their credit quality deteriorates, we may in the future be required to record an impairment charge on these investments. We may be required to wait until market stability is restored for these instruments or until the final maturity of the underlying notes (up to 40 years) to realize our investments' recorded value. As of December 31, 2012, we had \$1.9 million of unrealized losses on these securities that is recorded in other comprehensive loss. We estimated the fair value of each security using Level 3 inputs with the assistance of an independent valuation firm. We have not to date incurred any payment defaults on any auction rate securities we hold.

Start-up costs and inefficiencies related to new or transferred programs can adversely affect our operating results and such costs may not be recoverable if such new programs or transferred programs are cancelled.

Start-up costs, the management of labor and equipment resources in connection with the establishment of new programs and new customer relationships, and the need to estimate required resources in advance can adversely affect our gross margins and operating results. These factors are particularly evident in the early stages of the life cycle of new products and new programs or program transfers and in the opening of new facilities. These factors also affect our ability to efficiently use labor and equipment. We are currently managing a number of new programs. If any of these new programs or new customer relationships were terminated, our operating results could be harmed, particularly in the short term. We may not be able to recoup these start-up costs or replace anticipated new program revenues.

We may be affected by consolidation in the electronics industry, which could create increased pricing and competitive pressures on our business.

Consolidation in the electronics industry could result in an increase in excess manufacturing capacity as companies seek to close plants or take other steps to increase efficiencies and realize synergies of mergers. The availability of excess manufacturing capacity could create increased pricing and competitive pressures for the EMS industry as a whole and our business in particular. In addition, consolidation could also result in an increasing number of very large electronics companies offering products in multiple sectors of the electronics industry. The growth of these large companies, with significant purchasing and marketing power, could also result in increased pricing and competitive pressures for us. Accordingly, industry consolidation could harm our business. We may need to increase our efficiencies to compete and may incur additional restructuring charges.

We are subject to the risk of increased taxes.

We base our tax position upon the anticipated nature and conduct of our business and upon our understanding of the tax laws of the various countries in which we have assets or conduct activities. Our tax position, however, is subject to review and possible challenge by taxing authorities and to possible changes in law. We cannot determine in advance the extent to which some jurisdictions may assess additional tax or interest and penalties on such additional taxes.

Several countries in which we are located allow for tax holidays or provide other tax incentives to attract and retain business. We have obtained holidays or other incentives where available. Our taxes could increase if certain tax holidays or incentives are retracted, or if they are not renewed upon expiration, or tax rates applicable to us in such jurisdictions are otherwise increased. In addition, further acquisitions may cause our effective tax rate to increase. Given the scope of our international operations and our international tax arrangements, proposed changes to the manner in which U.S. based multinational companies are taxed in the U.S. could have a material impact on our financial results and competitiveness.

We are exposed to intangible asset risk; our goodwill may become further impaired.

We have recorded intangible assets, including goodwill, in connection with business acquisitions. We are required to assess goodwill and intangible assets for impairment at least on an annual basis and whenever events or circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable from estimated future cash flows. Our annual goodwill impairment analysis in the fourth quarter of 2008 indicated there was an impairment of goodwill in two of our reporting segments, the Americas and Europe, primarily due to a decline in our market capitalization and market turmoil. Accordingly, we recorded a non-cash impairment charge in the fourth quarter of 2008 totaling \$247.5 million. A further significant and sustained decline in our market capitalization could result in material charges in future

periods that could be adverse to our operating results and financial position. As of December 31, 2012, we had \$37.9 million in goodwill and \$11.2 million of identifiable intangible assets. See Note 1(i) to the consolidated financial statements in Item 8 of this report.

There are inherent uncertainties involved in estimates, judgments and assumptions used in the preparation of financial statements in accordance with US GAAP. Any changes in estimates, judgments and assumptions could have a material adverse effect on our financial position and results of operations.

The consolidated financial statements included in the periodic reports we file with the SEC are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (US GAAP). The preparation of financial statements in accordance with US GAAP involves making estimates, judgments and assumptions that affect reported amounts of assets (including intangible assets), liabilities and related reserves, revenues, expenses and income. Estimates, judgments and assumptions are inherently subject to change in the future, and any such changes could result in corresponding changes to the amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues, expenses and income. Any such changes could have a material adverse effect on our financial position and results of operations.

We are involved in various legal proceedings.

In the past, we have been notified of claims relating to various matters including intellectual property rights, contractual matters or other issues arising in the ordinary course of business. In the event of such a claim, we may be required to spend a significant amount of money to defend or otherwise address the claim. Any litigation, even where a claim is without merit, could result in substantial costs and diversion of resources. Accordingly, the resolution or adjudication of such disputes, even those encountered in the ordinary course of business, could have a material adverse effect on our business, consolidated financial conditions and results of operations.

Our success will continue to depend to a significant extent on our key personnel.

We depend significantly on our executive officers and other key personnel. The unexpected loss of the services of any one of these executive officers or other key personnel would have an adverse effect on us.

If we are unable to maintain our technological and manufacturing process expertise, our business could be adversely affected.

The market for our manufacturing services is characterized by rapidly changing technology and continuing process development. We are continually evaluating the advantages and feasibility of new manufacturing processes. We believe that our future success will depend upon our ability to develop and provide manufacturing services which meet our customers' changing needs. This requires that we maintain technological leadership and successfully anticipate or respond to technological changes in manufacturing processes on a cost-effective and timely basis. Our failure to maintain our technological and manufacturing process expertise could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Our stock price is volatile.

Our common shares have experienced significant price volatility, and such volatility may continue in the future. The price of our common shares could fluctuate widely in response to a range of factors, including variations in our reported financial results and changing conditions in the economy in general or in our industry in particular. In addition, stock markets generally experience significant price and volume volatility from time to time which may affect the market price of our common shares for reasons unrelated to our performance.

Provisions in our shareholder rights plan, our charter documents and state law may make it harder for others to obtain control of our company even though some shareholders might consider such a development to be favorable.

Our shareholder rights plan, as amended, provisions of our amended and restated articles of incorporation, as amended, and the Texas Business Corporation Act may delay, inhibit or prevent someone from gaining control of our company through a tender offer, business combination, proxy contest or some other method. These provisions include:

- a statutory restriction on the ability of shareholders to take action by less than unanimous written consent; and
- a statutory restriction on business combinations with some types of interested shareholders.

Compliance or the failure to comply with governmental regulations could cause us significant expense.

We are subject to a variety of federal, state, local and foreign environmental laws and regulations relating to environmental, waste management, and health and safety concerns, including the handling, storage, discharge and disposal of hazardous materials used in or derived from our manufacturing processes. If we or companies we acquire have failed or fail in the future to comply with such laws and regulations, then we could incur liabilities and fines and our operations could be suspended. Such laws and regulations could also restrict our ability to modify or expand our facilities, could require us to acquire costly equipment, or could impose other significant expenditures. In addition, our operations may give rise to claims of property contamination or human exposure to hazardous chemicals or conditions.

Our worldwide operations are subject to local laws and regulations. Over the last several years, we have become subject to the RoHS directive and the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive. These directives restrict the distribution of products containing certain substances, including lead, within applicable geographies and require a manufacturer or importer to recycle products containing those substances.

These directives affect the worldwide electronics and electronics components industries as a whole. If we or our customers fail to comply with such laws and regulations, we could incur liabilities and fines and our operations could be suspended.

In addition, as climate change issues become more prevalent, the U.S. and foreign governments are beginning to respond to these issues. This increasing governmental focus on climate change may result in new environmental regulations that may negatively affect us, our suppliers and our customers. This could cause us to incur additional direct costs or obligations in complying with any new environmental regulations, as well as increased indirect costs resulting from our customers, suppliers or both incurring additional compliance costs that get passed on to us. These costs may adversely impact our operations and financial condition.

Our business may be adversely impacted by geopolitical events.

As a global business, we operate and have customers located in many countries. Geopolitical events such as terrorist acts may affect the overall economic environment and negatively impact the demand for our customers' products or our ability to ship or receive products. As a result, customer orders may be lower and our financial results may be adversely affected.

Our business may be adversely impacted by natural disasters.

Some of our facilities, including our corporate headquarters, are located in areas which may be impacted by hurricanes, earthquakes, water shortages, tsunamis, floods, typhoons, fires, extreme weather conditions and other natural or manmade disasters. Our insurance coverage with respect to natural disasters is limited and is subject to deductibles and coverage limits. Such coverage may not be adequate, or may not continue to be available at commercially reasonable rates and terms.

In addition, some of our facilities possess certifications necessary to work on specialized products that our other locations lack. If work is disrupted at one of these facilities, it may be impractical, or we may be unable, to transfer such specialized work to another facility without significant costs and delays. Thus, any disruption in operations at a

facility possessing specialized certifications could adversely affect our ability to provide products and services to our customers, and thus negatively affect our relationships and financial results.

We may be exposed to interest rate fluctuations.

We will have exposure to interest rate risk under our variable rate revolving credit facilities to the extent we incur indebtedness under such facilities. These facilities' interest rates are based on the spread over the bank's prime rate or LIBOR. We are also exposed to interest rate risk on our invested cash balances.

Changes in financial accounting standards or policies have affected, and in the future may affect, our reported financial condition or results of operations. Additionally, changes in securities laws and regulations have increased, and are likely to continue to increase, our operating costs.

We prepare our financial statements in conformity with US GAAP. These principles are subject to interpretation by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB), the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), the SEC and various bodies formed to interpret and create appropriate accounting policies. A change in those policies can have a significant effect on our reported results and may affect our reporting of transactions which are completed before a change is announced. Changes to those rules or the questioning of how we interpret or implement those rules may have a material adverse effect on our reported financial results or on the way we conduct business. For example, although not yet currently required, we could be required to adopt International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), which is different from US GAAP.

In addition, in connection with our Section 404 certification process, we may identify from time to time deficiencies in our internal controls. Any material weakness or deficiency in our internal controls over financial reporting could materially and negatively impact our reported financial results and the market price of our stock could significantly decline. Additionally, adverse publicity related to the disclosure of a material weakness or deficiency in internal controls over financial reporting could have a negative impact on our reputation, business and stock price.

Finally, corporate governance, public disclosure and compliance practices continue to evolve based upon continuing legislative action, agency rulemaking and stockholder advisory group policies. As a result, the number of rules and regulations applicable to us may increase, which would also increase our legal and financial compliance costs and the amount of time management must devote to compliance activities. For example, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act contains provisions to improve transparency and accountability concerning the supply of certain minerals originating from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and adjoining countries that are believed to be benefitting armed groups. As a result, the SEC has recently adopted new due diligence, disclosure and reporting requirements for companies which manufacture products that include components containing such minerals, regardless of whether the minerals are mined in the DRC or adjoining countries. These requirements may decrease the acceptable sources of supply of such minerals, increase their cost and disrupt our supply chain if we need to obtain components from different suppliers. Since we manufacture products containing such minerals for our customers, we will be required to comply with the new SEC rules, with our first required report due in May 2014. As the method of complying with the new regulation is unclear, the compliance process may be time-consuming and costly. Failure to comply with this new regulation could result in additional costs (including but not limited to, fines or penalties) as well as affect our reputation. Increasing regulatory burdens could also make it more difficult for us to attract and retain members of our board of directors, particularly to serve on our audit committee, and executive officers in light of an increase in actual or perceived workload and liability for serving in such positions.

Energy price increases may negatively impact our results of operations.

Certain of the components that we use in our manufacturing activities are petroleum-based. In addition, we, along with our suppliers and customers, rely on various energy sources (including oil) in our transportation activities. While significant uncertainty currently exists about the future levels of energy prices, a significant increase is possible. Increased energy prices could cause an increase to our raw material costs and transportation costs. In addition, increased transportation costs of certain of our suppliers and customers could be passed along to us. We may not be able to increase our product prices enough to offset these increased costs. In addition, any increase in our product prices may reduce our future customer orders and profitability.

Introducing programs requiring implementation of new competencies, including new process technology within our mechanical operations, could affect our operations and financial results.

The introduction of programs requiring implementation of new competencies, including new process technology within our mechanical operations, presents challenges in addition to opportunities. Deployment of such programs may require us to invest significant resources and capital in facilities, equipment and/or personnel. We may not meet our customers' expectations or otherwise execute properly or in a cost-efficient manner, which could damage our customer relationships and result in remedial costs or the loss of our invested capital and anticipated revenues and profits. In addition, there are risks of market acceptance and product performance that could result in less demand than anticipated and our having excess capacity. The failure to ensure that our agreed terms appropriately reflect the anticipated costs, risks, and rewards of such an opportunity could adversely affect our profitability. If we do not meet one or more of these challenges, our operations and financial results could be adversely affected.

If our manufacturing processes and services do not comply with applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, or if we manufacture products containing design or manufacturing defects, demand for our services may decline and we may be subject to liability claims.

We manufacture and design products to our customers' specifications, and, in some cases, our manufacturing processes and facilities may need to comply with applicable statutory and regulatory requirements. For example, medical devices that we manufacture or design, as well as the facilities and manufacturing processes that we use to produce them, are regulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and non-U.S. counterparts of this agency. Similarly, items we manufacture for customers in the defense and aerospace industries, as well as the processes we use to produce them, are regulated by the Department of Defense and the Federal Aviation Authority. In addition, our customers' products and the manufacturing processes that we use to produce them often are highly complex. As a result, products that we manufacture may at times contain manufacturing or design defects, and our manufacturing processes may be subject to errors or not be in compliance with applicable statutory and regulatory requirements. Defects in the products we manufacture or design, whether caused by a design, manufacturing or component failure or error, or deficiencies in our manufacturing processes, may result in delayed shipments to customers or reduced or cancelled customer orders. If these defects or deficiencies are significant, our business reputation may also be damaged. The failure of the products that we manufacture or our manufacturing processes and facilities to comply with applicable statutory and regulatory requirements may subject us to legal fines or penalties and, in some cases, require us to shut down or incur considerable expense to correct a manufacturing process or facility. In addition, these defects may result in liability claims against us or expose us to liability to pay for the recall of a product. The magnitude of such claims may increase as we expand our medical and aerospace and defense manufacturing services, as defects in medical devices and aerospace and defense systems could seriously harm or kill users of these products and others. Even if our customers are responsible for the defects, they may not, or may not have resources to, assume responsibility for any costs or liabilities arising from these defects, which could expose us to additional liability claims.

Customer relationships with emerging companies may present more risks than with established companies.

Customer relationships with emerging companies present special risks because such companies do not have an extensive product history. As a result, there is less demonstration of market acceptance of their products, making it harder for us to anticipate needs and requirements than with established customers. In addition, due to the current economic environment, additional funding for such companies may be more difficult to obtain and these customer relationships may not continue or materialize to the extent we planned or we previously experienced. This tightening of financing for start-up customers, together with many start-up customers' lack of prior operations and unproven product markets increase our credit risk, especially in trade accounts receivable and inventories. Although we perform ongoing credit evaluations of our customers and adjust our allowance for doubtful accounts receivable for all customers, including start-up customers, based on the information available, these allowances may not be adequate. This risk may exist for any new emerging company customers in the future.

We are subject to breach of our security systems.

We have implemented security systems with the intent of maintaining the physical security of our facilities and protecting our customers' and our suppliers' confidential information. Despite such efforts, we are subject to breach of security systems, which may result in unauthorized access to our facilities and/or the information we are trying to protect. If unauthorized parties gain physical access to one of our facilities or electronic access to our information systems or such information is misdirected, lost or stolen during transmission or transport, any theft or misuse of such information could result in, among other things, unfavorable publicity, governmental inquiry and oversight, difficulty in marketing our services, allegations by our customers that we have not performed our contractual obligations, litigation by affected parties and possible financial obligations for damages related to the theft or misuse of such information, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our profitability and cash flow.

The risk of uninsured losses will be borne by Benchmark.

As a result of the massive flooding in the Fall of 2011, we have been unable to renew or otherwise obtain cost-effective flood insurance to adequately cover assets at our facilities in Thailand. We continue to investigate all flood risk-mitigation alternatives in Thailand. We maintain insurance on all our properties and operations—including our assets in Thailand—for risks and in amounts customary in the industry. While such insurance includes general liability, property & casualty, and directors & officers liability coverage, not all losses are insured, and we retain certain risks of loss through deductibles, limits and self-retentions. In the event we were to experience a significant uninsured loss in Thailand or elsewhere, it could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Item 1B. *Unresolved Staff Comments.*

None.

Item 2. Properties.

Our customers market numerous products throughout the world and therefore need to access manufacturing services on a global basis. To enhance our EMS offerings, we seek to locate our facilities either near our customers and our customers' end markets in major centers for the electronics industry or, where appropriate, in lower cost locations. Many of our plants located near customers and their end markets are focused primarily on final system assembly and test, while plants located in lower cost areas are engaged primarily in less complex component and subsystem manufacturing and assembly.

