

NORTHWEST PIPE CO  
Form 10-K  
April 27, 2012  
Table of Contents

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**  
**FORM 10-K**

x **ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the Fiscal Year Ended: December 31, 2011

OR

.. **TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the transition period from            to

Commission File Number: 0-27140

**NORTHWEST PIPE COMPANY**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**OREGON**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation or organization)

5721 SE Columbia Way, Suite 200

Vancouver, WA 98661

(Address of principal executive offices and zip code)

**93-0557988**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

Edgar Filing: NORTHWEST PIPE CO - Form 10-K

360-397-6250

(Registrant's telephone number including area code)

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

<b>Title of Each Class of Stock</b>	<b>Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered</b>
Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share	NASDAQ Global Select Market
Preferred Stock Purchase Rights	NASDAQ Global Select Market

**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 period 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 definitions of "large accelerated filer", "accelerated filer", and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Act. (Check one):

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

The aggregate market value of the common equity that was held by non-affiliates of the Registrant was \$206,376,463 as of June 30, 2011 based upon the last sales price as reported by Nasdaq.

The number of shares outstanding of the Registrant's Common Stock as of April 23, 2012 was 9,371,111 shares.

**Documents Incorporated by Reference**

The registrant has incorporated into Parts II and III of Form 10-K by reference certain portions of its Proxy Statement for its 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders.

**Table of Contents**

**NORTHWEST PIPE COMPANY  
2011 ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

		<b>Page</b>
	<u>Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements</u>	1
	<u>Explanatory Note</u>	2
<b>Part I</b>		
Item 1	<u>Business</u>	3
Item 1A	<u>Risk Factors</u>	8
Item 1B	<u>Unresolved Staff Comments</u>	19
Item 2	<u>Properties</u>	19
Item 3	<u>Legal Proceedings</u>	20
Item 4	<u>Mine Safety Disclosures</u>	23
<b>Part II</b>		
Item 5	<u>Market for the Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities</u>	24
Item 6	<u>Selected Financial Data</u>	26
Item 7	<u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	28
Item 7A	<u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	39
Item 8	<u>Financial Statements and Supplementary Data</u>	39
Item 9	<u>Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure</u>	40
Item 9A	<u>Controls and Procedures</u>	40
Item 9B	<u>Other Information</u>	43
<b>Part III</b>		
Item 10	<u>Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance</u>	44
Item 11	<u>Executive Compensation</u>	45
Item 12	<u>Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters</u>	46
Item 13	<u>Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence</u>	46
Item 14	<u>Principal Accountant Fees and Services</u>	46
<b>Part IV</b>		
Item 15	<u>Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedule</u>	47

**Table of Contents**

**CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

Certain statements in this Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 (the 2011 Form 10-K ), other than purely historical information, are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act ) that are based on current expectations, estimates and projections about our business, management s beliefs, and assumptions made by management. Words such as expects, anticipates, intends, plans, believes, seeks, estimates, forecasts, should, and variations of such words and similar expressions are intended to identify such forward-looking statements. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve a number of risks and uncertainties that are difficult to predict. Actual outcomes and results may differ materially from the results anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of a variety of important factors. While it is impossible to identify all such factors, those that could cause actual results to differ materially from those estimated by us include the important factors discussed in Part I Item 1A Risk Factors. Such forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made and we do not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this 2011 Form 10-K. If we do update one or more forward-looking statements, investors and others should not conclude that we will make additional updates or corrections with respect thereto or with respect to other forward-looking statements.

**Table of Contents**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

In this 2011 Form 10-K, Northwest Pipe Company (the Company) is restating its previously reported financial information as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) on March 22, 2011 (the Original Filing) to correct the material errors identified in the following previously issued consolidated financial statements: (i) our audited consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2010 and for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009 in Part II Item 8, Financial Statements and Supplementary Data, and (ii) our selected financial data as of and for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009, 2008 and 2007 in Part II Item 6, Selected Financial Data. In addition, the following data has been updated to reflect the corrections noted above: Part II Item 7, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in both tabular and textual form as it relates to the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009. References to the Company, we, its, our and us in this 2011 Form 10-K refer to Northwest Pipe Company together, in each case, with our subsidiaries and any predecessor entities unless the context suggests otherwise.

For further detail on the financial statement impacts and the adjustments made as a result of the restatement, see Note 18 of the Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II Item 8, Financial Statements and Supplementary Data.

Concurrent with the filing of this 2011 Form 10-K, the Company is filing its Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2011, which contains restated condensed consolidated financial statements as of and for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 (the September 2011 Form 10-Q). Also concurrent with the filing of this report, we are filing our Amendment No. 1 to Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for each of the quarters ended March 31, 2011 and June 30, 2011 which include the restatement of financial statements as of and for the three months ended March 31, 2011 and 2010 and as of and for the three and six months ended June 30, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

**Ineffectiveness of Internal Control over Financial Reporting and Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

Management has assessed the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011 based on the framework in *Internal Control-Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. The Company has determined that certain material weaknesses in our internal controls existed as of December 31, 2011. For a description of the material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting and our plan to remediate those material weaknesses, see Part II Item 9A, Controls and Procedures of this report. In addition, as a result of the existence of material weaknesses in our internal controls, we have also concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were not effective as of December 31, 2011.

---

**Table of Contents**

**PART I**

**Item 1. Business Overview**

We are a leading North American manufacturer of large-diameter, high-pressure steel pipeline systems for use in water infrastructure applications, primarily related to drinking water systems, and we also manufacture other welded steel pipe products for use in a wide range of applications, including energy, construction, agriculture, and industrial uses. Our pipeline systems are also used for hydroelectric power systems, wastewater systems and other applications. In addition, we make products for industrial plant piping systems and certain structural applications. With a history that dates back more than 100 years, we have established a leading position based on a strong, widely recognized reputation for quality and service and an extensive array of product offerings. Our manufacturing facilities in North America are strategically located to provide us with broad geographic coverage of our target markets, giving us competitive advantages in serving our customers.

We manufacture water infrastructure products through our Water Transmission Group, which in 2011, 2010 and 2009 generated approximately 53%, 57%, and 76%, respectively, of our net sales. We market our water infrastructure products through an in-house sales force. Our sales have historically been driven by the need for new water infrastructure, which is based primarily on overall population growth and population movement between regions. We believe the need for new water infrastructure, upgrades, repairs and replacements will continue to be a significant demand factor for us.

In addition to manufacturing water infrastructure products, we also manufacture a broad array of small-diameter, electric resistance welded ( ERW ) steel pipe and other welded steel pipe products through our Tubular Products Group, which in 2011, 2010, and 2009 generated approximately 47%, 43%, and 24%, respectively, of our net sales. Tubular products are marketed through a network of in-house sales force. Our Tubular Products Group has the capability to manufacture steel pipe for use in a wide range of applications, including energy, construction, agricultural, and industrial uses.

**Our Industries**

**Water Transmission.** Studies performed by the American Society of Civil Engineers estimate the U.S. will need to spend approximately \$14 billion annually to repair and upgrade drinking-water systems as aging water infrastructure is nearing the end of its useful life. Within this market, we focus on engineered pipeline systems that utilize large-diameter, high-pressure steel pipe. In addition to these water infrastructure applications, our Water Transmission Group manufactures products for certain structural piling applications and in-plant pipeline systems for power plants and other industrial applications. We believe the current addressable market for the products sold by our Water Transmission Group will total approximately \$1.4 billion over the next three years. Our core market is the large-diameter, high-pressure portion of the pipeline that is typically at the upper end of a pipeline system. This is the portion of the overall water pipeline that generally transports water from the source to a treatment plant or from a treatment plant into the distribution system, rather than the small lines that deliver water directly into households.

A combination of population growth, movement to new population centers, dwindling supplies from developed water sources, substantial underinvestment in water infrastructure over the past several decades, and an increasingly stringent regulatory environment are driving demand for water infrastructure projects in the United States. These trends are increasing the need for new water infrastructure as well as the need to upgrade, repair and replace existing water infrastructure. While we believe this offers potential for increased demand for our water infrastructure products and other products related to water transmission, we also expect current governmental and public water agency budgetary pressures will impact near-term demand.

The primary drivers of growth in new water infrastructure installation are population growth and movement and dwindling supplies from developed water sources. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the population of

---

**Table of Contents**

the United States will increase by over 90 million people between 2010 and 2050. The resulting increase in demand will require substantial new infrastructure, as the existing U.S. water infrastructure is not equipped to provide water to millions of new residents. The combination of population growth and movement is projected to result in approximately 50 million new residents in the southern and western regions of the United States. In addition, many current water supply sources are in danger of being exhausted. The development of new sources of water at greater distances from population centers will drive the demand for new water transmission lines. Our manufacturing facilities are well located to take advantage of the anticipated growth and demand in these regions.

Much of the U.S. water infrastructure is antiquated and many authorities, including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (the EPA), believe the U.S. water infrastructure is in critical need of updates, repairs or replacements. The American Society of Civil Engineers has given poor ratings to many aspects of the U.S. water infrastructure in their 2009 Report Card for America's Infrastructure. In the fourth national assessment of public water system infrastructure, the most recent survey of Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs conducted by the EPA, the EPA estimated that a total investment of approximately \$335 billion will be needed to install, upgrade and replace infrastructure from January 2007 to December 2026. The EPA estimates that approximately \$201 billion of this needed investment applies to the rehabilitation or replacement of deteriorated or undersized water transmission and distribution infrastructure components.

Increased public awareness of problems with the quality of drinking water and efficient water usage has resulted in more stringent application of federal and state environmental regulations. The need to comply with these regulations in an environment of heightened public awareness towards water issues is expected to contribute to demand in the water infrastructure industry over the next several years. Water systems will need to be installed, upgraded and replaced in order to satisfy these water quality laws and regulations.

***Tubular Products.*** The tubular products industry encompasses a wide variety of products serving a diverse group of end markets. We have been active in several of these markets, including energy, construction, agricultural, and industrial systems. In 2009, the tubular products industry experienced a combination of an oversaturation of imported pipe, a collapse of natural gas prices in a very short time frame, and a decline in non-residential construction, all of which had a severe negative impact on all of our tubular products. However, with trade cases limiting the importations of energy pipe, the energy pipe business, including line pipe and oil country tubular goods ( OCTG ), has substantially improved. Beginning in 2010, we redirected the focus of our Houston, Texas plant from mechanical tubing to energy pipe production and began production of energy pipe there in April 2010. Further, during 2011 we upgraded our Houston mill to facilitate production of 2.375 and 2.875 inch tubing with physical properties suitable for heat treating. These upgrades provided an expanded production capacity for the energy market. We were also able to capitalize on improved market conditions through an expansion at our Atchison, Kansas facility that is increasing its production capacity by more than 50%, improving productivity and enabling the facility to produce product with wall thickness up to 0.375 inches.

Our emphasis on energy products reflects the strong demand from the energy markets. Oil and natural gas rig counts in the U.S. are up approximately 17% from a year ago. Approximately one third of the rigs are drilling for natural gas and the other two thirds are drilling for oil. This is a change from a year ago when approximately 50% of the rigs were drilling for natural gas. The shift to oil drilling reflects an increase in domestic oil prices combined with a declining trend in crude oil import volumes. The price per barrel of crude oil has steadily increased since 2009 and is currently priced above \$100 per barrel. In comparison, natural gas prices have decreased over the past two years, due in part to higher natural gas production levels, particularly from shale rock drilling. While natural gas prices have decreased, 2011 natural gas production levels hit their highest point in almost 40 years according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

**Products**

***Water Transmission.*** Water transmission pipe is used for high-pressure applications, typically requiring pipe to withstand pressures in excess of 150 pounds per square inch. Most of our water transmission products are

## **Table of Contents**

made to custom specifications and are for fully engineered, large diameter, high-pressure water infrastructure systems. Other uses include pipe for piling and hydroelectric projects, wastewater transmission, treatment plants and other applications. Our primary manufacturing process has the capability to manufacture water transmission pipe in diameters ranging from 4.5 inches to 156 inches with wall thickness of 0.135 inches to 1.00 inch. We also have the ability to manufacture even larger and heavier pipe with other processes. We can coat and/or line these products with cement mortar, polyethylene tape, polyurethane paints, epoxies, Pritec<sup>®</sup>, and coal tar enamel according to our customers' specifications. We maintain fabrication facilities that provide installation contractors with custom fabricated sections as well as straight pipe sections. We typically deliver a complete pipeline system to the installation contractor.

***Tubular Products.*** Our tubular products range in size from 1.5 inches to 16 inches in diameter with wall thickness from 0.035 inches to 0.375 inches. These products are typically sold to distributors or Original Equipment Manufacturers ( OEMs ) and are used for a wide variety of applications, including energy, construction, industrial, agriculture, and other commercial and industrial uses. The Tubular Products Group also manufactured and marketed welded steel pipe used in traffic signpost applications through June 1, 2011.

## **Marketing**

***Water Transmission.*** The primary customers for water transmission products are installation contractors for projects funded by public water agencies. Our plant locations in Oregon, Colorado, California, West Virginia, Texas, Utah and Mexico allow us to efficiently serve customers throughout the United States, as well as Canada and Mexico. Our Water Transmission marketing strategy emphasizes early identification of potential water projects, promotion of specifications consistent with our capabilities and close contact with the project designers and owners throughout the design phase. Our in-house sales force is comprised of sales representatives, engineers and support personnel who work closely with public water agencies, contractors and engineering firms, often years in advance of projects being bid. This allows us to identify and evaluate planned projects at early stages and participate in the engineering and design process and ultimately promote the advantages of our systems. After an agency completes a design, they publicize the upcoming bid for a water transmission project. We then obtain detailed plans and develop our estimate for the pipe portion of the project. We typically bid to installation contractors who include our bid in their proposals to public water agencies. A public water agency generally awards the entire project to the contractor with the lowest responsive bid.

***Tubular Products.*** Our tubular products are marketed through an in-house sales force. Our tubular product facilities are located in Kansas, Texas, and Louisiana. Our marketing strategy focuses on quality, customer service and customer relationships. Our tubular products are primarily sold to distributors, although to a lesser extent we also sell to OEMs. Our sales effort emphasizes regular personal contact with current and potential customers. We supplement this effort with targeted advertising and brochures and participation in trade shows.

## **Manufacturing**

***Water Transmission.*** Water transmission manufacturing begins with the preparation of engineered drawings of each unique piece of pipe in a project. These drawings are prepared on our proprietary computer-aided design system and are used as blueprints for the manufacture of the pipe. After the drawings are completed and approved, manufacturing begins by feeding steel coil continuously at a specified angle into a spiral weld mill which cold-forms the band into a tubular configuration with a spiral seam. Automated arc welders, positioned on both the inside and the outside of the tube, are used to weld the seam. The welded tube is then cut at the specified length. After completion of the forming and welding phases, the finished cylinder is tested and inspected in accordance with project specifications, which may include 100% radiographic analysis of the weld seam. The cylinders are then coated and lined as specified. Possible coatings include coal tar enamel, polyethylene tape, polyurethane paint, epoxies, Pritec<sup>®</sup> and cement mortar. Linings may be cement mortar, polyurethane or epoxies. Following coating and lining, certain pieces may be custom fabricated as required for the project. This process is performed in our fabrication facilities. Upon final inspection, the pipe is prepared for shipment. We ship our products to project sites principally by truck and rail.



## **Table of Contents**

***Tubular Products.*** Tubular products are manufactured by an ERW process in diameters ranging from 1.5 inches to 16 inches. This process begins by unrolling and slitting steel coils into narrower bands sized to the circumference of the finished product. Each band is re-coiled and fed into the material handling equipment at the front end of the ERW mill and fed through a series of rolls that cold-form it into a tubular configuration. The resultant tube is welded by high-frequency electric resistance welders. After exiting the mill, the products are straightened, inspected, tested and end-finished. Certain products are coated. With the Company's entry into the OCTG market, it also uses the services of third party processors to finish the pipe. These finishing operations include threading, inspection, testing and heat treating. Securing adequate finishing capacity is key to the Tubular Product Group's success in the OCTG market.

***Technology.*** Advances in technology help us produce high quality products at competitive prices. We have invested in modern welding and inspection equipment to improve both productivity and product quality. To stay current with technological developments in the United States and abroad, we participate in trade shows, industry associations, research projects and vendor trials of new products.

***Quality Assurance.*** We have quality management systems in place that assure we consistently provide products that meet or exceed customer and applicable regulatory requirements. The Quality Assurance department reports directly to the Chief Operating Officer. All of our quality management systems in the United States are registered by the International Organization for Standardization, or ISO, under a multi-site registration. In addition to ISO qualification, the American Institute of Steel Construction, American Petroleum Institute, American Society for Mechanical Engineers, Factory Mutual, National Sanitation Foundation, and Underwriters Laboratory have certified us for specific products or operations. The Quality Assurance department is responsible for monitoring and measuring characteristics of the product. Inspection capabilities include, but are not limited to, visual, dimensional, liquid penetrant, magnetic particle, hydrostatic, ultrasonic, phased array ultrasonics, real-time imaging enhancement, real-time radiosopic, base material tensile, yield and elongation, sand sieve analysis, coal-tar penetration, concrete compression, lining and coating dry film thickness, adhesion, absorption, guided bend, charpy impact, hardness, metallurgical examinations, chemical analysis, spectrographic analysis and finished product final inspection. Product is not released for shipment to our customers until there is verification that all product requirements have been met.

***Product Liability.*** The manufacturing and use of our products involves a variety of risks. Certain losses may result, or be alleged to result, from defects in our products, thereby subjecting us to claims for damages, including consequential damages. We warrant our products to be free of certain defects for one year. We maintain insurance coverage against potential product liability claims in the amount of \$52 million, which we believe to be adequate. Historically, product liability claims against us have not been material. However, there can be no assurance that product liability claims exceeding our insurance coverage will not be experienced in the future or that we will be able to maintain such insurance with adequate coverage.

## **Backlog**

Our backlog includes confirmed orders, including the balance of projects in process, and projects for which we have been notified that we are the successful bidder even though a binding agreement has not been executed. Projects for which a binding contract has not been executed could be cancelled. Binding orders received by us may be subject to cancellation or postponement; however, cancellation would generally obligate the customer to pay the costs incurred by us. As of December 31, 2011, our backlog of orders was approximately \$175 million. Our Water Transmission segment accounted for approximately 79% of this total backlog of orders. Binding contracts had been executed for approximately 97% of the Water Transmission backlog as of March 31, 2012. At December 31, 2010, our backlog of orders was approximately \$258 million. Our Water Transmission segment accounted for approximately 78% of this total backlog of orders. Backlog as of any particular date may not be indicative of actual operating results for any fiscal period. There can be no assurance that any amount of backlog ultimately will be realized.

## **Table of Contents**

### **Competition**

**Water Transmission.** We have several regional competitors in the Water Transmission business. Most water transmission projects are competitively bid and price competition is vigorous. Price competition may reduce the gross margin on sales, which may adversely affect overall profitability. Other competitive factors include timely delivery, ability to meet customized specifications and high freight costs which may limit the ability of manufacturers located in other market areas to compete with us. With Water Transmission manufacturing facilities in Oregon, Colorado, California, West Virginia, Texas, Utah and Mexico, we believe we can more effectively compete throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico. Our primary competitors in the water transmission business in the western United States and southwestern Canada are National Oilwell Varco, Inc, which acquired Ameron International Corporation during 2011, and Mueller Water Products. East of the Rocky Mountains, our primary competition includes: American Cast Iron Pipe Company and Mueller Water Products, both of which manufacture ductile iron pipe; American Spiral Weld Pipe Company, which manufactures spiral welded steel pipe; and Hanson Pipe & Precast, which manufactures concrete pressure pipe and spiral welded steel pipe.

No assurance can be given that other new or existing competitors will not establish new facilities or expand capacity within our market areas. New or expanded facilities or new competitors could have a material adverse effect on our ability to capture market share and maintain product pricing.

**Tubular Products.** The market for tubular products is highly fragmented and diversified with over 100 manufacturers in the United States and a number of foreign-based manufacturers that export such pipe into the United States. Manufacturers compete with one another primarily on the basis of price, quality, established business relationships, customer service and delivery. In some of the sectors within the tubular products industry, competition may be less vigorous due to the existence of a relatively small number of companies with the capabilities to manufacture certain products. In particular, we operate in a variety of different markets that require pipe with lighter wall thickness in relation to diameter than many of our competitors can manufacture. In our markets, we typically compete with U.S. Steel, TMK Ipsco, Boomerang, Lakeside Steel, Tex Tube, Tenaris, Evraz, California Steel Industries, and JMC Steel Group, as well as foreign competitors.

Additionally, several companies have announced new plants or the expansion of product lines at existing facilities. New or expanded facilities or new competitors could have a material adverse affect on our ability to capture market share and maintain product pricing.

### **Raw Materials and Supplies**

We purchase hot rolled and galvanized steel coil from both domestic and foreign steel mills. Domestic suppliers include Nucor Corporation, Severstal, ArcelorMittal, California Steel Industries, Gallatin Steel Company, Steel Dynamics Inc., New Process Steel and AK Steel. Foreign suppliers include Ternium and BlueScope Steel. We order steel according to our business forecasts for our Tubular Products business. Steel for the Water Transmission business is normally purchased only after a project has been awarded to us. From time to time, we may purchase additional steel when it is available at favorable prices. Purchased steel represents a substantial portion of our cost of sales. The steel industry is highly cyclical in nature and steel prices are influenced by numerous factors beyond our control, including general economic conditions, availability of raw materials, energy costs, import duties, other trade restrictions and currency exchange rates.

We also rely on certain suppliers of coating materials, lining materials and certain custom fabricated items. We have at least two suppliers for most of our raw materials. We believe our relationships with our suppliers are positive and have no indication that we will experience shortages of raw materials or components essential to our production processes or that we will be forced to seek alternative sources of supply. Any shortages of raw materials may result in production delays and costs, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

---

## **Table of Contents**

### **Environmental and Occupational Safety and Health Regulation**

We are subject to federal, state, local and foreign environmental and occupational safety and health laws and regulations, violation of which could lead to fines, penalties, other civil sanctions or criminal sanctions. These environmental laws and regulations govern emissions to air; discharges to water (including stormwater); and the generation, handling, storage, transportation, treatment and disposal of waste materials. We operate under numerous governmental permits and licenses relating to air emissions, stormwater run-off and other environmental matters, and we are also subject to environmental laws requiring the investigation and cleanup of environmental contamination at properties we presently own or operate and at third-party disposal or treatment facilities to which these sites send or arrange to send hazardous waste. For example, we have been identified as a potentially responsible party at the Portland Harbor Site discussed under "Legal Proceedings" below. We believe we are in material compliance with these laws and regulations and do not currently believe that future compliance with such laws and regulations will have a material adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

Based on our assessment of potential liability, we have no reserves for environmental investigations and cleanup. However, estimating liabilities for environmental investigations and cleanup is complex and dependent upon a number of factors beyond our control which may change dramatically. Accordingly, although we believe maintaining no reserve is appropriate based on current information, we cannot assure you that our future environmental investigation and cleanup costs and liabilities will not result in a material expense.

### **Employees**

As of December 31, 2011, we had approximately 1,200 full-time employees. Approximately 28% were salaried and approximately 72% were employed on an hourly basis. A union represents all of the hourly employees at our Monterrey, Mexico facility. All other employees are non-union. We consider our relations with our employees to be good.

### **Available Information**

Our internet website address is [www.nwpipe.com](http://www.nwpipe.com). Our Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Form 10-Q/A, Current Reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act are available through our internet website as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the Securities and Exchange Commission ( "SEC" ). All statements made in any of our securities filings, including all forward-looking statements or information, are made as of the date of the document in which the statement is included, and we do not assume or undertake any obligation to update any of those statements or documents unless we are required to do so by law. Our internet website and the information contained therein or connected thereto are not incorporated into this 2011 Form 10-K.

Additionally, the public may read and copy any materials we file with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.W., Washington D.C. 20549. The public may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC also maintains an Internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements, and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

### **Item 1A. Risk Factors**

*You should carefully consider the following factors, together with all the other information included in this 2011 Form 10-K, in evaluating our Company and our business. If any of the following risks actually occur, our business, financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows could be materially and adversely affected, and the value of our stock could decline. The risks and uncertainties described below are those that we currently*

---

**Table of Contents**

*believe may materially affect our Company. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial also may impair our business operations. As such, you should not consider this list to be a complete statement of all potential risks or uncertainties.*

**Risks Related to the State of Our Internal Control Over Financial Reporting, the Restatement of Our Financial Statements and Our Failure to Timely File Periodic Reports with the SEC.**

**Our Audit Committee and management have identified material weaknesses in our internal controls over financial reporting, and we may be unable to develop, implement and maintain appropriate controls in future periods.** The Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and SEC rules require that management report annually on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting and our disclosure controls and procedures. Among other things, management must conduct an assessment of our internal control over financial reporting to allow management to report on, and our independent registered public accounting firm to audit, the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting, as required by Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. Based on our management's assessment, we believe that, as of December 31, 2011, our internal controls over financial reporting were not effective. The specific material weaknesses are described in Part II Item 9A, Controls and Procedures of this 2011 Form 10-K in Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of our annual or interim consolidated financial statements would not be prevented or detected. We have adopted a remediation plan to address the material weaknesses identified. The implementation and administration of the remediation plan may divert the attention of our Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO), as well as senior members of our finance and accounting departments away from the operations of our business until all material weaknesses in our internal control are considered remediated.

The material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011 were identified in connection with our determinations in December 2011 and March 2012 that our previously issued consolidated financial statements required restatement to correct material errors included therein. Similarly, there were material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2009, which were identified in connection with our determination in July 2010 that our previously issued consolidated financial statements required restatement to correct material errors. We cannot assure you that additional material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting will not be identified in the future. Any failure to maintain or implement required new or improved controls, or any difficulties we encounter in their implementation, could result in additional material weaknesses, or could result in material misstatements in our financial statements. These misstatements could result in a further restatement of financial statements, cause us to fail to meet our reporting obligations or cause investors to lose confidence in our reported financial information, leading to a decline in our stock price.

Further and continued determinations that there are material weaknesses in the effectiveness of our internal controls could also reduce our ability to obtain financing or could increase the cost of any financing we obtain and require additional expenditures of both money and management's time to comply with applicable requirements. For more information relating to our internal control over financial reporting and disclosure controls and procedures, see Part II Item 9A, Controls and Procedures of this 2011 Form 10-K.

**Our failure to prepare and timely file our periodic reports with the SEC limits our access to the public markets to raise debt or equity capital.** We did not file this 2011 Form 10-K, nor our Form 10-Q for the third quarter of 2011, within the timeframe required by the SEC. Because of our late filing, we may be limited in our ability to access the public markets to raise debt or equity capital, which could prevent us from pursuing transactions or implementing business strategies that we believe would be beneficial to our business. Until twelve months after the month in which we regain compliance with our SEC reporting obligations, we will be ineligible to use shorter and less costly filings, such as Form S-3, to register our securities for sale. We may use Form S-1 to register a sale of our stock to raise capital or complete acquisitions, but doing so would likely increase transaction costs and adversely impact our ability to raise capital or complete acquisitions of other companies in a timely manner.

---

**Table of Contents****Risks Related to the Pending SEC Investigation and Pending Litigation**

**The SEC's formal investigation and pending putative securities class action and derivative litigation have resulted in significant costs and expenses, have diverted resources and could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.** As further described in Part I Item 3, Legal Proceedings of this 2011 Form 10-K, on March 10, 2010 we were advised by the staff of the SEC Enforcement Division that the SEC had commenced a formal investigation. This investigation is ongoing and we are cooperating fully with the SEC in connection with these matters. As also further described in Part I Item 3, Legal Proceedings of this 2011 Form 10-K, several lawsuits, including two putative shareholder class action complaints (that have since been consolidated into one action) and three putative derivative complaints, have been filed against us and certain of our current and former officers and directors arising out of our announcement of the Audit Committee investigation and related matters. In addition, there is the possibility that new legal claims may be brought as a result of the current restatement reflected in this 2011 Form 10-K. We have incurred significant professional fees and other costs in responding to the SEC investigation and in defending against the lawsuits and possible new claims. We expect to continue to incur significant professional fees and other costs in responding to the SEC investigation and in defending against these lawsuits. If we do not prevail in one or more of these lawsuits, we may be required to pay a significant amount of monetary damages. Further, if the SEC were to conclude that enforcement action is appropriate, we could be required to pay large civil penalties and fines. The SEC also could impose other sanctions against us or certain of our current and former directors and officers. Any of these events could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows. Additionally, while we believe we have made appropriate judgments in determining the correct adjustments in preparing our restated consolidated financial statements, the SEC may disagree with the manner in which we have accounted for and reported these adjustments. Accordingly, there is a risk that we may have to further restate our historical consolidated financial statements, amend prior filings with the SEC or take other actions not currently contemplated. In addition, our Board of Directors, management and employees have expended a substantial amount of time on the SEC investigation and pending litigation, diverting a significant amount of resources and attention that would otherwise be directed toward our operations and implementation of our business strategy, all of which could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

**Our indemnification obligations and limitations of our director and officer liability insurance may have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.** Under Oregon law, our articles of incorporation and bylaws and certain indemnification agreements to which we are a party, we have an obligation to indemnify, or we have otherwise agreed to indemnify, certain of our current and former directors and officers with respect to current and future investigations and litigation, including the matters discussed in Part I Item 3, Legal Proceedings. In connection with some of these pending matters, we are required to, or we have otherwise agreed to, advance, and have advanced, legal fees and related expenses to certain of our current and former directors and officers and expect to continue to do so while these matters are pending. Certain of these obligations may not be covered matters under our directors and officers liability insurance, or there may be insufficient coverage available. Further, in the event the directors and officers are ultimately determined to not be entitled to indemnification, we may not be able to recover the amounts we previously advanced to them.

In addition, we have incurred significant expenses in connection with the pending SEC investigation and litigation. We cannot provide any assurances that pending claims, or claims yet to arise, will not exceed the limits of our insurance policies, that such claims are covered by the terms of our insurance policies or that our insurance carrier will be able to cover our claims. The insurers also may seek to deny or limit coverage in some or all of these matters. Furthermore, the insurers could become insolvent and unable to fulfill their obligation to defend, pay or reimburse us for insured claims. Accordingly, we cannot be sure that claims will not arise that are in excess of the limits of our insurance or that are not covered by the terms of our insurance policy. Due to these coverage limitations, we may incur significant unreimbursed costs to satisfy our indemnification obligations, which may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

---

## **Table of Contents**

**Continuing negative publicity may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.** As a result of the ongoing SEC investigation and shareholder and derivative litigation and related matters, we have been the subject of negative publicity. This negative publicity may adversely affect our stock price and may harm our reputation and our relationships with current and future investors, lenders, customers, suppliers and employees. As a result, our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows may be materially adversely affected.

### **Risks Related to Our Financial Condition**

**Our significant debt obligations and the restrictions under which we operate as a result of our debt obligations could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.** We have financed our operations through cash flows from operations, available borrowings and other financing arrangements. As of December 31, 2011, we had approximately \$95.5 million of outstanding debt and capital lease obligations.

Our debt and our debt service obligations could:

limit our ability to obtain additional financing for working capital or other purposes in the future;

reduce the amount of funds available to finance our operations, capital expenditures and other activities;

increase our vulnerability to economic downturns, illiquid capital markets, and adverse industry conditions;

limit our flexibility in responding to changing business and economic conditions, including increased competition;

place us at a disadvantage when compared to our competitors that have less debt; and

with respect to our borrowings that bear interest at variable rates, cause us to be vulnerable to increases in interest rates.

Our ability to make scheduled payments on our debt will depend on our future operating performance and cash flows, which are subject to prevailing economic conditions, prevailing interest rate levels and other financial, competitive and business factors, many of which are beyond our control. Our inability to make scheduled payments on our debt or any of the foregoing factors would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows.

**We will need to substantially increase working capital as market conditions and customer order levels improve.** As market conditions and customer order levels improve we will have to increase our working capital substantially, as it will take several months for new orders to be translated into cash receipts. In general, availability under our credit agreement is limited to \$125 million as of December 31, 2011. Effective as of March 29, 2012, we have entered into the most recent amendments to our debt instruments which are described in Note 17 Subsequent Events of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II Item 8, Financial Statements and Supplementary Data . These amendments will set the aggregate commitment of the lenders under our credit agreement at \$115 million. We may not have sufficient availability under this agreement to borrow the amounts we need, and other opportunities to borrow additional funds or raise capital in the equity markets may be limited or nonexistent. A shortage in the availability of working capital would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows.

**Our failure to comply with covenants in our debt instruments could result in our indebtedness being immediately due and payable, which would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.** The agreements governing our outstanding debt include financial and other restrictive covenants that impose certain requirements with respect to our financial condition



## Table of Contents

and results of operations and general business activities. These covenants require us to maintain certain financial ratios and place restrictions on, among other things, our ability to incur certain additional debt and to create liens or other encumbrances on assets. Effective as of March 29, 2012, we have entered into the most recent amendments to our debt instruments which are described in Note 17 Subsequent Events of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II Item 8, Financial Statements and Supplementary Data . These amendments made certain changes in the definition, method of calculation and amounts of certain covenants.

Our ability to comply with the financial and other covenants under our debt instruments in the future is uncertain and will be affected by our results of operations and financial condition as well as other events and circumstances beyond our control. If market and other economic conditions do not improve, our ability to comply with these covenants may be impaired. A failure to comply with the requirements of these covenants, if not waived or cured, could permit acceleration of the related debt and acceleration of debt under other instruments that include cross-acceleration or cross-default provisions. If any of our debt is accelerated, we cannot assure you that we would have sufficient assets to repay such debt or that we would be able to refinance such debt on commercially reasonable terms or at all. The acceleration of a significant portion of our debt would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows.

**Disruptions in the financial markets and the general economic slowdown could cause us to be unable to obtain financing and expose us to risks related to the overall macro-economic environment, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.** The United States equity and credit markets have experienced significant price volatility, dislocations and liquidity disruptions, which have caused market prices of many equities to fluctuate substantially and the spreads on prospective debt financings to widen considerably. These circumstances have materially impacted liquidity in the financial markets, making terms for certain financings less attractive, and in some cases have resulted in the unavailability of financing, even for companies who are otherwise qualified to obtain financing. These events may make it less likely that we will be able to obtain additional financing and also may make it more difficult or prohibitively costly for us to raise capital through the issuance of debt or equity securities.

### **Risks Related to our Business**

**The success of our business is affected by general economic conditions, and our business may be adversely affected by an economic slowdown or recession.** Periods of economic slowdown or recession in the United States, or the public perception that one may occur, have and could further decrease the demand for our products, affect the price of our products and adversely impact our business. We have been impacted in the past by the general slowing of the economy, and the economic slowdown has had an adverse impact on our business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows. In particular, our Tubular Products Group is exposed to the energy exploration, non-residential construction, and agriculture markets, and a significant downturn in any one of these markets could cause a reduction in our revenues that could be difficult to offset.

**Our exposure to the energy market is growing.** Products serving the energy market, including line pipe and OCTG, comprised over 80% of the backlog in the Tubular Products Group at December 31, 2011. Sales of these products are tied to the exploration, development, and production of natural gas and oil reserves. Factors affecting the profitability of exploration and production of hydrocarbons such as the price of oil and gas will have an effect on the market for energy pipe products. The current outlook remains consistent with stable levels of exploration and production activity, but a decline in this activity could adversely affect our business. The energy market has a history of extreme volatility, and for 2011, sales of our energy pipe products increased by 74% compared to 2010 while sales of our energy pipe products increased by 595% in 2010 compared to 2009. We cannot provide assurance that there will not be similar volatility in the future, which would have an adverse effect on our business, financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.



---

## Table of Contents

**We depend on third party processors to provide finishing services on certain of our energy market products.** Certain products supplied to the OCTG market require finishing services currently provided by third parties to finish the pipe to customer specifications. These finishing operations include but are not limited to threading, inspection, testing and heat treating. Our dependency on these processors has increased along with our increased production of OCTG products. Because we cannot perform these processes internally, our inability to secure production time at these processors could negatively impact our revenues from the energy market.

**Increased levels of imports could adversely affect pricing and demand for our products serving the energy market.** Although certain imported steel products from China have been curtailed by anti-dumping duties, imported products from other countries have increased, notably from Canada and Italy, and imports from Korea and India continue to command significant market share. Any increase in imports of steel products that compete with our products serving the energy market could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows.

**A downturn in government spending related to public water transmission projects would adversely affect our business.** Our Water Transmission business accounted for approximately 53% of our net sales in 2011. Our Water Transmission business is primarily dependent upon spending on public water transmission projects, including water infrastructure upgrades, repairs and replacement and new water infrastructure spending, which, in turn, depends on, among other things:

the need for new or replacement infrastructure;

the priorities placed on various projects by governmental entities;

federal, state and local government spending levels, including budgetary constraints related to capital projects and the ability to obtain financing; and

the ability of governmental entities to obtain environmental approvals, right-of-way permits and other required approvals and permits.

Decreases in the number of, or government funding of, public water transmission projects would adversely affect our business, financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

**Project delays in public water transmission projects could adversely affect our business.** The public water agencies constructing water transmission projects generally announce the projects well in advance of the bidding and construction process. It is not unusual for projects to be delayed and rescheduled. Projects are delayed and rescheduled for a number of reasons, including changes in project priorities, difficulties in complying with environmental and other government regulations and additional time required to acquire rights-of-way or property rights. Delays in public water transmission projects may occur with too little notice to allow us to replace those projects in our manufacturing schedules. As a result, our business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows may be adversely affected by unplanned downtime.

**We operate in highly competitive industries, and increased competition could reduce our gross profit and net income.** We face significant competition in all of our businesses. We have recently seen new domestic and foreign competitors bidding on projects. Orders in the water transmission business are competitively bid, and price competition can be vigorous. Price competition may reduce the gross margin on sales, which may adversely affect overall profitability. Other competitive factors include timely delivery, ability to meet customized specifications and high freight costs. Although our Water Transmission manufacturing facilities in Oregon, Colorado, California, West Virginia, Texas, Utah and Mexico allow us to compete throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico, we cannot assure you that new or existing competitors will not establish new facilities or expand capacity within our market areas. New or expanded facilities or new competitors could have a material adverse effect on our market share and product pricing in our water transmission business. There are many competitors in the Tubular Products business, and price is often a prime consideration for purchase of our products. Price competition may reduce our gross profit, which may adversely affect our net income. Some of

## Table of Contents

our competitors have greater financial, technical and marketing resources than we do. We cannot assure you that we will be able to compete successfully with our competitors. Failure to compete successfully could reduce our gross profit and net income, as well as have a material adverse effect on our business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

**Operating problems in our business could adversely affect our business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows.** Our manufacturing operations are subject to typical hazards and risks relating to the manufacture of similar products such as:

explosions, fires, inclement weather and natural disasters;

mechanical failure;

unscheduled downtime;

labor difficulties;

loss of process control and quality;

disruptions to supply;

raw materials quality defects;

service provider delays or failures;

transportation delays or failures;

an inability to obtain or maintain required licenses or permits; and

environmental hazards such as chemical spills, discharges or releases of toxic or hazardous substances or gases into the environment or workplace.

The occurrence of any of these operating problems at our facilities may have a material adverse effect on the productivity and profitability of a particular manufacturing facility or on our operations as a whole, during and after the period of these operating difficulties. These operating problems may also cause personal injury and loss of life, severe damage to or destruction of property and equipment, and environmental damage. In addition, individuals could seek damages for alleged personal injury or property damage. Furthermore, we could be subject to present and future claims with respect to workplace injury, exposure to hazardous materials, workers' compensation and other matters. Although we maintain property and casualty insurance of the types and in the amounts that we believe are customary for our industries, we cannot assure you that our insurance coverage will be adequate for liability that may be ultimately incurred or that such coverage will continue to be available to us on commercially reasonable terms. Any claims that result in liability exceeding our insurance coverage could have an adverse effect on our business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

**Our Water Transmission business faces competition from concrete, ductile iron, polyvinyl chloride ( PVC ) and high density polyethylene ( HDPE ) pipe manufacturers.** Water transmission pipe is manufactured generally from steel, concrete, HDPE, PVC or ductile iron. Each pipe

## Edgar Filing: NORTHWEST PIPE CO - Form 10-K

material has advantages and disadvantages. Steel and concrete are more common materials for larger diameter water transmission pipelines because ductile iron pipe generally is limited in diameter due to the manufacturing process. The public agencies and engineers who determine the specifications for water transmission projects analyze these pipe materials for suitability for each project. Individual project circumstances normally dictate the preferred material. If we experience cost increases in raw materials, labor and overhead specific to our industry or the location of our facilities, while competing products or companies do not experience similar changes, we could experience an adverse change in the demand, price and profitability of our products, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

## Table of Contents

**Our quarterly results of operations are subject to significant fluctuation.** Our net sales and operating results may fluctuate significantly from quarter to quarter due to a number of factors, including:

the commencement, completion or termination of contracts during any particular quarter;

unplanned down time due to project delays or mechanical failure;

underutilized capacity or factory productivity;

the seasonal variation in demand for tubular products;

adverse weather conditions;

fluctuations in the cost of steel and other raw materials; and

competitive pressures.

Results of operations in any period are not indicative of results for any future period, and comparisons between any two periods may not be meaningful.

**We depend on our senior management team, and the loss of any member could adversely affect our operations.** Our success depends on the management and leadership skills of our senior management team. The loss of any of these individuals, or our inability to attract, retain and maintain additional personnel, could prevent us from fully implementing our business strategy. We cannot assure you that we will be able to retain our existing senior management personnel or to attract qualified personnel when needed.

**Fluctuations in steel prices may affect our future results of operations.** Purchased steel represents a substantial portion of our cost of sales, particularly in our tubular products business. The steel industry is highly cyclical in nature, and, at times, pricing can be highly volatile due to a number of factors beyond our control, including general economic conditions, import duties, other trade restrictions and currency exchange rates. Over the past three years, steel prices have fluctuated significantly. Our cost for a ton of steel was approximately \$531 per ton in 2009 and \$663 per ton in 2010. Steel prices peaked in June 2011 when we were able to purchase steel at approximately \$948 per ton, but have since dropped to remain relatively consistent during the second half of 2011, when we were able to purchase steel at an average price of \$760 per ton. This volatility can significantly affect our gross profit. Although we seek to recover increases in steel prices through price increases in our products, we have not always been completely successful. Any increase in steel prices that is not offset by an increase in our prices could have an adverse effect on our business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

**We may be subject to claims for damages for defective products, which could adversely affect our business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows.** We warrant our products to be free of certain defects. We have, from time to time, had claims alleging defects in our products. We cannot assure you that we will not experience material product liability losses in the future or that we will not incur significant costs to defend such claims. While we currently have product liability insurance, we cannot assure you that our product liability insurance coverage will be adequate for liability that may be incurred in the future or that such coverage will continue to be available to us on commercially reasonable terms. Any claims relating to defective products that result in liability exceeding our insurance coverage could have an adverse effect on our business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

**We may not be able to recover costs and damages from vendors that supply defective materials.** We may receive defective materials from our vendors that are incorporated into our products during the manufacturing process. The cost to repair, remake or replace defective products could be greater than the amount that can be recovered from the vendor. Such excess costs could have an adverse effect on our business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows.



---

**Table of Contents**

**Sustained increases in fuel costs could have an adverse impact on our profitability.** We have periodically experienced significant fluctuations in fuel costs primarily as a result of macro-economic factors beyond our control. The price of fuel fluctuates significantly over time, and events beyond our control could adversely affect the supply and cost of fuel. Although we seek to recover increases in fuel costs through price increases in our products, we have not always been completely successful. Any increase in fuel costs that is not offset by increases in our prices could have an adverse impact on our business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

**We may be unable to develop or successfully market new products or our products might not obtain necessary approvals or achieve market acceptance, which could adversely affect our growth.** We will continue to actively seek to develop new products and to expand our existing products into new markets, but we cannot assure you that we will be successful in these efforts. If we are unsuccessful in developing and marketing new products, expanding into new markets, or we do not obtain or maintain requisite approvals for our products, the demand for our products could be adversely affected, which could affect our business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

**We have a foreign operation which exposes us to the risks of doing business abroad.** Our fabrication facility in Monterrey, Mexico primarily exports products to the United States. We may operate in additional countries in the future. Any material changes in the quotas, regulations or duties on imports imposed by the U.S. government and our agencies or on exports imposed by these foreign governments and their agencies could adversely affect our foreign operations.

We also sell some of our products internationally. Our foreign activities are also subject to various other risks of doing business in a foreign country, including:

currency fluctuations;

transportation delays and interruptions;

political, social and economic instability and disruptions;

government embargoes or foreign trade restrictions;

the imposition of duties, tariffs and other trade barriers;

import and export controls;

labor unrest and current and changing regulatory environments;

limitations on our ability to enforce legal rights and remedies; and

potentially adverse tax consequences.

No assurance can be given that our operations may not be adversely affected in the future. Any of these events could have an adverse effect on our operations in the future by reducing the demand for our products and services, decreasing the prices at which we can sell our products or increasing costs such that there would be an adverse effect on our business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows. We cannot assure you that we will continue to operate in compliance with applicable customs, currency exchange control regulations, transfer pricing regulations or any other laws or regulations to which we may be subject, or that any such regulations or laws will not be modified. Any failure by us to comply with any such applicable regulations or laws, or any changes in any such regulations or laws could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

**Our use of the percentage-of-completion method of accounting could result in a change to previously recorded revenue and profit.** In particular, revenue from construction contracts in our water transmission segment is recognized on the percentage-of-completion method, measured by the costs incurred to date as a percentage of the estimated total costs of each contract (the cost-to-cost method). Estimated total costs of each

## **Table of Contents**

contract are reviewed on a monthly basis by project management and operations personnel for substantially all projects that are 50% or more complete except that major projects, usually over \$5.0 million, are reviewed earlier if sufficient production has been completed to provide enough information to revise the original estimated total cost of the project. All cost revisions that result in the gross profit as a percent of sales increasing or decreasing by more than two percent are reviewed by senior management personnel.

The use of estimated cost to complete each contract is a significant variable in the process of determining income earned and is a significant factor in the accounting for contracts. The cumulative impact of revisions in total cost estimates during the progress of work is reflected in the period in which these changes become known. Due to the variability of events affecting our estimates which have a material impact on our contract accounting, actual results could differ from those estimates, which could adversely affect our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

**Our backlog is subject to reduction and cancellation.** Backlog represents products or services that our customers have committed to purchase from us and projects for which we have been notified that we are the successful bidder even though a binding agreement has not been executed. Projects for which a binding contract has not been executed could be cancelled. Our backlog as of December 31, 2011 was \$175 million. Our backlog is subject to fluctuations; moreover, cancellations of purchase orders, change orders on contracts, or reductions of product quantities could materially reduce our backlog and, consequently, future revenues. Our failure to replace canceled or reduced backlog could result in lower revenues, which could adversely affect our business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

**Our tubular products business has faced intense competition from imports in the past.** The level of imports of tubular products has historically impacted the domestic tubular products market. High levels of imports may reduce the volume of tubular products sold by domestic producers and depress selling prices of tubular products. We believe import levels are affected by, among other things, overall worldwide demand for tubular products, lower cost of production in other countries, the trade practices of foreign governments, government subsidies to foreign producers and governmentally imposed trade restrictions in the United States. Increased imports of tubular products in the United States and Canada could adversely affect our business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

**Our tubular products business is facing intense competition from other North American suppliers.** With the increase in energy pipe markets, there have been significant increases in available capacity in North America. Approximately 1.35 million tons of tubular pipe capacity has been added in the last few years. Approximately 500,000 tons of tubular pipe capacity is currently under construction and another 500,000 tons has been announced. Increased domestic capacity and production in the United States and Canada could adversely affect our business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

**We are subject to stringent environmental and health and safety laws, which may require us to incur substantial compliance and remediation costs, thereby reducing our profits.** We are subject to many federal, state, local and foreign environmental and health and safety laws and regulations, particularly with respect to the use, handling, treatment, storage, discharge and disposal of substances and hazardous wastes used or generated in our manufacturing processes. Compliance with these laws and regulations is a significant factor in our business. We have incurred, and expect to continue to incur, significant expenditures to comply with applicable environmental laws and regulations. Our failure to comply with applicable environmental laws and regulations and permit requirements could result in civil or criminal fines or penalties or enforcement actions, including regulatory or judicial orders enjoining or curtailing operations or requiring corrective measures, installation of pollution control equipment or remedial actions.

We are currently, and may in the future be, required to incur costs relating to the environmental assessment or environmental remediation of our property, and for addressing environmental conditions, including, but not limited to, the issues associated with our Portland, Oregon facility as discussed in Part I Item 3, Legal Proceedings below. Some environmental laws and regulations impose liability and responsibility on present and



## **Table of Contents**

former owners, operators or users of facilities and sites for contamination at such facilities and sites without regard to causation or knowledge of contamination. Consequently, we cannot assure you that existing or future circumstances, the development of new facts or the failure of third parties to address contamination at current or former facilities or properties will not require significant expenditures by us.

We expect to continue to be subject to increasingly stringent environmental and health and safety laws and regulations. It is difficult to predict the future interpretation and development of environmental and health and safety laws and regulations or their impact on our future earnings and operations. We anticipate that compliance will continue to require capital expenditures and operating costs. Any increase in these costs, or unanticipated liabilities arising, for example, out of discovery of previously unknown conditions or more aggressive enforcement actions, could adversely affect our results of operations, and there is no assurance that they will not have a material adverse effect on our business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

**We face risks in connection with potential acquisitions.** Acquiring businesses that complement or expand our operations has been an important element of our business strategy, and we continue to evaluate potential acquisitions that may expand and complement our business. We may not be able to successfully identify attractive acquisition candidates or negotiate favorable terms in the future. Furthermore, our ability to effectively integrate any future acquisitions will depend on, among other things, the adequacy of our implementation plans, the ability of our management to oversee and operate effectively the combined operations and our ability to achieve desired operational efficiencies. If we are unable to successfully integrate the operations of any businesses that we may acquire in the future, our business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows could be adversely affected.

### **Risks Related to Our Common Stock**

**The relatively low trading volume of our common stock may limit your ability to sell your shares.** Although our shares of common stock are listed on the Nasdaq, we have historically experienced a relatively low trading volume. If we have a low trading volume in the future, holders of our shares may have difficulty selling a large number of shares of our common stock in the manner or at a price that might otherwise be attainable.

**The market price of our common stock could be subject to significant fluctuations.** The market price of our common stock has experienced, and may continue to experience, significant volatility. Among the factors that could affect our stock price are:

our operating and financial performance and prospects;

quarterly variations in the rate of growth of our financial indicators, such as earnings per share, net income and sales;

changes in revenue or earnings estimates or publication of research reports by analysts;

loss of any member of our senior management team;

speculation in the press or investment community;

strategic actions by us or our competitors, such as acquisitions or restructuring;

sales of our common stock by shareholders;

relatively low trading volume;

general market conditions and market expectations for our industry and the financial health of our customers; and

domestic and international economic, legal and regulatory factors unrelated to our performance.

**Table of Contents**

The stock markets in general have experienced broad fluctuations that have often been unrelated to the operating performance of particular companies. These broad market fluctuations may adversely affect the trading price of our common stock.

**Certain provisions of our governing documents and Oregon law could discourage potential acquisition proposals.** Our articles of incorporation contain provisions that:

classify the board of directors into three classes, each of which serves for a three-year term with one class elected each year;

provide that directors may be removed by shareholders only for cause and only upon the affirmative vote of 75% of the outstanding shares of common stock; and

permit the board of directors to issue preferred stock in one or more series, fix the number of shares constituting any such series and determine the voting powers and all other rights and preferences of any such series, without any further vote or action by our shareholders.

In addition, we are subject to the Oregon Business Combination Act, which imposes certain restrictions on business combination transactions and may encourage parties interested in acquiring us to negotiate in advance with our board of directors. We also have a shareholder rights plan that acts to discourage any person or group from making a tender offer for, or acquiring, more than 15% of our common stock without the approval of our board of directors. Any of these provisions could discourage potential acquisition proposals, could deter, delay or prevent a change in control that our shareholders consider favorable and could depress the market value of our common stock.

**Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments**

None.

**Item 2. Properties**

The following table provides certain information about our ten operating facilities as of December 31, 2011:

Location	Manufacturing Space (approx. sq. ft.)	Property Size (approx. acres)	Products	Number and Type of Mills
Portland, Oregon	300,000	25	Water transmission	3 spiral mills
Atchison, Kansas	106,000	60	Tubular products	2 electric resistance mills
Adelanto, California	200,000	100	Water transmission	3 spiral mills
Denver, Colorado	182,000	40	Water transmission	2 spiral mills
Houston, Texas	175,000	15	Tubular products	3 electric resistance mills
Parkersburg, West Virginia	145,000	90	Water transmission	2 spiral mills
Saginaw, Texas (2 facilities)	170,000	50	Water transmission	1 spiral mill
Pleasant Grove, Utah	87,000	40	Water transmission	2 spiral mills
Monterrey, Mexico	40,000	5	Water transmission	Multiple line fabrication capability
Bossier City, Louisiana	180,000	25	Tubular products	1 electric resistance mill

As of December 31, 2011, we owned all of our facilities except for our Pleasant Grove facility, one of our Saginaw, Texas facilities, and property adjacent to our Oregon facility, which are leased. During the first half of 2012, we will be shutting down our Pleasant Grove facility,

transferring its property and equipment to other manufacturing locations.

---

## **Table of Contents**

Our facilities serve regional markets, which vary in the number and sizes of projects year-over-year. Consequently, we have excess manufacturing capacity from time to time at each of our facilities. We believe the quality and productive capacity of our facilities are sufficient to maintain our competitive position for the foreseeable future.

### **Item 3. Legal Proceedings**

#### **Class Action and Derivative Lawsuits**

On November 20, 2009, a complaint against the Company, captioned *Richard v. Northwest Pipe Co. et al.*, No. C09-5724 RBL ( Richard ), was filed in the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington. The plaintiff is allegedly a purchaser of the Company's stock. In addition to the Company, Brian W. Dunham, the Company's former President and Chief Executive Officer, and Stephanie J. Welty, the Company's former Chief Financial Officer, are named as defendants. The complaint alleges that defendants violated Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 by making false or misleading statements between April 23, 2008 and November 11, 2009. Plaintiff seeks to represent a class of persons who purchased the Company's stock during the same period, and seeks damages for losses caused by the alleged wrongdoing.

A similar complaint, captioned *Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union No. 630 Pension-Annuity Trust Fund v. Northwest Pipe Co. et al.*, No. C09-5791 RBL ( Plumbers ), was filed against the Company in the same court on December 22, 2009. In addition to the Company, Brian W. Dunham, Stephanie J. Welty and William R. Tagmyer, the Company's current Chairman of the Board, are named as defendants in the Plumbers complaint. In the Plumbers complaint, as in the Richard complaint, the plaintiff is allegedly a purchaser of the Company's stock and asserts that defendants violated Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 by making false or misleading statements between April 23, 2008 and November 11, 2009. Plaintiff seeks to represent a class of persons who purchased the Company's stock during that period, and seeks damages for losses caused by the alleged wrongdoing.

The Richard action and the Plumbers action were consolidated on February 25, 2010. Plumbers and Pipefitters Local No. 630 Pension-Annuity Trust Fund was appointed lead plaintiff in the consolidated action. Defendants and lead plaintiff subsequently agreed that defendants did not need to respond immediately to either of the two outstanding complaints, and that a consolidated amended complaint would be filed within 45 days of the Company having completed the filing of the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2009 and the 2009 Form 10-K with the SEC. A consolidated amended complaint was filed by the plaintiff on December 21, 2010, and our motion to dismiss was filed on February 25, 2011, as were similar motions filed by the individual defendants. Briefing on those motions concluded on May 24, 2011. On August 26, 2011, the Court denied all defendants' motions to dismiss, and the Company filed its answer to the consolidated amended complaint on October 24, 2011. The parties have conducted limited discovery and participated in an initial settlement mediation on January 30, 2012, with additional sessions anticipated in the future. By agreement of the parties, no further discovery will take place until after the mediation process is exhausted. The Company intends to vigorously defend itself against these claims. This securities litigation is at an early stage and, at this time, it is not possible to predict its outcome. Therefore, the Company has not accrued any charges related to this litigation.