The following chart summarizes our principal manufacturing facilities owned or leased by Benchmark and its subsidiaries:

Location	Sq. Ft.	Ownership
Almelo, the Netherlands	132,000	Leased
Angleton, Texas	110,000	Owned
Ayudhaya, Thailand	281,000	Owned
Ayudhaya, Thailand	224,000	Owned
Brasov, Romania	131,000	Leased
Campinas, Brazil	49,000	Leased
Concord, California	77,000	Leased
Dunseith, North Dakota	45,000	Owned
Dunseith, North Dakota	51,000	Leased
Freemont, California	52,000	Leased
Guadalajara, Mexico	214,000	Leased
Guaymas, Mexico	52,000	Leased
Huntsville, Alabama	180,000	Owned
Korat, Thailand	190,000	Owned
Nashua, New Hampshire	154,000	Leased
Penang, Malaysia	103,000	Owned
Penang, Malaysia	190,000	Owned
Rochester, Minnesota	250,000	Leased
Suzhou, China	326,000	Owned
Singapore	42,000	Leased
Tempe, Arizona	48,000	Leased
Winona, Minnesota	181,000	Owned
Total	3,082,000	

We lease other facilities with a total of 13,000 sq. ft. that house individuals that provide engineering and procurement services. We also own facilities with a total of 366,000 sq. ft. that are currently not in operation.

Item 3. *Legal Proceedings.*

We are involved in various legal actions arising in the ordinary course of business. In the opinion of management, the ultimate disposition of these matters will not have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial position or results of operations.

Item 4. *Mine Safety Disclosures.*

Not applicable.

PART II

Item 5. *Market for Registrant’s Common Equity, Related Shareholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities.*

Our common shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol “BHE.” The following table shows the high and low sales prices for our common shares as reported on the New York Stock Exchange for the quarters (or portions thereof) indicated.

	High	Low
2013		
First quarter (through February 25, 2013)	\$18.44	\$16.46
2012		
Fourth quarter	\$16.65	\$12.54
Third quarter	\$16.95	\$12.95
Second quarter	\$17.09	\$12.77
First quarter	\$18.87	\$13.65
2011		
Fourth quarter	\$15.54	\$12.01
Third quarter	\$17.04	\$12.03
Second quarter	\$19.21	\$15.21
First quarter	\$20.24	\$17.18

The last reported sale price of our common shares on February 25, 2013, as reported by the New York Stock Exchange, was \$17.44. There were approximately 835 record holders of our common shares as of February 25, 2013.

We have not paid any cash dividends on our common shares in the past. In addition, our credit facility includes restrictions on the amount of dividends we may pay to shareholders. We currently expect to retain future earnings for use in the operation and expansion of our business and do not anticipate paying cash dividends in the foreseeable future.

Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

The following table provides information about the Company's repurchase of its equity securities that are registered pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act during the quarter ending December 31, 2012, at a total cost of \$15.7 million:

Period	(a) Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased ⁽¹⁾	(b) Average Price Paid per Share (or Unit) ⁽²⁾	(c) Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	(d) Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares (or Units) that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs ⁽³⁾
October 1 to 31, 2012	613,800	\$ 15.31	613,800	\$94.3 million
November 1 to 30, 2012	375,000	\$ 15.06	375,000	\$88.7 million
December 1 to 31, 2012	40,000	\$ 16.39	40,000	\$88.0 million
Total	1,028,800	\$ 15.26	1,028,800	

(1) All share repurchases were made on the open market.

(2) Average price paid per share is calculated on a settlement basis and excludes commission.

On June 13, 2012, the Board of Directors of the Company approved the repurchase of up to \$100 million of the Company's outstanding common shares. Share purchases may be made in the open market, in privately negotiated transactions or block transactions, at the discretion of the Company's management and as market conditions warrant. Purchases will be funded from available cash and may be commenced, suspended or discontinued at any time without prior notice. Shares repurchased under the program will be retired.

During the year ended December 31, 2012, the Company repurchased a total of 3.2 million common shares for \$47.1 million at an average price of \$14.59 per share. All share purchases were made in the open market and the shares repurchased through December 31, 2012 were retired.

Performance Graph

The following Performance Graph compares the cumulative total shareholder return on our common shares for the five-year period commencing December 31, 2007 and ending December 31, 2012, with the cumulative total return of the Standard & Poor's 500 Stock Index (which does not include Benchmark), and the Peer Group Index, which is composed of Celestica Inc., Flextronics International, Ltd., Jabil Circuit, Inc., Plexus Corp and Sanmina-SCI Corp. Dividend reinvestment has been assumed.

	Dec-07	Dec-08	Dec-09	Dec-10	Dec-11	Dec-12
Benchmark Electronics, Inc.	\$100.00	\$72.00	\$106.70	\$102.40	\$76.00	\$93.70
Peer Group	\$100.00	\$33.60	\$85.40	\$93.20	\$77.10	\$80.80
S&P 500	\$100.00	\$61.50	\$75.90	\$85.60	\$85.60	\$97.10

NOTES: Assumes \$100 invested on December 31, 2007 in Benchmark Electronics, Inc. Common Shares, in the S&P 500, and in the Peer Group Index. Reflects month-end dividend reinvestment, and annual reweighting of the Peer Group Index portfolios.

Item 6. Selected Financial Data.

(in thousands, except per share data)	Year Ended December 31,				
	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Selected Statements of Income (Loss) Data					
Sales	\$2,468,150	\$2,253,030	\$2,402,143	\$2,089,253	\$2,590,167
Cost of sales	2,291,412	2,114,195	2,214,728	1,943,188	2,414,231
Gross profit	176,738	138,835	187,415	146,065	175,936
Selling, general and administrative expenses	89,951	89,665	92,245	85,500	92,154
Restructuring charges ⁽¹⁾	2,200	4,515	6,724	8,264	2,780
Thailand flood related charges, net of insurance ⁽²⁾	9,028	3,362	—	—	—
Goodwill impairment ⁽³⁾	—	—	—	—	247,482
Income (loss) from operations	75,559	41,293	88,446	52,301	(166,480)
Interest expense	(1,580)	(1,327)	(1,362)	(1,399)	(1,455)
Interest income	1,306	1,768	1,621	2,210	8,675
Other income (expense)	154	(602)	(1,689)	(1,705)	1,772
Income tax expense (benefit) ⁽⁴⁾	18,832	(10,827)	7,258	(1,974)	(21,856)
Net income (loss)	\$56,607	\$51,959	\$79,758	\$53,381	\$(135,632)
Earnings (loss) per share: ⁽⁵⁾					
Basic	\$1.01	\$0.88	\$1.28	\$0.82	\$(2.02)
Diluted	\$1.00	\$0.87	\$1.27	\$0.82	\$(2.02)
Weighted-average number of shares outstanding:					
Basic	56,320	59,284	62,141	64,758	67,060
Diluted	56,634	59,773	62,692	65,116	67,060

(in thousands)	December 31,				
	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Selected Balance Sheet Data					
Working capital	\$883,676	\$849,051	\$891,637	\$852,896	\$813,035
Total assets	1,501,477	1,499,998	1,477,068	1,465,206	1,433,040
Total debt	10,600	11,019	11,381	11,681	11,939
Shareholders' equity	\$1,139,525	\$1,115,748	\$1,119,225	\$1,090,389	\$1,050,574

See Note 15 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for a discussion of the restructuring charges occurring in (1)2012, 2011 and 2010. During 2009 and 2008, the Company recognized restructuring charges totaling \$8.3 million and \$2.8 million related to reductions in workforce and the resizing and closure of certain facilities.

(2) See Note 16 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for a discussion of Thailand flood related charges, net of insurance.

(3) During the fourth quarter of 2008, the Company recorded a non-cash goodwill impairment charge totaling \$247.5 million.

See Note 8 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for a discussion of income taxes. During the third quarter of 2009, the Company recorded a \$2.7 million discrete tax benefit related to a previously closed facility, a \$2.4 million (4)discrete tax benefit related to a revaluation loss in Mexico and a \$1.9 million discrete tax benefit related to intercompany pricing deductions. During the third quarter of 2008, the Company recorded a \$3.4 million discrete tax benefit related to a previously closed facility.

(5) See Note 1(j) to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the basis of computing earnings (loss) per share.

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

References in this report to “the Company,” “Benchmark,” “we,” or “us” mean Benchmark Electronics, Inc. together with its subsidiaries. The following Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations contains certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These forward-looking statements are identified as any statement that does not relate strictly to historical or current facts. They use words such as “anticipate,” “believe,” “intend,” “plan,” “projection,” “forecast,” “strategy,” “position,” “continue,” “estimate,” “expect,” “may,” “will,” or those terms or other variations of them or comparable terminology. In particular, statements, express or implied, concerning future operating results or the ability to generate sales, income or cash flow are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of performance. They involve risks, uncertainties and assumptions, including those discussed under Item 1A of this report. The future results of our operations may differ materially from those expressed in these forward-looking statements. Many of the factors that will determine these results are beyond our ability to control or predict. Undue reliance should not be placed on any forward-looking statements. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual outcomes may vary materially from those indicated.

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes thereto in Item 8 of this report.

OVERVIEW

We are a worldwide provider of integrated electronic manufacturing services. We provide our services to original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) of computers and related products for business enterprises, medical devices, industrial control equipment (which includes equipment for the aerospace and defense industry), testing and instrumentation products, and telecommunication equipment. The services that we provide are commonly referred to as electronics manufacturing services (EMS). We offer our customers comprehensive and integrated design and manufacturing services from initial product design to volume production including direct order fulfillment and post deployment services. Our manufacturing and assembly operations include printed circuit boards and subsystem assembly, box build and systems integration, the process of integrating subsystems and, often, downloading and integrating software, to produce a fully configured product. Our precision technology manufacturing capabilities complement our proven electronic manufacturing expertise by providing further vertical integration of critical mechanical components. These capabilities include precision machining, advanced metal joining, and functional testing for multiple industries including medical, instrumentation, aerospace and semiconductor capital equipment. We also are able to provide specialized engineering services, including product design, printed circuit board layout, prototyping, and test development. We believe that we have developed strengths in the manufacturing process for large, complex, high-density printed circuit boards as well as the ability to manufacture high and low volume products in lower cost regions such as Brazil, China, Malaysia, Mexico, Romania and Thailand.

During the past several years, we have made the necessary changes to align our business operations with our customers' demand. These changes include, among other activities, moving production between facilities, reducing staff levels, realigning our business processes and reorganizing our management. During the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, the Company recognized \$2.2 million, \$4.5 million and \$6.7 million (pre-tax) of restructuring charges, primarily related to the closure of facilities, capacity reductions and costs associated with involuntary termination of employees in connection with reductions in workforce of certain facilities worldwide.

We believe that our global manufacturing presence increases our ability to be responsive to our customers' needs by providing accelerated time-to-market and time-to-volume production of high quality products. These capabilities enable us to build stronger strategic relationships with our customers and to become a more integral part of their operations. Our customers face challenges in planning, procuring and managing their inventories efficiently due to customer demand fluctuations, product design changes, short product life cycles and component price fluctuations. We employ production management systems to manage their procurement and manufacturing processes in an efficient and cost-effective manner so that, where possible, components arrive on a just-in-time, as-and-when-needed basis. We are a significant purchaser of electronic components and other raw materials, and can capitalize on the economies of scale associated with our relationships with suppliers to negotiate price discounts, obtain components and other raw materials that are in short supply, and return excess components. Our expertise in supply chain management and our relationships with suppliers across the supply chain enables us to reduce our customers' cost of goods sold and inventory exposure.

We recognize revenue from the sale of manufactured products built to customer specifications and excess inventory when title and risk of ownership have passed, the price to the buyer is fixed and determinable and collectibility is reasonably assured, which generally is when the goods are shipped. Revenue from design, development and engineering services is recognized when the services are performed and collectibility is reasonably certain. Such services provided under fixed price contracts are accounted for using the percentage of completion method. We generally assume no significant obligations after product shipment as we typically warrant workmanship only. Therefore, our warranty provisions are generally not significant.

Our cost of sales includes the cost of materials, electronic components and other materials that comprise the products we manufacture, the cost of labor and manufacturing overhead, and adjustments for excess and obsolete inventory. Our procurement of materials for production requires us to commit significant working capital to our operations and to manage the purchasing, receiving, inspection and stocking of materials. Although we bear the risk of fluctuations in the cost of materials and excess scrap, we periodically negotiate cost of materials adjustments with our customers. Our gross margin for any product depends on the sales price, the proportionate mix of the cost of materials in the product and the cost of labor and manufacturing overhead allocated to the product. We typically have the potential to realize higher gross margins on products where the proportionate level of labor and manufacturing overhead is greater than that of materials. As we gain experience in manufacturing a product, we usually achieve increased efficiencies, which result in lower labor and manufacturing overhead costs for that product and higher gross margins. Our operating results are impacted by the level of capacity utilization of manufacturing facilities. Operating income margins have generally improved during periods of high production volume and high capacity utilization. During periods of low production volume, we generally have idle capacity and reduced operating income margins.

Severe Flooding in Thailand and Suspension of Thailand Operations

Our facilities in Ayudhaya, Thailand were flooded and remained closed from October 13, 2011 to December 20, 2011. As a result of the flooding and temporary closing of our facilities, we recognized estimated property losses of \$46.2 million and incurred \$13.4 million of flood related costs during the three months ended December 31, 2011. We

carried property and business interruption insurance that we believe was appropriate and adequate for this situation. Our combined limit for real and personal property as well as business interruption insurance was approximately \$300 million. As such, during the three months ended December 31, 2011, we recorded estimated recoveries from insurance for these property losses and flood related costs totaling \$56.2 million. These estimated insurance recoveries included \$46.2 million of property losses from the involuntary conversion of property, plant and equipment and inventory and \$10.0 million of other costs directly related to the flooding in Thailand.

During the year ended December 31, 2012, we reduced the previously estimated property losses and the corresponding estimated insurance recoveries for these property losses by \$5.1 million. In addition, we received \$58.2 million of insurance proceeds, which exceeded our previously recorded insurance receivable by \$7.1 million. The insurance proceeds included \$48.2 million for Thailand property losses and \$10.0 million for other flood related costs. As of December 31, 2012, we have collected our recorded insurance receivable for these property losses and flood related costs.

During the year ended December 31, 2012, we recognized additional Thailand flood related charges totaling \$16.1 million, which were offset by the insurance recoveries of \$7.1 million in excess of previously recognized inventory and property, plant and equipment losses. While all of these charges consist of costs directly attributable to the Thailand flood which we expect to recover from our insurance, we will record additional insurance recoveries when the appropriate recognition criteria have been met. We cannot estimate the timing of the receipt of insurance proceeds we will ultimately realize. We do not expect to incur additional significant Thailand flood related charges. As a result of the flooding, we have been unable to renew or otherwise obtain adequate cost-effective flood insurance to cover assets at our Thailand facilities. We continue to investigate all flood risk-mitigation alternatives in Thailand. In the event we were to experience a significant uninsured loss in Thailand or elsewhere, it could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

The Ayudhaya, Thailand facilities are among our largest. As a result, the impact on revenue and operations was significant in the fourth quarter of 2011.

We and our customers implemented contingency and recovery plans as a result of the flood to help enable us to meet customer needs. As part of those plans, we restarted production at our Korat, Thailand facility in November 2011, and we shifted production from our Ayudhaya facilities to our various other sites around the globe. As a result of the capital purchases associated with our contingency and recovery plans, we have incurred approximately \$25.4 million in capital expenditures.

Summary of 2012 Results

Sales for the year ended December 31, 2012 increased 9.5% to \$2.5 billion compared to \$2.3 billion in 2011. This increase in sales was primarily due to increased demand from our existing customers, including new program wins, most notably in the computers and related products for business enterprises industry, the telecommunication equipment industry and the medical devices industry, in addition to our recovery from the Thailand flooding that impacted us in the fourth quarter of 2011. These increases were partially offset by decreased demand from customers in the testing and instrumentation products industry as a result of a slowdown in the semiconductor industry and market uncertainty in the global economy.

Our future sales are dependent on the success of our customers, some of which operate in businesses associated with rapid technological change and consequent product obsolescence. Developments adverse to our major customers or their products, or the failure of a major customer to pay for components or services, could have an adverse effect on us. A substantial percentage of our sales have been made to a small number of customers, and the loss of a major customer, if not replaced, would adversely affect us. Sales to our ten largest customers represented 56% and 53% of our sales in 2012 and 2011, respectively. In 2012 and 2011, sales to International Business Machines Corporation

represented 21% and 14%, respectively, of our sales.

Our gross profit as a percentage of sales increased to 7.2% for the year ended December 31, 2012 from 6.2% in the same period of 2011. This increase was primarily due to an increase in sales, partially driven by new programs, our continued focus on cost controls, and our recovery from the 2011 Thailand flood that resulted in lower sales volume and resulting under-absorbed manufacturing overhead costs. In addition, the 2011 gross profit was impacted by \$4.4 million of settlement costs associated with the transfer of a major program. We experience fluctuations in gross profit from period to period. Different programs contribute different gross profits depending on factors such as the types of services involved, location of production, size of the program, complexity of the product and level of material costs associated with the various products. Moreover, new programs can contribute relatively less to our gross profit in their early stages when manufacturing volumes are usually lower, resulting in inefficiencies and unabsorbed manufacturing overhead costs. In addition, a number of our new and higher volume programs remain subject to competitive constraints that could exert downward pressure on our margins. During periods of low production volume, we generally have idle capacity and reduced gross profit.

We have undertaken initiatives to restructure our business operations with the intention of improving utilization and realizing cost savings in the future. During the year ended December 31, 2012, the Company recognized \$2.2 million (pre-tax) of restructuring charges, primarily related to capacity reduction and reductions in workforce of certain facilities worldwide, primarily in Europe.

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATES

Management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations is based upon our consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our significant accounting policies are summarized in Note 1 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this report. The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. On an ongoing basis, we evaluate our estimates, including those related to accounts receivable, inventories, income taxes, long-lived assets, stock-based compensation and contingencies and litigation. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ materially from these estimates. We believe the following critical accounting policies affect our more significant judgments and estimates used in the preparation of our consolidated financial statements.

Allowance for doubtful accounts

Our accounts receivable balance is recorded net of allowances for amounts not expected to be collected from our customers. Because our accounts receivable are typically unsecured, we periodically evaluate the collectibility of our accounts based on a combination of factors, including a particular customer's ability to pay as well as the age of the receivables. To evaluate a specific customer's ability to pay, we analyze financial statements, payment history and various information or disclosures by the customer or other publicly available information. In cases where the evidence suggests a customer may not be able to satisfy its obligation to us, we set up a specific allowance in an amount we determine appropriate for the perceived risk. If the financial condition of our customers were to deteriorate, resulting in an impairment of their ability to make payments, additional allowances may be required.

Inventory obsolescence reserve

We purchase inventory based on forecasted demand and record inventory at the lower of cost or market. We reserve for estimated obsolescence as necessary in an amount equal to the difference between the cost of inventory and estimated market value based on assumptions of future demands and market conditions. We evaluate our inventory

valuation on a quarterly basis based on current and forecasted usage and the latest forecasts of product demand and production requirements from our customers. Customers frequently make changes to their forecasts, requiring us to make changes to our inventory purchases, commitments, and production scheduling and which may require us to cancel open purchase commitments with our vendors. This process may lead to on-hand inventory quantities and on-order purchase commitments that are in excess of our customers' revised needs, or parts that become obsolete before use in production. We record inventory reserves on excess and obsolete inventory. These reserves are established on inventory which we have determined our customers are not responsible for or on inventory which we believe our customers will be unable to fulfill their obligation to ultimately purchase. If actual market conditions are less favorable than those we projected, additional inventory write-downs may be required.

Income Taxes

We estimate our income tax provision in each of the jurisdictions in which we operate, including estimating exposures related to uncertain tax positions. We must also make judgments regarding the ability to realize the deferred tax assets. We record a valuation allowance to reduce our deferred tax assets to the amount that is more likely than not to be realized. While we have considered future taxable income and ongoing prudent and feasible tax planning strategies in assessing the need for the valuation allowance, in the event we were to subsequently determine that we would be able to realize our deferred tax assets in excess of our net recorded amount, an adjustment to the valuation allowance would increase income in the period such determination was made. Similarly, should we determine that we would not be able to realize all or part of our net deferred tax assets in the future, an adjustment to the valuation allowance would reduce income in the period such determination was made.

During 2011, we evaluated the recoverability of our deferred tax assets using the criteria described above and concluded that our projected future taxable income in the U.S. is sufficient to utilize additional net operating loss carryforwards and other deferred tax assets. As a result, we reduced our valuation allowance by \$19.1 million in the U.S. and, at the same time, decreased our valuation allowance by \$1.5 million in foreign jurisdictions.

We are subject to examination by tax authorities for varying periods in various U.S. and foreign tax jurisdictions. During the course of such examinations, disputes may occur as to matters of fact and/or law. In most tax jurisdictions the passage of time without examination will result in the expiration of applicable statutes of limitations, thereby precluding the taxing authority from conducting an examination of the tax period(s) for which such statute of limitations has expired. We believe that we have adequately provided for our tax liabilities.

Our subsidiary in Thailand has filed for a refund of \$8.4 million of previously paid income taxes applicable to the years 2004 and 2005, which is included in other assets. The Thailand tax authorities have conducted their initial examination of the applicable refund filings. We received official notification that the tax authorities have rejected our refund claim during the fourth quarter of 2012. We have filed an appeal of the rejected refund claim as we believe that the conclusions of the Thailand tax authorities are incorrect. During 2011, we recorded a reserve for uncertain tax benefits of \$7.1 million against this refund claim.

Impairment of Long-Lived Assets and Goodwill

Long-lived assets, such as property, plant, and equipment, and purchased intangibles subject to amortization, are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. The recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of an asset to the estimated undiscounted future cash flows expected to be generated by the asset. If the

carrying amount of an asset exceeds its estimated undiscounted future cash flows, an impairment charge would be recognized by the amount that the carrying amount of the asset exceeds the fair value of the asset.

Goodwill is assessed annually for impairment, and is assessed for impairment more frequently if events and circumstances indicate that the asset might be impaired. An impairment loss would be recognized to the extent that the carrying amount exceeds the asset's fair value. For purposes of performing our goodwill impairment assessment, our reporting units are the same as our operating segments as defined in Note 12 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this report. As of December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, we had goodwill associated with our Asia business segment of approximately \$37.9 million. Beginning in 2012, we elected to perform a qualitative assessment for our annual goodwill impairment test. If the qualitative assessment indicates that it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount, or if we elect to not perform a qualitative assessment, then we would be required to perform a quantitative impairment test for goodwill. This two-step process involves determining the fair values of the reporting units and comparing those fair values to the carrying values, including goodwill, of the reporting unit.

Based on our qualitative assessment of goodwill as of December 31, 2012, we concluded that it was more likely than not that the fair value of our Asia business segment was greater than its carrying amount, and therefore no further testing was required. We completed our annual impairment tests performed as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 and concluded that goodwill was not impaired. We estimated that the fair value of our Asia business segment exceeded its carrying amount by approximately 25% and 117%, respectively, as of December 31, 2011 and 2010. The decrease in 2011 was primarily a result of the Thailand flood. Circumstances that may lead to future impairment of goodwill include unforeseen decreases in future performance or industry demand, the restructuring of our operations as a result of a change in our business strategy or other factors.

In 2011 and 2010, we determined the fair value of our reporting units, with the assistance of an independent valuation firm, based upon a combination of the income approach (discounted cash flow method) and market approach (market comparable model) methodologies. In concluding on the fair value estimates of our reporting units in 2011 and 2010, the income approach was given a 75% weighting and the market approach was given a 25% weighting based on the quality and suitability of information available in performing the income approach, relative to the market approach.

The income approach methodology utilized in estimating the fair value of our reporting units for purposes of the goodwill impairment testing required various judgmental assumptions about revenues, operating margins, growth rates, working capital requirements and appropriate discount rate. In determining those judgmental assumptions, we considered a variety of data, including—for each reporting unit—its annual budget for the upcoming year, its longer-term business plan, anticipated future cash flows, market data, and historical cash flow growth rates. The key assumptions used to estimate the fair value of our reporting units under the discounted cash flow method were (i) projected revenue growth over a ten-year period and the annual compounded average growth rate; (ii) projected operating margins over a ten-year period; and (iii) a weighted-average cost of capital.

Under the market approach, the value of our reporting units was estimated by comparing it to publicly-traded firms in similar lines of business and geographic markets. The market approach takes into account, among other things, the market value of total invested capital to earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) multiples of comparable companies adjusted to reflect differences in size and growth prospects. The selected multiples were then applied to the present value of our reporting unit's projected EBITDA to arrive at an indicated range of value. This value was then adjusted for a control premium of 25% in 2011 and 30% in 2010 based on a review of premiums paid for companies similar in nature to our reporting units and then adjusted for any working capital requirement excess (deficit) to determine a final value under the market approach.

Changes in economic and operating conditions that occur after the annual impairment analysis or an interim impairment analysis, and that impact these assumptions, may result in a future goodwill impairment charge.

Stock-Based Compensation

We recognize stock-based compensation expense in our consolidated statements of income. The fair value of each option grant is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. Option-pricing models require the input of subjective assumptions, including the expected life of the option and the expected stock price volatility. Judgment is also required in estimating the number of stock-based awards that are expected to vest as a result of satisfaction of time-based vesting schedules. If actual results or future changes in estimates differ significantly from our current estimates, stock-based compensation could increase or decrease. For restricted stock unit awards with performance conditions, compensation expense is based on the probability that the performance goals will be achieved, which is monitored by management throughout the requisite service period. If it becomes probable, based on our expectation of performance during the measurement period, that more or less than the previous

estimate of the awarded shares will vest, an adjustment to stock-based compensation expense will be recognized as a change in accounting estimate. See Note 1(m) to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this report.

Recently Enacted Accounting Principles

See Note 1(q) to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this report for a discussion of recently enacted accounting principles.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following table presents the percentage relationship that certain items in our Consolidated Statements of Income bear to sales for the periods indicated. The financial information and the discussion below should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes thereto in Item 8 of this report.

	Year ended December 31,		
	2012	2011	2010
Sales	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of sales	92.8	93.8	92.2
Gross profit	7.2	6.2	7.8
Selling, general and administrative expenses	3.6	4.0	3.8
Restructuring charges	0.1	0.2	0.3
Thailand flood related charges, net of insurance	0.4	0.1	-
Income from operations	3.1	1.8	3.7
Other expense, net	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.1)
Income before income taxes	3.1	1.8	3.6
Income tax expense (benefit)	0.8	(0.5)	0.3
Net income	2.3 %	2.3 %	3.3 %

Year Ended December 31, 2012 Compared With Year Ended December 31, 2011

Sales

Sales for the year ended December 31, 2012 increased 9.5% to \$2.5 billion compared to \$2.3 billion in 2011. The increase in sales was primarily due to increased demand from our existing customers, including new program wins, most notably in the computers and related products for business enterprises industry, telecommunication equipment industry and the medical devices industry, in addition to our recovery from the Thailand flooding that impacted us in the fourth quarter of 2011. These increases were partially offset by decreased demand from customers in the testing and instrumentation products industry as a result of a slowdown in the semiconductor industry and market uncertainty in the global economy. The following table sets forth the percentages of our sales by industry for 2012 and 2011.

	2012	2011
Computers and related products for business enterprises	31 %	29 %
Industrial control equipment	27	29
Telecommunication equipment	26	23

Medical devices	10	9
Testing and instrumentation products	6	10
	100 %	100 %

Computers and Related Products for Business Enterprises. Sales to customers in the computers and related products for business enterprises industry for the year ended December 31, 2012 increased 16% to \$771.5 million from \$663.2 million in 2011 primarily as a result of new program wins.

Industrial Control Equipment. Sales to customers in the industrial control equipment industry for the year ended December 31, 2012 increased 3% to \$660.2 million from \$641.4 million in 2011.

Telecommunication Equipment. Sales to customers in the telecommunication equipment industry for the year ended December 31, 2012 increased 22% to \$637.9 million from \$521.8 million in 2011 primarily as a result of our recovery from the Thailand flooding that impacted us in the fourth quarter of 2011 as well as new program wins.

Medical Devices. Sales to customers in the medical devices industry for the year ended December 31, 2012 increased 15% to \$244.1 million from \$212.2 million in 2011 primarily as a result of new program wins.

Testing and Instrumentation Products. Sales to customers in the testing and instrumentation products industry for the year ended December 31, 2012 decreased 28% to \$154.4 million from \$214.5 million in 2011 as a result of a slowdown in the semiconductor industry and market uncertainty in the global economy.

Our future sales are dependent on the success of our customers, some of which operate in businesses associated with rapid technological change and consequent product obsolescence. Developments adverse to our major customers or their products, or the failure of a major customer to pay for components or services, could have an adverse effect on us. Adverse worldwide economic conditions have impacted our customers. See Note 9 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this report.

A substantial percentage of our sales have been made to a small number of customers, and the loss of a major customer, if not replaced, would adversely affect us. Sales to our ten largest customers represented 56% and 53% of our sales in 2012 and 2011, respectively. In 2012 and 2011, sales to International Business Machines Corporation represented 21% and 14%, respectively, of our sales.

Our international operations are subject to the risks of doing business abroad. See Item 1A for factors pertaining to our international sales and fluctuations in the exchange rates of foreign currency and for further discussion of potential adverse effects in operating results associated with the risks of doing business abroad. During 2012 and 2011, 50% and 51%, respectively, of our sales were from our international operations.

We had a backlog of approximately \$1.5 billion at December 31, 2012, as compared to the 2011 year-end backlog of \$1.6 billion. Backlog consists of purchase orders received, including, in some instances, forecast requirements released for production under customer contracts. Although we expect to fill substantially all of our backlog at December 31, 2012 during 2013, we do not have long-term agreements with all of our customers and customer orders can be canceled, changed or delayed by customers. The timely replacement of canceled, changed or delayed orders with orders from new customers cannot be assured, nor can there be any assurance that any of our current customers will continue to utilize our services. Because of these factors, backlog is not a meaningful indicator of future financial results.

Gross Profit

Gross profit increased 27% to \$176.7 million for 2012 from \$138.8 million in 2011 due primarily to an increase in sales. Our gross profit as a percentage of sales increased to 7.2% for the year ended December 31, 2012 from 6.2% in the same period of 2011. This increase was primarily due to an increase in sales, partially driven by new programs, our continued focus on cost controls, and our recovery from the 2011 Thailand flood that resulted in lower sales volume and resulting under-absorbed manufacturing overhead costs. In addition, the 2011 gross profit was impacted by \$4.4 million of settlement costs associated with the transfer of a major program. We experience fluctuations in gross profit from period to period. Different programs contribute different gross profits depending on factors such as the types of services involved, location of production, size of the program, complexity of the product, and level of material costs associated with the various products. Moreover, new programs can contribute relatively less to our gross profit in their early stages when manufacturing volumes are usually lower, resulting in inefficiencies and under-absorbed manufacturing overhead costs. In addition, a number of our new and higher volume programs remain subject to competitive constraints that could exert downward pressure on our margins. During periods of low production volume, we generally have idle capacity and reduced gross profit.

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

Selling, general and administrative expenses increased to \$90.0 million in 2012 from \$89.7 million in 2011. The increase in selling, general and administrative expenses is primarily due to higher variable compensation expenses offset by reduced overhead resulting from cost controls and lower employee related expenses. Selling, general and administrative expenses, as a percentage of sales, were 3.6% and 4.0%, respectively, for 2012 and 2011. The decrease in selling, general and administrative expenses as a percentage of sales was primarily associated with the impact of higher sales volumes in 2012.

Restructuring Charges

We recognized \$2.2 million in restructuring charges during 2012 primarily related to capacity reduction and reductions in workforce of certain facilities worldwide, primarily in Europe.

The recognition of the restructuring charges requires that we make certain judgments and estimates regarding the nature, timing and amount of costs associated with planned exit activities. To the extent our actual results in exiting these facilities differ from our estimates and assumptions, we may be required to revise the estimates of future liabilities, requiring the recognition of additional restructuring charges or the reduction of liabilities already recognized. At the end of each reporting period, we evaluate the remaining accrued balances to ensure that no excess accruals are retained and the utilization of the provisions are for their intended purpose in accordance with developed exit plans. See Note 15 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this report.

Thailand Flood Related Charges, Net of Insurance

During 2012, we recognized additional Thailand flood related charges totaling \$16.1 million offset by insurance recoveries totaling \$7.1 million in excess of previously recognized inventory and property, plant and equipment losses. During 2011, we recognized \$3.4 million in Thailand flood related charges, net of estimated insurance recoveries. The flood related charges consist of costs directly attributable to the Thailand flood, which are expected to be recovered from insurance in subsequent periods. We will record additional insurance recoveries when the appropriate recognition criteria have been met. We do not expect to incur significant additional Thailand flood related charges. See Note 16 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this report.

Income Tax Expense (Benefit)

Income tax expense of \$18.8 million represented an effective tax rate of 25.0% for 2012, compared with income tax benefit of \$10.8 million at a negative effective tax rate of 26.3% in 2011. In 2012, we recorded a \$0.5 million tax expense related to changes in tax rates in foreign jurisdictions. In 2011, we recorded a \$0.6 million tax benefit as a result of a 2010 tax rate incentive received by one of our China subsidiaries during the first quarter of 2011, a \$20.6 million tax benefit as a result of a decrease in valuation allowances on deferred tax assets, a \$2.7 million tax benefit related to the settlement of income tax audits offset by a tax expense of \$7.1 million of additional reserves for uncertain tax benefits. Excluding these tax benefits, the effective tax rate would have been 24.3% in 2012 compared to 14.7% in 2011. This increase in the effective tax rate was primarily due to a shift in the proportion of the consolidated taxable income earned in jurisdictions taxed at higher tax rates. We have been granted certain tax incentives, including tax holidays, for our subsidiaries in China, Malaysia and Thailand that will expire at various dates, unless extended or otherwise renegotiated, through 2012, 2015 and 2018, respectively, and are subject to certain conditions with which we expect to comply. See Note 8 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this report.

On January 2, 2013 the American Taxpayer Relief Act (ATRA) of 2012 was signed into law. Some of the provisions were retroactive to January 1, 2012. Had the ATRA had been enacted and signed prior to January 1, 2013 our overall tax expense would have been approximately \$ 0.8 million lower in 2012. This \$0.8 million tax benefit will be reflected in income tax expense in the first quarter of 2013 as a discreet event.