On March 3, 2010, the Company was served with a derivative complaint, captioned *Ruggles v. Dunham et al.*, No. C10-5129 RBL ( Ruggles ), and filed in the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington. The plaintiff in this action is allegedly a current shareholder of the Company. The Company is a nominal defendant in this litigation. Plaintiff seeks to assert, on the Company's behalf, claims against Brian W. Dunham, Stephanie J. Welty, William R. Tagmyer, Keith R. Larson, Wayne B. Kingsley, Richard A. Roman, Michael C. Franson and Neil R. Thornton. The asserted basis of the claims is that defendants breached fiduciary duties to the Company by causing the Company to make improper statements between April 23, 2008 and August 7, 2009. Plaintiff seeks to recover, on the Company's behalf, damages for losses caused by the alleged wrongdoing.

---

## **Table of Contents**

On September 23, 2011, the Company was served with a derivative complaint, captioned *Grivich v. Dunham, et al.*, No. 11-2-03678-6 ( Grivich ), and filed in the Superior Court of Washington for Clark County. The plaintiff in this action is allegedly a current shareholder of the Company. The Company is a nominal defendant in this litigation. Plaintiff seeks to assert, on the Company's behalf, claims against Brian W. Dunham, Stephanie J. Welty, William R. Tagmyer, Keith R. Larson, Wayne B. Kingsley, Richard A. Roman, Michael C. Franson and Neil R. Thornton. The asserted basis of the claims is that defendants breached fiduciary duties to the Company between April 2, 2007 and the date of the Complaint. Plaintiff seeks to recover, on the Company's behalf, damages for losses caused by the alleged wrongdoing.

On October 14, 2011, another derivative complaint, captioned *Richard v. Dunham, et al.*, No. 11-2-04080-5 ( Richard Deriv. ), was filed in the Superior Court of Washington for Clark County. The plaintiff in this action is allegedly a current shareholder of the Company. The Company is a nominal defendant in this litigation. Plaintiff seeks to assert, on the Company's behalf, claims against Brian W. Dunham, Stephanie J. Welty, William R. Tagmyer, Keith R. Larson, Wayne B. Kingsley, Richard A. Roman, Michael C. Franson and Neil R. Thornton. The asserted basis of the claims is that defendants breached fiduciary duties to the Company between April 2, 2007 and the date of the Complaint. Plaintiff seeks to recover, on the Company's behalf, damages for losses caused by the alleged wrongdoing.

An amended complaint in the Ruggles action was filed on November 10, 2011, and the defendant responded to the complaint by filing a motion to dismiss, which motion is still pending. The derivative parties participated in the initial settlement mediation described above and will participate in any follow up sessions. It should also be noted that derivative claims by their nature do not seek to recover damages from the Company, but purport instead to seek to recover damages for the benefit of the Company. These cases are at a very early stage and, at this time, it is not possible to predict their outcome. Therefore, the Company has not accrued any charges related to them.

### **SEC Investigation**

On March 8, 2010, the staff of the Enforcement Division of the SEC advised our counsel that they had obtained a formal order of investigation with respect to matters related to the Audit Committee investigation. We are cooperating fully with the SEC in connection with these matters. We cannot predict if, when or how they will be resolved or what, if any, actions we may be required to take as part of any resolution of these matters. Any action by the SEC or other governmental agency could result in civil or criminal sanctions against us and/or certain of our current and former officers, directors and employees. The investigation is at an early stage and, at this time, it is not possible to predict its outcome. Therefore, we have not accrued any charges related to this investigation.

### **Other Matters**

On December 1, 2000, a section of the lower Willamette River known as the Portland Harbor was included on the National Priorities List at the request of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (the EPA). While the Company's Portland, Oregon manufacturing facility does not border the Willamette River, an outfall from the facility's stormwater system drains into a neighboring property's privately owned stormwater system and slip. Since the listing of the site, the Company was notified by the EPA and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (the ODEQ) of potential liability under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act ( CERCLA ). In 2008, the Company was asked to file information disclosure reports with the EPA (CERCLA 104 (e) information request). By agreement with the EPA, the ODEQ is responsible for overseeing remedial investigation and source control activities for all upland sites to investigate sources and prevent future contamination to the river. A remedial investigation and feasibility study (RI/FS) of the Portland Harbor is currently being directed by a group of potentially responsible parties known as the Lower Willamette Group (the LWG). The Company made a payment of \$175,000 to the LWG in June 2007 as part of an interim settlement, and is under no obligation to make any further payment. A draft remedial investigation report was

---

**Table of Contents**

submitted to the EPA by the LWG in the fall of 2009; the final draft remedial investigation was submitted to EPA in fall of 2011. The feasibility study is underway, and a draft is expected to be completed by the LWG in 2012.

In 2001, groundwater containing elevated organic compounds ( VOCs ) was identified in one localized area of property leased adjacent to the Portland facility furthest from the river. Assessment work in 2002 and 2003 to further characterize the groundwater is consistent with the initial conclusion that the source of the VOC s is located off of Company-owned property. In February 2005, the Company entered into a Voluntary Agreement for Remedial Investigation and Source Control Measures ( Agreement ) with the ODEQ. The Company is one of 90 Upland Source Control Sites working with the ODEQ on Source Control and is ranked a medium priority. The Company performed Remedial Investigation work required under the Agreement and submitted a draft Remedial Investigation/Source Control Evaluation Report on December 30, 2005. The conclusions of the report indicated that the VOCs found in the groundwater do not present an unacceptable risk to human or ecological receptors in the Willamette River. The report also indicated there is no evidence at this time showing a connection between detected VOCs in groundwater and Willamette River sediments. In 2009, the ODEQ requested the Company to revise its Remedial Investigation/Source Control Evaluation Report from 2005 to include recent information available related to nearby properties. The Company expects to submit an Expanded Risk Assessment for the VOC s in groundwater during 2012, following the completion of a paving project at the Portland facility.

Also, based on the remedial investigation and reporting required under the Portland, Oregon manufacturing facility s National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit for storm water, the Company and the ODEQ have identified small amounts of polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and trace amounts of zinc in storm water. Storm water from the Portland, Oregon manufacturing facility site is discharged into a communal storm water system that ultimately discharges into a neighboring property s privately owned slip. The slip was historically used for shipbuilding and subsequently for ship breaking and metal recycling. Studies of the river sediments have revealed concentration of PAHs, PCBs, and zinc, which are common constituents in urban storm water discharges. To minimize the zinc traces in its storm water, the Company painted a substantial part of the Portland facility s roofs and made certain paving improvements at the Portland facility. In June 2009, under the ODEQ Agreement, the Company submitted a Final Supplemental Work Plan to evaluate and assess soil and storm water, and further assess groundwater risk. In May 2010, the Company submitted a remediation plan related to soil contamination, which ODEQ approved in August 2010. Since August 2010, the Company has been engaged in performing the approved remediation plan which has included an upgrade to the fuel and waste storage systems (completed in the fourth quarter of 2011) and a storm water filtration system (completed in the first quarter of 2012). The remediation plan also required the excavation of a localized soil area to remove soil containing PAHs (completed in the third quarter of 2011). During the localized soil excavation in the third quarter of 2011, additional stained soil was discovered, and at the request of ODEQ, the Company is developing an additional Work Plan to characterize the nature and extent of soil and/or groundwater impacts from the staining. The Company spent approximately \$926,000 during 2011 to address storm water system upgrades and soil remediation, and expects to spend an additional \$1.4 million in 2012 to complete the work specified in the Work Plans.

Concurrent with the activities of the EPA and the ODEQ, the Portland Harbor Natural Resources Trustee Council ( Trustees ) sent some or all of the same parties, including the Company, a notice of intent to perform a Natural Resource Damage Assessment ( NRDA ) for the Portland Harbor Site to determine the nature and extent of natural resource damages under CERCLA section 107. The Trustees for the Portland Harbor Site consist of representatives from several Northwest Indian Tribes, three federal agencies and one state agency. The Trustees act independently of the EPA and the ODEQ. In 2009, the Trustees completed phase one of their three-phase NRDA. Phase one of the NRDA consisted of environmental studies to fill gaps in the information available from the EPA, and development of a framework for evaluating, quantifying and determining the extent of injuries to the natural resource. Phase two of the NRDA began in 2010 and consists largely of implementing the framework developed in phase one.

## **Table of Contents**

The Trustees have encouraged potentially responsible parties to voluntarily participate in the funding of their injury assessments and several of those parties have agreed to do so. In 2009, one of the Tribal Trustees (the Yakima Nation) resigned and has requested funding from the same parties to support its own assessment. The Company has not assumed any payment obligation or liability related to either request. The extent of the Company's obligation with respect to Portland Harbor matters is not known, and no further adjustment to the consolidated financial statements has been recorded as of December 31, 2011.

We operate our facilities under numerous governmental permits and licenses relating to air emissions, storm water run-off, and other environmental matters. Our operations are also governed by many other laws and regulations, including those relating to workplace safety and worker health, principally the Occupational Safety and Health Act and regulations there under which, among other requirements, establish noise and dust standards. We believe we are in material compliance with our permits and licenses and these laws and regulations, and we do not believe that future compliance with such laws and regulations will have a material adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

From time to time, the Company is involved in litigation relating to claims arising out of its operations in the normal course of its business. The Company maintains insurance coverage against potential claims in amounts that are believed to be adequate. The Company believes that it is not presently a party to any other litigation, the outcome of which would have a material adverse effect on its business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

### **Executive Officers of the Registrant**

Information regarding the Company's executive officers is set forth under the caption "Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance" in Part III Item 10, of this 2011 Form 10-K and is incorporated herein by reference.

### **Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures**

Not applicable.



**Table of Contents****PART II****Item 5. Market for the Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities  
Market Information**

Our common stock is quoted on the Nasdaq under the symbol NWPX. The high and low sales prices as reported on the Nasdaq for each quarter in the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 were as follows.

	<b>Low</b>	<b>High</b>
<b>2011</b>		
First Quarter	\$ 20.50	\$ 24.94
Second Quarter	21.25	26.89
Third Quarter	20.08	30.92
Fourth Quarter	19.20	27.66
<b>2010</b>		
First Quarter	\$ 19.44	\$ 29.19
Second Quarter	17.95	25.17
Third Quarter	14.62	19.92
Fourth Quarter	17.00	24.65

There were 62 shareholders of record and approximately 4,923 beneficial shareholders at April 2, 2012. There were no cash dividends declared or paid in fiscal years 2011 or 2010, and we do not intend to pay cash dividends in the foreseeable future.

**Table of Contents****Stock Performance Graph**

The following graph compares the performance of our common stock to the performance of the Russell 2000 Index and a weighted composite index of certain peer companies (the Peer Group ) selected by us. The Old Peer Group was comprised of the following companies: Lindsay Corporation, Valmont Industries, Inc., and Ameron International Corporation, which was removed from this comparison and replaced by Mueller Water Products as data is no longer publicly available following the acquisition of Ameron International Corporation by National Oilwell Varco, Inc. during 2011. The New Peer Group is comprised of Mueller Water Products, Lindsay Corporation and Valmont Industries, Inc.

The comparisons in the chart below are provided in response to SEC disclosure requirements and, therefore, are not intended to forecast or be indicative of future performance of our common stock.

	<b>Indexed Return</b>			
	<b>Northwest Pipe Company</b>	<b>Russell 2000 Index</b>	<b>New Peer Group</b>	<b>Old Peer Group</b>
December 31, 2006	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
December 31, 2007	116.42	98.43	152.47	173.43
December 31, 2008	126.74	65.18	99.11	109.07
December 31, 2009	79.89	82.89	120.11	140.09
December 31, 2010	71.48	105.14	134.11	169.59
December 31, 2011	68.00	100.75	125.52	170.68

**Securities Authorized for Issuance under Equity Compensation Plans**

The information with respect to equity compensation plans is included under Part III Item 12, Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters of this 2011 Form 10-K.

**Table of Contents****Item 6. Selected Financial Data**

The following tables include selected summary financial data for each of our last five years and should be read in conjunction with Part II Item 8, Financial Statements and Supplementary Data, and Part II Item 7, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations included in this Form 10-K. The information as of and for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009, 2008 and 2007 has been updated to reflect the restatement of our financial statements as discussed in Note 18 to the Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II Item 8, Financial Statements and Supplementary Data of this 2011 Form 10-K. You should read the selected consolidated historical financial information set forth below along with our restated audited consolidated financial statements included in Item 15 of this 2011 Form 10-K.

The following selected consolidated financial data as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 and for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 are derived from our audited consolidated financial statements included in this 2011 Form 10-K. The consolidated financial data as of December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007 and for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007 have been updated to reflect the effect of the restatement described in Note 18 to the Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II Item 8, Financial Statements and Supplementary Data of this 2011 Form 10-K.

	2011	2010	As of December 31,		
			2009	2008	2007
	(In thousands, except per share amounts)				
<b>Consolidated Statement of Operations Data:</b>					
Net sales	\$ 511,668	\$ 386,750	\$ 278,654	\$ 451,419	\$ 364,314
Gross profit	59,138	29,688	6,684	79,803	46,981
Net income (loss)	12,660	(5,440)	(11,075)	28,165	10,828
Basic earnings (loss) per share	1.36	(0.59)	(1.20)	3.08	1.21
Diluted earnings (loss) per share	1.35	(0.59)	(1.20)	3.01	1.17

	2011	2010	As of December 31,		
			2009	2008	2007
	(In thousands)				
<b>Consolidated Balance Sheet Data:</b>					
Working capital	\$ 170,614	\$ 152,810	\$ 120,377	\$ 192,163	\$ 160,677
Total assets	413,373	414,883	378,114	452,562	401,464
Long-term debt and capital lease obligations, less current portion	86,418	101,491	61,384	115,250	94,365
Stockholders' equity	240,267	226,292	230,951	240,954	209,810

**Table of Contents****Summary Financial Impacts of Restatements**

The following table presents as restated and as previously reported summary financial data for revenue, gross profit, net income, basic earnings per share and diluted earnings per share to reflect the effects of the restatement discussed in Note 18 to the Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II Item 8, Financial Statements and Supplementary Data of this 2011 Form 10-K to these earlier periods presented herein.

	Net Sales	Gross Profit (in thousands)	Net Income	Basic Earnings per Share	Diluted Earnings per Share
<b>Year Ended December 31, 2008</b>					
As previously reported	\$ 451,419	\$ 84,857	\$ 31,338	\$ 3.43	\$ 3.35
Restatement adjustments		(5,054)	(3,173)	(0.35)	(0.34)
As restated	\$ 451,419	\$ 79,803	\$ 28,165	\$ 3.08	\$ 3.01
<b>Year Ended December 31, 2007</b>					
As previously reported	\$ 364,314	\$ 48,453	\$ 11,919	\$ 1.33	\$ 1.29
Restatement adjustments		(1,472)	(1,091)	(0.12)	(0.12)
As restated	\$ 364,314	\$ 46,981	\$ 10,828	\$ 1.21	\$ 1.17

The following table presents as restated and as previously reported summary financial data for working capital; total assets; long-term debt and capital lease obligations, less current portion; and stockholders equity to reflect the effects of the restatement discussed in Note 18 to the Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II Item 8, Financial Statements and Supplementary Data of this 2011 Form 10-K.

	Working Capital	Total Assets	Long-Term Debt and Capital Lease Obligations, less Current Portion (in thousands)	Stockholders Equity
<b>As of December 31, 2009</b>				
As previously reported	\$ 122,344	\$ 391,237	\$ 51,722	\$ 246,299
Restatement adjustments	(1,967)	(13,123)	9,662	(15,348)
As restated	\$ 120,377	\$ 378,114	\$ 61,384	\$ 230,951
<b>As of December 31, 2008</b>				
As previously reported	\$ 192,385	\$ 470,280	\$ 114,444	\$ 252,504
Restatement adjustments	(222)	(17,718)	806	(11,550)
As restated	\$ 192,163	\$ 452,562	\$ 115,250	\$ 240,954
<b>As of December 31, 2007</b>				
As previously reported	\$ 160,885	\$ 413,821	\$ 93,336	\$ 218,187
Restatement adjustments	(208)	(12,357)	1,029	(8,377)
As restated	\$ 160,677	\$ 401,464	\$ 94,365	\$ 209,810



---

## **Table of Contents**

### **Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Forward-Looking Statements**

This Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and other sections of this 2011 Form 10-K contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and Section 21E of the Exchange Act that are based on current expectations, estimates and projections about our business, management's beliefs, and assumptions made by management. Words such as expects, anticipates, intends, plans, believes, seeks, estimates, forecasts, should, and variations of such words and expressions are intended to identify such forward-looking statements. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve risks and uncertainties that are difficult to predict. Therefore, actual outcomes and results may differ materially from the results anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of a variety of important factors. While it is impossible to identify all such factors, those that could cause actual results to differ materially from those estimated by us include the important factors discussed in Part I Item 1A Risk Factors. Such forward-looking statements speak only as of the date on which they are made and we do not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this 2011 Form 10-K. If we do update or correct one or more forward-looking statements, investors and others should not conclude that we will make additional updates or corrections with respect thereto or with respect to other forward-looking statements.

### **Restatement of Previously Issued Financial Statements**

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in both tabular and textual form as it relates to the twelve months ended December 31, 2010 and December 31, 2009 has been updated to reflect the effects of the restatement described in Note 18 of the Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II Item 8, Financial Statements and Supplementary Data .

### **Overview**

We are a leading North American manufacturer of large-diameter, high-pressure steel pipeline systems for use in water infrastructure applications, primarily related to drinking water systems, and we also manufacture other welded steel pipe products for use in a wide range of applications, including energy, construction, agriculture, and industrial uses. Our pipeline systems are used for hydroelectric power systems, wastewater systems and other applications. In addition, we make products for industrial plant piping systems and certain structural applications. These pipeline systems are produced by our Water Transmission Group from seven manufacturing facilities located in Portland, Oregon; Denver, Colorado; Adelanto, California; Parkersburg, West Virginia; Saginaw, Texas; Pleasant Grove, Utah; and Monterrey, Mexico. Our Water Transmission Group accounted for approximately 53% of net sales in 2011. In February 2009, we announced a temporary shutdown of our Utah facility. We installed a new mill at that facility and resumed operations in June 2010. Our Utah facility will permanently shut down during the first half of 2012. Until April 1, 2011, we also invested in an unconsolidated subsidiary, Northwest Pipe Asia, located in Singapore that produced steel pipe mills.

Our water infrastructure products are sold generally to installation contractors, who include our products in their bids to municipal agencies or privately-owned water companies for specific projects. We believe our sales are substantially driven by spending on new water infrastructure with a recent trend towards spending on water infrastructure replacement, repair and upgrade. Within the total range of pipe products, our products tend to fit the larger-diameter, higher-pressure applications.

Our Tubular Products Group manufactures ERW steel pipe in three facilities: Atchison, Kansas; Houston, Texas; and starting in 2010 Bossier City, Louisiana. We produce a range of products used in several different markets. The Tubular Products Group makes pipe focused on the energy industry. We also produce pipe used in industrial, construction, and agricultural applications. Until June 1, 2011, we also made pipe for traffic signpost systems. The traffic portion of our business was produced at our Houston, Texas facility and was sold for proceeds of \$13.7 million during the second quarter of 2011. Our Tubular Products Group generated

---

## **Table of Contents**

approximately 47% of our net sales in 2011. Our Tubular Products Group's sales volume is typically driven by energy spending, non-residential construction spending, highway spending and general economic conditions. We currently believe the greatest potential for significant sales growth in our Tubular Products Group is through our energy products, which includes line pipe and OCTG.

### **Our Current Economic Environment**

We are monitoring the current economic environment, and we believe there are substantial growth opportunities based on key factors impacting demand for our products. The rig count grew throughout 2011 and finished the year at approximately 2,000 active rigs. This number is high by historical standards and is a closely watched, leading indicator in the entire energy pipe industry. While the price of natural gas declined during the year, the price of oil strengthened. With regard to our Water Transmission Group, we operate our business with a long-term time horizon. Projects are often planned for many years in advance, and are sometimes part of fifty-year build out plans. However, in the near term, we expect strained governmental and water agency budgets will impact the Water Transmission group. Fluctuating steel costs will be a factor in both our Tubular Products Group and our Water Transmission Group, as the ability to adjust our selling prices as steel costs fluctuate will depend on market conditions.

### **Critical Accounting Policies**

The discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations are based upon our consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

#### *Management Estimates:*

The preparation of our financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. On an on-going basis, we evaluate all of our estimates, including those related to revenue recognition, allowance for doubtful accounts, goodwill, property and equipment including depreciation and amortization, inventories, income taxes, and litigation and other contingencies. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions. We believe the following critical accounting policies and related judgments and estimates affect the preparation of our consolidated financial statements.

#### *Revenue Recognition:*

Revenue from construction contracts in our Water Transmission Group is recognized on the percentage-of-completion method, measured by the costs incurred to date as a percentage of the estimated total costs of each contract (cost-to-cost method). Contract costs include all direct material and labor costs and those indirect costs related to contract performance, such as indirect labor, supplies, tools, repairs and depreciation. Selling, general and administrative costs are charged to expense as incurred. The cost of steel is recognized as a project cost when the steel is introduced into the manufacturing process. Estimated total costs of each contract are reviewed on a monthly basis by project management and operations personnel for substantially all projects that are 50% or more complete except that major projects, usually over \$5.0 million, are reviewed earlier if sufficient production has been completed to provide enough information to revise the original estimated total cost of the project. All cost revisions that result in the gross profit as a percent of sales increasing or decreasing by more than two percent are reviewed by senior management personnel.

We begin recognizing revenue on a project when we have persuasive evidence of an arrangement and project costs are incurred. Costs may be incurred before we have persuasive evidence of an arrangement. In those cases, if we believe we will obtain persuasive evidence of an arrangement and if recoverability from that arrangement is probable, the project costs are deferred and revenue recognition is delayed.

## **Table of Contents**

Provisions for losses on uncompleted contracts are made in the period such losses are known. Changes in job performance, job conditions and estimated profitability, including those arising from contract penalty provisions, foreign currency exchange rate movements, and final contract settlements may result in revisions to revenue, costs and income and are recognized in the period in which the revisions are determined. Historically, our estimates of total job costs for each job have been reasonably dependable.

Revenue from our Tubular Products Group is recognized when all four of the following criteria have been satisfied: persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists; the price is fixed or determinable; delivery has occurred; and collectability is reasonably assured.

### *Allowance for Doubtful Accounts:*

We maintain allowances for estimated losses resulting from the inability of our customers to make required payments based on historical experience and management's judgment. The extension and revision of credit is established by obtaining credit rating reports or financial information on the customer. An allowance is recorded based on a variety of factors, including our historical collection experience and our historical product warranty claims. At least monthly, we review past due balances to identify the reasons for non-payment. We will write off a receivable account once the account is deemed uncollectible for reasons such as a bankruptcy filing, deterioration in the customer's financial position, contract dispute or other similar events. We believe the reported allowances at December 31, 2011 are adequate. If the customer's financial conditions were to deteriorate resulting in their inability to make payments, additional allowances may need to be recorded which would result in additional expenses being recorded for the period in which such determination was made.

### *Goodwill:*

Goodwill related to our Tubular Products Group, one of our operating segments and reporting units, represents the excess of cost over the assigned value of the net assets in connection with the segment's acquisitions. Goodwill is reviewed for impairment annually at December 31 or whenever events occur or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of the Tubular Products Group below its carrying amount. In 2011, fair value of the Tubular Products Group's goodwill was first evaluated using a qualitative approach which takes into account industry and market conditions, cost factors, overall financial performance, and other relevant entity specific events and changes. If this analysis had determined that it was more likely than not that events and circumstances reduced the fair value of goodwill below its carrying value, fair value would have been quantitatively determined with consideration of the income, market, and cost approaches as applicable. The income approach is based upon projected future after-tax cash flows (less capital expenditures) discounted to present value using factors that consider the timing and risk associated with the future after-tax cash flows. The market approach is based upon historical and forward-looking measures using multiples of revenue and a price-to-book ratio. The forward-looking measures are more heavily weighted than the historical measures. We do not utilize the cost approach as relevant data is not available. We utilize an average of the income and market approaches, with a heavier weighting on the income approach because of the relatively limited number of comparable entities for which relevant multiples are available. We also utilize a sensitivity analysis to determine the impact of changes in discount rates and cash flow forecasts on the valuation of the Tubular operating segment.

Fair value of goodwill was evaluated under a qualitative approach which took into account industry and market conditions, cost factors, overall financial performance, and other relevant entity specific events and changes. The qualitative analysis concluded it was not more likely than not that the fair value of goodwill was less than its carrying value at December 31, 2011, and no further quantitative analysis was required. Fair value of goodwill was estimated under the income approach and the market approach for the performance of our 2010 goodwill impairment test. Goodwill was not impaired as of December 31, 2010. If our assumptions about goodwill change as a result of events or circumstances, and management believes the assets may have declined in value, then impairment charges will be recorded, resulting in lower profits. The operations of the Tubular



---

## **Table of Contents**

Products Group are cyclical and its sales and profitability may fluctuate from year to year. In the evaluation of our operating segment, we look at the long-term prospects for the reporting unit and recognize that current performance may not be the best indicator of future prospects or value, which requires management judgment.

### *Property and Equipment:*

Property and equipment are recorded at cost. We depreciate the net book value using either the units of production method or a straight-line method depending on the classification of the asset. Depreciation expense calculated under the units of production method may be less than, equal to, or greater than depreciation expense calculated under the straight-line method. We evaluate historical and projected units of production at each plant to reassess the units of production expected on an annual basis. We assess impairment of property and equipment whenever changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying values of the assets may not be recoverable. The recoverable value of long-lived assets is determined by estimating future undiscounted cash flows using assumptions about our expected future operating performance. Our estimates of undiscounted cash flows may differ from actual cash flow due to, among other things, technological changes, economic conditions, or changes to our business operations. If we determine the carrying value of the property and equipment will not be recoverable, we calculate and record an impairment loss.

Due to the nature of our manufacturing process and the equipment used in the process, our machinery and equipment assets are long-lived and the risk of obsolescence is low. Each of our facilities has equipment that is interchangeable, as the same product can, for the most part, be produced at a number of our facilities.

### *Inventories:*

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market. Determining market value of inventories involves judgments and assumptions made by us, including projecting selling prices and cost of sales. To project market value, we review recent sales and gross profit history, existing customer orders, current contract prices, industry supply and demand, forecasted steel prices, replacement costs, seasonal factors, general economic trends and other information, as applicable. If future market conditions are less favorable than those projected by us, inventory write-downs may be required. At December 31, 2011, the inventory balance of \$109.6 million is reported net of lower of cost or market adjustments totaling \$3.4 million. Raw material inventories of steel are stated at cost either on a specific identification basis or on an average cost basis. All other raw materials, as well as supplies, are stated on an average cost basis. Finished goods are stated at cost using the first-in, first-out method of accounting.

### *Income Taxes:*

We account for income taxes using an asset and liability approach that requires the recognition of deferred tax assets and liabilities for the expected future tax consequences of events that have been recognized in our financial statements or tax returns. Valuation allowances are established when necessary to reduce deferred income tax assets to the amount expected to be realized. The determination of our provision for income taxes requires significant judgment, the use of estimates and the interpretation and application of complex tax laws. Our provision for income taxes primarily reflects a combination of income earned and taxed in the various U.S. federal and state and, to a lesser extent, foreign jurisdictions. Jurisdictional tax law changes, increases or decreases in permanent differences between book and tax items, accruals or adjustments of accruals for unrecognized tax benefits or valuation allowances, and our change in the mix of earnings from these taxing jurisdictions all affect the overall effective tax rate.

We record tax reserves for federal, state, local and international exposures relating to periods subject to audit. The development of reserves for these exposures requires judgments about tax issues, potential outcomes and timing, and is a subjective estimate. We assess our tax positions and record tax benefits for all years subject to examination based upon management's evaluation of the facts, circumstances, and information available at the reporting dates. For those tax positions where it is more-likely-than-not that a tax benefit will be sustained, we

**Table of Contents**

have recorded the largest amount of tax benefit with a greater than 50% likelihood of being realized upon settlement with a tax authority that has full knowledge of all relevant information. For those tax positions where it is not more-likely-than-not that a tax benefit will be sustained, no tax benefit has been recognized in the financial statements.

*Derivative Instruments:*

We conduct business in various foreign countries, and, from time to time, settle our transactions in foreign currencies. We have established a program that utilizes foreign currency forward contracts to offset the risk associated with the effects of certain foreign currency exposures, typically arising from sales contracts denominated in Canadian currency. These derivative contracts are consistent with our strategy for financial risk management. We utilize hedge accounting treatment for qualifying foreign currency forward contracts. Instruments that do not qualify for hedge accounting treatment are re-measured at fair value on each balance sheet date and resulting gains and losses are recognized in net income.

*Foreign Currency Transactions:*

Assets and liabilities subject to foreign currency fluctuations are translated into United States dollars at the period-end exchange rate, and revenue and expenses are translated at the exchange rate representing an average for the period. Translation adjustments from our designated hedges are included in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) as a separate component of stockholders' equity. Gains or losses on all other foreign currency transactions are recognized in the statement of operations.

**Results of Operations**

The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, certain financial information regarding costs and expenses expressed as a percentage of total net sales and net sales of our business segments.

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
Net sales:			
Water transmission	53.1%	57.2%	75.5%
Tubular products	46.9	42.8	24.5
Total net sales	100.0	100.0	100.0
Cost of sales	88.4	92.3	97.6
Gross profit	11.6	7.7	2.4
Selling, general and administrative expenses	5.2	7.5	7.5
Operating income (loss)	6.4	0.2	(5.1)
Other (income) expense	0.3	(0.1)	(0.7)
Interest income	(0.0)	(0.2)	(0.3)
Interest expense	1.7	2.3	1.9
Income (loss) before income taxes	4.4	(1.8)	(6.0)
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	1.9	(0.4)	(2.1)
Net income (loss)	2.5%	(1.4)%	(3.9)%
Segment gross profit (loss) as a percentage of net sales:			
Water transmission	15.9%	8.8%	6.6%
Tubular products	6.7	6.2	(10.4)

**Year Ended December 31, 2011 Compared to Year Ended December 31, 2010**

**Net sales.** Net sales increased by \$124.9 million to \$511.7 million in 2011 from \$386.8 million in 2010. No single customer accounted for 10% or more of total net sales in 2011 or 2010.

## Edgar Filing: NORTHWEST PIPE CO - Form 10-K

Water Transmission sales increased 22.9% to \$271.9 million in 2011 from \$221.3 million in 2010. The increase in net sales was due to a 3% increase in tons produced and a 19% increase in the selling price per ton.

---

## **Table of Contents**

The increase in selling prices per ton in 2011 was due to an increase in steel costs over 2010 and our mix of contracts produced during 2011. The cost of steel per ton for Water Transmission projects increased 19% from 2010 to 2011. Higher steel costs generally lead to higher contract values. Bidding activity, backlog and production levels may vary significantly from period to period affecting sales volumes.

Tubular Products sales increased 44.9% to \$239.8 million in 2011 from \$165.5 million in 2010. The sales increase was due to a 29% increase in tons sold from 156,840 tons to 202,359 tons and a 14% increase in the average selling price per ton. The most significant increase in total sales was the result of increases in sales related to oil and natural gas drilling operations, with energy pipe representing 96% of the total Tubular Product volume increase in 2011. Certain import duties imposed by the U.S. Government took effect in the second quarter of 2010, and the volume of energy pipe imported in the U.S. declined. The higher production volume needed to support these increased sales was enabled by our investment in our Bossier City, Louisiana facility in 2010, and upgrades to our Houston, Texas facility, which increased our energy pipe manufacturing capacity. The increases in average selling prices principally reflect higher steel costs. Steel costs per ton increased by 13% in 2011 compared to 2010.

**Gross profit.** Gross profit increased 99.2% to \$59.1 million (11.6% of total net sales) in 2011 from \$29.7 million (7.7% of total net sales) in 2010.

Water Transmission gross profit increased 122.2% to \$43.2 million (15.9% of segment net sales) in 2011 from \$19.4 million (8.8% of segment net sales) in 2010. The increase in gross profit was driven by the increases in tons produced and the increases in average selling price per ton. The increase was also driven by a more favorable mix of contracts, partially as a result of the completion of lower margin contracts awarded in 2009, which flowed through the income statement in 2010 and which were replaced by higher margin contracts bid in 2010 and reflected in the 2011 income statement, and by the favorable impact of higher volume on the fixed portion of our cost of goods sold as a percent of sales. This was partially offset by an increase in steel cost per ton, discussed above in the net sales analysis.

Gross profit from Tubular Products increased 55.5% to \$16.0 million (6.7% of segment net sales) in 2011 from \$10.3 million (6.2% of segment net sales) in 2010. As noted above, demand for our tubular products increased significantly, particularly for our energy products. Energy pipe, which has a higher gross profit as a percent of sales than other tubular products, represented 70% of tons sold in 2011 compared to 62% in 2010. The significant increase in volume also contributed to the increase in gross profit in 2011, as improved market conditions led to higher production which reduced our fixed costs per ton, although this was partially offset by higher steel costs per ton of 13% in 2011 compared to 2010.

Additional information regarding our exposure to volatile steel prices is set forth in Item 7A Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.

**Selling, general and administrative expenses.** Selling, general and administrative expenses decreased 9.5%, to \$26.3 million (5.2% of net sales) in 2011 from \$29.1 million (7.5% of net sales) in 2010. The decrease of \$2.8 million as compared to the prior year was driven by a \$0.4 million net credit driven by insurance proceeds received related to our accounting investigation compared to expense of \$7.7 million in 2010. This was partially offset by a \$4.2 million increase in bonus and share-based compensation due to improved operating results.

**Other (Income) Expense.** Other (income) expense increased to an expense of \$1.3 million in 2011 from income of \$0.4 million in 2010. The increase in expense in 2011 compared to 2010 was driven by an allowance of \$4.1 million taken on notes receivable, partially offset by a \$2.9 million gain on the sale of all assets of the traffic systems product line of the Tubular Products facility in Houston, Texas recognized in the second quarter of 2011.

**Interest expense.** Interest expense increased to \$9.3 million in 2011 from \$8.9 million in 2010. The increase in interest expense was a result of higher average borrowings partially offset by lower average interest rates.

---

**Table of Contents**

**Income taxes.** Our effective tax provision rate was 43.2% in 2011 and our effective tax benefit rate was 23.2% in 2010. The change in the tax rate was primarily attributable to an increase to the valuation allowance, as a result of an expected capital loss from which we do not expect to benefit, and the sale of all assets of the traffic systems product line of the Tubular Products facility in Houston, Texas, which included the disposal of goodwill of \$1.0 million that had no corresponding tax basis.

**Year Ended December 31, 2010 Compared to Year Ended December 31, 2009**

**Net sales.** Net sales increased by \$108.1 million to \$386.8 million in 2010 from \$278.7 million in 2009. No single customer accounted for 10% or more of total net sales in 2010 or 2009.

Water Transmission sales increased 5.2% to \$221.3 million in 2010 from \$210.4 million in 2009. The increase in net sales was due to a 15% increase in tons produced partially offset by a 9% decrease in the selling price per ton. The increase in volume represents a return to 2008 operating levels after a low volume year in 2009 in industrial and municipal water transmission projects. Approximately one-half of the increased production resulted from the restart of our Pleasant Grove facility during 2010. Bidding activity, backlog and production levels may vary significantly from period to period affecting sales volumes. Market conditions in 2009 led to more competitive bidding for projects produced in 2010, which lowered selling prices per ton.

Tubular Products sales increased 142.5% to \$165.5 million in 2010 from \$68.3 million in 2009. The sales increase was due to a 150% increase in tons sold partially offset by a 3% decline in selling price per ton. The most significant increase in demand was the result of increases in oil and natural gas drilling operations, with energy pipe sales increasing 595% as compared with 2009. With the increase in demand, we installed manufacturing equipment in our Bossier City, Louisiana facility in 2010, increasing our capacity for energy pipe. While demand increased, selling prices per ton decreased as the volume of imported energy pipe increased early in 2010. As trade cases took effect in 2010, the volume of imported energy pipe decreased in the second half of 2010 which caused sales prices per ton to rise, reversing most of the sales price decrease earlier in the year.

**Gross profit.** Gross profit increased 344.2% to \$29.7 million (7.7% of total net sales) in 2010 from \$6.7 million (2.4% of total net sales) in 2009.

Water Transmission gross profit increased 41.0% to \$19.4 million (8.8% of segment net sales) in 2010 from \$13.8 million (6.6% of segment net sales) in 2009. The increase in gross profit from the prior year was most significantly due to increased production volume which lowered unit costs in 2010 as compared to 2009. In addition, cost cutting programs reduced labor and overhead expense in 2010 compared to 2009 and there were significant losses recognized in 2009 related to the competitive bidding conditions. Although most of these jobs were not produced until 2010 and later, the anticipated losses at the time of bid were recognized when the bid was accepted in 2009. Market conditions improved in 2010, causing an improvement in gross margin in 2010 compared to 2009. These improved market conditions were partially offset by the decrease in selling price discussed above.

Gross profit from Tubular Products increased 244.5% to \$10.3 million (6.2% of segment net sales) in 2010 from a loss of \$7.1 million (-10.4% of segment net sales) in 2009. As noted above, demand for our tubular products increased significantly, particularly for our energy products which had sales revenue of \$14.4 million in 2009 and increased to \$100.2 million in 2010. The significant increase in volume contributed to the increase in gross profit in 2010, as market conditions led to higher production which reduced our fixed costs per ton, although this was partially offset by higher steel costs per ton of 12% in 2010 compared to 2009. The increase in gross profit from the prior year was also impacted by our inventory lower of cost or market adjustment, which decreased \$1.4 million in 2010. In addition, we expensed \$1.6 million of startup costs in 2009 related to our Bossier City, Louisiana facility.

Additional information regarding our exposure to volatile steel prices is set forth in Item 7A Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.

---

## **Table of Contents**

***Selling, general and administrative expenses.*** Selling, general and administrative expenses increased 38.5%, to \$29.1 million (7.5% of net sales) in 2010 from \$21.0 million (7.5% of net sales) in 2009. The increase of \$8.1 million as compared to the prior year consisted of an increase in professional fees of \$5.8 million associated with the Audit Committee investigation of certain accounting matters, an increase of \$1.3 million in tubular products sales commission expense, and an increase of approximately \$0.6 million in severance costs related to the departure of our President in October 2010.

***Other (Income) Expense.*** Other income decreased to \$0.4 million in 2010 from income of \$1.9 million in 2009. This was driven by decreased equity earnings in Northwest Pipe Asia, partially offset by insurance proceeds related to a fire at our Pleasant Grove facility.

***Interest expense.*** Interest expense increased to \$8.9 million in 2010 from \$5.1 million in 2009. The increase in interest expense was a result of higher average borrowings at higher average interest rates. Further, the conversion of certain of our operating leases to capital leases as a result of the restatement resulted in the recognition of an additional \$0.9 million of interest expense during 2010 over 2009.

***Income taxes.*** Our effective tax benefit rate was 23.2% and 34.1% in 2010 and 2009, respectively. The decrease in the benefit rate was primarily attributable to a reduction in 2010 of previously claimed manufacturing deductions under Internal Revenue Code Section 199. Due to the anticipated carryback of our tax loss for 2010 to prior years, we are required to forego the manufacturing deductions taken in those prior years. Our effective income tax rate can change significantly depending on the relationship of permanent income tax deductions and tax credits to pre-tax income or loss. Accordingly, the comparison of effective rates between periods is not necessarily meaningful in all situations.

## **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

### ***Sources and Uses of Cash***

Our principal sources of liquidity generally include operating cash flow and our bank credit agreement. From time to time our long term capital needs may be met through the issuance of long term debt or additional equity. Our principal uses of liquidity generally include capital expenditures, working capital and debt service. Information regarding our cash flows for the twelve months ended December 31, 2011 is presented in our consolidated statements of cash flows contained in this 2011 Form 10-K, and is further discussed below.

As of December 31, 2011, our working capital (current assets minus current liabilities) was \$170.6 million as compared to \$152.8 million as of December 31, 2010.

Cash and cash equivalents totaled \$182,000 as of December 31, 2011 and \$51,000 as of December 31, 2010. Net cash provided by operating activities in 2011 was \$12.3 million. This was primarily the result of fluctuations in our working capital accounts, which result from timing differences between production, shipment and invoicing of our products, as well as changes in levels of production and costs of materials. We typically have a relatively large investment in working capital, as we are generally obligated to pay for goods and services early in the project while cash is not received until much later in the project. Our revenues in the Water Transmission segment are recognized on a percentage-of-completion method; therefore, there is little correlation between revenue and cash receipts and the elapsed time can be significant. As such, our payment cycle is a significantly shorter interval than our collection cycle, although the effect of this difference in the cycles may vary from period to period.

Net cash provided by investing activities in 2011 was \$0.9 million, primarily related to proceeds received from the sale of the traffic systems product line at the Houston facility for \$13.7 million during the second quarter of 2011 and an increase in restricted cash from the cash collateralization of certain letters of credit at December 31, 2011. This was offset by capital expenditures of \$16.3 million. The most significant capital projects in 2011 were an expansion at our Atchison, Kansas facility that will increase its production capacity by

---

## **Table of Contents**

more than 50%, improve productivity and enable the facility to produce product with wall thickness up to 0.375 inches. In addition, we upgraded our Houston, Texas mill to facilitate production of 2.375 and 2.875 inch tubing with physical properties suitable for heat treating. Capital expenditures in 2012 are expected to be approximately \$30 million to \$35 million for standard capital replacement and recently announced strategic investment projects. These include expansion at our Saginaw plant to increase size capability from 96 to 126 diameter pipe as well as to increase overall capacity, the addition of a threading line at our Bossier City plant, and the addition of two horizontal accumulators at our Atchison plant.

Net cash used in financing activities in 2011 was \$13.1 million, which resulted primarily from net borrowings of \$132.1 million under our Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, offset by note payable and long term debt payments of \$143.8 million.

We anticipate that our existing cash and cash equivalents, cash flows expected to be generated by operations, and amounts available under our credit agreements will be adequate to fund our working capital and capital requirements for at least the next twelve months. We also expect to continue to rely on cash generated from operations or funds available from our line of credit to make required principal payments on our long-term debt during 2012. To the extent necessary, we may also satisfy capital requirements through additional bank borrowings, senior notes, term notes, subordinated debt, and capital and operating leases, if such resources are available on satisfactory terms. See the discussion below under *Line of Credit and Long-Term Debt* for a discussion of recent developments regarding compliance with the terms of our credit agreements. We have from time to time evaluated and continue to evaluate opportunities for acquisitions and expansion. Any such transactions, if consummated, may use a portion of our working capital or necessitate additional bank borrowings or other sources of funding.

### ***Line of Credit and Long-Term Debt***

We had the following significant components of debt at December 31, 2011: a \$125.0 million Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, under which \$62.0 million was outstanding; \$6.4 million of Series A Term Note, \$4.5 million of Series B Term Notes, \$4.3 million of Series C Term Notes; and \$2.6 million of Series D Term Notes.

The Credit Agreement expires on April 30, 2012. On March 29, 2012 we signed an agreement which extended the expiration of our Credit Agreement from April 30, 2012 to April 30, 2013. The Credit Agreement bears interest at rates related to LIBOR plus 2.50% to 4.50%, or the lending institution's prime rate, plus 1.50% to 3.50%. Borrowings under the Credit Agreement are collateralized by substantially all of our personal property.

During 2010, we entered into several amendments to our Credit Agreement and our Amended and Restated Note Purchase and Private Shelf Agreement ( *Note Purchase Agreement* ). The amendments, among other things, reduced the aggregate availability of our Credit Agreement, increased interest rates charged on outstanding balances and waived compliance with certain covenants in the Agreements for the year ended December 31, 2009 through the quarter ended March 31, 2011. Upon delivery of the March 31, 2011 Compliance Certificate, all restrictions were removed and amounts available under our Credit Agreement were increased to \$125 million. In addition, the amendments changed the definitions, method of application and amounts of certain covenants. At December 31, 2011, we had \$62.0 million outstanding under the Credit Agreement bearing interest at a weighted average rate of 3.03%. At December 31, 2011, we had an additional net borrowing capacity under the credit facility of \$59.8 million.

The Series A Term Note in the principal amount of \$6.4 million matures on February 25, 2014 and requires annual payments in the amount of \$2.1 million plus interest of 10.50% paid quarterly on February 25, May 25, August 25 and November 25. The Series B Term Notes in the principal amount of \$4.5 million mature on June 21, 2014 and require annual payments in the amount of \$1.5 million plus interest of 10.22% paid quarterly on March 21, June 21, September 21 and December 21. The Series C Term Notes in the principal amount of \$4.3 million mature on October 26, 2014 and require annual payments of \$1.4 million plus interest of 9.11% paid quarterly on January 26, April 26, July 26 and October 26. The Series D Term Notes in the

---

**Table of Contents**

principal amount of \$2.6 million mature on January 24, 2015 and require annual payments in the amount of \$643,000 plus interest of 9.07% paid quarterly on January 24, April 24, July 24 and October 24. The Series A Term Note, the Series B Term Notes, the Series C Term Notes, and the Series D Term Notes (together, the Term Notes ) are collateralized by accounts receivable, inventory and certain equipment.

We had a total of \$15.7 million in capital lease obligations outstanding at December 31, 2011. The weighted average interest rate on all of our capital leases is 7.80%. Our capital leases are for certain equipment used in the manufacturing process. \$7.7 million of our capital leases outstanding as of December 31, 2011 represents an agreement entered into as of September 2009 to finance our Bossier City, Louisiana facility (the Financing Arrangement ) under which certain equipment used in the manufacturing process at the facility is leased. As part of the Financing Arrangement, a \$10 million escrow account was provided for the Company by a local government entity through a financial institution and funds are released upon qualifying purchase requisitions. As we purchase equipment for the facility, we enter into a sale-leaseback transaction with the governmental entity as part of the Financing Arrangement. As of December 31, 2011, \$0.9 million was held in the escrow account, which is included in Other Assets, as a result of proceeds from the Financing Arrangement. The Financing Arrangement requires us to meet certain loan covenants, measured at the end of each fiscal quarter. These loan covenants follow the covenants required by our Credit Agreement.

The Credit Agreement, the Term Notes and the Financing Arrangement and certain lease agreements place various restrictions on our ability to, among other things; incur certain additional indebtedness, create liens or other encumbrances on assets, and incur additional capital expenditures. The Credit Agreement, Term Notes, and the Financing Arrangement and certain lease agreements require us to be in compliance with certain financial covenants. We were not in compliance with our financial covenants as of December 31, 2011 and were granted waivers by our lenders, long-term debt holders, and lessors. Our 2009 operating results led us to commence discussions in the fourth quarter of 2009 with our bank creditors to obtain waivers of our financial covenants as of December 31, 2009, March 31, 2010 and June 30, 2010. As a result of these discussions, covenant waivers were obtained and we entered into amendments to our Amended and Restated Credit Agreement and Amended and Restated Note Purchase and Private Shelf Agreement during 2010.

The amendments changed the definition, method of application and amounts of the covenants related to the Consolidated Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio, Consolidated Senior Leverage Ratio, Consolidated Total Leverage Ratio, Consolidated Tangible Net Worth, Asset Coverage Ratio, Minimum Consolidated EBITDA, and maximum Consolidated Rental and Operating Lease Expense to Consolidated Revenue Ratio. The results of our financial covenants as of December 31, 2011 are below.

The Consolidated Senior Leverage Ratio must not be greater than 3.5:1.0. Our ratio as of December 31, 2011 is 1.86:1.0.

The Consolidated Total Leverage Ratio must not be greater than 4.0:1.0. Our ratio as of December 31, 2011 is 1.86:1.0.

The Consolidated Tangible Net Worth must be greater than \$199.9 million. Our tangible net worth as of December 31, 2011 is \$219.8 million.

The Asset Coverage Ratio cannot be less than 1.0:1.0. Our ratio as of December 31, 2011 is 1.56:1.0.

The Consolidated Rental and Operating Lease Expense to Consolidated Revenue Ratio must not be greater than 6.0%. Our ratio as of December 31, 2011 is 0.6%.

The Consolidated Fixed Charge must not be less than 1.25:1.0. Our ratio as of December 31, 2011 is 2.19:1.0.

The Consolidated EBITDA must not be less than \$42 million. Our consolidated EBITDA as of December 31, 2011 is \$51.3 million.



**Table of Contents**

Based on our business plan and forecasts of operations, we believe we will remain in compliance with our amended covenants in 2012. On March 29, 2012, we signed an agreement which extended the expiration of our Credit Agreement from April 30, 2012 to April 30, 2013. Refer to Note 17 Subsequent Events of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II Item 8, Financial Statements and Supplementary Data for additional information.

The following table sets forth our scheduled contractual commitments that will affect our future liquidity as of December 31, 2011 (in thousands):

	Total	Less than 1 year	Payments due by period		
			1 - 3 years	3 - 5 years	More than 5 years
Credit agreement	\$ 62,000	\$	\$ 62,000	\$	\$
The Term Notes	17,785	5,714	11,428	643	
Capital leases	15,705	3,358	6,743	4,337	1,267
Operating leases	6,766	2,070	2,596	1,383	717
Interest payments (1)	5,662	2,566	2,610	453	33
Total obligations	\$ 107,918	\$ 13,708	\$ 85,377	\$ 6,816	\$ 2,017

(1) These amounts represent future interest payments related to our debt obligations, excluding the Credit Agreement. Due to the uncertainty with respect to the timing of future cash flows associated with our unrecognized tax benefits at December 31, 2011, we are unable to make reasonably reliable estimates of the period of cash settlement with the respective taxing authorities. Therefore, approximately \$309,000 in uncertain tax positions has been excluded from the contractual table above. For further information, see Note 14 in Part II Item 8, Financial Statements and Supplementary Data of the Consolidated Financial Statements.

We also have entered into stand-by letters of credit that total approximately \$3.2 million as of December 31, 2011. The stand-by letters of credit relate to financing arrangements and workers compensation insurance. We were required to cash collateralize these letters of credit due to nearing the maturity date of our Credit Agreement. Based on the nature of these arrangements and our historical experience, we do not expect to make any material payments under these arrangements.

**Off Balance Sheet Arrangements**

We do not have any off balance sheet arrangements that are reasonably likely to have a current or future material effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

**Adoption of New Accounting Pronouncements**

The Company adopted the following new accounting pronouncements during the year end December 31, 2011:

ASU No. 2010-06, Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures was adopted on January 1, 2011, as required.

ASU No. 2011-08, Testing Goodwill for Impairment was adopted for the preparation of the Company's 2011 Goodwill Impairment test.

The Company adopted the following new accounting pronouncements on January 1, 2012:

## Edgar Filing: NORTHWEST PIPE CO - Form 10-K

ASU No. 2011-04, Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and International Financial Reporting Standards

ASU No. 2011-05 and 2011-12, Presentation of Comprehensive Income .

---

## **Table of Contents**

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

The primary market risks affecting our business relate to our exposure to commodity risk, interest rate risk, and foreign currency exchange rate risk.

#### **Commodity Risk**

Certain materials we use in our business are classified as commodities traded in the worldwide markets, of which the most significant commodity is steel, used in the manufacturing of pipe. We do not hedge our commodity risk. The impact of volatility in steel prices to each of our operating segments varies significantly.

Steel comprises approximately 30% to 40% of Water Transmission project costs. As steel represents a substantial portion of our cost of sales, we generally place orders for steel as soon as possible after a project is awarded. Most projects are awarded within thirty to ninety days of the bid date, and thus we are subject to some market fluctuations involving steel. In order to minimize our risk exposure to steel volatility, we typically submit bids based on general assumptions of what the price of steel will be once we receive a purchase order or contract. In addition, we typically order steel at the beginning of the project in order to minimize our risk exposure to fluctuations in steel prices.

By contrast, steel comprises approximately 75% to 85% of total product costs for Tubular Products. Historically, we have been able to adjust our selling prices to reflect fluctuations in our cost of steel; however, we are exposed to volatile steel prices in those instances in which we carry steel inventory that is not already assigned to sales orders. To minimize this risk, we monitor steel inventory and purchasing actions. If steel costs were to decline after December 31, 2011, our Tubular Products division would have two to three months of steel inventory exposed to the risk of declining gross margins.

#### **Interest Rate Risk**

Our debt at December 31, 2011 bears interest at both fixed and variable rates. At December 31, 2011, approximately \$62.0 million of our debt accrues interest at a variable rate as compared to \$68.0 million at December 31, 2010. Assuming average interest rates and borrowings on variable rate debt, a hypothetical 1.0%, or 100 basis point change in interest rates would not have a material impact on our interest expense in either year.

#### **Foreign Currency Exchange Rate Risk**

We transact business in various foreign countries, and, from time to time, settle our transactions in foreign currencies. We have established a program that utilizes foreign currency forward contracts to offset the risk associated with the effects of certain foreign currency exposures, typically arising from sales contracts denominated in Canadian currency. These contracts are not used for trading or for speculative purposes. Foreign currency forward contracts are consistent with our strategy for financial risk management and have maturities generally less than one year. As of December 31, 2011, the total notional amount of these derivative contracts was \$10.0 million (CAD\$10.1 million), of which we applied hedge accounting to \$8.5 million (CAD\$8.6 million). At December 31, 2011, one of the Company's contracts with a notional value of \$0.8 million (CAD\$0.8 million) had a remaining maturity of 13 months. As of December 31, 2010, the total notional amount of our derivative contracts was \$16.4 million (CAD\$16.3 million).

A hypothetical 10% change in the Canadian Dollar foreign currency exchange rate would not have a material impact on our reported 2011 or 2010 revenues.

### **Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data**

The consolidated financial statements required by this item are included on pages F-1 to F-37 at the end of this 2011 Form 10-K. The financial statement schedule required by this item is included on page S-1. The

## **Table of Contents**

quarterly information required by this item is included under the caption *Quarterly Data (unaudited)* in Note 16 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II Item 8, Financial Statements and Supplementary Data of this 2011 Form 10-K.

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

None.

### **Item 9A. Controls and Procedures**

#### **Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

Disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act) are designed to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed in reports we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the rules and forms of the SEC and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including the CEO and CFO, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosures.

In connection with the preparation of this 2011 Form 10-K, our management, under the supervision and with the participation of our CEO and CFO, evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures as of December 31, 2011. As described below, management has identified material weaknesses in our internal controls over financial reporting, which is an integral component of our disclosure controls and procedures. As a result of those material weaknesses, our CEO and CFO have concluded that, as of December 31, 2011, our disclosure controls and procedures were not effective.

#### **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). 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 ( GAAP ). Internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (i) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of our assets; (ii) provide reasonable assurance that our transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with GAAP, and that our receipts and expenditures are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and our directors; and (iii) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of our 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 all 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.

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our CEO and CFO, we conducted an assessment of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011. In making this assessment, we used the criteria set forth in *Internal Control-Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of our annual or interim financial statements will not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. In connection with management's assessment of our internal control over financial reporting

## **Table of Contents**

described above, management has identified the following deficiencies that constituted individually, or in the aggregate, material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011:

Several of our review controls were not designed to operate at a sufficiently precise level, and our monitoring process did not identify these deficiencies. The Company's review controls for its computation of revenue recognized on the percentage-of-completion method did not evaluate the accuracy of certain key inputs to the revenue recognition model. Our review controls for existence and completeness of inventory did not operate effectively which could result in a misstatement of inventories and cost of sales.

Control activities related to the reviews which were recently established to periodically assess useful lives, units of production and the existence of our property and equipment did not operate for a sufficient period of time to be able to conclude whether they were operating effectively.

Our control activities related to the accounting for complex or non-routine transactions did not operate effectively. The material weaknesses described above resulted in material misstatements in our annual and interim consolidated financial statements. Because of these material weaknesses, management has concluded that we did not maintain effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011.

Our independent registered public accounting firm, Deloitte & Touche LLP, has issued an audit report on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011, that is included herein.

### **Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

During the quarter ended December 31, 2011, we made changes in our internal control over financial reporting that materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect our internal control over financial reporting. Specifically, we implemented and completed integrity testing of certain critical Excel spreadsheets used within financial reporting. We also completed the design and implemented control activities to periodically reassess useful lives, units of production and the existence of our property and equipment.