Net Income

We reported net income of approximately \$56.6 million, or \$1.00 per diluted share for 2012, compared with net income of approximately \$52.0 million, or \$0.87 per diluted share for 2011. The net increase of \$4.6 million in 2012 was due to the factors discussed above.

Year Ended December 31, 2011 Compared With Year Ended December 31, 2010

Sales

Sales for the year ended December 31, 2011 decreased 6% to \$2.3 billion compared to \$2.4 billion in 2010. This decrease was primarily due to reduced demand from customers in addition to the Thailand flood. The following table sets forth the percentages of our sales by industry for 2011 and 2010.

	2011	2010
Computers and related products for business enterprises	29 %	32 %
Industrial control equipment	29	25
Telecommunication equipment	23	23
Medical devices	9	10
Testing and instrumentation products	10	10
	100 %	100 %

During the year ended December 31, 2011, sales to customers in the medical devices industry, testing and instrumentation industry, computers and related products for business enterprises industry, and telecommunication equipment industry decreased 16%, 15%, 13% and 3%, respectively, from 2010. These decreases were partially offset by an 8% increase in sales to customers in the industrial control equipment industry during the same period.

During 2011 and 2010, 51% and 48%, respectively, of our sales were from our international operations.

We had a backlog of approximately \$1.6 billion at December 31, 2011, as compared to the 2010 year-end backlog of \$1.5 billion.

Gross Profit

Gross profit decreased 26% to \$138.8 million for 2011 from \$187.4 million in 2010. The impact on revenue and operations from the flooding in Thailand was significant in the fourth quarter of 2011. In addition to the lower sales volume and the resulting under-absorbed manufacturing overhead costs, the decrease in gross profit was also a result of \$4.4 million of settlement costs associated with the transfer of a major program, new program ramp costs and capacity expansion costs, primarily in Asia, incurred in 2011.

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

Selling, general and administrative expenses decreased 3% to \$89.7 million in 2011 from \$92.2 million in 2010 primarily due to reduced stock-based compensation expenses, decreased overhead resulting from cost controls and lower variable compensation expenses, which were partially offset by higher other employee related costs. Selling, general and administrative expenses, as a percentage of sales, were 4.0% and 3.8%, respectively, for 2011 and 2010. The increase in selling, general and administrative expenses as a percentage of sales was due to the impact of lower sales volumes during 2011.

Restructuring Charges

We recognized \$4.5 million in restructuring charges during 2011 primarily related to the decision to close our Dublin, Ireland facility.

Thailand Flood Related Charges, Net of Insurance

We recognized \$3.4 million in Thailand flood related charges, net of insurance recoveries during the fourth quarter of 2011. See Note 16 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this report.

Income Tax Expense (Benefit)

Income tax benefit of \$10.8 million represented a negative effective tax rate of 26.3% for 2011, compared with income tax expense of \$7.3 million at an effective tax rate of 8.3% for the same period in 2010. In 2011, we recorded a \$0.6 million tax benefit as a result of a 2010 tax rate incentive received by one of our China subsidiaries during the first quarter of 2011, a \$20.6 million tax benefit as a result of a decrease in valuation allowances on deferred tax assets, a \$2.7 million tax benefit related to the settlement of income tax audits offset by \$7.1 million of additional reserves for uncertain tax benefits. In 2010, we recorded a \$10.5 million tax benefit as a result of a decrease in valuation allowances on deferred tax assets in the U.S., and a \$1.4 million tax benefit as a result of the expiration of the statute of limitations primarily related to an intercompany transaction between two of our subsidiaries. Excluding these tax benefits, the effective tax rate would have been 14.7% in 2011 compared to 22.0% in 2010. This decrease in the effective tax rate was primarily due to a shift in the proportion of the consolidated taxable income earned in jurisdictions taxed at lower tax rates, an increase in tax incentives in certain foreign jurisdictions and the reduced tax rate in China for one of our subsidiaries during 2011. See Note 8 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this report.

Net Income

We reported net income of approximately \$52.0 million, or \$0.87 per diluted share for 2011, compared with net income of approximately \$79.8 million, or \$1.27 per diluted share for 2010. The net decrease of \$27.8 million in 2011 was due to the factors discussed above.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

We have historically financed our growth and operations through funds generated from operations and proceeds from the sale and maturity of our investments. Cash and cash equivalents totaled \$384.6 million at December 31, 2012 and \$283.9 million at December 31, 2011, of which \$261.2 million at December 31, 2012 and \$195.9 million at December 31, 2011 was held outside the U.S. in various foreign subsidiaries. Substantially all of the amounts held outside of the U.S. are intended to be indefinitely reinvested in foreign operations. Under current tax laws and regulations, if cash and cash equivalents held outside the U.S. were to be distributed to the U.S. in the form of dividends or otherwise, we would be subject to additional U.S. income taxes and foreign withholding taxes.

Cash provided by operating activities was \$151.1 million in 2012. The cash provided by operations during 2012 consisted primarily of net income of \$56.6 million adjusted for \$35.7 million of depreciation and amortization, a \$66.1 million decrease in inventories, and a \$32.4 decrease in prepaid expense and other assets resulting from Thailand flood insurance recoveries, offset by a \$34.4 million increase in accounts receivable and a \$21.1 million decrease in accounts payable. Working capital was \$883.7 million at December 31, 2012 and \$849.0 million at December 31, 2011. We experienced a strong demand pull from customers late in the fourth quarter of 2012 which reduced inventories and improved cash flows from operations.

We are continuing the practice of purchasing components only after customer orders or forecasts are received, which mitigates, but does not eliminate, the risk of loss on inventories. Supplies of electronic components and other materials used in operations are subject to industry-wide shortages. In certain instances, suppliers may allocate available quantities to us. If shortages of these components and other material supplies used in operations occur, vendors may not ship the quantities we need for production and we may be forced to delay shipments, which would increase backorders and therefore impact cash flows.

Cash used in investing activities was \$9.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2012 primarily due to the purchases of additional property, plant and equipment totaling \$47.9 million, offset by Thailand flood property insurance proceeds totaling \$23.4 million and proceeds from the redemptions of investments totaling \$15.8 million. Purchases of additional property, plant and equipment were primarily of machinery and equipment in the Americas and Asia.

Cash used in financing activities was \$43.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2012. During the year ended December 31, 2012, share repurchases totaled \$47.1 million and we received \$4.7 million from the exercise of stock options.

Under the terms of a credit agreement (the U.S. Credit Agreement), we have a \$200.0 million five-year revolving credit facility to be used for general corporate purposes with a maturity date of July 30, 2017. The U.S. Credit Agreement includes an accordion feature under which total commitments under the facility may be increased by an additional \$100 million, subject to satisfaction of certain conditions and lender approval. Interest on outstanding borrowings under the U.S. Credit Agreement is payable quarterly, at our option, at LIBOR plus 1.75% to 2.75% or a prime rate plus 0.75% to 1.75%, based upon our leverage ratio as specified in the U.S. Credit Agreement. A commitment fee of 0.30% to 0.40% per annum (based upon our liquidity ratio) on the unused portion of the revolving credit line is payable quarterly in arrears. As of December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, we had no borrowings outstanding under the Credit Agreement and \$200.0 million was available for future borrowings.

The U.S. Credit Agreement is secured by our domestic inventory and accounts receivable, 100% of the stock of our domestic subsidiaries and 65% of the voting capital stock of each direct foreign subsidiary and substantially all of our and our domestic subsidiaries' other tangible and intangible assets. The U.S. Credit Agreement contains customary financial covenants as to debt leverage and fixed charges, and restricts our ability to incur additional debt, pay dividends, repurchase shares, sell assets and merge or consolidate with other persons. As of December 31, 2012, we were in compliance with all such covenants and restrictions.

Our Thailand subsidiary has a multi-purpose credit facility with Kasikornbank Public Company Limited (the Thai Credit Facility) that provides for approximately \$11.3 million (350 million Thai baht) in working capital availability. The Thai Credit Facility is secured by land and buildings in Thailand. The availability of funds under the Thai Credit Facility is reviewed annually and is currently accessible through October 2013. As of December 31, 2012 and 2011,

our Thailand subsidiary had no working capital borrowings outstanding.

Our operations, and the operations of businesses we acquire, are subject to certain foreign, federal, state and local regulatory requirements relating to environmental, waste management, health and safety matters. We believe we operate in substantial compliance with all applicable requirements and we seek to ensure that newly acquired businesses comply or will comply substantially with applicable requirements. To date, the costs of compliance and workplace and environmental remediation have not been material to us. However, material costs and liabilities may arise from these requirements or from new, modified or more stringent requirements in the future. In addition, our past, current and future operations, and the operations of businesses we have or may acquire, may give rise to claims of exposure by employees or the public, or to other claims or liabilities relating to environmental, waste management or health and safety concerns.

As of December 31, 2012, we had cash and cash equivalents totaling \$384.6 million and \$200.0 million available for borrowings under the U.S. Credit Agreement. During the next twelve months, we believe our capital expenditures will be approximately \$35 million to \$45 million, principally for machinery and equipment to support our ongoing business around the globe.

On June 13, 2012, our Board of Directors approved the repurchase of up to \$100 million of our outstanding common shares (the 2012 Repurchase Program). As of December 31, 2012, we have \$88.0 million remaining under the 2012 Repurchase Program to repurchase additional shares. We are under no commitment or obligation to repurchase any particular amount of common shares. Management believes that our existing cash balances and funds generated from operations will be sufficient to permit us to meet our liquidity requirements over the next twelve months. Management further believes that our ongoing cash flows from operations and any borrowings we may incur under our credit facilities will enable us to meet operating cash requirements in future years. Should we desire to consummate significant acquisition opportunities, our capital needs would increase and could possibly result in our need to increase available borrowings under our revolving credit facility or access public or private debt and equity markets. There can be no assurance, however, that we would be successful in raising additional debt or equity on terms that we would consider acceptable.

CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

We have certain contractual obligations that extend out beyond 2013 under lease obligations and debt arrangements. Non-cancelable purchase commitments do not typically extend beyond the normal lead-time of several weeks. Purchase orders beyond this time frame are typically cancelable. We do not utilize off-balance sheet financing techniques other than traditional operating leases and we have not guaranteed the obligations of any entity that is not one of our wholly owned subsidiaries. The total contractual cash obligations in existence at December 31, 2012 due pursuant to contractual commitments are:

(in thousands)	Total	Payments due by period			
		Less than 1 year	1-3 years	3-5 years	More than 5 years
Operating lease obligations	\$25,383	\$ 6,817	\$11,347	\$4,510	\$ 2,709
Capital lease obligations	17,440	1,550	3,194	3,323	9,373
Total obligations	\$42,823	\$ 8,367	\$14,541	\$7,833	\$ 12,082

The amount of unrecognized tax benefits as of December 31, 2012 including interest and penalties was \$21.3 million. We have not provided a detailed estimate of the timing of future cash outflows associated with the liabilities recognized in this balance due to the uncertainty of when the related tax settlements may become due. See Note 8 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this report.

OFF-BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS

As of December 31, 2012, we did not have any significant off-balance sheet arrangements. See Note 10 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this report.

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

Our international sales are a significant portion of our net sales; we are exposed to risks associated with operating internationally, including the following:

- Foreign currency exchange risk;
- Import and export duties, taxes and regulatory changes;
- Inflationary economies or currencies; and
- Economic and political instability.

Additionally, some of our operations are in developing countries. Certain events, including natural disasters, can impact the infrastructure of a developing country more severely than they would impact the infrastructure of a developed country. A developing country can also take longer to recover from such events, which could lead to delays in our ability to resume full operations.

We do not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes. As of December 31, 2012, we did not have any foreign currency hedges. In the future, significant transactions involving our international operations may cause us to consider engaging in hedging transactions to attempt to mitigate our exposure to fluctuations in foreign exchange rates. These exposures are primarily, but not limited to, vendor payments and intercompany balances in currencies other than the currency in which our foreign operations primarily generate and expend cash. Our international operations in some instances operate in a natural hedge because both operating expenses and a portion of sales are denominated in local currency. Our sales are substantially denominated in U.S. dollars. Our foreign currency cash flows are generated in certain Asian and European countries, Mexico and Brazil.

We are also exposed to market risk for changes in interest rates, a portion of which relates to our invested cash balances. We do not use derivative financial instruments in our investing activities. We place cash and cash equivalents and investments with various major financial institutions. We protect our invested principal funds by limiting default risk, market risk and reinvestment risk. As of December 31, 2012, the outstanding amount in the long-term investment portfolio included \$12.2 million (par value) of auction rate securities with an average annual return of approximately 0.30%.

Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data.**BENCHMARK ELECTRONICS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES****Consolidated Balance Sheets**

(in thousands, except par value)	December 31, 2012	2011
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 384,579	\$ 283,920
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$1,442 and \$1,094, respectively	459,081	425,936
Inventories, net	324,041	391,580
Prepaid expenses and other assets	29,539	84,723
Income taxes receivable	8,062	6,667
Deferred income taxes	8,889	8,175
Total current assets	1,214,191	1,201,001
Long-term investments	10,324	24,673
Property, plant and equipment, net	176,104	163,660
Goodwill, net	37,912	37,912
Deferred income taxes	29,535	37,420
Other, net	33,411	35,332
	\$ 1,501,477	\$ 1,499,998
Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity		
Current liabilities:		
Current installments of capital lease obligations	\$ 497	\$ 419
Accounts payable	260,622	285,671
Income taxes payable	3,828	5,224
Accrued liabilities	65,568	60,636
Total current liabilities	330,515	351,950
Capital lease obligations, less current	10,103	10,600

installments		
Other long-term liabilities	19,578	21,700
Deferred income taxes	1,756	-
Shareholders' equity:		
Preferred shares, \$0.10 par value; 5,000 shares authorized, none issued	-	-
Common shares, \$0.10 par value; 145,000 shares authorized; issued – 55,297 and 57,902, respectively; outstanding – 55,186 and 57,791, respectively	5,519	5,779
Additional paid-in capital	651,148	674,498
Retained earnings	493,666	449,193
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(10,536)	(13,450)
Less treasury shares, at cost; 111 shares	(272)	(272)
Total shareholders' equity	1,139,525	1,115,748
Commitments and contingencies		
	\$ 1,501,477	\$ 1,499,998

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

BENCHMARK ELECTRONICS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**Consolidated Statements of Income**

(in thousands, except per share data)	Year ended December 31,		
	2012	2011	2010
Sales	\$2,468,150	\$2,253,030	\$2,402,143
Cost of sales	2,291,412	2,114,195	2,214,728
Gross profit	176,738	138,835	187,415
Selling, general and administrative expenses	89,951	89,665	92,245
Restructuring charges	2,200	4,515	6,724
Thailand flood related charges, net of insurance	9,028	3,362	—
Income from operations	75,559	41,293	88,446
Interest expense	(1,580)	(1,327)	(1,362)
Interest income	1,306	1,768	1,621
Other income (expense)	154	(602)	(1,689)
Income before income taxes	75,439	41,132	87,016
Income tax expense (benefit)	18,832	(10,827)	7,258
Net income	\$56,607	\$51,959	\$79,758
Earnings per share:			
Basic	\$1.01	\$0.88	\$1.28
Diluted	\$1.00	\$0.87	\$1.27
Weighted-average number of shares outstanding:			
Basic	56,320	59,284	62,141
Diluted	56,634	59,773	62,692

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

BENCHMARK ELECTRONICS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income**

(in thousands)	Year ended December 31,		
	2012	2011	2010
Net income	\$56,607	\$51,959	\$79,758
Other comprehensive income (loss):			
Foreign currency translation adjustments	993	(6,903)	(2,318)
Unrealized gain on investments, net of tax	1,476	526	536
Other	445	(111)	(187)
Comprehensive income	\$59,521	\$45,471	\$77,789

The components of accumulated other comprehensive loss are as follows:

(in thousands)	December 31,	
	2012	2011
Foreign currency translation losses	\$(8,681)	\$(9,674)
Unrealized loss on investments, net of tax	(1,851)	(3,327)
Other	(4)	(449)
	\$(10,536)	\$(13,450)

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

BENCHMARK ELECTRONICS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
Consolidated Statement of Shareholders' Equity

(in thousands)	Shares	Common shares	Additional paid-in capital	Retained earnings	Accumulated other comprehensive loss	Treasury shares	Total shareholders' equity
Balances, December 31, 2009	64,097	\$ 6,410	\$ 732,956	\$ 356,288	\$ (4,993)	\$ (272)	\$ 1,090,389
Stock-based compensation expense	-	-	5,415	-	-	-	5,415
Shares repurchased and retired	(3,320)	(332)	(35,689)	(22,834)	-	-	(58,855)
Stock options exercised	290	29	3,223	-	-	-	3,252
Issuance of restricted shares, net of forfeitures	18	2	(2)	-	-	-	-
Excess tax benefit of stock-based compensation	-	-	1,235	-	-	-	1,235
Comprehensive income	-	-	-	79,758	(1,969)	-	77,789
Balances, December 31, 2010	61,085	6,109	707,138	413,212	(6,962)	(272)	1,119,225
Stock-based compensation expense	-	-	5,097	-	-	-	5,097
Shares repurchased and retired	(3,715)	(372)	(39,931)	(15,978)	-	-	(56,281)
Stock options exercised	257	26	2,545	-	-	-	2,571
Issuance of restricted shares, net of forfeitures	164	16	(16)	-	-	-	-
Excess tax shortfall of stock-based compensation	-	-	(335)	-	-	-	(335)
Comprehensive income	-	-	-	51,959	(6,488)	-	45,471
Balances, December 31, 2011	57,791	5,779	674,498	449,193	(13,450)	(272)	1,115,748
Stock-based compensation expense	-	-	6,270	-	-	-	6,270
Shares repurchased and retired	(3,224)	(322)	(34,650)	(12,134)	-	-	(47,106)
Stock options exercised	375	38	4,619	-	-	-	4,657
Issuance of restricted shares, net of forfeitures	244	24	(24)	-	-	-	-
Excess tax benefit of stock-based compensation	-	-	435	-	-	-	435
Comprehensive income	-	-	-	56,607	2,914	-	59,521
Balances, December 31, 2012	55,186	\$ 5,519	\$ 651,148	\$ 493,666	\$ (10,536)	\$ (272)	\$ 1,139,525