### **Plans for Remediation of Material Weaknesses**

To remediate the material weaknesses in the Company's internal controls over financial reporting, the Company has hired additional personnel for critical accounting roles. In addition, we have begun the process of analyzing the design effectiveness of our review controls and developing plans to assess their operating effectiveness. While we have initiated our remediation, we need to complete the design or redesign of several review controls, allow them to operate, and develop and implement testing plans to ensure they are operating effectively. We have established new processes to regularly reassess the useful lives, units of production and existence of our property and equipment. We need to operate the new processes and perform the review procedures for a sufficient period of time to be able to conclude they are operating effectively. We have also implemented processes for the analysis and review of complex and non-routine transactions. We need to continue to evaluate these new processes and controls to be able to conclude that they are operating effectively. The above material weaknesses will not be considered remediated until the remedial steps have been operating effectively for an adequate period of time. While management believes the remedial efforts will resolve the identified material weaknesses, there is no assurance that management's remedial efforts conducted to date will be sufficient or that additional remedial actions will not be necessary.

---

**Table of Contents**

**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of

Northwest Pipe Company

Vancouver, Washington

We have audited Northwest Pipe Company and subsidiaries (the Company's) internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011, based on criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. The Company'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 the Company'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, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on that risk, and 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 by, or under the supervision of, the company's principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, and effected by the company's board of directors, management, and other personnel 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 the inherent limitations of internal control over financial reporting, including the possibility of collusion or improper management override of controls, material misstatements due to error or fraud may not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Also, projections of any evaluation of the effectiveness of the internal control over financial reporting to future periods are subject to the risk that the controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the company's annual or interim financial statements will not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. The following material weaknesses have been identified and included in management's assessment:

Several of the Company's review controls were not designed to operate at a sufficiently precise level, and the Company's monitoring process did not identify these deficiencies. The Company's review controls for its computation of revenue recognized on the percentage-of-completion method did not evaluate the accuracy of certain key inputs to the revenue recognition model. The Company's review controls for existence and completeness of inventory did not operate effectively which could result in a misstatement of inventories and cost of sales.

**Table of Contents**

Control activities related to the reviews which were recently established to periodically assess useful lives, units of production and the existence of the Company's property and equipment did not operate for a sufficient period of time to be able to conclude whether they were operating effectively.

The Company's control activities related to the accounting for complex or non-routine transactions did not operate effectively. These material weaknesses were considered in determining the nature, timing, and extent of audit tests applied in our audit of the consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedule as of and for the year ended December 31, 2011, of the Company, and this report does not affect our report on such financial statements and financial statement schedule.

In our opinion, because of the effect of the material weaknesses identified above on the achievement of the objectives of the control criteria, the Company has not maintained effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011, based on the criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedule as of and for the year ended December 31, 2011 of the Company and our report dated April 27, 2012 expressed an unqualified opinion on those financial statements and financial statement schedule and included an explanatory paragraph with respect to the restatement of the accompanying 2010 and 2009 consolidated financial statements, as discussed in Note 18 to such consolidated financial statements.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP

Portland, Oregon

April 27, 2012

**Item 9B. Other Information**

None.

**Table of Contents****PART III****Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance**  
*Directors, Executive Officers, Promoters and Control Persons*

The information required by Paragraph (a), and Paragraphs (c) through (g) of Item 401 of Regulation S-K (except for information required by Paragraph (e) of that Item to the extent the required information pertains to our executive officers) and Item 405 of Regulation S-K is hereby incorporated by reference from our definitive proxy statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders under the captions *Election of Directors* and *Section 16(A) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance*.

Listed below is information regarding the individuals serving as our executive officers:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Current Position with Company</b>
Richard A. Roman	60	Director, Chief Executive Officer and President
Robin Gantt	40	Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
Richard Baum	55	Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary
Greg Carrier	57	Vice President, Purchasing
Winsor J.E. Jenkins	64	Vice President, Human Resources
Robert L. Mahoney	50	Senior Vice President of Strategy and Business Development
Scott Montross	47	Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
Gary A. Stokes	60	Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing
Gary R. Stone	55	Vice President, Quality Assurance

*Richard A. Roman* has been a director of the Company since 2003. Mr. Roman has served as our CEO since March 29, 2010, and as President since October 5, 2010. In connection with his appointment as CEO, Mr. Roman resigned his positions as Lead Director and as a member of the Board's Audit and Compensation Committees, and was elected to the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors. He was a member of our Audit and Compensation Committees since 2003 and 2005, respectively, and the Board's Lead Director since November 2008. Previously, Mr. Roman was the President of Columbia Ventures Corporation, a private investment company which historically has focused principally on the international metals and telecommunications industries. Prior to joining Columbia Ventures Corporation in 1992, Mr. Roman was a partner at Coopers & Lybrand, an independent public accounting firm.

*Robin Gantt* has served as our Vice President and CFO since January 2011. Ms. Gantt joined the Company in July 2010 as Assistant to the CEO. Ms. Gantt served as the CFO and Treasurer of Evraz Inc. NA from September 2007 through January 2010. From July 2005 through August 2007, Ms. Gantt served as Corporate Controller of Oregon Steel Mills, Inc., which became Evraz Inc. NA after its acquisition by Evraz Group SA in January 2007.

*Richard Baum* joined the company in April, 2011 and serves as our Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary. Mr. Baum was a litigation partner with the law firm of Lane Powell LLP from January 1, 2011 through April 2011. Prior to that, he was a litigation partner with the law firm of Roberts Kaplan LLP from November 2008 through December 2010, and was a litigation attorney with the law firm of Perkins Coie LLP from September 1982 through October 2008, including twenty years as a partner. Mr. Baum's private practice focused on commercial litigation with an emphasis on securities litigation and corporate governance issues.

*Greg Carrier* has served as our Vice President, Purchasing since June 2007. He had served as our Corporate Director of Materials since 2001. Prior to 2001, Mr. Carrier served in a succession of positions in purchasing and materials management since joining the Company in 1996.

*Winsor J.E. Jenkins* has served as our Vice President, Human Resources since June 2007. He had served as Corporate Director, Human Resources since March 1998 when he joined the Company.



---

## **Table of Contents**

*Robert L. Mahoney* has served since January 1, 2012 as our Senior Vice President, Strategy and Business Development, responsible for identifying and securing growth opportunities across the Company. He had served as the Senior Vice President, Tubular Products Group, since June 2007, as Vice President, Chief Strategic Officer since May 2005, as Vice President, Corporate Development since July 1998, and as Director of Business Planning and Development since 1996. Mr. Mahoney has been with the Company since 1992.

*Scott Montross* joined the company in May, 2011 and has served as our Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. Mr. Montross has served in Senior Vice President level positions since 2003 with commercial, operational, and planning responsibilities and has spent a total of 23 years in the steel industry prior to joining the Company. Mr. Montross previously served as the Executive Vice President of the Flat Products Group for Evraz Inc. NA's Oregon Steel Division from 2010 to 2011, as the Vice President and General Manager of Evraz, Inc. NA from 2007 to 2010, as the Vice President of Marketing and Sales for Oregon Steel Mills from 2003 to 2006, and as the Vice President of Marketing and Sales for National Steel Corporation from 2002 to 2003.

*Gary A. Stokes* has served as our Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing, responsible for both the Water Transmission and Tubular Products groups since January 1, 2012. He had served as the Senior Vice President, Water Transmission Group, since January 2008, as Senior Vice President, Sales and Marketing since July 2001, and as Vice President, Sales and Marketing since 1993. Mr. Stokes has been with the Company since 1987.

*Gary R. Stone* has served as our Vice President, Quality Assurance since June 2007. He had served as Corporate Director, Quality Assurance since 2001. Mr. Stone has been with the Company since 1991.

### ***Code of Ethics***

We have adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics for all employees and a Code of Ethics for Senior Financial Officers. Copies can be found on our website at [www.nwpipe.com](http://www.nwpipe.com) in the Corporate Governance area of the Investor Relations section or by writing to Northwest Pipe Company, attn. Corporate Secretary, 5721 SE Columbia Way, Suite 200, Vancouver, WA 98661. None of the material on our website is part of this 2011 Form 10-K. If there is any waiver from any provision of either the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics or the Code of Ethics for Senior Financial Officers, we will disclose the nature of such waiver on our website or in a Current Report on Form 8-K.

On September 8, 2011, the Company's Board of Directors approved and adopted a revised Code of Ethics for Senior Financial Officers ( Code of Ethics ), which applies to the Company's Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Controller, Assistant Financial Controller and Assistant Operational Controller (each, a Covered Person ). The new Code of Ethics describes in greater detail the policies of the Company and the obligations of each Covered Person with respect to conflict of interest transactions or arrangements, the protection and use of confidential information, maintenance of the Company's financial records and the preparation of documents and reports filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission, compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and prompt internal reporting of violations of the Code. The new Code of Ethics is available in the Investor Relations section of the Company's website at [www.nwpipe.com](http://www.nwpipe.com).

### ***Corporate Governance***

The information required by Items 407(c)(3), (d)(4) and (d)(5) of Regulation S-K is hereby incorporated by reference from our definitive proxy statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders under the captions *Nominating and Governance Committee; Nominations by Shareholders* and *Audit Committee*.

### **Item 11. Executive Compensation**

The information required by this Item is hereby incorporated by reference from our definitive proxy statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders under the captions *Executive Compensation, Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation, and Compensation Committee Report*.

**Table of Contents****Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters**

The following table provides information as of December 31, 2011, with respect to the shares of our Common Stock that may be issued under our existing equity compensation plans.

Plan Category	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights (a) (1)	Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights (b) (2)	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a)) (c)
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	265,578	\$ 21.26	307,984
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders (3)			
<b>Total</b>	<b>265,578</b>	<b>\$ 21.26</b>	<b>307,984</b>

- (1) Consists of our 2007 Stock Incentive Plan, 1995 Stock Incentive Plan and the 1995 Stock Option Plan for Nonemployee directors. Approximately 140,000 Performance Stock Awards have been included at a target level. The vesting of these awards is subject to the achievement of specific performance-based or market-based conditions, and the actual number of common shares that will ultimately be issued will be determined by multiplying this number of Performance Stock Awards by a payout percentage ranging from 0% to 200%.
- (2) The weighted-average exercise price set forth in this column is calculated excluding outstanding restricted stock units and Performance Stock Awards, since recipients are not required to pay an exercise price to receive the shares subject to these awards.
- (3) We do not have any equity compensation plans or arrangements that have not been approved by shareholders.
- The information required by Item 403 of Regulation S-K is included in our definitive proxy statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders under the caption Stock Owned by Management and Principal Shareholders and is incorporated herein by reference.

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

The information required by this Item is hereby incorporated by reference from our definitive proxy statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders under the captions *Certain Relationships and Related Transactions* and *Election of Directors*.

**Item 14. Principal Accountant Fees and Services**

The information required by this Item is hereby incorporated by reference from our definitive proxy statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders under the caption *Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm*.

**Table of Contents**

**PART IV**

**Item 15. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedule**

(a) (1) *Consolidated Financial Statements*

The consolidated financial statements, together with the reports thereon of Deloitte & Touche LLP, are included on the pages indicated below.

<u>Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	<b>Page</b> F-1
<u>Consolidated Statements of Operations for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 (as Restated) and 2009 (as Restated)</u>	F-2
<u>Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 (as Restated)</u>	F-3
<u>Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity and Comprehensive Income (Loss) for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 (as Restated) and 2009 (as Restated)</u>	F-4
<u>Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 (as Restated) and 2009 (as Restated)</u>	F-5
<u>Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	F-6
(a) (2) <i>Financial Statement Schedule</i>	

The following schedule is filed herewith:

Schedule II <u>Valuation and Qualifying Accounts</u>	<b>Page</b> S-1
--	--------------------

Schedules not listed above have been omitted because the information required to be set forth therein is not applicable or is included in the consolidated financial statements or notes thereto.

**Table of Contents**

(a) (3) Exhibits included herein:

<b>Exhibit Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
3.1	Second Restated Articles of Incorporation, incorporated by reference to Exhibits to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1, as amended, effective November 30, 1995, Commission Registration No. 33-97308 ( the S-1 )
3.2	First Amendment to Second Restated Articles of Incorporation, incorporated by reference to Exhibits to the Company's Registration Statement of Form S-3, as amended, effective November 1, 2006, Commission Registration No. 333-137923 ( the S-3 )
3.3	Second Amended and Restated Bylaws, incorporated by reference to Exhibits to the S-1
3.4	First Amendment to Second Amended and Restated Bylaws of Northwest Pipe Company, incorporated by reference to Exhibits to the Company's Report on Form 8-K as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 19, 2007
4.1	Amended and Restated Rights Agreement, dated as of June 18, 2009, between the Company and Mellon Investor Services LLC as Rights Agent, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 19, 2009
10.1	1995 Stock Option Plan for Nonemployee Directors, incorporated by reference to Exhibits to the S-1*
10.2	Amended 1995 Stock Incentive Plan, incorporated by reference to Exhibit A to the Company's Proxy Statement for its 2000 Annual meeting of Shareholders, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 31, 2000*
10.3	Northwest Pipe NQ Retirement Savings Plan, dated July 1, 1999, incorporated by reference to Exhibits to the Company's Quarterly Report Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2000, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 11, 2000*
10.4	General Electric Capital Corporation Master Lease Agreement, dated September 26, 2000, incorporated by reference to Exhibits to the Company's Quarterly Report Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2000 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 13, 2000
10.5	General Electric Capital Corporation Master Lease Agreement, dated May 30, 2001, incorporated by reference to Exhibits to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2001 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 14, 2001
10.6	Long Term Incentive Agreement, incorporated by reference to Exhibits to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2005 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 8, 2005*
10.7	Amended and Restated Credit Agreement dated May 31, 2007, by and among Northwest Pipe Company, Bank of America, N.A., Union Bank of California, N.A. and HSBC USA, National Association, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report of Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 6, 2007
10.8	Second Amended and Restated Intercreditor and Collateral Agency Agreement dated as of May 31, 2007 by and between Northwest Pipe Company, Bank of America, N.A., Union Bank of California, N.A., HSBC USA, National Association, and Prudential Investment Management, Inc. and certain of its affiliates, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 6, 2007
10.9	Amended and Restated Note Purchase and Private Shelf Agreement dated as of May 31, 2007 by and among Northwest Pipe Company, Prudential Investment Management, Prudential Retirement Insurance and Annuity Company and Prudential Insurance Company of America and certain affiliates, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 6, 2007

**Table of Contents**

<b>Exhibit Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
10.10	Northwest Pipe Company 2007 Stock Incentive Plan, incorporated by reference to Appendix A to the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement dated April 20, 2007, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 26, 2007*
10.11	Second Amendment to Amended and Restated Credit Agreement dated October 14, 2008 by and among Northwest Pipe Company, Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent, and Union Bank of California, N.A. (certain schedules to the Agreement have been omitted), incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 20, 2008
10.12	First Amendment and Limited Waiver to the Amended and Restated Note Purchase and Private Shelf Agreement dated as of October 14, 2008 by and among Northwest Pipe Company and Prudential Investment Management, Inc. and certain affiliates (certain schedules to the Agreement have been omitted), incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 20, 2008
10.13	Second Amendment to and Consent under the Second Amended and Restated Intercreditor and Collateral Agency Agreement dated as of October 14, 2008 by and between Northwest Pipe Company, Bank of America, N.A., Union Bank of California, N.A., U.S. National Bank, National Association and Prudential Investment Management, Inc. and certain of its affiliates (certain schedules to the Agreement have been omitted), incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 20, 2008
10.14	Form of Restricted Stock Unit Agreement, incorporated by reference to Exhibits to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2008 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 11, 2008*
10.15	Form of Performance Share Agreement, incorporated by reference to Exhibits to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2008 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 11, 2008*
10.16	Amended and Restated Change in Control Agreement, dated December 31, 2008, between Northwest Pipe Company and William R. Tagmyer, incorporated by reference to Exhibits to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 13, 2009
10.17	Form of Amended and Restated Change in Control Agreement, dated December 31, 2008, between Northwest Pipe Company and Robert L. Mahoney, Gary A. Stokes, and Stephanie J. Welty, incorporated by reference to Exhibits to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 13, 2009
10.18	Executive Employment Agreement, dated March 29, 2010 between Northwest Pipe Company and Richard A. Roman, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 2, 2010
10.19	Third Amendment to Amended and Restated Credit Agreement dated February 12, 2010 by and among Northwest Pipe Company, Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 19, 2010
10.20	Third Amendment to the Amended and Restated Note Purchase and Private Shelf Agreement dated as of February 12, 2010 by and among Northwest Pipe Company and Prudential Investment Management, Inc. and certain affiliates, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 19, 2010

**Table of Contents**

<b>Exhibit Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
10.21	Fourth Amendment to Amended and Restated Credit Agreement dated April 15, 2010 by and among Northwest Pipe Company and Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 26, 2010
10.22	Fourth Amendment to the Amended and Restated Note Purchase and Private Shelf Agreement dated as of April 15, 2010 by and among Northwest Pipe Company and Prudential Investment Management, Inc. and certain affiliates, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 26, 2010
10.23	Fifth Amendment to Amended and Restated Credit Agreement dated June 18, 2010 by and among Northwest Pipe Company, Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 24, 2010
10.24	Fifth Amendment and Limited Consent to the Amended and Restated Note Purchase and Private Shelf Agreement dated as of July 23, 2010 by and among Northwest Pipe Company and Prudential Investment Management, Inc. and certain affiliates, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 29, 2010
10.25	Sixth Amendment to Amended and Restated Credit Agreement dated July 30, 2010 by and among Northwest Pipe Company and Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 5, 2010
10.26	Sixth Amendment and Temporary Waiver to the Amended and Restated Note Purchase and Private Shelf Agreement dated as of July 30, 2010 by and among Northwest Pipe Company and Prudential Investment Management, Inc. and certain affiliates, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 5, 2010
10.27	Seventh Amendment to Amended and Restated Credit Agreement dated September 16, 2010 by and among Northwest Pipe Company and Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 5, 2010
10.28	Seventh Amendment and Limited Waiver to the Amended and Restated Note Purchase and Private Shelf Agreement dated as of September 16, 2010 by and among Northwest Pipe Company and Prudential Investment Management, Inc. and certain affiliates, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 5, 2010
10.29	Separation Agreement and Release, dated October 5, 2009, between Northwest Pipe Company and Brian W. Dunham, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 8, 2010*
10.30	Eighth Amendment to Amended and Restated Credit Agreement dated October 15, 2010 by and among Northwest Pipe Company and Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 27, 2010
10.31	Eighth Amendment and Limited Waiver to the Amended and Restated Note Purchase and Private Shelf Agreement dated as of October 15, 2010 by and among Northwest Pipe Company and Prudential Investment Management, Inc. and certain affiliates, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 27, 2010

**Table of Contents**

<b>Exhibit Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
10.32	Separation Agreement and Release, dated January 20, 2011, between Northwest Pipe Company and Stephanie J. Welty, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 24, 2011*
10.33	Amended and Restated Executive Employment Agreement between Northwest Pipe Company and Richard A. Roman dated as of April 21, 2011, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 25, 2011
10.34	Change in Control Agreement between Northwest Pipe Company and Robin Gantt dated as of April 21, 2011, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 25, 2011
10.35	Change in Control Agreement between Northwest Pipe Company and Richard Baum dated as of May 27, 2011, incorporated by reference to Exhibits to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2011, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 8, 2011
10.36	Northwest Pipe Company 2011 Salaried Employee Cash Incentive Plan, incorporated by reference to Exhibits to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2011, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 8, 2011
10.37	Change in Control Agreement between Northwest Pipe Company and Scott Montross dated as of July 6, 2011, incorporated by reference to Exhibits to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2011, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 27, 2012, filed concurrently with this report
10.38	Form of grant of restricted stock units and performance share units by Northwest Pipe Company to certain Named Officers, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 12, 2011*
10.39	Ninth Amendment to Amended and Restated Credit Agreement dated March 29, 2012 by and among Northwest Pipe Company and Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent, incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 30, 2012
14.1	Code of Ethics for Senior Financial Officers as adopted by the Northwest Pipe Company Board of Directors on September 8, 2011, incorporated by reference to Exhibits to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2011, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission concurrently with this report on April 27, 2012
21.1	Subsidiaries of the Registrant, filed herewith
23.1	Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP, filed herewith
31.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, filed herewith
31.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, filed herewith
32.1	Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, filed herewith
32.2	Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, filed herewith
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document**

**Table of Contents**

<b>Exhibit Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document**
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document**
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document**
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document**
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document**

\* This exhibit constitutes a management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement.

\*\* Pursuant to Rule 406T of Regulation S-T, the Interactive data Files on Exhibit 101, submitted electronically herewith, are deemed not filed or part of a registration statement or prospectus for purposes of Sections 11 or 12 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, are deemed not filed for purposes of Section 18 or the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and otherwise are not subject to liability under those sections.



**Table of Contents**

**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of

Northwest Pipe Company

Vancouver, Washington

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Northwest Pipe Company and subsidiaries (the Company) as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the related consolidated statements of operations, stockholders' equity and comprehensive income (loss), and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2011. Our audits also included the financial statement schedule listed in the Table of Contents at Item 15. These financial statements and the financial statement schedule are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and the financial statement schedule 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 opinion.

In our opinion, such consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Northwest Pipe Company and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2011, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Also, 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.

As discussed in Note 18 to the consolidated financial statements, the accompanying 2010 and 2009 consolidated financial statements have been restated.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011, based on the criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission and our report dated April 27, 2012 expressed an adverse opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting because of material weaknesses.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP

Portland, Oregon

April 27, 2012

**Table of Contents****NORTHWEST PIPE COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS****(In thousands, except per share amounts)**

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010 As Restated	2009 As Restated
Net sales	\$ 511,668	\$ 386,750	\$ 278,654
Cost of sales	452,530	357,062	271,970
Gross profit	59,138	29,688	6,684
Selling, general and administrative expense	26,315	29,093	21,000
Operating income (loss)	32,823	595	(14,316)
Other expense (income)	1,338	(413)	(1,905)
Interest income	(99)	(846)	(713)
Interest expense	9,306	8,942	5,116
Income (loss) before income taxes	22,278	(7,088)	(16,814)
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	9,618	(1,648)	(5,739)
Net income (loss)	\$ 12,660	\$ (5,440)	\$ (11,075)
Basic earnings (loss) per share	\$ 1.36	\$ (0.59)	\$ (1.20)
Diluted earnings (loss) per share	\$ 1.35	\$ (0.59)	\$ (1.20)
Shares used in per share calculations:			
Basic	9,333	9,278	9,235
Diluted	9,384	9,278	9,235

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

**Table of Contents****NORTHWEST PIPE COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

(Dollar amounts in thousands, except share and per share amounts)

	December 31,	
	2011	2010 As Restated
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 182	\$ 51
Trade and other receivables, less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$1,650 and \$2,151	69,894	66,474
Costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts	38,029	45,533
Inventories	107,169	80,887
Refundable income taxes		15,099
Deferred income taxes	6,391	6,293
Prepaid expenses and other	5,258	2,163
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>226,923</b>	<b>216,500</b>
Property and equipment, net	152,846	154,274
Goodwill	20,478	21,451
Other assets	13,126	22,658
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 413,373</b>	<b>\$ 414,883</b>
<b>Liabilities and Stockholders Equity</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Current portion of long-term debt	\$ 5,714	\$ 5,714
Current portion of capital lease obligations	3,358	3,257
Accounts payable	20,248	28,463
Accrued liabilities	19,175	11,448
Billings in excess of costs and estimated earnings on uncompleted contracts	7,814	14,808
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>56,309</b>	<b>63,690</b>
Note payable to financial institution	62,000	68,000
Long-term debt, less current portion	12,071	17,786
Capital lease obligations, less current portion	12,347	15,705
Deferred income taxes	20,588	14,582
Pension and other long-term liabilities	9,791	8,828
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>173,106</b>	<b>188,591</b>
Commitments and contingencies (Note 13)		
Stockholders equity:		
Preferred stock, \$.01 par value, 10,000,000 shares authorized, none issued or outstanding		
Common stock, \$.01 par value, 15,000,000 shares authorized, 9,353,201 and 9,298,156 shares issued and outstanding	94	93
Additional paid-in-capital	109,348	107,578
Retained earnings	133,137	120,477
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(2,312)	(1,856)
<b>Total stockholders equity</b>	<b>240,267</b>	<b>226,292</b>
<b>Total liabilities and stockholders equity</b>	<b>\$ 413,373</b>	<b>\$ 414,883</b>

Edgar Filing: NORTHWEST PIPE CO - Form 10-K

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

F-3

Table of Contents

**NORTHWEST PIPE COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY**  
**AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)**

(Dollar amounts in thousands)

	Common Stock		Additional Paid In Capital	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive (Loss) Income	Total Stockholders Equity
	Shares	Amount				
Balances, December 31, 2008, as previously reported	9,195,400	\$ 92	\$ 106,129	\$ 149,205	\$ (2,922)	\$ 252,504
Restatement adjustments see Note 18				(12,213)	663	(11,550)
Balances, January 1, 2009, as restated	9,195,400	92	106,129	136,992	(2,259)	240,954
Net loss, as restated				(11,075)		(11,075)
Other comprehensive (loss) income:						
Foreign currency cash flow hedge, net of tax benefit of \$59					(105)	(105)
Pension liability adjustment, net of tax of \$271					437	437
Comprehensive loss, as restated						(10,743)
Issuance of common stock under stock option plans	49,577		28			28
Tax shortfall from stock option plans			(53)			(53)
Stock-based compensation expense			765			765
Balances, December 31, 2009, as restated	9,244,977	92	106,869	125,917	(1,927)	230,951
Net loss, as restated				(5,440)		(5,440)
Other comprehensive (loss) income:						
Foreign currency cash flow hedge, net of tax benefit of \$27					(92)	(92)
Pension liability adjustment, net of tax of \$101					163	163
Comprehensive loss, as restated						(5,369)
Issuance of common stock under stock option plans	53,179	1	(88)			(87)
Stock-based compensation expense			797			797
Balances, December 31, 2010, as restated	9,298,156	93	107,578	120,477	(1,856)	226,292
Net income				12,660		12,660
Other comprehensive (loss) income:						
Foreign currency cash flow hedge, net of tax of \$130					211	211
Pension liability adjustment, net of tax benefit of \$409					(667)	(667)
Comprehensive income						12,204
Issuance of common stock under stock option plans	55,045	1	66			67
Tax benefit from stock option plans			243			243
Stock-based compensation expense			1,461			1,461
Balances, December 31, 2011	9,353,201	\$ 94	\$ 109,348	\$ 133,137	\$ (2,312)	\$ 240,267

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.



**Table of Contents****NORTHWEST PIPE COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

(Dollar amounts in thousands)

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010 As Restated	2009 As Restated
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net income (loss)	\$ 12,660	\$ (5,440)	\$ (11,075)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization of property and equipment	14,471	13,680	11,030
Amortization of intangible assets	50	185	252
Allowance on notes receivable	4,071		
Provision for doubtful accounts	(501)	1,358	92
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated subsidiary, net of dividends received of \$600 in 2010	394	477	
Amortization of debt issuance costs	2,042	1,418	513
Deferred income taxes	5,908	9,292	(2,394)
Loss (gain) on disposal of property and equipment	397	(667)	(348)
Gain on sale of business	(2,887)		
Stock-based compensation expense	1,461	797	765
Tax benefit from stock option plans	243		(53)
Unrealized loss (gain) on foreign currency forward contracts	(327)	(431)	1,283
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Trade and other receivables	(5,713)	(28,818)	36,942
Costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts, net	510	(2,886)	19,688
Inventories	(29,794)	(4,186)	29,084
Refundable income taxes	15,099	(8,070)	(3,586)
Prepaid expenses and other	(5,297)	(292)	(1,378)
Accounts payable	(8,920)	1,160	(4,478)
Accrued and other liabilities	8,408	1,079	769
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	12,275	(21,344)	77,106
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Additions to property and equipment	(16,333)	(18,597)	(21,348)
Proceeds from sale of business	13,727		
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment	96	19	98
Issuance of notes receivable		(550)	(675)
Insurance proceeds		587	1,363
Restricted cash	2,640		
Other investing activities	800		
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	930	(18,541)	(20,562)
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Proceeds from sale of common stock	147		171
Tax withholdings related to net share settlements of restricted share awards and performance shares	(80)	(87)	(143)
Payments on long-term debt	(5,714)	(5,714)	(5,714)
Borrowings under note payable to financial institutions	132,050	181,375	89,538
Payments on note payable to financial institutions	(138,050)	(132,778)	(152,200)
Payments of debt issuance costs		(3,381)	(186)
Borrowings from capital lease obligations	1,829	2,865	19,175
Payments on capital lease obligations	(3,256)	(2,375)	(7,244)
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	(13,074)	39,905	(56,603)
Change in cash and cash equivalents	131	20	(59)

## Edgar Filing: NORTHWEST PIPE CO - Form 10-K

Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	51	31	90
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 182	\$ 51	\$ 31
<b>Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:</b>			
Cash paid during the period for interest, net of amounts capitalized	\$ 7,220	\$ 8,376	\$ 4,751
Cash refunded during the period for income taxes (net of payments of \$2,292, \$413 and \$636)	(12,960)	(2,769)	(162)
<b>Non-cash investing and financing activities:</b>			
Escrow account related to capital lease financing	\$ 897	\$ 2,726	\$ 5,591
Accrued property and equipment purchases	1,673	968	3,704
Capital lease refinancing		481	1,688

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

F-5



---

**Table of Contents**

**NORTHWEST PIPE COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:**

The Company operates in two business segments, Water Transmission and Tubular Products. We have water transmission manufacturing facilities in Portland, Oregon; Denver, Colorado; Adelanto, California; Pleasant Grove, Utah; Parkersburg, West Virginia; Saginaw, Texas and Monterrey, Mexico. Tubular products manufacturing facilities are located in Atchison, Kansas; Houston, Texas; and Bossier City, Louisiana.

**Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. The Company bases its estimates on historical experience and on various assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances at that time. On an on-going basis, the Company evaluates all of its estimates, including those related to revenue recognition, allowance for doubtful accounts, goodwill, long-lived assets, including depreciation and amortization, inventories, income taxes, and litigation and other contingencies. Actual results could differ from those estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

**Basis of Consolidation and Presentation**

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Northwest Pipe Company and its subsidiaries over which the Company exercises control as of the financial statement date. Intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated.

Northwest Pipe Asia Pte. Ltd. ( NWPAA ), was previously accounted for under the equity method of accounting and was sold to the controlling owners of the business for \$0.8 million on April 1, 2011. The Company previously exercised significant influence but did not control NWPAA. During the year ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company recorded purchases of property and equipment of \$0.2 million and \$1.7 million, respectively, net of eliminations, and rental income of \$0.2 million during the year end December 31, 2010, from NWPAA. No rental income from NWPAA was recorded during the year ended December 31, 2011. At December 31, 2010, intercompany balances with NWPAA included a receivable of \$0.5 million for rental income and a dividend receivable. All proceeds from the sale have been received by the Company and no intercompany balances remain at December 31, 2011.

Lucid Energy LLC ( Lucid Energy ), over which the Company exercises significant influence but no control, is accounted for under the equity method of accounting. Lucid Energy is a clean energy company based in Portland, Oregon. At December 31, 2011, we have convertible notes receivable from Lucid Energy, but the carrying value of our notes receivable and investment is zero.

On June 1, 2011, the Company sold all assets of the traffic systems product line of the Tubular Products facility in Houston, Texas. Assets sold as part of this sale included the (i) raw materials, work-in-process, finished goods and related fuel and supplies inventories, (ii) tangible personal property located at the Houston facilities or used by the Company in connection with the traffic business, including machinery, equipment, tooling, operating and maintenance manuals, parts and all other tangible assets used in or related to the traffic business, (iii) receivables, and (iv) other assets. Total consideration of \$13.7 million was received, resulting in a gain of \$2.9 million recognized in other expense during the second quarter of 2011. The calculation of the gain on sale included a write-off of \$1.0 million of goodwill.

## **Table of Contents**

### **Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash and short term highly liquid investments with remaining maturities of three months or less when purchased.

### **Escrow Account**

The escrow account, to be used for qualifying project costs under the financing arrangement for the Bossier City facility, is included in other assets. Funds are released from escrow upon the Company's payment of qualifying project costs. Restricted cash held in the escrow account totaled \$0.9 million and \$2.7 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

### **Allowance for Doubtful Accounts**

The Company maintains allowances for estimated losses resulting from the inability of its customers to make required payments or from contract disputes. The amounts of such allowances are based on Company history and management's judgment. At least monthly, the Company reviews past due balances to identify the reasons for non-payment. The Company will write off a receivable account once the account is deemed uncollectible. The Company believes the reported allowances at December 31, 2011 and 2010 are adequate. If the customers' financial conditions were to deteriorate resulting in their inability to make payments, or if contract disputes were to escalate, additional allowances may need to be recorded which would result in additional expenses being recorded for the period in which such determination was made.

### **Inventories**

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market. Raw material inventories of steel are stated at cost, either on a specific identification basis or on an average cost basis. All other raw material inventories, as well as supplies, are stated on an average cost basis. Finished goods are stated at cost using the first-in, first-out method of accounting.

### **Property and Equipment**

Property and equipment is stated at cost. Maintenance and repairs are expensed as incurred, and costs of major maintenance, improvements, and renewals, including interest where applicable, are capitalized. Depreciation and amortization are determined by the units of production method for most equipment and by the straight-line method for the remaining assets based on the estimated useful lives of the related assets. Depreciation expense calculated under the units of production method may be less than, equal to, or greater than depreciation expense calculated under the straight-line method due to variances in production levels. Upon disposal, costs and related accumulated depreciation of the assets are removed from the accounts and resulting gains or losses are reflected in operations. The Company leases certain equipment under long-term capital leases, which are being amortized on a straight-line basis over the shorter of its useful life or the lease term.

The Company assesses impairment of property and equipment whenever changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying values of the assets may not be recoverable. The recoverable value of long-lived assets is determined by estimating future undiscounted cash flows using assumptions about the expected future operating performance of the Company. The estimates of undiscounted cash flows may differ from actual cash flow due to, among other things, technological changes, economic conditions, or changes to business operations. If the carrying value of the property and equipment is not estimated to be recoverable, an impairment loss is calculated and recorded.

**Table of Contents**

Estimated useful lives by major classes of property and equipment are as follows:

Land improvements	15	30 years
Buildings	20	40 years
Machinery and equipment	3	30 years

**Goodwill**

Goodwill related to the Company's Tubular Products Group, one of the Company's operating segments and reporting units, of \$20.5 million and \$21.5 million, respectively, at December 31, 2011 and 2010 represents the excess of purchase price over the assigned value of the net assets in connection with the segment's acquisitions. The change in the carrying amount of goodwill for the year ended December 31, 2011 was due to the sale of all assets of the traffic systems product line of the Tubular Products facility in Houston, Texas.

Goodwill balance, January 1, 2011	\$21,451
Goodwill written off related to sale of business	(973)
<b>Goodwill balance, December 31, 2011</b>	<b>\$20,478</b>

Goodwill is reviewed for impairment annually or whenever events occur or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of the Tubular Products Group below its carrying amount. A qualitative approach which takes into account industry and market conditions, cost factors, overall financial performance, and other relevant entity specific events and changes can be utilized under Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2011-08 prior to the performance of the two-step goodwill impairment test. For reporting units where this review concludes it is more likely than not the fair value of the reporting unit is less than the carrying value of the reporting unit, step one of the two-step goodwill impairment test is performed.

Step one in the evaluation of goodwill impairment involves comparing the estimated fair value of the reporting unit to its carrying value, including goodwill. Fair value of the reporting unit is determined with consideration of the income, market, and cost approaches as applicable. The income approach is based upon projected future after-tax cash flows (less capital expenditures) discounted to present value using factors that consider the timing and risk associated with the future after-tax cash flows. The key assumptions in the discounted cash flow analysis are the long-term growth rate, the discount rate, and the annual free cash flow. The market approach is based upon historical and forward-looking measures using multiples of revenue and a price-to-book ratio. The forward-looking measures are more heavily weighted than the historical measures.

The Company conducts its annual impairment testing as of December 31. Upon adoption of ASU 2011-08, we elected to use a qualitative approach in our assessment of whether goodwill related to the Company's Tubular Products group was impaired. The Company determined it was not more likely than not that the fair value of the Tubular Products Group is less than its carrying amount, and the performance of the first and second steps of the goodwill impairment test was not necessary. The operations of the Tubular Products Group is cyclical, and its sales and profitability may fluctuate from year to year. If the Company's assumptions about goodwill change as a result of events or circumstances, and management believes the assets may have declined in value, then impairment charges may be recorded, resulting in lower profits. In the evaluation of the Company's operating segment, the Company looks at the long-term prospects for the reporting unit and recognizes that current performance may not be the best indicator of future prospects or value, which requires management judgment.

**Workers Compensation Insurance**

The Company is self-insured, or maintains high deductible policies, for losses and liabilities associated with workers compensation claims. Losses are accrued based upon the Company's estimates of the aggregate liability for claims incurred using historical experience and certain actuarial assumptions followed in the insurance industry.

## **Table of Contents**

### **Pension Benefits**

The Company has two defined benefit pension plans that have been frozen since 2001. The Company funds these plans to cover current plan costs plus amortization of the unfunded plan liabilities. To record these obligations, management uses estimates relating to investment returns, mortality, and discount rates. Management reviews all of these assumptions on an annual basis.

### **Derivative Instruments**

The Company conducts business in foreign countries, and, from time to time, settles transactions in foreign currencies. The Company has established a program that utilizes foreign currency forward contracts to offset the risk associated with the effects of certain foreign currency exposures, typically arising from sales contracts denominated in Canadian currency. Foreign currency forward contracts are consistent with the Company's strategy for financial risk management. The Company utilizes cash flow hedge accounting treatment for qualifying foreign currency forward contracts. Instruments that do not qualify for cash flow hedge accounting treatment are remeasured at fair value at each balance sheet date and resulting gains and losses are recognized in net income (loss).

### **Foreign Currency Transactions**

Assets and liabilities subject to foreign currency fluctuations are translated into United States dollars at the period-end exchange rate, and revenue and expenses are translated at exchange rates representing an average for the period. Translation adjustments from designated hedges are included in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) as a separate component of stockholders' equity. Gains or losses on all other foreign currency transactions are recognized in the statement of operations. The functional currency of our Mexican operations is the U.S. dollar.

### **Revenue Recognition**

Revenue from construction contracts in the Company's Water Transmission Group is recognized on the percentage-of-completion method, measured by the costs incurred to date as a percentage of the estimated total costs of each contract (cost-to-cost method). Contract costs include all direct material and labor costs and those indirect costs related to contract performance, such as indirect labor, supplies, tools, repairs and depreciation. Selling, general and administrative costs are charged to expense as incurred. The cost of steel is recognized as a project cost when the steel is introduced into the manufacturing process. Estimated total costs of each contract are reviewed on a monthly basis by project management and operations personnel for substantially all projects that are 50% or more complete except that major projects, usually over \$5.0 million, are reviewed earlier if sufficient production has been completed to provide enough information to revise the original estimated total cost of the project. All cost revisions that result in the gross profit as a percent of sales increasing or decreasing by more than two percent are reviewed by senior management personnel.

The Company begins recognizing revenue on a project when persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, recoverability is reasonably assured, and project costs are incurred. Costs may be incurred before the Company has persuasive evidence of an arrangement. In those cases, if recoverability from that arrangement is probable, the project costs are deferred and revenue recognition is delayed.

Provisions for losses on uncompleted contracts are made in the period such losses are known. Changes in job performance, job conditions and estimated profitability, including those arising from contract penalty provisions, foreign currency exchange rate movements, changes in raw materials costs, and final contract settlements may result in revisions to revenue, costs and income and are recognized in the period in which the revisions are determined.

Revenue from the Company's Tubular Products Group is recognized when all four of the following criteria have been satisfied: persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, the price is fixed or determinable, delivery has occurred, and collectability is reasonably assured.

**Table of Contents****Other Expense/Income**

The Company reports gains and losses from non-operating activities as a component of other expense/income. On June 1, 2011, the Company sold all assets of the traffic systems product line of the Tubular Products facility in Houston, Texas. Total consideration of \$13.7 million was received, resulting in a gain of \$2.9 million recognized in other expense/income during 2011. The Company recorded an allowance of \$4.1 million on notes receivable in 2011.

**Income Taxes**

Income taxes are recorded using an asset and liability approach that requires the recognition of deferred tax assets and liabilities for the expected future tax consequences of events that have been recognized in the Company's financial statements or tax returns. Valuation allowances are established when necessary to reduce deferred income tax assets to the amount expected to be realized. The determination of the provision for income taxes requires significant judgment, the use of estimates and the interpretation and application of complex tax laws. The provision for income taxes primarily reflects a combination of income earned and taxed in the various U.S. federal and state and, to a lesser extent, foreign jurisdictions. Jurisdictional tax law changes, increases or decreases in permanent differences between book and tax items, accruals or adjustments of accruals for unrecognized tax benefits or valuation allowances, and the change in the mix of earnings from these taxing jurisdictions all affect the overall effective tax rate.

The Company records tax reserves for federal, state, local and international exposures relating to periods subject to audit. The development of reserves for these exposures requires judgments about tax issues, potential outcomes and timing, and is a subjective estimate. The Company assesses tax positions and records tax benefits for all years subject to examination based upon management's evaluation of the facts, circumstances, and information available at the reporting dates. For those tax positions where it is more-likely-than-not that a tax benefit will be sustained, the largest amount of tax benefit with a greater than 50% likelihood of being realized upon settlement with a tax authority that has full knowledge of all relevant information has been recorded. For those tax positions where it is not more-likely-than-not that a tax benefit will be sustained, no tax benefit has been recognized in the financial statements.

**Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)**

Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) includes unrealized gains and losses on derivative instruments related to the effective portion of cash flow hedges and changes in the funded status of the defined benefit pension plans, both net of the related income tax effect. Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) consists of the following:

	<b>December 31,</b>	
	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
	<b>(in thousands)</b>	
Pension liability adjustment, net of tax benefit of \$1,294 and \$885	\$ (2,326)	\$ (1,659)
Net deferred gain (loss) on cash flow derivatives, net of tax expense of \$44 and benefit of \$86	14	(197)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ (2,312)</b>	<b>\$ (1,856)</b>

**Table of Contents****Earnings (Loss) per Share**

Earnings (loss) per basic and diluted weighted average common shares outstanding was calculated as follows for the years ended December 31:

	2011	2010	2009
Net income (loss) (in thousands)	\$ 12,660	\$ (5,440)	\$ (11,075)
Basic weighted-average common shares outstanding	9,332,909	9,277,605	9,235,183
Effect of potentially dilutive common shares (1)	50,635		
Diluted weighted-average common shares outstanding	9,383,544	9,277,605	9,235,183
<b>Earnings (loss) per common share:</b>			
Earnings (loss) per basic common share	\$ 1.36	\$ (0.59)	\$ (1.20)
Earnings (loss) per diluted common share	1.35	(0.59)	(1.20)
Antidilutive shares not included in net income per diluted common share calculation	58,261	47,483	130,970

- (1) Represents the effect of the assumed exercise of stock options and the vesting of restricted stock units and performance stock awards, based on the treasury stock method.

**Concentrations of Credit Risk**

Financial instruments, which potentially subject the Company to concentrations of credit risk, consist principally of trade receivables, derivative contracts and the escrow account. Trade receivables generally represent a large number of customers, including municipalities, manufacturers, distributors and contractors, dispersed across a wide geographic base. At December 31, 2011, one customer had a balance in excess of 10% of total accounts receivable which totaled 13% of total accounts receivable. At December 31, 2010, two customers had balances in excess of 10% of total accounts receivable and totaled 25% of total accounts receivable. Derivative contracts are with a financial institution rated A-2 (negative) by S&P. The escrow account, which is included in other assets, is held in a money market mutual fund. The Company's deferred compensation plan assets, also included in other assets, are invested in a diversified portfolio of stock and bond mutual funds.

**Share-based Compensation**

The Company recognizes the compensation cost of employee and director services received in exchange for awards of equity instruments based on the grant date estimated fair value of the awards. Share-based compensation cost is recognized over the period during which the employee or director is required to provide service in exchange for the award, and as forfeitures occur, the associated compensation cost recognized to date is reversed. Share-based compensation cost related to awards with a performance-based condition is recognized based on the probable outcome of the performance conditions, which requires judgment.

The Company estimates the fair value of stock options using the Black-Scholes-Merton option pricing model to estimate fair value. The Black-Scholes-Merton option pricing model requires the Company to estimate key assumptions such as expected term, volatility, risk-free interest rates and dividend yield to determine the fair value of stock options, based on both historical information and management judgment regarding market factors and trends. The Company estimates the fair value of restricted stock units and performance stock awards using the value of the Company's stock on the date of grant, with the exception of market-based performance awards, for which a Monte Carlo simulation model is used. The Monte Carlo simulation model calculates many potential outcomes for an award and estimates fair value based on the most likely outcome.

See Note 11, "Share-based Compensation Plans" for further discussion of the Company's share-based compensation.

---

## **Table of Contents**

### **Recent Accounting and Reporting Developments**

#### **Accounting Changes**

In January 2010, the FASB issued ASU 2010-06 which requires new disclosures and clarifies existing disclosure requirements for fair value measurements. Specifically, the changes require disclosure of transfers into and out of Level 1 and Level 2 (as defined in the accounting guidance) fair value measurements, and also require more detailed disclosure about the activity within Level 3 (as defined) fair value measurements. The Company adopted this guidance on January 1, 2010 as required, with the exception of the disclosures about purchases, sales, issuances and settlements of Level 3 assets and liabilities, which was adopted on January 1, 2011 as required. As this guidance only requires expanded disclosures, the adoption did not impact the Company's consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In September 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-08, which simplified the goodwill impairment test by giving companies the option to perform a qualitative assessment to determine whether the performance of the two step impairment testing is necessary. This guidance is effective for interim and annual periods beginning on or after December 15, 2011 and early adoption is allowed. The Company has adopted this guidance for the performance of the annual goodwill impairment review during the fourth quarter of 2011, and there was no impact on the consolidated financial statements.

#### **Recent Accounting Standards**

In May 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) issued ASU 2011-04, which amends the wording used to describe the requirements for measuring fair value and expands fair value disclosure requirements. This guidance is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011. The adoption of this guidance as of January 1, 2012 is not expected to have a significant impact on the Company's consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows as the new requirements are primarily disclosure related.

In June 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-05, which eliminates the option to present components of other comprehensive income as part of the Statement of Stockholders Equity. All changes in components of stockholders' equity must be presented in (1) a single continuous statement of comprehensive income, which presents the total of comprehensive income, the components of net income, and the components of comprehensive income, or (2) two separate but consecutive statements. Under either presentation method, reclassification adjustments between other comprehensive income and net income are required to be presented on the face of the financial statements. In October 2011, the FASB decided to delay the effective date of the requirement to present reclassifications of other comprehensive income on the face of the income statement. All other guidance in ASU 2011-05 is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011 and will be applied retrospectively. The adoption of this guidance as of January 1, 2012 does not change the items that must be reported in other comprehensive income or when an item of other comprehensive income must be reclassified to net income and thus will only have an impact on the presentation of comprehensive income (loss) in the consolidated financial statements.

In December, 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-11 which requires companies to disclose information regarding offsetting and other arrangements for derivatives and other financial instruments. This guidance is effective for interim and annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2013. The adoption of this guidance is not expected to have a significant impact on the Company's consolidated financial position as the new requirements are primarily disclosure related.

#### **2. COSTS AND ESTIMATED EARNINGS IN EXCESS OF BILLINGS ON UNCOMPLETED CONTRACTS AND BILLINGS IN EXCESS OF COSTS AND ESTIMATED EARNINGS:**

The sum of costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts represents revenue earned under the percentage-of-completion method but not yet billable based on the terms of the contracts. These

**Table of Contents**

amounts are billed based on the terms of the contracts, which include achievement of milestones, partial shipments or completion of the contracts. Billings in excess of costs and estimated earnings represents amounts billed based on the terms of the contracts in advance of costs incurred and revenue earned.

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
	(in thousands)	
Costs incurred on uncompleted contracts	\$ 356,527	\$ 396,174
Estimated earnings	56,227	51,875
	412,754	448,049
Less billings to date	(382,539)	(417,324)
	\$ 30,215	\$ 30,725
Amounts are presented in the Consolidated Balance Sheets as follows:		
Costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts	\$ 38,029	\$ 45,533
Billings in excess of costs and estimated earnings on uncompleted contracts	(7,814)	(14,808)
	\$ 30,215	\$ 30,725

**3. INVENTORIES:**

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market and consist of the following (in thousands):

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
Short-term inventories:		
Raw materials	\$ 65,511	\$ 58,610
Work-in-process	3,543	2,521
Finished goods	35,000	17,566
Supplies	3,115	2,190
	107,169	80,887
Long-term inventories:		
Finished goods	2,401	2,554
Total inventories	\$ 109,570	\$ 83,441

Long-term inventories are recorded in other assets. The lower of cost or market adjustment for all inventories was \$3.4 million and \$4.5 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

**4. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT:**

Property and equipment consists of the following (in thousands):



Edgar Filing: NORTHWEST PIPE CO - Form 10-K

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
Land and improvements	\$ 20,101	\$ 19,346
Buildings	41,319	40,486
Machinery and equipment	147,814	152,596
Equipment under capital lease	21,310	19,481
Construction in progress	9,210	1,219
	239,754	233,128
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(86,908)	(78,854)
Property and equipment, net	\$ 152,846	\$ 154,274

F-13

**Table of Contents**

Depreciation and amortization expense was \$14.5 million, \$13.7 million, and \$11.0 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009, respectively. Accumulated amortization associated with property and equipment under the capital lease was \$5.4 million and \$2.9 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

**5. NOTE PAYABLE TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTION:**

At December 31, 2011, the Company had a \$125.0 million line of credit agreement, under which \$62.0 million was outstanding bearing interest at a weighted average rate of 3.03%. The Company had additional net borrowing capacity under the line of credit of \$59.8 million at December 31, 2011. At December 31, 2010, the Company had a \$125.0 million line of credit, and \$68.0 million was outstanding at a weighted average interest rate of 5.06%.

The line of credit expires on April 30, 2012. On March 29, 2012, we entered in the Ninth Amendment to our Credit Agreement to extend the expiration of the line of credit to April 30, 2013. Refer to Note 17 Subsequent Events for additional information. The line of credit bears interest at rates related to LIBOR plus 2.50% to 4.50%, or the lending institution's prime rate, plus 1.50% to 3.50%. We were able to borrow at LIBOR plus 2.5% under the credit agreement at December 31, 2011. The line of credit agreement contains the following covenants: minimum Consolidated Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio; maximum Consolidated Senior Leverage Ratio; maximum Consolidated Total Leverage Ratio; minimum Consolidated Tangible Net Worth; minimum Asset Coverage Ratio; and maximum Consolidated Rental and Operating Lease Expense to Consolidated Revenue Ratio. The Company was not in compliance with its financial covenants as of December 31, 2011 and was granted waivers. See Note 17, Subsequent Events, for additional information on the waivers.

**6. LONG-TERM DEBT:**

	December 31, 2011      2010 (in thousands)	
Series A Term Note, maturing on February 25, 2014, due in annual payments of \$2.1 million that began February 25, 2008, plus interest at 10.50% paid quarterly, on February 25, May 25, August 25 and November 25, collateralized by accounts receivable, inventory and certain equipment	\$ 6,429	\$ 8,571
Series B Term Note, maturing on June 21, 2014, due in annual payments of \$1.5 million that began June 21, 2008, plus interest at 10.22% paid quarterly, on March 21, June 21, September 21 and December 21, collateralized by accounts receivable, inventory and certain equipment	4,500	6,000
Series C Term Note, maturing on October 26, 2014, due in annual payments of \$1.4 million that began October 26, 2008, plus interest at 9.11% paid quarterly, on January 26, April 26, July 26 and October 26, collateralized by accounts receivable, inventory and certain equipment	4,286	5,714
Series D Term Note, maturing on January 24, 2015, due in annual payments of \$643,000 that began January 24, 2009, plus interest at 9.07% paid quarterly, on January 24, April 24, July 24 and October 24, collateralized by accounts receivable, inventory and certain equipment	2,570	3,215
<b>Total long-term debt</b>	<b>\$ 17,785</b>	<b>\$ 23,500</b>
Amounts are presented in the Consolidated Balance Sheets as follows:		
Current portion of long-term debt	\$ 5,714	\$ 5,714
Long-term debt, less current portion	12,071	17,786
	<b>\$ 17,785</b>	<b>\$ 23,500</b>

**Table of Contents**

The Company was not in compliance with its financial covenants as of December 31, 2011 and was granted waivers by its long-term debt holders. See Note 17, Subsequent Events, for additional information on the waivers.

Future principal payments of long-term debt are as follows (in thousands):

2012	\$ 5,714
2013	5,714
2014	5,714
2015	643
Thereafter	
	\$ 17,785

Interest expense under our Credit Agreement and long-term debt was \$9.3 million, net of amounts capitalized of \$243,000 in 2011, \$8.9 million, net of amounts capitalized of \$484,000 in 2010, and \$5.1 million, net of amounts capitalized of \$569,000 in 2009.

**7. LEASES:***Capital Leases*

The Company leases certain equipment used in the manufacturing process. The future minimum payments under the Company's capital leases are as follows (in thousands):

2012	\$ 4,454
2013	4,095
2014	4,019
2015	2,663
Thereafter	3,413
Total minimum lease payments	18,644
Amount representing interest	(2,939)
Present value of minimum lease payments with average interest rates of 7.80%	15,705
Current portion of capital lease obligation	(3,358)
Capital lease obligation, less current portion	\$ 12,347

We had a total of \$15.7 million in capital lease obligations outstanding at December 31, 2011. The weighted average interest rate on all of our capital leases is 7.80%. Our capital leases are for certain equipment used in the manufacturing process. Of the total capital lease balance, \$7.7 million of our capital leases outstanding as of December 31, 2011 consists of a Financing Arrangement entered into as of September 2009 to finance our Bossier City, Louisiana facility under which certain equipment used in the manufacturing process at the facility is leased. As part of the Financing Arrangement, a \$10 million escrow account was provided for the Company by a local government entity through a financial institution and funds are released upon qualifying purchase requisitions. As we purchase equipment for the facility, we enter into a sale-leaseback transaction with the governmental entity as part of the Financing Arrangement. As of December 31, 2011, \$0.9 million was held in the escrow account, which is included in Other Assets, as a result of proceeds from the Financing Arrangement. The Financing Arrangement requires us to meet certain loan covenants, measured at the end of each fiscal quarter. These loan covenants follow the covenants required by our Credit Agreement. The company was not in compliance with its financial covenants as of December 31, 2011 and was granted waivers by the lessors. See Note 17, Subsequent Events, for additional information on the waivers.

*Operating Leases*

The Company has entered into various equipment leases with terms of ten years or less. Total rental expense for 2011, 2010, and 2009 was \$3.3 million, \$3.2 million, and \$2.0 million, respectively. Certain of the

F-15

**Table of Contents**

Company's operating lease agreements include renewals and/or purchase options set to expire at various dates. Future minimum payments as of December 31, 2011 for operating leases with initial or remaining terms in excess of one year are (in thousands):

2012	\$ 2,070
2013	1,498
2014	1,099
2015	827
Thereafter	1,272
	\$ 6,766

**8. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS:***Assets/Liabilities Measured and Recorded at Fair Value on a Recurring Basis*

The Company records its financial assets and liabilities at fair value, which is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability, in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability, in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The guidance for fair value measurements also applies to nonrecurring fair value measurements of nonfinancial assets and nonfinancial liabilities.

The authoritative guidance establishes a fair value hierarchy which prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value into three broad levels. These levels are: Level 1 (inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities); Level 2 (inputs are other than quoted prices that are observable, either directly or indirectly through corroboration with observable market data); and Level 3 (inputs are unobservable, with little or no market data that exists, such as internal financial forecasts). The Company is required to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value.