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

BENCHMARK ELECTRONICS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows**

(in thousands)	Year Ended December 31,		
	2012	2011	2010
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net income	\$56,607	\$51,959	\$79,758
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	35,713	35,484	39,830
Deferred income taxes	9,064	(17,991)	280
Asset impairment	-	46,530	237
Insurance recovery	-	(56,152)	-
Loss on liquidation of subsidiary	-	-	315
Gain on the sale of property, plant and equipment	(229)	(190)	(69)
Stock-based compensation expense	6,270	5,097	5,415
Excess tax shortfall (benefits) from stock-based compensation	(76)	14	(1,176)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Accounts receivable	(34,359)	27,703	(40,190)
Inventories	66,089	(72,666)	(48,008)
Prepaid expenses and other assets	32,375	12,087	(18,480)
Accounts payable	(21,081)	28,391	(16,675)
Accrued liabilities	3,176	2,655	5,356
Income taxes	(2,402)	(8,137)	(1,427)
Net cash provided by operations	151,147	54,784	5,166
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Proceeds from sales and redemptions of investments	15,825	11,150	10,925
Additions to property, plant and equipment	(47,911)	(71,396)	(35,778)
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment	346	369	257
Additions to purchased software	(1,124)	(601)	(261)
Thailand flood property insurance proceeds	23,372	-	-
Net cash used in investing activities	(9,492)	(60,478)	(24,857)
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Proceeds from stock options exercised	4,657	2,571	3,252
Excess tax (shortfall) benefits from stock-based compensation	76	(14)	1,176
Principal payments on capital lease obligations	(419)	(363)	(300)
Share repurchases	(47,106)	(56,281)	(58,855)
Debt issuance costs	(931)	-	-
Net cash used in financing activities	(43,723)	(54,087)	(54,727)
Effect of exchange rate changes	2,727	(2,644)	(480)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	100,659	(62,425)	(74,898)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	283,920	346,345	421,243
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$384,579	\$283,920	\$346,345

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(amounts in thousands, except per share data, unless otherwise noted)

Note 1—Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Business

Benchmark Electronics, Inc. (the Company) is a Texas corporation that provides worldwide integrated electronic manufacturing services. The Company provides services to original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) of computers and related products for business enterprises, medical devices, industrial control equipment (which includes equipment for the aerospace and defense industry), testing and instrumentation products and telecommunication equipment. The Company has manufacturing operations located in the Americas, Asia and Europe.

(b) Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the financial statements of Benchmark Electronics, Inc. and its wholly owned and majority owned subsidiaries. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

(c) Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Company considers all highly liquid debt instruments with an original maturity at the date of purchase of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents of \$286.1 million and \$155.0 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively, consist primarily of money-market funds, certificates of deposit, time deposits, commercial paper and U.S. Government backed Agency securities with an initial term of less than three months.

(d) Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

Accounts receivable are recorded net of allowances for amounts not expected to be collected. In estimating the allowance, management considers a specific customer's financial condition, payment history, and various information or disclosures by the customer or other publicly available information. Accounts receivable are charged off against the allowance after all reasonable efforts to collect the full amount (including litigation, where appropriate) have been exhausted.

(e) Investments

Fair value is defined as the exchange price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. A three-tier fair value hierarchy of inputs is employed to determine fair value measurements. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets and liabilities. Level 2 inputs are observable prices that are not quoted on active exchanges, such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities; quoted prices in markets that are not active; and model-derived valuations whose inputs are observable or whose significant value drivers are observable. Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs employed for measuring the fair value of assets or liabilities. This hierarchy requires the Company to use observable market data, when available, and to minimize the use of unobservable inputs when determining fair value.

As of December 31, 2012, \$12.2 million (par value) of long-term investments were recorded at fair value. The long-term investments consist of auction rate securities, primarily secured by guaranteed student loans backed by a U.S. government agency, and are classified as available-for-sale. Auction rate securities are adjustable rate debt instruments whose interest rates were intended to reset every 7 to 35 days through an auction process. Overall changes in the global credit and capital markets led to failed auctions for these securities beginning in early 2008. These failed auctions, in addition to overall global economic conditions, impacted the liquidity of these investments and resulted in the Company continuing to hold these securities beyond their typical auction reset dates. The market for these types of securities remains illiquid as of December 31, 2012. These securities are classified as long-term investments and the contractual maturity of these securities is over ten years.

These long-term investments were valued using Level 3 inputs as of December 31, 2012, as the assets were subject to valuation using significant unobservable inputs. The Company estimated the fair value of each security with the assistance of an independent valuation firm using a discounted cash flow model to calculate the present value of projected cash flows based on a number of inputs and assumptions including the security structure and terms, the current market conditions and the related impact on the expected weighted-average life, interest rate estimates and default risk of the securities.

As of December 31, 2012, the Company has recorded an unrealized loss of \$1.9 million on the long-term investments based upon this valuation. This unrealized loss reduced the fair value of the Company's auction rate securities as of December 31, 2012 to \$10.3 million. These investments have been in an unrealized loss position for greater than 12 months. During 2012, 2011 and 2010, the Company recorded unrealized gains of \$1.5 million, \$0.5 million and \$0.5 million, respectively, on its long-term investments.

The Company conducts periodic reviews to identify and evaluate each investment that has an unrealized loss. An unrealized loss exists when the current fair value of an individual security is less than its amortized cost basis. Due to the unrealized losses on the auction rate securities held, the Company has assessed whether the calculated impairment is other-than-temporary. In performing this assessment, even though the Company has no intention to sell the securities before the amortized cost basis is recovered and believes it is more-likely-than-not that it will not be required to sell the securities prior to recovery, the Company has performed additional analyses to determine if a portion of the unrealized loss is considered a credit loss. A credit loss would be identified as the amount of the principal cash flows not expected to be received over the remaining term of the security as projected using the Company's best estimates. The Company has assessed each security for credit impairment, taking into account factors such as (i) the length of time and the extent to which fair value has been below cost; (ii) activity in the market of the issuer which may indicate adverse credit conditions; (iii) the payment structure of the security; and (iv) the failure of the issuer of the security to make scheduled payments. The Company used an independent valuation firm to assist in making these assessments.

Based on these assessments, the Company has determined that there is no credit loss associated with its auction rate securities as of December 31, 2012, as shown by the cash flows expected to be received over the remaining life of the securities.

The following table provides a reconciliation of the beginning and ending balance of the Company's auction rate securities classified as long-term investments measured at fair value using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3 inputs):

(in thousands)	2012	2011
Balance as of January 1	\$24,673	\$35,297
Net unrealized gains included in other comprehensive income	1,476	526

Sales of investments at par value	(15,825)	(11,150)
Balance as of December 31	\$10,324	\$24,673
Unrealized losses still held	\$1,851	\$3,327

The cumulative unrealized loss is included as a component of accumulated other comprehensive loss within shareholders' equity in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet. As of December 31, 2012, there were no long-term investments measured at fair value using Level 1 or Level 2 inputs. All income generated from these investments is recorded as interest income.

(f) Inventories

Inventories include material, labor and overhead and are stated at the lower of cost (principally first-in, first-out method) or market.

(g) Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost. Depreciation is calculated on the straight-line method over the useful lives of the assets – 5 to 40 years for buildings and building improvements, 2 to 10 years for machinery and equipment, 2 to 10 years for furniture and fixtures and 2 to 5 years for vehicles. Leasehold improvements are amortized on the straight-line method over the shorter of the useful life of the improvement or the remainder of the lease term.

(h) Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

Goodwill represents the excess of purchase price over fair value of net assets acquired. Goodwill and intangible assets acquired in a business combination and determined to have an indefinite useful life are not amortized, but instead assessed for impairment at least annually. Intangible assets with estimable useful lives are amortized over their respective estimated useful lives to their estimated residual values.

(i) Impairment of Long-Lived Assets and Goodwill

Long-lived assets, such as property, plant, and equipment, and purchased intangibles subject to amortization, are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is evaluated by a comparison of the carrying amount of an asset to estimated undiscounted future cash flows expected to be generated by the asset. If the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its estimated undiscounted future cash flows, an impairment charge is recognized by the amount by which the carrying amount of the asset exceeds the estimated fair value of the asset. Assets to be disposed of would be separately disclosed and reported at the lower of the carrying amount or estimated fair value less costs to sell, and are no longer depreciated. The assets and liabilities of a disposed group classified as held for sale would be disclosed separately in the appropriate asset and liability sections of the balance sheet.

In September 2011, the Financial Accounts Standards Board (FASB) issued an accounting standards update that gives an entity the option to perform a qualitative assessment to determine whether or not it is required to calculate the fair value of a reporting unit. Based on this qualitative assessment, if the entity determines that it is not more likely than not that the reporting unit's fair value is less than its carrying value, then the entity is not required to perform the two-step goodwill impairment test. Effective January 1, 2012, the Company adopted the provisions of this update and, in connection with its annual goodwill impairment assessment as of December 31, 2012, concluded that goodwill was not impaired. The Company will continue to perform this qualitative assessment for goodwill impairment on an annual basis, at a minimum, and whenever events and changes in circumstances suggest that the carrying amount may be impaired. Circumstances that may lead to the impairment of goodwill include unforeseen decreases in future performance or industry demand or the restructuring of our operations as a result of a change in our business strategy.

The Company completed the annual two-step goodwill impairment test as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 and determined that goodwill was not impaired.

(j) Earnings Per Share

Basic earnings per share is computed using the weighted-average number of shares outstanding. Diluted earnings per share is computed using the weighted-average number of shares outstanding adjusted for the incremental shares attributed to outstanding stock equivalents during the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010. Stock equivalents include common shares issuable upon the exercise of stock options and other equity instruments, and are computed using the treasury stock method. Under the treasury stock method, the exercise price of a share, the amount of compensation cost, if any, for future service that the Company has not yet recognized, and the amount of estimated tax benefits that would be recorded in paid-in-capital, if any, when the share is exercised are assumed to be used to repurchase shares in the current period.

The following table sets forth the calculation of basic and diluted earnings per share.

(in thousands, except per share data)	Year Ended December 31,		
	2012	2011	2010
Net income	\$56,607	\$51,959	\$79,758
Denominator for basic earnings per share – weighted- average number of common shares outstanding during the period	56,320	59,284	62,141
Incremental common shares attributable to exercise of outstanding dilutive options	150	270	455
Incremental common shares attributable to outstanding restricted shares, restricted stock units and phantom stock	164	219	96
Denominator for diluted earnings per share	56,634	59,773	62,692
Basic earnings per share	\$1.01	\$0.88	\$1.28
Diluted earnings per share	\$1.00	\$0.87	\$1.27

Options to purchase 3.7 million, 3.4 million and 2.7 million common shares in 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively, were not included in the computation of diluted earnings per share because their effect would have been anti-dilutive.

(k) Revenue Recognition

Revenue from the sale of manufactured products built to customer specifications and excess inventory is recognized when title and risk of ownership have passed, the price to the buyer is fixed and determinable and recoverability is reasonably assured, which generally is when the goods are shipped. To a lesser extent, the Company also derives revenue from non-manufacturing services, such as product design, circuit board layout and test development. Revenue from design, development and engineering services is recognized when the services are performed and collectibility is reasonably certain. Such services provided under fixed price contracts are accounted for using the percentage of

completion method. The Company assumes no significant obligations after shipment as the Company typically warrants workmanship only. Based on historical experience, the warranty provision is immaterial.

(I) Income Taxes

Income taxes are accounted for under the asset and liability method. Deferred income taxes are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred taxes of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date. The Company records a valuation allowance to reduce its deferred tax assets to the amounts that is more likely than not to be realized. The Company has considered the scheduled reversal of deferred tax liabilities, projected future taxable income and tax planning strategies in assessing the need for the valuation allowance.

(m) Stock-Based Compensation

All share-based payments to employees, including grants of employee stock options, are recognized in the financial statements based on their fair values. The total compensation cost recognized for stock-based awards was \$6.3 million, \$5.1 million and \$5.4 million for 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The total income tax benefit recognized in the income statement for stock-based awards was \$2.1 million, \$1.7 million and \$1.9 million for 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The compensation expense for stock-based awards includes an estimate for forfeitures and is recognized over the vesting period of the awards using the straight-line method. Cash flows from the tax benefits resulting from tax deductions in excess of the compensation cost recognized for stock-based awards (excess tax benefits) are classified as cash flows from financing activities. Awards of restricted shares, restricted stock units, performance restricted stock units and phantom stock are valued at the closing market price of the Company's common shares on the date of grant. For restricted stock unit awards with performance conditions, compensation expense is based on the probability that the performance goals will be achieved, which is monitored by management throughout the requisite service period. If it becomes probable, based on the Company's expectation of performance during the measurement period, that more or less than the previous estimate of the awarded shares will vest, an adjustment to stock-based compensation expense will be recognized as a change in accounting estimate.

As of December 31, 2012, there was approximately \$4.2 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to nonvested stock options. That cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.0 years. As of December 31, 2012, there was \$4.5 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to restricted share awards. That cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.7 years. As of December 31, 2012, there was \$1.3 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to restricted stock units and phantom stock awards. That cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.2 years. As of December 31, 2012, there was \$2.2 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to performance based restricted stock units. That cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.8 years.

During the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, the Company issued 0.4 million, 0.4 million and 61 thousand options, respectively. The fair value of each option grant is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. The weighted-average assumptions used to value the option grants during the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 were as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2012		2011		2010	
Stock Options						
Expected term of options	6.3 years		6.2 years		7.0 years	
Expected volatility	42	%	41	%	40	%
Risk-free interest rate	1.305	%	2.674	%	2.94	%
Dividend yield	zero		zero		zero	

The expected term of the options represents the estimated period of time until exercise and is based on historical experience, giving consideration to the contractual terms, vesting schedules and expectations of future plan participant behavior. Separate groups of plan participants that have similar historical exercise behavior are considered separately for valuation purposes. Expected stock price volatility is based on the historical volatility of the Company's common shares. The risk-free interest rate is based on the U.S. Treasury zero-coupon rates in effect at the time of grant with an equivalent remaining term. The dividend yield reflects that the Company has not paid any cash dividends since inception and does not anticipate paying cash dividends in the foreseeable future.

The weighted-average fair value per option granted during the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 was \$6.83, \$8.14 and \$9.03, respectively. The total cash received as a result of stock option exercises for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 was approximately \$4.7 million, \$2.6 million and \$3.3 million, respectively. The actual tax benefit realized as a result of stock option exercises and the vesting of other share-based awards during 2012, 2011 and 2010 was \$1.3 million, \$0.9 million and \$1.3 million, respectively. For the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, the total intrinsic value of stock options exercised was \$1.4 million, \$1.4 million and \$2.1 million, respectively.

The Company issued performance based restricted stock unit awards to employees during 2012 and 2011. The number of performance based restricted stock unit awards that will ultimately be earned will not be determined until the end of the performance periods, which are December 31, 2014 and 2015, and may vary from as low as zero to as high as three times the target number depending on the level of achievement of certain performance goals. The level of achievement of these goals is based upon the audited financial results of the Company for the last full calendar year within the performance period (the years ending December 31, 2014 and 2015). The performance goals consist of certain levels of achievement using the following financial metrics: revenue growth, operating income margin expansion, and return on invested capital. If the performance goals are not met based on the Company's financial results, the applicable performance based restricted stock unit awards will not vest and will be forfeited.

(n) Use of Estimates

Management of the Company has made a number of estimates and assumptions relating to the reporting of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities to prepare these financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

(o) Fair Values of Financial Instruments

The Company's financial instruments consist of cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accrued liabilities, accounts payable and capital lease obligations. The Company believes that the carrying value of these instruments approximate

their fair value. As of December 31, 2012, the Company's long-term investments are recorded at fair value. See Note 10.

(p) Foreign Currency

For foreign subsidiaries using the local currency as their functional currency, assets and liabilities are translated at exchange rates in effect at the balance sheet date and income and expenses are translated at average exchange rates. The effects of these translation adjustments are reported in other comprehensive income. Exchange losses arising from transactions denominated in a currency other than the functional currency of the entity involved are included in other expense and totaled approximately \$1.2 million, \$1.5 million and \$2.4 million in 2012, 2011, and 2010, respectively.