The following table summarizes information regarding the Company's financial assets and financial liabilities that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis (in thousands):

Description	Balance at			
	December 31, 2011	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
<b>Financial assets</b>				
Escrow account	\$ 897	\$ 897	\$	\$
Deferred compensation plan assets	4,575	4,575		
Derivatives	153		153	
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 5,625</b>	<b>\$ 5,472</b>	<b>\$ 153</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Financial liabilities</b>				
Derivatives	\$ (108)		\$ (108)	
Description	Balance at			
	December 31, 2010	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
<b>Financial assets</b>				
Escrow account	\$ 2,726	\$ 2,726	\$	\$
Deferred compensation plan assets	4,560	4,560		

Edgar Filing: NORTHWEST PIPE CO - Form 10-K

Total Assets	\$	7,286	\$ 7,286	\$	\$
<b>Financial liabilities</b>					
Derivatives	\$	(622)	\$	\$ (622)	`

F-16

**Table of Contents**

The escrow account, consisting of a money market mutual fund, is valued using quoted market prices in active markets classified as Level 1 within the fair value hierarchy. The deferred compensation plan assets consists of cash and several publicly traded stock and bond mutual funds, valued using quoted market prices in active markets classified as Level 1 within the fair value hierarchy. The Company's derivatives consist of foreign currency forward contracts, which are accounted for as cash flow hedges, and are valued using various pricing models or discounted cash flow analyses that incorporate observable market parameters, such as interest rate yield curves and currency rates, classified as Level 2 within the valuation hierarchy. Derivative valuations incorporate credit risk adjustments that are necessary to reflect the probability of default by the counterparty or the Company.

The net carrying amounts of cash and cash equivalents, trade and other receivables, accounts payable, accrued liabilities and note payable to financial institution approximate fair value due to the short-term nature of these instruments. The Company is obligated to repay the carrying value of our long term debt. The fair value of our debt is calculated using a coupon rate on borrowings with similar maturities, current remaining average life to maturity, borrower credit quality, and current market conditions. The fair value of the Company's long-term debt, including the current portion, was \$16.1 million and the carrying value was \$17.8 million at December 31, 2011. The carrying value approximated the fair value of long-term debt at December 31, 2010.

***Financial Assets Measured and Recorded at Fair Value on a Non-Recurring Basis***

We measure our financial assets, including loans receivable and non-marketable equity method investments, at fair value on a non-recurring basis when they are determined to be other-than-temporarily impaired. The fair value of these assets is determined using Level 3 unobservable inputs due to the absence of observable market inputs and the valuations requiring management judgment. During 2011, we recognized \$4.1 million of impairment charges on loans receivable. The impairment charges were included in other expense (income) in the consolidated statement of income. All notes receivable are categorized as Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy.

**9. DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND HEDGING ACTIVITIES:**

The Company conducts business in various foreign countries and, from time to time, settles transactions in foreign currencies. The Company has established a program that utilizes foreign currency forward contracts to offset the risk associated with the effects of certain foreign currency exposures, typically arising from sales contracts denominated in Canadian currency. Instruments that do not qualify for cash flow hedge accounting treatment are re-measured at fair value on each balance sheet date and resulting gains and losses are recognized in net income. As of December 31, 2011 and 2010, the total notional amount of the derivative contracts not designated as hedges was \$1.5 million (CAD\$1.5 million) and \$1.3 million (CAD\$1.3 million), respectively. As of December 31, 2011 and 2010, the total notional amount of the derivative contracts designated as hedges was \$8.5 million (CAD\$8.6 million) and \$15.1 million (CAD\$15.0 million), respectively.

For each derivative contract entered into in which the Company seeks to obtain cash flow hedge accounting treatment, the Company formally documents all relationships between hedging instruments and hedged items, as well as its risk management objective and strategy for undertaking the hedge transaction, the nature of the risk being hedged, how the hedging instrument's effectiveness in offsetting the hedged risk will be assessed prospectively and retrospectively, and a description of the method of measuring ineffectiveness. This process includes linking all derivatives to specific firm commitments or forecasted transactions and designating the derivatives as cash flow hedges. The Company also formally assesses, both at the hedge's inception and on an ongoing basis, whether the derivative contracts that are used in hedging transactions are highly effective in offsetting changes in cash flows of hedged items. The effective portion of these hedged items is reflected in other comprehensive income on the Consolidated Statement of Stockholders' Equity and Comprehensive Income (Loss). If it is determined that a derivative contract is not highly effective, or that it has ceased to be a highly effective hedge, the Company will be required to discontinue hedge accounting with respect to that derivative contract prospectively.

**Table of Contents**

All of the Company's Canadian forward contracts have maturities not longer than 12 months as of December 31, 2011, except one contract with a notional value of \$0.8 million (CAD\$0.8 million) which has a remaining maturity of 13 months.

The balance sheet location and the fair values of derivative instruments are:

Foreign Currency Forward Contracts	December 31,	
	2011	2010
	(in thousands)	
<b>Assets</b>		
Derivatives designated as hedging instruments		
Prepaid expenses and other	\$ 66	\$
Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments		
Prepaid expenses and other	\$ 87	
Total assets	\$ 153	\$
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Derivatives designated as hedging instruments		
Accrued liabilities	\$ 23	\$ 317
Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments		
Accrued liabilities	85	305
Total liabilities	\$ 108	\$ 622

The amounts of the gains and losses related to the Company's derivative contracts designated as hedging instruments for the year ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 are (in thousands):

Derivatives in Cash Flow Hedging Relationships	Pretax Loss Recognized in Other Comprehensive Income on Effective Portion of Derivative Amount	Pretax Loss Recognized in Income on Effective Portion of Derivative as a Result of Reclassification from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income		Ineffective Portion of Loss on Derivative and Amount Excluded from Effectiveness Testing	
		Location	Amount	Location	Amount
<b>2011</b>					
Foreign currency forward contracts	\$ (172)	Net sales	\$ (501)	Net sales	\$ (69)
<b>2010</b>					
Foreign currency forward contracts	\$ (157)	Net sales	\$ (31)	Net sales	\$ (46)

The following table reconciles the beginning and ending balances of the Company's accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) related to gains or losses on derivative contracts, as well as amounts reclassified to earnings for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 (in thousands):

	2011	2010
Beginning balance	\$ (197)	\$ (105)
	(107)	(121)



## Edgar Filing: NORTHWEST PIPE CO - Form 10-K

Net unrealized loss from cash flow hedging instruments arising during the period, net of tax

Reclassifications into earnings, net of tax	318	29
Ending balance	\$ 14	\$ (197)

For the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, gains (losses) of \$36,000, (\$0.6) million and (\$3.3) million, respectively, from derivative contracts not designated as hedging instruments were recognized in net sales. At December 31, 2011, there is \$58,000 of unrealized pretax income on outstanding derivatives

F-18

**Table of Contents**

accumulated in other comprehensive income, substantially all of which is expected to be reclassified to net sales within the next 12 months as a result of underlying hedged transactions also being recorded in net sales.

**10. RETIREMENT PLANS:**

The Company has a defined contribution retirement plan that covers substantially all of its employees and provides for a Company match of up to 50% of the first 6% of employee contributions to the plan, subject to certain limitations. The defined contribution retirement plan offers fourteen investment options.

The Company has a non-qualified retirement savings plan that covers officers and selected highly compensated employees. The non-qualified plan generally matches up to 50% of the first \$10,000 of officer contributions to the plan and the first \$5,000 of other selected highly compensated employee contributions, subject to certain limitations. It also provides a Company funded component for the employees with a retirement target benefit. The retirement target benefit amount is an actuarially estimated amount necessary to provide 35% of final base pay after a 35-year career with the Company or 1% of final base pay per year of service. The actual benefit, however, assumes an investment growth at 8% per year. Should the investment growth be greater than 8%, the benefit will be more, but if it is less than 8%, the amount will be less and the Company does not make up any deficiency.

The Company also has two noncontributory defined benefit plans. Effective 2001, both plans were frozen, and participants were fully vested in their accrued benefits as of the date each plan was frozen. No additional participants can be added to the plans and no additional service can be earned by participants subsequent to the date the plans were frozen. The funding policy for each noncontributory defined benefit plan is based on current plan costs plus amortization of the unfunded plan liability. All current employees covered by these plans are now covered by the defined contribution retirement plan. As of December 31, 2011 the Company had recorded, in accordance with the actuarial valuation, an accrued pension liability of \$2.6 million and an unrecognized actuarial loss, net of tax, of \$2.3 million in accumulated other comprehensive loss. As of December 31, 2010, the Company had recorded an accrued pension liability of \$1.4 million and an unrecognized actuarial loss, net of tax, of \$1.7 million in accumulated other comprehensive loss. Additionally, as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, the projected (and accumulated) benefit obligation was \$6.4 million and \$5.4 million, respectively, and the fair value of plan assets was \$3.8 million and \$4.0 million, respectively. The net periodic benefit cost was \$0.3 million for both the year ended December 31, 2011, and the year ended December 31, 2010. The weighted average discount rate used to measure the projected benefit obligation as of December 31, 2011 was 4.06%. The plan assets are invested in growth mutual funds, consisting of a mix of debt and equity securities, which are categorized as Level 2 under the fair value hierarchy. The expected weighted average long term rate of return on plan assets was 7.5% and 8.0% as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Total expense for all retirement plans in 2011, 2010 and 2009 was \$1.3 million, \$1.3 million and \$1.5 million, respectively.

**Table of Contents****11. SHARE-BASED COMPENSATION PLANS:**

The Company has one active stock incentive plan for employees and directors, the 2007 Stock Incentive Plan, which provides for awards of stock options to purchase shares of common stock, stock appreciation rights, restricted and unrestricted shares of common stock, restricted stock units and performance awards. In addition, the Company has two inactive stock option plans, the 1995 Stock Options Plan for Nonemployee Directors and the Amended 1995 Stock Incentive Plan, under which previously granted options remain outstanding. The plans provide that options become exercisable according to vesting schedules, which range from immediate to ratably over a 60-month period. Options terminate 10 years from the date of grant. The plans also provide for other equity instruments, such as restricted stock units (RSUs) and Performance Stock Awards (PSAs), which grant the right to receive a specified number of shares over a specified period of time. RSUs are service-based awards and vest according to vesting schedules, which range from immediate to ratably over a three-year period. PSAs are service-based awards with either a performance or market-based vesting condition. Vesting of the performance-based PSAs is dependent upon meeting certain strategic goals and ranges from a three-month period to a three-year period. Vesting of the market-based PSAs is dependent upon the performance of the market price of the Company's stock relative to a comparator group of companies and ranges from two to three years. The following summarizes share-based compensation expense recorded:

	Year ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(in thousands)		
Cost of sales	\$ 143	\$ 49	\$ 124
Selling, general and administrative expenses	1,318	748	641
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,461</b>	<b>\$ 797</b>	<b>\$ 765</b>

As of December 31, 2011, unrecognized compensation expense related to the unvested portion of the Company's restricted stock units and performance awards was \$2.9 million, which is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 1.5 years.

There were 307,984 shares of common stock available for future issuance under the Company's stock compensation plans at December 31, 2011; an additional 71,597 options and 193,981 restricted stock units and performance awards have been granted and remain outstanding. There were 408,434 and 439,049 shares of common stock available for future issuance under the Company's stock compensation plans at December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

**Table of Contents****Stock Options Awards**

A summary of status of the Company's stock options as of December 31, 2011 and changes during the three years then ended is presented below:

	Options	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life (in years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value (in thousands)
Balance, January 1, 2009	262,471	\$ 15.17		
Options exercised or exchanged	(49,368)	14.75		
Balance, December 31, 2009	213,103	15.26		
Options granted	24,000	24.15		
Options exercised or exchanged	(87,671)	13.63		
Options cancelled	(4,223)	17.90		
Balance, December 31, 2010	145,209	17.64		
Options granted				
Options exercised or exchanged	(73,612)	14.12		
Options cancelled				
Balance, December 31, 2011	71,597	21.26		
Exercisable, December 31, 2011	71,597	21.26	3.97	\$ 239

The total intrinsic value, defined as the difference between the current market value and the grant price, of options exercised during the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 was \$0.8 million, \$0.8 million and \$1.0 million, respectively.

The following table summarizes information about stock options outstanding at December 31, 2011:

Range of Exercise Prices Per Share	Options Outstanding			Options Exercisable		
	Number of Options	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life (years)	Weighted Average Exercise Price Per Share	Number of Options	Weighted Average Exercise Price Per Share	
\$10.31 - \$14.00	11,000	1.73	\$ 11.65	11,000	\$ 11.65	
\$17.90	22,597	0.18	17.90	22,597	17.90	
\$22.07	4,000	3.36	22.07	4,000	22.07	
\$24.15	24,000	8.25	24.15	24,000	24.15	
\$24.16 - \$34.77	10,000	4.99	32.19	10,000	32.19	
	71,597	3.97	21.26	71,597	21.26	

There were no options granted during 2011 or 2009; the weighted average grant date fair value of options granted during 2010 was \$15.35. The fair value of options granted in 2010 was estimated as of the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model with the assumptions noted in the following table. The risk-free interest rate is based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve corresponding to the expected life of the option in effect at the time of the grant. The expected life is based on the historical exercise pattern of similar groups of employees. Expected volatility

## Edgar Filing: NORTHWEST PIPE CO - Form 10-K

is based on the historical volatility of the Company's stock.

### Year Ended December 31, 2010

Risk-free interest rate	3.74%
Expected dividend yield	0%
Expected volatility	51.19%
Expected lives (in years)	9.25

F-21

**Table of Contents****Restricted Stock Units and Performance Awards**

A summary of status of the Company's restricted stock units and performance awards as of December 31, 2011 and changes during the three years then ended is presented below:

	Number of Restricted Stock Units	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Unvested restricted stock units and performance awards at January 1, 2009	85,633	\$ 53.14
Restricted stock units and performance awards granted	64,478	30.28
Restricted stock units and performance awards cancelled	(1,719)	46.78
Restricted stock units and performance awards vested	(20,905)	53.14
Unvested restricted stock units and performance awards at December 31, 2009	127,487	41.66
Restricted stock units and performance awards cancelled	(54,986)	44.70
Restricted stock units and performance awards vested	(16,658)	47.27
Unvested restricted stock units and performance awards at December 31, 2010	55,843	37.00
Restricted stock units and performance awards granted	174,891	23.32
Restricted stock units and performance awards cancelled	(20,997)	47.46
Restricted stock units and performance awards vested	(15,756)	26.27
Unvested restricted stock units and performance awards at December 31, 2011	193,981	\$ 24.41

The unvested balance of restricted stock units and performance awards at December 31, 2011 includes approximately 140,000 PSAs included at a target level. The vesting of these awards is subject to the achievement of specified performance-based or market-based conditions, and the actual number of common shares that will ultimately be issued will be determined by multiplying this number of PSAs by a payout percentage ranging from 0% to 200%.

The total fair value of restricted stock units and performance awards vested during the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009 was \$0.4 million, \$0.8 million, and \$1.1 million, respectively.

**Stock Awards**

For the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, stock awards were granted to non-employee directors, which vested immediately upon issuance, as follows: 6,261 shares; 6,615 shares; and 804 shares, respectively. The Company recorded compensation expense based on the fair market value per share of the awards on the grant date of \$25.15 in 2011, \$23.81 in 2010 and \$33.58 in 2009.

**12. SHAREHOLDER RIGHTS PLAN:**

In June 1999, the Board of Directors adopted a Shareholder Rights Plan (the "Plan") designed to ensure fair and equal treatment for all shareholders in the event of a proposed acquisition of the Company by enhancing the ability of the Board of Directors to negotiate more effectively with a prospective acquirer, and reserved 150,000 shares of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock ("Preferred Stock") for purposes of the Plan. In connection with the adoption of the Plan, the Board of Directors declared a dividend distribution of one non-detachable preferred stock purchase right (a "Right") per share of common stock, payable to shareholders of record on July 9, 2000. Each Right represents the right to purchase one one-hundredth of a share of Preferred Stock at a price of \$83.00, subject to adjustment. The Rights will be exercisable only if a person or group acquires, or commences a tender offer to acquire, 15% or more of the Company's outstanding shares of common stock. Subject to the terms of the Plan and upon the occurrence of certain events, each Right would entitle the



---

**Table of Contents**

holder to purchase common stock of the Company, or of an acquiring company in certain circumstances, having a market value equal to two times the exercise price of the Right. The Company may redeem the Rights at a price of \$0.01 per Right under certain circumstances.

On June 18, 2009, the Company and Mellon Investor Services LLC, now known as Computer share Shareowner Services LLC ( Rights Agent ) entered into an Amended and Restated Rights Agreement (the Amended and Restated Rights Agreement ). The Amended and Restated Rights Agreement amended and restated the Rights Agreement dated as of June 28, 1999 between the Company and ChaseMellon Shareholder Services, L.L.C. (predecessor to the Rights Agent). The Amended and Restated Rights Agreement extended the Final Expiration Date of the Rights from June 28, 2009 to June 28, 2019. The Amended and Restated Rights Agreement also reflected certain changes in the rights and obligations of the Rights Agent and certain changes in procedural requirements under the Amended and Restated Rights Agreement.

**13. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES:**

**Class Action and Derivative Lawsuits**

On November 20, 2009, a complaint against the Company, captioned *Richard v. Northwest Pipe Co. et al.*, No. C09-5724 RBL ( Richard ), was filed in the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington. The plaintiff is allegedly a purchaser of the Company s stock. In addition to the Company, Brian W. Dunham, the Company s former President and Chief Executive Officer, and Stephanie J. Welty, the Company s former Chief Financial Officer, are named as defendants. The complaint alleges that defendants violated Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 by making false or misleading statements between April 23, 2008 and November 11, 2009. Plaintiff seeks to represent a class of persons who purchased the Company s stock during the same period, and seeks damages for losses caused by the alleged wrongdoing.

A similar complaint, captioned *Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union No. 630 Pension-Annuity Trust Fund v. Northwest Pipe Co. et al.*, No. C09-5791 RBL ( Plumbers ), was filed against the Company in the same court on December 22, 2009. In addition to the Company, Brian W. Dunham, Stephanie J. Welty and William R. Tagmyer, the Company s current Chairman of the Board, are named as defendants in the Plumbers complaint. In the Plumbers complaint, as in the Richard complaint, the plaintiff is allegedly a purchaser of the Company s stock and asserts that defendants violated Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 by making false or misleading statements between April 23, 2008 and November 11, 2009. Plaintiff seeks to represent a class of persons who purchased the Company s stock during that period, and seeks damages for losses caused by the alleged wrongdoing.

The Richard action and the Plumbers action were consolidated on February 25, 2010. Plumbers and Pipefitters Local No. 630 Pension-Annuity Trust Fund was appointed lead plaintiff in the consolidated action. Defendants and lead plaintiff subsequently agreed that defendants did not need to respond immediately to either of the two outstanding complaints, and that a consolidated amended complaint would be filed within 45 days of the Company having completed the filing of the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2009 and the 2009 Form 10-K with the SEC. A consolidated amended complaint was filed by the plaintiff on December 21, 2010, and our motion to dismiss was filed on February 25, 2011, as were similar motions filed by the individual defendants. Briefing on those motions concluded on May 24, 2011. On August 26, 2011, the Court denied all defendants motions to dismiss, and the Company filed its answer to the consolidated amended complaint on October 24, 2011. The parties have conducted limited discovery and participated in an initial settlement mediation on January 30, 2012, with additional sessions anticipated in the future. By agreement of the parties, no further discovery will take place until after the mediation process is exhausted. The Company intends to vigorously defend itself against these claims. This securities litigation is at an early stage and, at this time, it is not possible to predict its outcome. Therefore, the Company has not accrued any charges related to this litigation.



---

## **Table of Contents**

On March 3, 2010, the Company was served with a derivative complaint, captioned *Ruggles v. Dunham et al.*, No. C10-5129 RBL ( *Ruggles* ), and filed in the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington. The plaintiff in this action is allegedly a current shareholder of the Company. The Company is a nominal defendant in this litigation. Plaintiff seeks to assert, on the Company's behalf, claims against Brian W. Dunham, Stephanie J. Welty, William R. Tagmyer, Keith R. Larson, Wayne B. Kingsley, Richard A. Roman, Michael C. Franson and Neil R. Thornton. The asserted basis of the claims is that defendants breached fiduciary duties to the Company by causing the Company to make improper statements between April 23, 2008 and August 7, 2009. Plaintiff seeks to recover, on the Company's behalf, damages for losses caused by the alleged wrongdoing.

On September 23, 2011, the Company was served with a derivative complaint, captioned *Grivich v. Dunham, et al.*, No. 11-2-03678-6 ( *Grivich* ), and filed in the Superior Court of Washington for Clark County. The plaintiff in this action is allegedly a current shareholder of the Company. The Company is a nominal defendant in this litigation. Plaintiff seeks to assert, on the Company's behalf, claims against Brian W. Dunham, Stephanie J. Welty, William R. Tagmyer, Keith R. Larson, Wayne B. Kingsley, Richard A. Roman, Michael C. Franson and Neil R. Thornton. The asserted basis of the claims is that defendants breached fiduciary duties to the Company between April 2, 2007 and the date of the Complaint. Plaintiff seeks to recover, on the Company's behalf, damages for losses caused by the alleged wrongdoing.

On October 14, 2011, another derivative complaint, captioned *Richard v. Dunham, et al.*, No. 11-2-04080-5 ( *Richard Deriv.* ), was filed in the Superior Court of Washington for Clark County. The plaintiff in this action is allegedly a current shareholder of the Company. The Company is a nominal defendant in this litigation. Plaintiff seeks to assert, on the Company's behalf, claims against Brian W. Dunham, Stephanie J. Welty, William R. Tagmyer, Keith R. Larson, Wayne B. Kingsley, Richard A. Roman, Michael C. Franson and Neil R. Thornton. The asserted basis of the claims is that defendants breached fiduciary duties to the Company between April 2, 2007 and the date of the Complaint. Plaintiff seeks to recover, on the Company's behalf, damages for losses caused by the alleged wrongdoing.

An amended complaint in the *Ruggles* action was filed on November 10, 2011, and the defendant responded to the complaint by filing a motion to dismiss, which motion is still pending. The derivative parties participated in the initial settlement mediation described above and will participate in any follow up sessions. It should also be noted that derivative claims by their nature do not seek to recover damages from the Company, but purport instead to seek to recover damages for the benefit of the Company. These cases are at a very early stage and, at this time, it is not possible to predict their outcome. Therefore, the Company has not accrued any charges related to them.

### **SEC Investigation**

On March 8, 2010, the staff of the Enforcement Division of the SEC advised our counsel that they had obtained a formal order of investigation with respect to matters related to the Audit Committee investigation. We are cooperating fully with the SEC in connection with these matters. We cannot predict if, when or how they will be resolved or what, if any, actions we may be required to take as part of any resolution of these matters. Any action by the SEC or other governmental agency could result in civil or criminal sanctions against us and/or certain of our current and former officers, directors and employees. The investigation is at an early stage and, at this time, it is not possible to predict its outcome. Therefore, we have not accrued any charges related to this investigation.

### **Other Matters**

On December 1, 2000, a section of the lower Willamette River known as the Portland Harbor was included on the National Priorities List at the request of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (the "EPA"). While the Company's Portland, Oregon manufacturing facility does not border the Willamette River, an outfall from the facility's storm water system drains into a neighboring property's privately owned stormwater system and slip.

---

**Table of Contents**

Since the listing of the site, the Company was notified by the EPA and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (the ODEQ) of potential liability under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act ( CERCLA ). In 2008, the Company was asked to file information disclosure reports with the EPA (CERCLA 104 (e) information request). By agreement with the EPA, the ODEQ is responsible for overseeing remedial investigation and source control activities for all upland sites to investigate sources and prevent future contamination to the river. A remedial investigation and feasibility study (RI/FS) of the Portland Harbor is currently being directed by a group of potentially responsible parties known as the Lower Willamette Group (the LWG ). The Company made a payment of \$175,000 to the LWG in June 2007 as part of an interim settlement, and is under no obligation to make any further payment. A draft remedial investigation report was submitted to the EPA by the LWG in the fall of 2009; the final draft remedial investigation was submitted to EPA in fall of 2011. The feasibility study is underway, and a draft is expected to be completed by the LWG in 2012.

In 2001, groundwater containing elevated organic compounds ( VOCs ) was identified in one localized area of property leased adjacent to the Portland facility furthest from the river. Assessment work in 2002 and 2003 to further characterize the groundwater is consistent with the initial conclusion that the source of the VOC s is located off of Company-owned property. In February 2005, the Company entered into a Voluntary Agreement for Remedial Investigation and Source Control Measures ( Agreement ) with the ODEQ. The Company is one of 90 Upland Source Control Sites working with the ODEQ on Source Control and is ranked a medium priority. The Company performed Remedial Investigation work required under the Agreement and submitted a draft Remedial Investigation/Source Control Evaluation Report on December 30, 2005. The conclusions of the report indicated that the VOCs found in the groundwater do not present an unacceptable risk to human or ecological receptors in the Willamette River. The report also indicated there is no evidence at this time showing a connection between detected VOCs in groundwater and Willamette River sediments. In 2009, the ODEQ requested the Company to revise its Remedial Investigation/Source Control Evaluation Report from 2005 to include recent information available related to nearby properties. The Company expects to submit an Expanded Risk Assessment for the VOC s in groundwater during 2012, following the completion of a paving project at the Portland facility.

Also, based on the remedial investigation and reporting required under the Portland, Oregon manufacturing facility s National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit for storm water, the Company and the ODEQ have identified small amounts of polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and trace amounts of zinc in storm water. Storm water from the Portland, Oregon manufacturing facility site is discharged into a communal storm water system that ultimately discharges into a neighboring property s privately owned slip. The slip was historically used for shipbuilding and subsequently for ship breaking and metal recycling. Studies of the river sediments have revealed concentration of PAHs, PCBs, and zinc, which are common constituents in urban storm water discharges. To minimize the zinc traces in its storm water, the Company painted a substantial part of the Portland facility s roofs and made certain paving improvements at the Portland facility. In June 2009, under the ODEQ Agreement, the Company submitted a Final Supplemental Work Plan to evaluate and assess soil and storm water, and further assess groundwater risk. In May 2010, the Company submitted a remediation plan related to soil contamination, which ODEQ approved in August 2010. Since August 2010, the Company has been engaged in performing the approved remediation plan which has included an upgrade to the fuel and waste storage systems (completed in the fourth quarter of 2011) and a storm water filtration system ( completed in the first quarter of 2012). The remediation plan also required the excavation of a localized soil area to remove soil containing PAHs (completed in the third quarter of 2011). During the localized soil excavation in the third quarter of 2011, additional stained soil was discovered, and at the request of ODEQ, the Company is developing an additional Work Plan to characterize the nature and extent of soil and/or groundwater impacts from the staining. The Company spent approximately \$926,000 during 2011 to address storm water system upgrades and soil remediation, and expects to spend an additional \$1.4 million in 2012 to complete the work specified in the Work Plans.

Concurrent with the activities of the EPA and the ODEQ, the Portland Harbor Natural Resources Trustee Council ( Trustees ) sent some or all of the same parties, including the Company, a notice of intent to perform a

**Table of Contents**

Natural Resource Damage Assessment ( NRDA ) for the Portland Harbor Site to determine the nature and extent of natural resource damages under CERCLA section 107. The Trustees for the Portland Harbor Site consist of representatives from several Northwest Indian Tribes, three federal agencies and one state agency. The Trustees act independently of the EPA and the ODEQ. In 2009, the Trustees completed phase one of their three-phase NRDA. Phase one of the NRDA consisted of environmental studies to fill gaps in the information available from the EPA, and development of a framework for evaluating, quantifying and determining the extent of injuries to the natural resource. Phase two of the NRDA began in 2010 and consists largely of implementing the framework developed in phase one.

The Trustees have encouraged potentially responsible parties to voluntarily participate in the funding of their injury assessments and several of those parties have agreed to do so. In 2009, one of the Tribal Trustees (the Yakima Nation) resigned and has requested funding from the same parties to support its own assessment. The Company has not assumed any payment obligation or liability related to either request. The extent of the Company's obligation with respect to Portland Harbor matters is not known, and no further adjustment to the consolidated financial statements has been recorded as of December 31, 2011.

We operate our facilities under numerous governmental permits and licenses relating to air emissions, storm water run-off, and other environmental matters. Our operations are also governed by many other laws and regulations, including those relating to workplace safety and worker health, principally the Occupational Safety and Health Act and regulations there under which, among other requirements, establish noise and dust standards. We believe we are in material compliance with our permits and licenses and these laws and regulations, and we do not believe that future compliance with such laws and regulations will have a material adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

From time to time, the Company is involved in litigation relating to claims arising out of its operations in the normal course of its business. The Company maintains insurance coverage against potential claims in amounts that are believed to be adequate. The Company believes that it is not presently a party to any other litigation, the outcome of which would have a material adverse effect on its business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

**Guarantees**

The Company has entered into certain stand-by letters of credit that total \$3.2 million. The stand-by letters of credit relate to workers compensation insurance and financing arrangements.