(q) Recently Enacted Accounting Principles

In December 2011, the FASB issued an amendment to disclosures about offsetting assets and liabilities. The amended standard requires an entity to disclose information about offsetting and related arrangements to enable users of its financial statements to understand the effect of those arrangements on its financial position. An entity is required to apply the amendments for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2013, and interim periods within those annual periods. An entity should provide the disclosures required by those amendments retrospectively for all comparative periods presented. The Company will adopt the provisions of this guidance effective January 1, 2013. Adoption of this guidance is for disclosure purposes only and will not have any impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

The Company has determined that all other recently issued accounting standards will not have a material impact on its consolidated financial position, results of operations and cash flows, or do not apply to its operations.

Note 2—Inventories

Inventory costs are summarized as follows:

	December 31,	
(in thousands)	2012	2011
Raw materials	\$213,027	\$293,618
Work in process	67,221	71,574
Finished goods	43,793	26,388
	\$324,041	\$391,580

Note 3—Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment consists of the following:

	December 31,	
(in thousands)	2012	2011
Land	\$6,172	\$6,172
Buildings and building improvements	85,668	79,420
Machinery and equipment	390,237	363,803
Furniture and fixtures	6,799	7,351
Vehicles	893	784
Leasehold improvements	14,200	17,708
Construction in progress	2,147	1,405
	506,116	476,643
Less accumulated depreciation	(330,012)	(312,983)
	\$176,104	\$163,660

Note 4—Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

Goodwill associated with the Company's Asia business segment totaled \$37.9 million at December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010.

Other assets consist primarily of acquired identifiable intangible assets, capitalized purchased software costs and assets held for sale. Other intangible assets as of December 31, 2012 and 2011 were as follows:

(in thousands)	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Amount
Customer relationships	\$ 17,793	\$ (10,702)	\$ 7,091
Technology licenses	11,300	(7,880)	3,420
Other	868	(142)	726
Other intangible assets, December 31, 2012	\$ 29,961	\$ (18,724)	\$ 11,237

(in thousands)	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Amount
Customer relationships	\$ 17,763	\$ (8,916)	\$ 8,847
Technology licenses	11,300	(6,974)	4,326
Other	868	(118)	750
Other intangible assets, December 31, 2011	\$ 29,931	\$ (16,008)	\$ 13,923

Customer relationships are being amortized on a straight-line basis over a period of ten years. Technology licenses are being amortized over their estimated useful lives in proportion to the economic benefits consumed. Amortization of other intangible assets for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 was \$2.7 million, \$4.6 million and \$4.2 million, respectively.

The estimated future amortization expense of other intangible assets for each of the next five years is as follows (in thousands):

Year ending December 31,	Amount
2013	\$ 2,573
2014	2,573
2015	2,573

2016	2,512
2017	399

During 2012, 2011 and 2010, \$1.1 million, \$0.6 million and \$0.3 million, respectively, of purchased software costs were capitalized. As of December 31, 2012 and 2011, purchased software, net of accumulated amortization totaled \$1.9 million and \$1.9 million, respectively. The accumulated amortization of purchased software costs at December 31, 2012 and 2011 was \$24.1 million and \$24.1 million, respectively. Capitalized purchased software costs are amortized straight-line over the estimated useful life of the related software, which ranges from 3 to 7 years.

As of both December 31, 2012 and 2011, the Company had an asset held for sale in other assets with a net book value of \$8.9 million. This asset is a manufacturing facility in Tianjin, China acquired in an acquisition and is available for immediate sale. During 2008, the Company committed to a plan to divest its Tianjin facility.

Note 5—Borrowing Facilities

Under the terms of a credit agreement (the U.S. Credit Agreement), the Company has a \$200 million five-year revolving credit facility for general corporate purposes with a maturity date of July 30, 2017. The U.S. Credit Agreement includes an accordion feature under which total commitments under the facility may be increased by an additional \$100 million, subject to satisfaction of certain conditions and lender approval.

Interest on outstanding borrowings under the U.S. Credit Agreement is payable quarterly, at the Company's option, at either LIBOR plus 1.75% to 2.75% or a prime rate plus 0.75% to 1.75%, based upon the Company's leverage ratio as specified in the U.S. Credit Agreement. A commitment fee of 0.30% to 0.40% per annum (based upon the Company's liquidity ratio as specified in the U.S. Credit Agreement) on the unused portion of the revolving credit line is payable quarterly in arrears. As of December 31, 2012 and 2011, the Company had no borrowings outstanding under the U.S. Credit Agreement and \$200 million was available for future borrowings.

The U.S. Credit Agreement is secured by the Company's domestic inventory and accounts receivable, 100% of the stock of the Company's domestic subsidiaries and 65% of the voting capital stock of each direct foreign subsidiary and substantially all of the other tangible and intangible assets of the Company and its domestic subsidiaries. The U.S. Credit Agreement contains customary financial covenants as to debt leverage and fixed charges, and restricts our ability to incur additional debt, pay dividends, repurchase shares, sell assets and merge or consolidate with other persons. As of December 31, 2012, the Company was in compliance with all such covenants and restrictions.

The Company's Thailand subsidiary has a multi-purpose credit facility with Kasikornbank Public Company Limited (the Thai Credit Facility) that provides for approximately \$11.3 million (350 million Thai baht) in working capital availability. The Thai Credit Facility is secured by land and buildings in Thailand. Availability of funds under the Thai Credit Facility is reviewed annually and is currently accessible through October 2013. As of December 31, 2012 and 2011, the Company's Thailand subsidiary had no working capital borrowings outstanding.

Note 6—Commitments

The Company leases certain manufacturing equipment, office equipment, vehicles and office, warehouse and manufacturing facilities under operating leases. Some of the leases provide for escalation of the lease payments as maintenance costs and taxes increase. The leases expire at various times through 2020. Leases for office space and manufacturing facilities generally contain renewal options. Rental expense for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 was \$9.1 million, \$10.3 million and \$11.0 million, respectively.

The Company is obligated under a capital lease that expires in 2023. As of December 31, 2012, property, plant and equipment include the following amounts under capital leases (in thousands):

Buildings and building improvements	\$12,207
Less accumulated depreciation	(4,507)
	\$7,700

Capital lease obligations outstanding consist of the following:

	December 31,	
(in thousands)	2012	2011
Capital lease obligations	\$10,600	\$11,019
Less current installments	497	419
Capital lease obligations, less current installments	\$10,103	\$10,600

Future minimum lease payments under noncancelable operating leases and future minimum capital lease payments are as follows (in thousands):

Year ending December 31,	Capital Leases	Operating Leases
2013	\$1,550	\$6,817
2014	1,581	5,855
2015	1,613	5,492
2016	1,645	3,644
2017	1,678	866
Thereafter	9,373	2,709
Total minimum lease payments	\$17,440	\$25,383
Less: amount representing interest	6,840	
Present value of minimum lease payments	10,600	
Less: current installments	497	
Capital lease obligations, less current installments	\$10,103	

The Company enters into contractual commitments to deliver products and services in the ordinary course of business. The Company believes that all such contractual commitments will be performed or renegotiated such that no material adverse financial impact on the Company's financial position, results of operations or liquidity will result from these commitments.

Note 7—Common Shares and Stock-Based Awards Plans

On October 12, 2012, the Company completed the repurchase of 6.7 million of its common shares under the \$100 million share repurchase program approved by the Board of Directors on March 3, 2010. On June 13, 2012, the Board of Directors approved the additional repurchase of up to \$100 million of the Company's outstanding common shares (the 2012 Repurchase Program). As of December 31, 2012, the Company has \$88.0 million remaining under the 2012 Repurchase Program to repurchase additional shares.

Share purchases may be made in the open market, in privately negotiated transactions or block transactions, at the discretion of the Company's management and as market conditions warrant. Purchases will be funded from available cash and may be commenced, suspended or discontinued at any time without prior notice. Shares repurchased under the program will be retired. During 2012, the Company repurchased a total of 3.2 million common shares for \$47.1 million at an average price of \$14.59 per share. During 2011, the Company repurchased a total of 3.7 million common shares for \$56.3 million at an average price of \$15.13 per share. During 2010, the Company repurchased a total of 3.3 million common shares for \$58.9 million at an average price of \$17.70 per share.

The Benchmark Electronics, Inc. 2000 Stock Awards Plan (the 2000 Plan) and the Benchmark Electronics, Inc. 2010 Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan (the 2010 Plan) authorize the Company, upon recommendation of the compensation committee of the Board of Directors, to grant a variety of types of awards, including stock options, restricted shares, restricted stock units, stock appreciation rights, performance compensation awards, phantom stock awards and deferred share units, or any combination thereof, to any director, officer, employee or consultant (including any prospective director, officer, employee or consultant) of the Company. Stock options are granted to employees with an exercise price equal to the market price of the Company's common shares on the date of grant, generally vest over a four-year period from the date of grant and have a term of ten years. Restricted shares, restricted stock units and phantom stock awards granted to employees generally vest over a four-year period from the date of grant, subject to the continued employment of the employee by the Company. The 2000 Plan expired on February 16, 2010 and no additional grants can be made under that plan. The 2010 Plan was approved by the Company's shareholders on May 18, 2010 and replaced the 2000 Plan. Members of the Board of Directors who are not employees of the Company hold awards under the Benchmark Electronics, Inc. 2002 Stock Option Plan for Non-Employee Directors (the 2002 Plan). Stock options were granted pursuant to the 2002 Plan upon the occurrence of the non-employee director's election or re-election to the Board of Directors. All awards under the 2002 Plan were fully vested upon the date of grant and have a term of ten years. The 2002 Plan was approved by the Company's shareholders on May 14, 2002 and expired February 26, 2012. No additional grants may be made under the 2002 Plan. Non-employee directors are currently eligible to receive equity awards under the 2010 Plan. Beginning in 2011, awards under the 2010 Plan to non-employee directors were in the form of restricted stock units, which vest in equal quarterly installments over a one-year period, starting from the grant date. As of December 31, 2012, 3.0 million additional common shares are available for issuance under the Company's existing plans.

The following table summarizes the activities relating to the Company's stock options:

	Number of	Weighted-	Weighted-	Aggregate
(in thousands, except per share data)	Options	Exercise	Average Remaining Contractual Term (Years)	Intrinsic Value
Outstanding at December 31, 2009	5,531	\$ 19.20		
Granted	61	19.41		
Exercised	(290)	11.21		
Forfeited or expired	(477)	24.32		
Outstanding at December 31, 2010	4,825	19.18		
Granted	399	18.56		
Exercised	(257)	9.98		

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Forfeited or expired	(442)	18.74		
Outstanding at December 31, 2011	4,525		19.69		
Granted	432		15.77		
Exercised	(375)	12.42		
Forfeited or expired	(342)	20.42		
Outstanding at December 31, 2012	4,240		\$ 19.88	4.75	\$ 2,601
Exercisable at December 31, 2012	3,517		\$ 20.46	3.96	\$ 2,251

The aggregate intrinsic value in the table above is before income taxes and is calculated as the difference between the exercise price of the underlying options and the Company's closing stock price as of the last business day of the year ended December 31, 2012 for options that had exercise prices that were below the closing price.

At December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, the number of options exercisable was 3.5 million, 3.7 million and 3.6 million, respectively, and the weighted-average exercise price of those options was \$20.46, \$20.32 and \$20.40, respectively.

The following table summarizes the activities relating to the Company's restricted shares:

(in thousands, except per share data)	Shares	Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value
Outstanding at December 31, 2009	290	\$ 16.67
Vested	(105)	15.81
Forfeited	(7)	17.02
Outstanding at December 31, 2010	178	17.17
Granted	195	18.57
Vested	(66)	16.66
Forfeited	(63)	17.92
Outstanding at December 31, 2011	244	18.23
Granted	209	15.56
Vested	(87)	17.57
Forfeited	(26)	17.49
Outstanding at December 31, 2012	340	\$ 16.81

The following table summarizes the activities relating to the Company's time based restricted stock units and phantom stock awards:

(in thousands, except per share data)	Shares	Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value
Outstanding at December 31, 2009	81	\$ 16.50
Vested	(26)	15.33
Forfeited	(8)	17.04
Outstanding at December 31, 2010	47	17.05
Granted	86	17.77
Vested	(32)	16.66
Forfeited	(18)	17.37
Outstanding at December 31, 2011	83	17.88
Granted	95	15.50
Vested	(61)	16.35

Forfeited	(14)	17.07
Outstanding at December 31, 2012	103	\$ 16.70

The following table summarizes the activities related to the Company's performance based restricted stock unit awards:

(in thousands, except per share data)	Shares	Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value
Outstanding at December 31, 2010	-	\$ -
Granted ⁽¹⁾	93	18.57
Forfeited	(25)	18.57
Outstanding at December 31, 2011	68	18.57
Granted ⁽¹⁾	103	15.11
Forfeited	(7)	18.57
Outstanding at December 31, 2012	164	\$ 16.39

⁽¹⁾ Represents target number of shares that can vest based on the achievement of certain performance criteria

Note 8—Income Taxes

Income tax expense (benefit) based on income before income taxes consists of:

(in thousands)	Year Ended December 31,		
	2012	2011	2010
Current:			
U.S. Federal	\$776	\$75	\$300
State and local	640	86	948
Foreign	8,352	7,003	5,730
	9,768	7,164	6,978
Deferred:			
U.S. Federal	9,914	(16,963)	(407)
State and local	1,560	442	(52)
Foreign	(2,410)	(1,470)	739
	9,064	(17,991)	280
	\$18,832	\$(10,827)	\$7,258

Worldwide income before income taxes consisted of the following:

(in thousands)	Year Ended December 31,		
	2012	2011	2010
United States	\$27,538	\$5,405	\$27,650
Foreign	47,901	35,727	59,366
	\$75,439	\$41,132	\$87,016

Income tax expense (benefit) differed from the amounts computed by applying the U.S. Federal statutory income tax rate to income before income taxes as a result of the following:

(in thousands)	Year Ended December 31,		
	2012	2011	2010
Tax at statutory rate	\$26,404	\$14,396	\$30,456
State taxes, net of federal tax effect	2,012	343	582
Effect of foreign operations and tax incentives	(11,710)	(12,442)	(13,021)
Valuation allowance	(44)	(23,674)	(10,657)
Thailand reserve for uncertain tax benefits	-	7,056	-
Settlement of foreign tax audits	-	(2,710)	-
Intercompany transactions	-	2,801	(1,321)
Losses in foreign jurisdictions for which no benefit has been provided	927	3,068	63
Other	1,243	335	1,156
Total income tax expense (benefit)	\$18,832	\$(10,827)	\$7,258

The tax effects of temporary differences that give rise to significant portions of the deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities are presented below:

(in thousands)	December 31,	
	2012	2011
Deferred tax assets:		
Carrying value of inventories	\$2,786	\$2,240
Accrued liabilities and allowances deductible for tax purposes on a cash basis	8,956	5,367
Goodwill	10,526	14,397
Stock-based compensation	8,251	7,398
Net operating loss carryforwards	39,670	49,561
Tax credit carryforwards	5,848	5,400
Other	7,564	9,850
	83,601	94,213
Less: valuation allowance	(41,858)	(42,524)
Net deferred tax assets	41,743	51,689
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Plant and equipment, due to differences in depreciation	(3,887)	(4,586)
Other	(1,188)	(1,508)
Gross deferred tax liability	(5,075)	(6,094)
Net deferred tax asset	\$36,668	\$45,595
Recorded as:		
Current deferred tax assets	\$8,889	\$8,175
Non-current deferred tax assets	29,535	37,420
Non-current deferred tax liabilities	(1,756)	-
Net deferred tax asset	\$36,668	\$45,595

The net change in the total valuation allowance for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 was a decrease of \$0.7 million, \$19.3 million and \$11.1 million, respectively. In assessing the realizability of deferred tax assets, management considers whether it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. The ultimate realization of deferred tax assets is dependent upon the generation of future taxable income during the periods in which those temporary differences become deductible. Management considers the scheduled reversal of deferred tax liabilities, projected future taxable income and tax planning strategies in making this assessment. Based upon the level of historical taxable income and projections for future taxable income over the periods which the deferred tax assets are deductible, management believes it is more likely than not the Company will realize the benefits of these deductible differences, net of the existing valuation allowances as of December 31, 2012. During 2011, the Company evaluated the recoverability of its deferred tax assets using the criteria described above and concluded that the Company's projected future taxable income in the U.S. is sufficient to utilize additional net operating loss carryforwards and other deferred tax assets. As a result, the Company reduced its valuation allowance by \$19.1 million in the U.S. During 2010, the valuation allowance on U.S. net deferred tax assets was reduced by \$10.5 million as a result of utilizing U.S. net operating losses and other deferred tax assets during the year.

As of December 31, 2012, the Company had \$76.0 million in U.S. Federal operating loss carryforwards which will expire from 2022 to 2031, state operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$90.4 million which will expire from 2017 to 2031, foreign operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$37.1 million with indefinite carryforward periods, and foreign operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$6.7 million which will expire at varying dates through 2021. The utilization of these net operating loss carryforwards is limited to the future operations of the Company in the tax jurisdictions in which such carryforwards arose. The Company has U.S. federal tax credit carryforwards of \$4.2 million which will expire at varying dates through 2031. The Company has state tax credit carryforwards of \$1.7 million which will expire at varying dates through 2027.

Cumulative undistributed earnings of certain foreign subsidiaries amounted to approximately \$534 million as of December 31, 2012. The Company considers earnings from foreign subsidiaries to be indefinitely reinvested and, accordingly, no provision for U.S. federal and state income taxes has been made for these earnings. Upon distribution of foreign subsidiary earnings in the form of dividends or otherwise, such distributed earnings would be reportable for U.S. income tax purposes (subject to adjustment for foreign tax credits). Determination of the amount of any unrecognized deferred tax liability on these undistributed earnings is not practical.

The Company has been granted certain tax incentives, including tax holidays, for its subsidiaries in China, Malaysia and Thailand that will expire at various dates, unless extended or otherwise renegotiated, through 2012, 2015 and 2018, respectively, and are subject to certain conditions with which the Company expects to comply. The net impact of these tax incentives was to lower income tax expense for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011, and 2010 by approximately \$8.0 million (approximately \$0.14 per diluted share), \$10.5 million (approximately \$0.18 per diluted share) and \$8.7 million (approximately \$0.14 per diluted share), respectively, as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,		
(in thousands)	2012	2011	2010
China	\$2,449	\$1,474	\$498
Malaysia	992	-	696
Thailand	4,594	9,036	7,490
	\$8,035	\$10,510	\$8,684

The Company must determine whether it is “more-likely-than-not” that a tax position will be sustained upon examination, including resolution of any related appeals or litigation processes, based on the technical merits of the position. Once it is determined that a position meets the more-likely-than-not recognition threshold, the position is measured to determine the amount of benefit to recognize in the financial statements. As of December 31, 2012, the total amount of the reserve for uncertain tax benefits including interest and penalties is \$21.3 million. A reconciliation of the beginning and ending amount of unrecognized tax benefits, excluding interest and penalties, is as follows:

(in thousands)	December 31,		
	2012	2011	2010
Balance as of January 1	\$18,091	\$14,759	\$16,036
Additions related to prior year tax positions	141	7,056	120
Decreases related to prior year tax positions	(162)	(3,724)	-
Decreases as a result of a lapse of the applicable statute of limitations in current year	-	-	(1,397)
Balance as of December 31	\$18,070	\$18,091	\$14,759

The increase in the total amount of unrecognized tax benefits reserve during 2011 is primarily the result of recording an income tax reserve against an income tax receivable that the Company had previously recorded for a subsidiary in Thailand offset by a decrease in the unrecognized tax benefits reserve for a settlement of income tax audits outside the United States. The decreases in the unrecognized tax benefits reserve during 2010 are primarily the result of the expiration of the statute of limitations for worthless stock deductions and intercompany transactions.

The reserve is classified as a current or long-term liability in the consolidated balance sheet based on the Company's expectation of when the items will be settled. The Company records interest expense and penalties accrued in relation to uncertain income tax benefits as a component of current income tax expense. The total amount of interest and penalties included in income tax expense during the year ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 was \$0.0 million, \$(0.2) million and \$(0.3) million, respectively. The amount of accrued potential interest and penalties on unrecognized tax benefits included in the reserve as of December 31, 2012 is \$1.6 million and \$1.6 million, respectively. A subsidiary of the Company in Thailand has filed for a refund of \$8.4 million of previously paid income taxes applicable to the years 2004 and 2005, which is included in other assets. The Thailand tax authorities have conducted an initial examination of the applicable refund filings. The Company received official notification that the tax authorities have rejected its refund claim during the fourth quarter of 2012. The Company has filed an appeal of the rejected refund claim as management believes that the conclusions of the Thailand tax authorities are incorrect. During 2011, the Company recorded a reserve for uncertain benefits of \$7.1 million against this refund claim.

The Company and its subsidiaries in Brazil, China, Ireland, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, Romania, Singapore, Thailand and the United States remain open to examination by the various local taxing authorities, in total or in part, for fiscal years 2004 to 2012.

The Company is subject to examination by tax authorities for varying periods in various U.S. and foreign tax jurisdictions. During the course of such examinations disputes occur as to matters of fact and/or law. Also, in most tax jurisdictions the passage of time without examination will result in the expiration of applicable statutes of limitations thereby precluding the taxing authority from conducting an examination of the tax period(s) for which such statute of limitation has expired. The Company believes that it has adequately provided for its tax liabilities.

Note 9—Major Customers

The Company's customers operate in industries that are, to a varying extent, subject to rapid technological change, vigorous competition and short product life cycles. Developments adverse to the electronics industry, the Company's customers or their products could impact the Company's overall credit risk.

The Company extends credit based on evaluation of its customers' financial condition and generally does not require collateral or other security from its customers and would incur a loss equal to the carrying value of the accounts receivable if its customer failed to perform according to the terms of the credit arrangement.

Sales to the ten largest customers represented 56%, 53% and 47% of total sales for 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Sales to our largest customer were as follows for the indicated periods:

(in thousands)	Year ended December 31,		
	2012	2011	2010
International Business Machines Corporation	\$506,126	\$319,411	\$ *

* amount is less than 10% of total sales

Note 10—Financial Instruments and Concentration of Credit Risk

The carrying amounts of cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accrued liabilities, accounts payable and capital lease obligations approximate fair value. As of December 31, 2012, the Company's investments are recorded at fair value. See Note 1(e). As of December 31, 2012, the Company had no significant off-balance sheet concentrations of credit risk such as foreign currency exchange contracts or other hedging arrangements. Financial instruments that subject the Company to credit risk consist of cash and cash equivalents, investments and trade accounts receivable. Management maintains the majority of the Company's cash and cash equivalents with financial institutions. One of the most significant credit risks is the ultimate realization of accounts receivable. This risk is mitigated by (i) sales to well established companies, (ii) ongoing credit evaluation of customers, and (iii) frequent contact with customers, thus enabling management to monitor current changes in business operations and to respond accordingly. Management considers these concentrations of credit risks in establishing our allowance for doubtful accounts and believes these allowances are adequate. The Company's largest customer represented approximately 23% and 21% of its gross accounts receivable as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

Note 11—Concentrations of Business Risk

Substantially all of the Company's sales are derived from manufacturing services in which the Company purchases components specified by its customers. The Company uses numerous suppliers of electronic components and other materials for its operations. Some components used by the Company have been subject to industry-wide shortages, and suppliers have been forced to allocate available quantities among their customers. The Company's inability to obtain any needed components during periods of allocation could cause delays in manufacturing and could adversely affect results of operations.

Note 12—Segment and Geographic Information

The Company has manufacturing facilities in the Americas, Asia and Europe to serve its customers. The Company is operated and managed geographically, and management evaluates performance and allocates the Company's resources on a geographic basis. Intersegment sales are generally recorded at prices that approximate arm's length transactions. Operating segments' measure of profitability is based on income from operations. The accounting policies for the reportable operating segments are the same as for the Company taken as a whole. The Company has three reportable operating segments: the Americas, Asia, and Europe. Information about operating segments was as follows:

(in thousands)	Year Ended December 31,		
	2012	2011	2010
Net sales:			
Americas	\$1,440,298	\$1,360,943	\$1,538,034
Asia	978,093	867,008	864,627
Europe	139,684	166,730	164,196
Elimination of intersegment sales	(89,925)	(141,651)	(164,714)
	\$2,468,150	\$2,253,030	\$2,402,143
Depreciation and amortization:			
Americas	\$14,755	\$16,670	\$20,031
Asia	15,180	12,859	13,444
Europe	2,544	2,664	2,913
Corporate	3,234	3,291	3,442
	\$35,713	\$35,484	\$39,830
Income from operations:			
Americas	\$60,320	\$46,170	\$64,632
Asia	51,978	30,804	57,721
Europe	1,117	7	3,488
Corporate and intersegment eliminations	(37,856)	(35,688)	(37,395)
	\$75,559	\$41,293	\$88,446
Capital expenditures:			
Americas	\$19,437	\$18,008	\$18,486
Asia	25,636	47,413	14,283
Europe	2,274	4,592	2,233
Corporate	1,688	1,984	1,036
	\$49,035	\$71,997	\$36,038
Total assets:			
Americas	\$569,212	\$650,998	\$583,724
Asia	636,481	610,596	515,414
Europe	200,563	197,132	243,872
Corporate and other	95,221	41,272	134,058
	\$1,501,477	\$1,499,998	\$1,477,068

Geographic net sales information provided below reflects the destination of the product shipped. Long-lived assets information is based on the physical location of the asset.

(in thousands)	Year Ended December 31,		
	2012	2011	2010
Geographic net sales:			
United States	\$1,739,794	\$1,518,940	\$1,764,544
Asia	398,890	346,267	216,599
Europe	273,560	333,781	367,599
Other	55,906	54,042	53,401
	\$2,468,150	\$2,253,030	\$2,402,143
Long-lived assets:			
United States	\$76,216	\$70,756	\$72,386
Asia	107,151	98,675	67,365
Europe	10,948	11,817	9,785
Other	15,200	17,744	16,237
	\$209,515	\$198,992	\$165,773

Note 13—Employee Benefit Plans

The Company has a defined contribution plan qualified under Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code for the benefit of all its U.S. employees. Under the provisions of the plan, the Company will match a portion of each participant's contribution upon completion of one year of service. The Company may also make discretionary contributions to the plan. During 2012, 2011 and 2010, the Company made contributions to the plan of approximately \$3.5 million, \$3.5 million and \$3.5 million, respectively. The Company also has defined contribution benefit plans for certain of its international employees primarily dictated by the custom of the regions in which it operates. During 2012, 2011 and 2010, the Company made contributions to the international plans of approximately \$0.1 million, \$0.3 million and \$0.3 million, respectively.

Note 14—Contingencies

The Company is involved in various legal actions arising in the ordinary course of business. In the opinion of management, the ultimate disposition of these other matters will not have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial position or results of operations.

Note 15—Restructuring Charges

The Company has undertaken initiatives to restructure its business operations with the intention of improving utilization and realizing cost savings in the future. These initiatives have included changing the number and location of production facilities, largely to align capacity and infrastructure with current and anticipated customer demand. This alignment includes transferring programs from higher cost geographies to lower cost geographies. The process of restructuring entails, among other activities, moving production between facilities, reducing staff levels, realigning our business processes and reorganizing our management.

The Company recognized restructuring charges during 2012, 2011, 2010 and 2009 primarily related to the closure of facilities, capacity reduction and reductions in workforce in certain facilities worldwide. These charges were recorded pursuant to plans developed and approved by management.

The following table summarizes the 2012 activity in the accrued restructuring balances related to the various restructuring activities initiated prior to December 31, 2012:

(in thousands)	Balance as of December 31, 2011	Restructuring Charges	Cash Payment	Foreign Exchange Adjustments	Balance as of December 31, 2012
2012 Restructuring:					
Severance	\$ -	\$ 1,529	\$ (998)	\$ 7	\$ 538
Lease facility costs	-	55	(54)	(1)	-
Other exit costs	-	209	(45)	2	166
	-	1,793	(1,097)	8	704
2011 Restructuring:					
Severance	189	408	(611)	14	-
Lease facility costs	1,664	(153)	(1,474)	(24)	13
Other exit costs	-	17	(17)	-	-
	1,853	272	(2,102)	(10)	13
2010 Restructuring:					
Severance	34	(4)	(30)	-	-
Other exit costs	20	52	(72)	-	-
	54	48	(102)	-	-
2009 Restructuring:					
Lease facility costs	402	87	(489)	-	-
	402	87	(489)	-	-
Total	\$ 2,309	\$ 2,200	\$ (3,790)	\$ (2)	\$ 717

The components of the restructuring charges initiated during 2012 were as follows:

(in thousands)	Americas	Europe	Asia	Total
Severance costs	\$ 494	\$ 531	\$504	\$1,529
Facility lease costs	-	-	55	55
Other exit costs	-	176	33	209
	\$ 494	\$ 707	\$592	\$1,793

During 2012, the Company recognized \$1.5 million of employee termination costs associated with the involuntary terminations of 139 employees in connection with reductions in workforce of certain facilities worldwide. The identified involuntary employee terminations by reportable geographic region amounted to approximately 68, 61 and 10 for the Americas, Asia and Europe, respectively.

The following table summarizes the 2011 activity in the accrued restructuring balances related to the various restructuring activities initiated prior to December 31, 2011:

(in thousands)	Balance as of December 31, 2010	Restructuring Charges	Cash Payment	Non-Cash Activity	Foreign Exchange Adjustments	Balance as of December 31, 2011
2011 Restructuring:						
Severance	\$ -	\$ 2,386	\$ (2,215)	\$ -	\$ 18	\$ 189
Lease facility costs	-	1,958	(294)	-	-	1,664
Other exit costs	-	514	(159)	(355)	-	-
	-	4,858	(2,668)	(355)	18	1,853
2010 Restructuring:						
Severance	1,767	(503)	(1,317)	-	87	34
Other exit costs	709	181	(872)	-	2	20
	2,476	(322)	(2,189)	-	89	54
2009 Restructuring:						
Lease facility costs	1,506	-	(1,161)	-	57	402
Other exit costs	27	(21)	(6)	-	-	-
	1,533	(21)	(1,167)	-	57	402
Total	\$ 4,009	\$ 4,515	\$ (6,024)	\$ (355)	\$ 164	\$ 2,309

The components of the restructuring charges initiated during 2011 were as follows:

(in thousands)	Americas	Europe	Asia	Total
Severance costs	\$ 421	\$ 1,829	\$ 136	\$ 2,386
Facility lease costs	-	1,335	623	1,958
Other exit costs	22	203	289	514
	\$ 443	\$ 3,367	\$ 1,048	\$ 4,858

During 2011, the Company recognized \$2.4 million of employee termination costs associated with the involuntary terminations of 196 employees in connection with reductions in workforce of certain facilities worldwide. In Europe, these involuntary terminations were in connection with the closure of the Dublin, Ireland facility. The identified involuntary employee terminations by reportable geographic region amounted to approximately 107, 38 and 51 for the Americas, Asia and Europe, respectively. The Company also recorded approximately \$2.0 million for facility lease obligations and approximately \$0.5 million for other exit costs, including \$0.4 million of asset impairments associated with the closure of certain leased facilities.

The components of the restructuring charges initiated during 2010 were as follows:

(in thousands)	Americas	Europe	Asia	Total
Severance costs	\$ 1,388	\$ 1,374	\$ 1,384	\$ 4,146
Facility lease costs	494	-	-	494
Other exit costs	369	137	679	1,185
	\$ 2,251	\$ 1,511	\$ 2,063	\$ 5,825

During 2010, the Company recognized \$4.2 million of employee termination costs associated with the involuntary terminations of 751 employees in connection with reductions in workforce of certain facilities. The identified involuntary employee terminations by reportable geographic region amounted to approximately 286, 421 and 44 for the Americas, Asia and Europe, respectively. The Company also recorded approximately \$0.5 million for facility lease obligations and approximately \$1.2 million for other exit costs, including \$0.2 million of asset impairments associated with the closure of certain leased facilities.

Note 16—Thailand Flood Related Charges

The Company's facilities in Ayudhaya, Thailand were flooded and remained closed from October 13, 2011 to December 20, 2011. As a result of the flooding and temporary closing of these facilities, the Company recognized estimated property losses of \$46.2 million and incurred \$13.4 million of flood related costs during the three months ended December 31, 2011. The Company carried property and business interruption insurance with a combined limit for real and personal property as well as business interruption insurance of approximately \$300 million. As such, during the three months ended December 31, 2011, the Company recorded estimated recoveries from insurance for these property losses and flood related costs totaling \$56.2 million, including \$46.2 million of property losses from the involuntary conversion of property, plant and equipment and inventory and \$10.0 million of other costs directly related to the flooding in Thailand.

During the year ended December 31, 2012, the Company reduced the estimated property losses and the corresponding estimated insurance recoveries for these property losses by \$5.1 million. In addition, the Company received \$58.2 million of insurance proceeds which exceeded our previously recorded insurance receivable by \$7.1 million. The insurance proceeds included \$48.2 million for Thailand property losses and \$10.0 million for other flood related costs. As of December 31, 2012, the Company has collected its recorded insurance receivable for these property losses and flood related costs.

During the year ended December 31, 2012, the Company recognized additional Thailand flood related charges totaling \$16.1 million, which were offset by the insurance recoveries totaling \$7.1 million in excess of previously recognized inventory and property, plant and equipment losses. While all of these charges consist of costs directly attributable to the Thailand flood which the Company expects to recover from its insurance, the Company will record additional insurance recoveries when the appropriate recognition criteria have been met. The Company cannot estimate the timing of the receipt of insurance proceeds it will ultimately realize. The Company does not expect to incur significant additional Thailand flood related charges. As a result of the flooding, the Company has been unable to renew or otherwise obtain adequate cost-effective flood insurance to cover assets at its facilities in Thailand. The Company continues to investigate all flood risk-mitigation alternatives in Thailand. In the event the Company was to experience a significant uninsured loss in Thailand or elsewhere, it could have a material adverse effect on its business, financial condition and results of operations.

Note 17—Quarterly Financial Data (Unaudited)

The following table sets forth certain unaudited quarterly information with respect to the Company's results of operations for the years 2012, 2011 and 2010. Earnings per share are computed independently for each of the quarters presented. Therefore, the sum of the quarterly earnings per share may not equal the total earnings per share amounts for the fiscal year.

(in thousands, except per share data)	2012 Quarter			
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Sales	\$593,417	\$630,031	\$610,769	\$633,933
Gross profit	40,508	45,991	44,780	45,459
Net income	5,598	13,580	19,314	18,115
Earnings per common share:				
Basic	0.10	0.24	0.35	0.33
Diluted	0.10	0.24	0.34	0.33

(in thousands, except per share data)	2011 Quarter			
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Sales	\$538,312	\$585,549	\$570,083	\$559,086
Gross profit	37,624	37,751	34,635	28,825
Net income	14,513	14,701	19,867	2,878
Earnings per common share:				
Basic	0.24	0.24	0.34	0.05
Diluted	0.24	0.24	0.34	0.05

(in thousands, except per share data)	2010 Quarter			
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Sales	\$571,905	\$589,449	\$613,864	\$626,925
Gross profit	45,237	46,254	47,192	48,732
Net income	18,142	20,137	22,469	19,010
Earnings per common share:				
Basic	0.29	0.32	0.36	0.31
Diluted	0.28	0.32	0.36	0.31

Note 18—Supplemental Cash Flow and Non-Cash Information

The following is additional information concerning supplemental disclosures of cash payments.

Year ended December 31,

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(in thousands)	2012	2011	2010
Income taxes paid, net	\$11,975	\$7,759	\$8,577
Interest paid	\$1,353	\$1,290	\$1,324

Non-cash investing activity:

Additions to property, plant and equipment in accounts payable	\$2,020	\$-	\$-
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Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Shareholders

Benchmark Electronics, Inc.:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Benchmark Electronics, Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, and the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, shareholders' equity and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2012. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of Benchmark Electronics, Inc.'s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Benchmark Electronics, Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2012, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), Benchmark Electronics, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2012, based on criteria established in *Internal Control—Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO), and our report dated February 28, 2013 expressed an unqualified opinion on the effectiveness of Benchmark Electronics, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting.

(signed) KPMG LLP

Houston, Texas

February 28, 2013

Management's Report

The management of Benchmark Electronics, Inc. has prepared and is responsible for the consolidated financial statements and related financial data contained in this report. The consolidated financial statements were prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and necessarily include certain amounts based upon management's best estimates and judgments. The financial information contained elsewhere in this annual report is consistent with that in the consolidated financial statements.

The Company maintains internal accounting control systems that are adequate to prepare financial records and to provide reasonable assurance that the assets are safeguarded from loss or unauthorized use. We believe these systems are effective, and the cost of the systems does not exceed the benefits obtained.

The Audit Committee, composed exclusively of independent, outside directors, has reviewed all financial data included in this report. The committee meets periodically with the Company's management and independent registered public accountants on financial reporting matters. The independent registered public accountants have complete access to the Audit Committee and may meet with the committee, without management present, to discuss their audit results and opinions on the quality of financial reporting.

The role of independent registered public accountants is to render a professional, independent opinion on management's financial statements to the extent required by the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Benchmark's responsibility is to conduct its affairs according to the highest standards of personal and corporate conduct.

Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure.

None.

Item 9A. Controls and Procedures.

Conclusion Regarding the Effectiveness of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

As of the end of the period covered by this report, the Company's management (with the participation of its chief executive officer and chief financial officer) conducted an evaluation pursuant to Rule 13a-15 promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures. Based on this evaluation, the Company's chief executive officer and chief financial officer concluded that as of the end of the period covered by this report such disclosure controls and procedures were effective to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed by the Company in reports it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the rules and forms of the Securities and Exchange Commission, and include controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in such reports is accumulated and communicated to the Company's management, including the Company's chief executive officer and chief financial officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

There has been no change in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the last fiscal quarter covered by this Annual Report on Form 10-K that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

Our management, including our chief executive officer and chief financial officer, does not expect that our disclosure controls and internal controls will prevent all errors and all fraud. A control system, no matter how well conceived and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the control system are met. Further, the design of a control system must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints, and the benefits of controls must be considered relative to their costs. Because of the inherent limitations in all control systems, no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, within the company have been detected. These inherent limitations include the realities that judgments in decision-making can be faulty, and that breakdowns can occur because of simple error or mistake. Additionally, controls can be circumvented by the individual acts of some persons, by collusion of two or more people, or by management override of the control. The design of any system of controls also is based in part upon certain assumptions about the likelihood of future events, and there can be no assurance that any design will succeed in achieving its stated goals under all potential future conditions; over time, a control may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or the degree of

compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate. Because of the inherent limitations in a cost-effective control system, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected.

Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as such term is defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(f). Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, we conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting based on the framework in *Internal Control—Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Based on our evaluation under the framework in *Internal Control—Integrated Framework*, our management concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2012.

The effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2012 has been audited by KPMG LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report which is included below.

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Shareholders

Benchmark Electronics, Inc.:

We have audited Benchmark Electronics, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2012, based on criteria established in *Internal Control—Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). Benchmark Electronics, Inc.'s management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on Benchmark Electronics, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audit also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, Benchmark Electronics, Inc. maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2012, based on criteria established in *Internal Control—Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheets of Benchmark Electronics, Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, and the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, shareholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2012, and our report dated February 28, 2013, expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements.

(signed) KPMG LLP

Houston, Texas

February 28, 2013

Item 9B. *Other Information.*

Not applicable.

PART III

Item 10. *Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance.*

The information under the captions "Election of Directors," "Executive Officers" and "Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance" in the Company's Proxy Statement for the 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders (the 2013 Proxy Statement), to be filed not later than 120 days after the close of the Company's fiscal year, is incorporated herein by reference in response to this item.

Item 11. *Executive Compensation.*

The information under the captions “Compensation Discussion and Analysis” and “Report of Compensation Committee” in the 2013 Proxy Statement, to be filed not later than 120 days after the close of the Company’s fiscal year, is incorporated herein by reference in response to this item.

Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Shareholder Matters.

The information under the caption “Common Share Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management” in the 2013 Proxy Statement, to be filed not later than 120 days after the close of the Company’s fiscal year, is incorporated herein by reference in response to this item.

The following table sets forth certain information relating to our equity compensation plans as of December 31, 2012:

Plan Category	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	4,507,338	(1) \$ 19.88	(1) 3,029,180

⁽¹⁾Includes 267,256 restricted share units, phantom stock awards and performance restricted share units. The weighted-average exercise price does not take these awards into account.

Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence.

The information under the caption “Election of Directors” in the 2013 Proxy Statement, to be filed not later than 120 days after the close of the Company’s fiscal year, is incorporated herein by reference in response to this item.

Item 14. Principal Accounting Fees and Services.

The information under the caption “Audit Committee Report to Shareholders” in the 2013 Proxy Statement, to be filed not later than 120 days after the close of the Company’s fiscal year, is incorporated herein by reference in response to this item.

PART IV**Item 15. Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules.**

(a) (1) Financial statements of the Company filed as part of this report:

See Item 8 - Financial Statements and Supplementary Data.

(2) Financial statement schedule filed as part of this report:

Schedule II - Valuation Accounts

(in thousands)	Balance at Beginning of Period	Additions			Balance at End of Period
		Charges to Operations	Other	Deductions	
Year ended December 31, 2012:					
Allowance for doubtful accounts ⁽¹⁾	\$ 1,094	407	13	72	1,442
Year ended December 31, 2011:					
Allowance for doubtful accounts ⁽¹⁾	\$ 586	546	(23)	15	1,094
Year ended December 31, 2010:					
Allowance for doubtful accounts ⁽¹⁾	\$ 417	385	(29)	187	586

⁽¹⁾ Deductions in the allowance for doubtful accounts represent write-offs, net of recoveries, of amounts determined to be uncollectible.

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm on Schedule

The Board of Directors and Shareholders

Benchmark Electronics, Inc.:

Under date of February 28, 2013, we reported on the consolidated balance sheets of Benchmark Electronics, Inc. and subsidiaries (the Company) as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, and the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, shareholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2012, in this annual report on Form 10-K for the year 2012. In connection with our audits of the aforementioned consolidated financial statements, we also audited the related consolidated financial statement schedule included in Item 15(a)2. This financial statement schedule is the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement schedule based on our audits.

In our opinion, such financial statement schedule, when considered in relation to the basic consolidated financial statements taken as a whole, presents fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein.

(signed) KPMG LLP

Houston, Texas

February 28, 2013

(3) Exhibits

Each exhibit marked with an asterisk is filed with this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Exhibit Number	Description
2.1	Agreement and Plan of Merger dated October 16, 2006 among the Company, Autobahn Acquisition Corp. —and Pemstar Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to the Company’s Form 8-K dated October 16, 2006 and filed on October 18, 2006 (Commission file number 1-10560)).
3.1	Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Company dated May 10, 1990 (incorporated by reference to —Exhibit 3.1 to the Company’s Registration Statement on Form S-1 (Registration Number 33-46316) (the “Registration Statement”)).
3.2	Amendment to the Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Company adopted by the shareholders of the —Company on May 20, 1997 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.3 to the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1998 (Commission file number 1-10560)).
3.3	Amendment to the Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Company approved by the shareholders of the —Company on August 13, 2002 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.7 to the Company’s Form S-8 (Registration Number 333-103183)).
3.4	Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Company dated May 18, 2006 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit —99.2 to the Company’s Form 8-K dated May 18, 2006 and filed on May 19, 2006 (Commission file number 1-10560)).
3.5	Amendment to the Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Company approved by the shareholders of the —Company on May 10, 2006 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.1 to the Company’s Form 8-K dated October 16, 2006 and filed on October 16, 2006 (Commission file number 1-10560)).
4.1	Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Company (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the —Registration Statement).
4.2	Amendment to the Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Company adopted by the shareholders of the —Company on May 20, 1997 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.3 to the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1998 (Commission file number 1-10560)).
4.3	Specimen form of certificate evidencing the Common Share (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to —the Registration Statement).
4.4	—Rights Agreement dated December 11, 1998 between the Company and Harris Trust Savings Bank, as Rights Agent, together with the following exhibits thereto: Exhibit A — Form of Statement of Resolution Establishing Series A Cumulative Junior Participating Preferred Stock of Benchmark Electronics, Inc.;

Exhibit B — Form of Right Certificate; and Exhibit C — Summary of Rights to Purchase Preferred Stock of Benchmark Electronics, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 1 to the Company's Form 8A12B filed December 11, 1998 (Commission file number 1-10560)).

- 4.5 Statement of Resolution Establishing Series A Cumulative Junior Participating Preferred Stock of the Company (incorporated by reference to Exhibit B of the Rights Agreement dated December 11, 1998 between the Company and Harris Trust Savings Bank, as Rights Agent, included as Exhibit 1 to the Company's Form 8A12B filed December 11, 1998 (Commission file number 1-10560)).
- 4.6 Summary of Rights to Purchase Preferred Stock of the Company (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3 to the Company's Form 8A12B/A filed December 22, 1998 (Commission file number 1-10560)).
- 4.7 Amendment to the Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Company approved by the shareholders of the Company on August 13, 2002 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.7 to the Company's Form S-8 (Registration Number 333-103183)).
- 4.8 Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Company (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.2 to the Company's Form 8-K dated May 18, 2006 and filed on May 19, 2006 (Commission file number 1-10560)).
- 4.9 Amendment to the Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Company approved by the shareholders of the Company on May 10, 2006 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated October 16, 2006 and filed on October 16, 2006 (Commission file number 1-10560)).
- 4.10 Amendment No. 1 dated as of December 10, 2008, to the Rights Agreement dated as of December 11, 1998 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated December 10, 2008 and filed on December 11, 2008 (Commission file number 1-10560)).
- 4.11 Amendment No. 2 dated as of May 18, 2010, to the Rights Agreement dated as of December 11, 1998, as amended by Amendment No. 1 dated as of December 10, 2008 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Registrant's Form 8-A12B/A filed May 25, 2010 (Commission file number 1-10560)).
- 10.1 Form of Indemnity Agreement between the Company and its directors and executive officers (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003 (Commission file number 1-10560)).
- 10.2 Benchmark Electronics, Inc. 2000 Stock Awards Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.8 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-8 (Registration Number 333-54186)).
- 10.3 Form of incentive stock option agreement for use under the 2000 Stock Awards Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.8 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-8 (Registration Number 333-54186)).
- 10.4 Form of phantom stock agreement for use under the 2000 Stock Awards Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.9 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008 (Commission file number 1-10560)).
- 10.5 Form of nonqualified stock option agreement for use under the 2000 Stock Awards Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.10 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008 (Commission file number 1-10560)).

- 10.6 ~~Form of restricted stock agreement for use under the 2000 Stock Awards Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated March 17, 2008 (Commission file number 1-10560)).~~
- 10.7 ~~Benchmark Electronics, Inc. Deferred Compensation Plan dated as of December 16, 2008 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.1 to the Company's Form S-8 (Registration Number 333-156202)).~~
- 10.8 ~~Fourth Amended and Restated Credit Agreement dated as of July 30, 2012 among the Company; the borrowing subsidiaries; the lenders party thereto; JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. as administrative agent, collateral agent and issuing lender; Bank of America, N.A., Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. and Comerica Bank as co-documentation agents; and J.P. Morgan Securities Inc. as lead arranger (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated July 30, 2012 and filed on August 3, 2012 (Commission file number 1-10560)).~~
- 10.9 ~~Employment Agreement between the Company and Donald F. Adam dated as of March 10, 2009 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated March 10, 2009 (Commission file number 1-10560)).~~
- 10.10 ~~Benchmark Electronics, Inc. 2002 Stock Option Plan for Non-Employee Directors (incorporated by reference to Appendix A to the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed April 15, 2002 (Commission file number 1-10560)).~~
- 10.11 ~~Code of Conduct (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.20 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 (Commission file number 1-10560)).~~
- 10.12 ~~Amendment No. 1 to the Benchmark Electronics, Inc. 2002 Stock Option Plan for Non-Employee Directors (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.3 to the Company's Form 8-K dated May 18, 2006 filed on May 19, 2006 (Commission file number 1-10560)).~~
- 10.13 ~~Benchmark Electronics, Inc. 2010 Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.1 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-8 (Registration Number 333-168426)).~~
- 10.14 ~~Form of option award agreement for use under the 2010 Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.10 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-8 (Registration Number 333-168426)).~~
- 10.15 ~~Form of restricted share award agreement for use under the 2010 Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.11 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-8 (Registration Number 333-168426)).~~
- 10.16 ~~Form of restricted stock unit award agreement for use under the 2010 Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.12 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-8 (Registration Number 333-168426)).~~
- 10.17 ~~Employment Termination and Settlement Agreement dated November 8, 2011 between the Company and Cary T. Fu (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated November 8, 2011 (Commission file number 1-10560)).~~

- 10.18 Consulting Services and Non-Compete Agreement dated November 8, 2011 between the Company and —Cary T. Fu (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company’s Form 8-K dated November 8, 2011 (Commission file number 1-10560)).
- 10.19 Amended and Restated Employment Agreement dated November 8, 2011 between the Company and —Gayla J. Delly (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company’s Form 8-K dated November 8, 2011 (Commission file number 1-10560)).
- 11 Statement regarding Computation of Per-Share Earnings (incorporated by reference to “Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, Note 1(j) – Earnings Per Share” in Item 8 of this report).
- 21* —Subsidiaries of Benchmark Electronics, Inc.
- 23* Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm concerning incorporation by reference in the —Company’s Registration Statements on Form S-8 (Registration No. 333-28997, No. 333-101744, No. 333-156202 and No. 333-168427).
- 31.1* —Section 302 Certification of Chief Executive Officer
- 31.2* —Section 302 Certification of Chief Financial Officer
- 32.1* —Section 1350 Certification of Chief Executive Officer
- 32.2* —Section 1350 Certification of Chief Financial Officer
- 101.INS ⁽¹⁾ XBRL Instance Document
- 101.SCH ⁽¹⁾ XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
- 101.CAL ⁽¹⁾ XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
- 101.LAB ⁽¹⁾ XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
- 101.DEF ⁽¹⁾ XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document

⁽¹⁾ XBRL (Extensible Business Reporting Language) information is furnished and not filed or a part of a registration statement or prospectus for purposes of sections 11 or 12 of the Securities Act of 1933, is deemed not filed for purposes of section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and otherwise is not subject to liability under these sections.

* Filed herewith.

SIGNATURES

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.

BENCHMARK
ELECTRONICS, INC.

By: /s/ Gayla J. Delly
Gayla J. Delly
Chief Executive Officer
Date: February 27, 2013

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Date</u>
/s/ Peter G. Dorflinger Peter G. Dorflinger	Chairman of the Board	February 27, 2013
/s/ Gayla J. Delly Gayla J. Delly	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director (principal executive officer)	February 27, 2013
/s/ Donald F. Adam Donald F. Adam	Chief Financial Officer (principal financial and accounting officer)	February 27, 2013
/s/ Michael R. Dawson Michael R. Dawson	Director	February 27, 2013
/s/ Douglas G. Duncan Douglas G. Duncan	Director	February 27, 2013
/s/ David W. Scheible David W. Scheible	Director	February 27, 2013
/s/ Bernee D.L. Strom Bernee D.L. Strom	Director	February 27, 2013
/s/ Clay C. Williams	Director	February 27, 2013

Clay C. Williams

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