**14. INCOME TAXES:**

The components of the provision for income taxes are as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(in thousands)		
Current:			
Federal	\$ 2,639	\$ (11,047)	\$ (3,343)
State	695	45	209
Deferred:			
Federal	5,380	9,743	(1,663)
State	904	(389)	(942)
	<b>\$ 9,618</b>	<b>\$ (1,648)</b>	<b>\$ (5,739)</b>

**Table of Contents**

The difference between the Company's effective income tax rates and the statutory U.S. federal income tax rate of 35% is explained as follows:

	2011	Year Ended December 31, 2010 (in thousands)	2009
Provision at statutory rate	\$ 7,800	\$ (2,481)	\$ (5,867)
State provision, net of federal benefit	922	174	(450)
Domestic manufacturing deduction	(389)	772	
Sale of business	341		
Change in valuation allowance	872		244
Other	72	(113)	334
	\$ 9,618	\$ (1,648)	\$ (5,739)
Effective (benefit) tax rate	43.2%	(23.2)%	(34.1)%

The increase in the tax rate in 2011 was primarily attributable to an increase to the valuation allowance, as a result of an expected capital loss from which the Company does not expect to benefit, and the sale of all assets of the traffic systems product line of the Tubular Products facility in Houston, Texas, which included the disposal of goodwill of \$1.0 million that had no corresponding tax basis.

**Table of Contents**

The tax effect of temporary differences that give rise to significant portions of deferred tax assets and liabilities is presented below:

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
	(in thousands)	
<b>Current deferred tax assets:</b>		
Costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts, net	\$ 1,459	\$ 2,439
Accrued employee benefits	3,110	1,591
Inventories	1,337	1,835
Trade receivable, net	625	820
Net operating loss carryforwards	622	
Accrued professional fees	77	
Other	176	174
	7,406	6,859
Valuation allowance	(350)	
	7,056	6,859
<b>Current deferred tax liabilities:</b>		
Prepaid expenses	(665)	(566)
Current deferred tax assets, net	6,391	6,293
<b>Noncurrent deferred tax assets:</b>		
Net operating loss carryforwards	499	7,823
Tax credit carryforwards	102	1,153
Accrued employee benefits	2,708	1,907
Other assets	3,617	1,156
Other	219	400
	7,145	12,439
Valuation allowance	(576)	(105)
	6,569	12,334
<b>Noncurrent deferred tax liabilities:</b>		
Property and equipment	(27,157)	(26,916)
Noncurrent deferred tax liabilities, net	(20,588)	(14,582)
<b>Net deferred tax liabilities</b>	<b>\$ (14,197)</b>	<b>\$ (8,289)</b>

As of December 31, 2011, the Company had approximately \$23.0 million of state net operating loss carryforwards which expire on various dates between 2019 and 2030. The Company also had state tax carryforwards of \$157,000, which begin to expire in 2019.

During the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company recorded an increase in the valuation allowance of \$872,000, primarily related to an expected capital loss from which the Company does not expect to benefit. The remaining valuation allowance was adjusted based upon unused net operating loss carryforwards, which expired in the current year.

The Company considers the earnings of the Mexican subsidiary to be indefinitely invested outside the United States on the basis of estimates that future domestic cash generation will be sufficient to meet future domestic cash needs. Should the Company decide to repatriate the foreign earnings, the income tax provision would be adjusted in the period it is determined that the earnings will no longer be indefinitely invested outside the United States, and a deferred tax liability of approximately \$600,000 related to the U.S. federal and state income taxes and foreign withholding taxes on approximately \$1.7 million of undistributed earnings would be recorded.



**Table of Contents**

A summary of the changes in the unrecognized tax benefits during the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 is presented below (in thousands):

	2011	2010	2009
Unrecognized tax benefits, beginning of year	\$ 125	\$ 185	\$ 1,272
Decreases for settlements		(60)	(1,072)
Decreases for lapse of statute of limitations			(25)
Increases for positions taken in prior years	10		
Increases for positions taken in the current year	174		10
Unrecognized tax benefits, end of year	\$ 309	\$ 125	\$ 185

The Company believes it is reasonably possible the total amounts of unrecognized tax benefits at December 31, 2011 will change significantly prior to December 31, 2012, related to the anticipated settlement of \$194,000 of exposure arising from our former investment in NWPA; however, actual results could differ from those currently expected. Of the balance of unrecognized tax benefits, \$215,000 would affect the Company's effective tax rate if recognized at some point in the future.

The Company files income tax returns in the United States Federal jurisdiction, in a limited number of foreign jurisdictions, and in many state jurisdictions. The Company is currently under examination by the Internal Revenue Service for years 2009 and 2010. With few exceptions, the Company is no longer subject to U.S. Federal or state income tax examinations for years before 2008.

The Company recognizes interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions in income tax expense. As of December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company has approximately \$72,000 and \$64,000, respectively, of accrued interest related to uncertain tax positions. Total interest for uncertain tax positions increased by approximately \$8,000 in 2011, increased by approximately \$4,000 in 2010, and decreased by approximately \$85,000 in 2009.

**15. SEGMENT INFORMATION:**

The operating segments reported below are based on the nature of the products sold by the Company and are the segments of the Company for which separate financial information is available and for which operating results are regularly evaluated by executive management to make decisions about resources to be allocated to the segment and assess its performance. Management evaluates segment performance based on segment gross profit and operating income.

The Company's Water Transmission segment manufactures and markets large diameter, high-pressure steel pipe used primarily for water transmission. The Company's Water Transmission products are manufactured at one of seven manufacturing facilities located in Portland, Oregon; Denver, Colorado; Adelanto, California; Pleasant Grove, Utah; Parkersburg, West Virginia; Saginaw, Texas; and Monterrey, Mexico. Products are sold primarily to public water agencies either directly or through an installation contractor.

The Company's Tubular Products segment manufactures and markets smaller diameter, ERW steel pipe for use in a wide range of applications, including energy, construction, agricultural, and industrial systems. Tubular Products manufacturing facilities are located in Atchison, Kansas; Houston, Texas; and Bossier City, Louisiana. Tubular Products are marketed through a network of direct sales force personnel and sales agents throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico.

**Table of Contents**

Based on the location of the customer, the Company sold principally all products in the United States, Canada and Mexico. No one customer represented more than 10% of total sales in 2011, 2010 or 2009. As of December 31, 2011, all material long-lived assets are located in the United States.

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010 (in thousands)	2009
<b>Net sales:</b>			
Water transmission	\$ 271,885	\$ 221,251	\$ 210,396
Tubular products	239,783	165,499	68,258
Total	\$ 511,668	\$ 386,750	\$ 278,654
<b>Gross profit (loss):</b>			
Water transmission	\$ 43,182	\$ 19,430	\$ 13,783
Tubular products	15,956	10,258	(7,099)
Total	\$ 59,138	\$ 29,688	\$ 6,684
<b>Operating income (loss):</b>			
Water transmission	\$ 34,113	\$ 10,825	\$ 4,449
Tubular products	12,660	6,963	(8,861)
Corporate	46,773	17,788	(4,412)
	(13,950)	(17,193)	(9,904)
Total	\$ 32,823	\$ 595	\$ (14,316)
<b>Depreciation and amortization expense:</b>			
Water transmission	\$ 8,729	\$ 8,282	\$ 7,341
Tubular products	5,723	5,005	3,079
Corporate	14,452	13,287	10,420
	69	579	862
Total	\$ 14,521	\$ 13,865	\$ 11,282
<b>Capital expenditures:</b>			
Water transmission	\$ 4,765	\$ 9,307	\$ 6,970
Tubular products	11,386	9,135	14,303
Corporate	16,151	18,442	21,273
	182	155	75
Total	\$ 16,333	\$ 18,597	\$ 21,348
<b>Net sales by geographic region:</b>			
United States	\$ 455,625	\$ 347,028	\$ 237,680
Other	56,043	39,722	40,974
Total	\$ 511,668	\$ 386,750	\$ 278,654





**Table of Contents**

	<b>December 31,</b>	
	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
	<b>(in thousands)</b>	
<b>Goodwill:</b>		
Water transmission	\$	\$
Tubular products	20,478	21,451
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 20,478</b>	<b>\$ 21,451</b>
<b>Total assets:</b>		
Water transmission	\$ 203,073	\$ 225,712
Tubular products	181,058	148,941
	384,131	374,653
Corporate	29,242	40,230
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 413,373</b>	<b>\$ 414,883</b>

All property and equipment is located in the United States as of December 31, 2011, except for a total of \$2.4 million which is located in Mexico. All property and equipment was located in the United States as of December 31, 2010, except for a total of \$2.6 million which was located in Asia, and \$2.5 million was located in Mexico.

**16. QUARTERLY DATA (UNAUDITED):**

Summarized quarterly financial data for December 31, 2011, September 30, 2011, June 30, 2011, March 31, 2011, and each quarter of 2010 is as follows (dollars in thousands, except per share):

	<b>First Quarter</b>	<b>Second Quarter</b>	<b>Third Quarter</b>	<b>Fourth Quarter</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>For the year ended December 31, 2011</b>					
<b>Net sales:</b>					
Water transmission	\$ 58,645	\$ 74,459	\$ 76,953	\$ 61,828	\$ 271,885
Tubular products	52,813	69,342	62,312	55,316	239,783
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 111,458</b>	<b>\$ 143,801</b>	<b>\$ 139,265</b>	<b>\$ 117,144</b>	<b>\$ 511,668</b>
<b>Gross profit:</b>					
Water transmission	\$ 9,894	\$ 11,531	\$ 13,345	\$ 8,412	\$ 43,182
Tubular products	4,874	5,140	3,169	2,773	15,956
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 14,768</b>	<b>\$ 16,671</b>	<b>\$ 16,514</b>	<b>\$ 11,185</b>	<b>\$ 59,138</b>
<b>Operating income (loss):</b>					
Water transmission	\$ 8,261	\$ 9,142	\$ 10,747	\$ 5,963	\$ 34,113
Tubular products	3,849	4,304	2,349	2,158	12,660
Corporate	(4,631)	(2,378)	(3,049)	(3,892)	(13,950)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,479</b>	<b>\$ 11,068</b>	<b>\$ 10,047</b>	<b>\$ 4,229</b>	<b>\$ 32,823</b>
<b>Net income</b>	<b>\$ 2,932</b>	<b>\$ 4,977</b>	<b>\$ 3,284</b>	<b>\$ 1,467</b>	<b>\$ 12,660</b>
<b>Earnings per share:</b>					
Basic	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.53	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.16	\$ 1.36

Edgar Filing: NORTHWEST PIPE CO - Form 10-K

Diluted

\$ 0.31    \$ 0.53    \$ 0.35    \$ 0.15    \$ 1.35

F-31

**Table of Contents**

	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Total
<b>For the year ended December 31, 2010</b>					
Net sales:					
Water transmission	\$ 52,685	\$ 56,060	\$ 59,323	\$ 53,183	\$ 221,251
Tubular products	27,697	40,065	53,447	44,290	165,499
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 80,382</b>	<b>\$ 96,125</b>	<b>\$ 112,770</b>	<b>\$ 97,473</b>	<b>\$ 386,750</b>
Gross profit:					
Water transmission	\$ 6,174	\$ 4,573	\$ 6,880	\$ 1,803	\$ 19,430
Tubular products	2,015	350	3,601	4,292	10,258
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 8,189</b>	<b>\$ 4,923</b>	<b>\$ 10,481</b>	<b>\$ 6,095</b>	<b>\$ 29,688</b>
Operating income (loss):					
Water transmission	\$ 3,873	\$ 2,378	\$ 4,521	\$ 53	\$ 10,825
Tubular products	1,445	(441)	2,529	3,430	6,963
Corporate	(4,040)	(3,899)	(4,844)	(4,410)	(17,193)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,278</b>	<b>\$ (1,962)</b>	<b>\$ 2,206</b>	<b>\$ (927)</b>	<b>\$ 595</b>
<b>Net income (loss)</b>	<b>\$ 488</b>	<b>\$ (3,138)</b>	<b>\$ (134)</b>	<b>\$ (2,656)</b>	<b>\$ (5,440)</b>
Earnings (loss) per share:					
Basic	\$ 0.05	\$ (0.34)	\$ (0.01)	\$ (0.29)	\$ (0.59)
Diluted	\$ 0.05	\$ (0.34)	\$ (0.01)	\$ (0.29)	\$ (0.59)

**17. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS:  
Amended and Restated Credit Agreement**

On March 29, 2012 the Company entered into an amendment to the Company's current Amended and Restated Credit Agreement. A summary of the amendments is as follows:

Extended the expiration date to April 30, 2013;

Set the aggregate commitment of the lenders at \$115 million; and

Waived compliance with certain covenants and made certain changes in the definition, method of calculation and amounts of certain covenants.

On April 13, the Company obtained a Consent and Waiver to the Company's Amended and Restatement Credit Agreement, which provided the following limited waivers:

Extended the date by which the Company is required to deliver to the lenders audited financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for the year ended December 31, 2011; and

## Edgar Filing: NORTHWEST PIPE CO - Form 10-K

Waived any noncompliance with covenants which may have been driven by the effects of the Restatement described in Note 18, Restatement of Consolidated Financial Statements below.

### **Note Purchase Agreement**

On April 13, the Company obtained a Consent and Waiver to the Company's Amended and Restatement Note Purchase Agreement and Private Shelf Agreement, which provided the following limited waivers:

Extended the date by which the Company is required to deliver to the long-term debt holders audited financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for the year ended December 31, 2011; and

F-32

**Table of Contents**

Waived any noncompliance with covenants which may have been driven by the effects of the Restatement described in Note 18, Restatement of Consolidated Financial Statements below.

**Capital Leases**

On April 13, the Company obtained a Consent and Waiver to certain of the Company's capital lease agreements, which provided the following limited waivers:

Extended the date by which the Company is required to deliver to the lessors audited financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for the year ended December 31, 2011; and

Waived any noncompliance with covenants which may have been driven by the effects of the Restatement described in Note 18, Restatement of Consolidated Financial Statements below.

**18. RESTATEMENT OF CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:**

Subsequent to the issuance of our consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2010, the Company determined that errors were included in the previously issued consolidated financial statements as described below. As a result, we have restated our consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2010, and for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009 to correct the errors described below.

The following tables present the summary impacts of the restatement adjustments, net of tax, on the Company's previously reported consolidated retained earnings at January 1, 2009 and consolidated net loss for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009 (in thousands):

<b>Retained earnings at December 31, 2008 As previously reported</b>	\$ 149,205	
Depreciation	(9,430)	
Equipment Disposals	(1,268)	
Other	(1,515)	
<b>Retained earnings at January 1, 2009 As restated</b>	\$ 136,992	
	<b>For the Years Ended</b>	
	<b>December 31,</b>	
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Net loss As previously reported</b>	\$ (1,434)	\$ (7,277)
Depreciation	(2,366)	(2,062)
Other	(1,640)	(1,736)
<b>Net loss As restated</b>	\$ (5,440)	\$ (11,075)

The restatement corrects the following errors:

**Depreciation**

The Company's historical method of systematically and rationally allocating equipment depreciation using the units of production depreciation methodology (the Units of Production Method) requires an estimate of future tons of production over the remaining useful lives of equipment. The estimates of future tons of production over the remaining useful lives of equipment were not properly

## Edgar Filing: NORTHWEST PIPE CO - Form 10-K

re-evaluated subsequent to the initial assumptions utilized in the adoption, in 2006, of the Units of Production Method. To appropriately apply the Units of Production Method, the Company should have periodically re-evaluated the assumptions underlying our application of the Units of Production

F-33

---

## **Table of Contents**

Method and changed the assumptions underlying the accounting estimate beginning January 1, 2009. The effects of correcting this error are a net increase in depreciation expense and a net decrease in loss on disposal, both of which are included in cost of sales, and a net increase in accumulated depreciation.

The Company also corrected its estimate of the remaining lives of non-operating equipment depreciated using the straight-line method of depreciation. The effects of correcting this error are a net decrease in depreciation expense, which is primarily reflected in selling, general and administrative expense, and a net decrease in accumulated depreciation.

Historical salvage value estimates used to systematically and rationally allocate property and equipment depreciation were incorrect as they did not sufficiently consider the estimated disposal value at the end of the property and equipment's useful life. The effects of correcting this error are a decrease in the January 1, 2009 retained earnings balance and an increase in depreciation expense, both of which are reflected in cost of sales and selling, general and administrative expense, and an increase in accumulated depreciation.

### **Equipment Disposals**

The Company discovered that certain assets were no longer at its premises but were not recorded in the period of disposal prior to 2009. The adjustments required to correct these errors have resulted in a decrease in the January 1, 2009 retained earnings balance.

### **Other Errors**

A contractual arrangement entered into with Lucid Energy LLC ( Lucid Energy ) during 2008 was incorrectly accounted for as notes receivable within Other Assets. The contractual arrangement with Lucid Energy represented an interest in a variable interest entity which should have resulted in the entity being consolidated during 2009 and subsequently deconsolidated following the retrospective adoption of the FASB authoritative guidance which changed the method of identifying the primary beneficiary. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements. Upon deconsolidation, the Company's investment in the entity should have been recorded as research and development expense within selling, general and administrative expense. The adjustments required to correct these errors have resulted in an increase in selling, general, and administrative expense, a decrease in interest income, and a decrease in other assets.

Certain equipment leases historically accounted for as operating leases should have been recorded as capital leases. The correction of this error increases depreciation expense and decreases rental expense, both of which are included in cost of sales, and increases interest expense in each period. The correction of this error also increased property and equipment, net, and capital lease obligations.

Certain costs capitalized upon the relocation of machinery and equipment to our Bossier City facility in 2008 and 2009 should have been expensed. The effects of correcting these errors include a reduction in retained earnings of \$0.7 million as of December 31, 2008. The effects of correcting these errors also include an increase in cost of sales of \$1.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2009, a reduction in machinery and equipment of \$2.8 million as of December 31, 2010, and the related tax effects.

Certain previously identified immaterial errors were corrected as part of the restatement.



**Table of Contents**

The nature of the restatement adjustments and the impact on the Company's previously reported consolidated statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2010 are shown in the following table (in thousands, except per share data):

	As Previously Reported	Restatement Adjustments Depreciation	Other	As Restated
<b>Year Ended December 31, 2010</b>				
Net sales	\$ 386,750	\$	\$	\$ 386,750
Cost of sales	353,752	3,889	(579)	357,062
Gross profit	32,998	(3,889)	579	29,688
Selling, general and administrative	27,994	(41)	1,140	29,093
Operating income	5,004	(3,848)	(561)	595
Other income	(413)			(413)
Interest income	(943)		97	(846)
Interest expense	7,934		1,008	8,942
Loss before income taxes	(1,574)	(3,848)	(1,666)	(7,088)
Benefit from income taxes	(140)	(1,482)	(26)	(1,648)
Net loss	\$ (1,434)	\$ (2,366)	\$ (1,640)	\$ (5,440)
Basic loss per share	\$ (0.15)			\$ (0.59)
Diluted loss per share	\$ (0.15)			\$ (0.59)

The nature of the restatement adjustments and the impact on the Company's previously reported consolidated statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2009 are shown in the following table (in thousands, except per share data):

	As Previously Reported	Restatement Adjustments Depreciation	Other	As Restated
<b>Year Ended December 31, 2009</b>				
Net sales	\$ 278,654	\$	\$	\$ 278,654
Cost of sales	266,968	3,293	1,709	271,970
Gross profit	11,686	(3,293)	(1,709)	6,684
Selling, general and administrative	20,095	(54)	959	21,000
Operating loss	(8,409)	(3,239)	(2,668)	(14,316)
Other income	(1,905)			(1,905)
Interest income	(754)		41	(713)
Interest expense	5,057		59	5,116
Loss before income taxes	(10,807)	(3,239)	(2,768)	(16,814)
Benefit from income taxes	(3,530)	(1,177)	(1,032)	(5,739)
Net loss	\$ (7,277)	\$ (2,062)	\$ (1,736)	\$ (11,075)
Basic loss per share	\$ (0.79)			\$ (1.20)

Edgar Filing: NORTHWEST PIPE CO - Form 10-K

Diluted loss per share

\$ (0.79)

\$ (1.20)

F-35

**Table of Contents**

The following table presents the impact of the restatement adjustments on the Company's previously reported consolidated balance sheet at December 31, 2010 (in thousands):

As of December 31, 2010	Restatement Adjustments			As Restated
	As Previously Reported	Depreciation	Other	
<b>Assets</b>				
Current assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 51	\$	\$	\$ 51
Trade and other receivables, net	66,474			66,474
Costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts	45,533			45,533
Inventories	80,887			80,887
Refundable income taxes	15,299		(200)	15,099
Deferred income taxes	6,293			6,293
Prepaid expenses and other	2,163			2,163
Total current assets	216,700		(200)	216,500
Property and equipment, net	171,766	(24,214)	6,722	154,274
Goodwill	21,451			21,451
Other assets	25,288	(243)	(2,387)	22,658
Total assets	\$ 435,205	\$ (24,457)	\$ 4,135	\$ 414,883
<b>Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity</b>				
Current liabilities:				
Current portion of long-term debt	\$ 5,714	\$	\$	\$ 5,714
Current portion of capital lease obligations	1,087		2,170	3,257
Accounts payable	28,463			28,463
Accrued liabilities	11,448			11,448
Billings in excess of costs and estimated earnings on uncompleted contracts	14,808			14,808
Total current liabilities	61,520		2,170	63,690
Note payable to financial institution	68,000			68,000
Long-term debt, less current portion	17,786			17,786
Capital lease obligations, less current portion	7,731		7,974	15,705
Deferred income taxes	25,694	(9,331)	(1,781)	14,582
Pension and other long-term liabilities	8,828			8,828
Total liabilities	189,559	(9,331)	8,363	188,591
Stockholders' equity:				
Preferred stock				
Common stock	93			93
Additional paid-in-capital	107,578			107,578
Retained earnings	140,494	(15,126)	(4,891)	120,477
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(2,519)		663	(1,856)
Total stockholders' equity	245,646	(15,126)	(4,228)	226,292
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 435,205	\$ (24,457)	\$ 4,135	\$ 414,883



**Table of Contents**

The following table presents the impact of the restatement adjustments on the Company's previously reported consolidated statement of cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2010 (in thousands). Unrealized gain on foreign currency forward contracts of \$431,000 has been reclassified within net cash used in operating activities to conform to the current period presentation in the consolidated statements of cash flows. This reclassification is presented in the Restatement Adjustments column and had no impact on cash flows from operations, income from operations, cash flows from investing activities, net income, or total assets.

	Year ended December 31, 2010		
	As Previously Reported	Restatement Adjustments	As Restated
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>			
Net loss	\$ (1,434)	\$ (4,006)	\$ (5,440)
<b>Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating activities:</b>			
Depreciation and amortization of property and equipment	6,844	6,836	13,680
Amortization of intangible assets	119	66	185
Provision for doubtful accounts	1,358		1,358
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated subsidiary, net of dividends received of \$600	477		477
Amortization of debt issuance costs	1,418		1,418
Deferred income taxes	11,001	(1,709)	9,292
Loss on disposal of property and equipment	77	(744)	(667)
Stock-based compensation expense	797		797
Unrealized gain on foreign currency forward contracts		(431)	(431)
<b>Changes in operating assets and liabilities:</b>			
Trade and other receivables, net	(28,818)		(28,818)
Costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts, net	(2,886)		(2,886)
Inventories	(4,186)		(4,186)
Refundable income taxes	(8,270)	200	(8,070)
Prepaid expenses and other	(476)	184	(292)
Accounts payable	1,160		1,160
Accrued and other liabilities	648	431	1,079
<b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>	<b>(22,171)</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>(21,344)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>			
Additions to property and equipment	(18,597)		(18,597)
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment	19		19
Issuance of notes receivable	(1,690)	1,140	(550)
Insurance proceeds	587		587
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>	<b>(19,681)</b>	<b>1,140</b>	<b>(18,541)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities:</b>			
Tax withholdings related to net share settlements of restricted share awards and performance shares	(87)		(87)
Payments on long-term debt	(5,714)		(5,714)
Borrowings under note payable to financial institutions	181,375		181,375
Payments on note payable to financial institutions	(132,778)		(132,778)
Payments of debt issuance costs	(3,381)		(3,381)
Borrowings from capital lease obligation	2,865		2,865
Payments on capital lease obligations	(408)	(1,967)	(2,375)
<b>Net cash provided by financing activities</b>	<b>41,872</b>	<b>(1,967)</b>	<b>39,905</b>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>20</b>		<b>20</b>
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	31		31
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of period</b>	<b>\$ 51</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 51</b>
<b>Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:</b>			
Cash paid during the period for interest, net of amounts capitalized	\$ 7,368	1,008	\$ 8,376

## Edgar Filing: NORTHWEST PIPE CO - Form 10-K

Cash refunded during the period for income taxes (net of payments of \$413)	(2,769)	(2,769)
Non-cash investing and financing activities:		
Escrow account related to capital lease financing	\$ 2,726	\$ 2,726
Accrued property and equipment purchases	968	968
Capital lease refinancing		481

F-37

**Table of Contents**

The following table presents the impact of the restatement adjustments on the Company's previously reported consolidated statement of cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2009 (in thousands). Unrealized loss on foreign currency forward contracts of \$1.3 million has been reclassified within net cash provided by operating activities to conform to the current period presentation in the consolidated statements of cash flows. Tax withholdings related to net share settlement of restricted share awards and performance shares of \$143,000 has been reclassified within net cash used in financing activities to conform to the current period presentation in the consolidated statements of cash flows. These reclassifications are presented in the Restatement Adjustments column and had no impact on cash flows from operations, income from operations, cash flows from investing activities, cash flows from financing activities, net income, or total assets.

	Year ended December 31, 2009		
	As Previously Reported	Restatement Adjustments	As Restated
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>			
Net loss	\$ (7,277)	\$ (3,798)	\$ (11,075)
<b>Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash provided by operating activities:</b>			
Depreciation and amortization of property and equipment	6,889	4,141	11,030
Amortization of intangible assets	119	133	252
Provision for doubtful accounts	92		92
Amortization of debt issuance costs	513		513
Deferred income taxes	(185)	(2,209)	(2,394)
Loss on disposal of property and equipment	41	(389)	(348)
Stock-based compensation expense	765		765
Tax benefit from stock option plans	(53)		(53)
Unrealized loss on foreign currency forward contracts		1,283	1,283
<b>Changes in operating assets and liabilities:</b>			
Trade and other receivables, net	36,942		36,942
Costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts, net	19,688		19,688
Inventories	29,084		29,084
Refundable income taxes	(3,586)		(3,586)
Prepaid expenses and other	(1,420)	42	(1,378)
Accounts payable	(4,478)		(4,478)
Accrued and other liabilities	2,053	(1,284)	769
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>79,187</b>	<b>(2,081)</b>	<b>77,106</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>			
Additions to property and equipment	(22,692)	1,344	(21,348)
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment	98		98
Proceeds from sale and leaseback of property and equipment	6,800	(6,800)	
Issuance of notes receivable	(1,635)	960	(675)
Insurance proceeds	1,363		1,363
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>	<b>(16,066)</b>	<b>(4,496)</b>	<b>(20,562)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities:</b>			
Proceeds from sale of common stock	28	143	171
Tax withholdings related to net share settlements of restricted share awards and performance shares		(143)	(143)
Payments on long-term debt	(5,714)		(5,714)
Borrowings under note payable to financial institutions	89,538		89,538
Payments on note payable to financial institutions	(152,200)		(152,200)
Payments of debt issuance costs	(186)		(186)
Borrowings from capital lease obligation	19,175		19,175
Payments on capital lease obligations	(13,821)	6,577	(7,244)
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>	<b>(63,180)</b>	<b>6,577</b>	<b>(56,603)</b>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>(59)</b>		<b>(59)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	90		90

Edgar Filing: NORTHWEST PIPE CO - Form 10-K

Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$	31	\$		\$	31
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:						
Cash paid during the period for interest, net of amounts capitalized	\$	4,692		59	\$	4,751
Cash refunded during the period for income taxes (net of payments of \$636)		(162)				(162)
Non-cash investing and financing activities:						
Escrow account related to capital lease financing	\$	5,591			\$	5,591
Capital lease converted to operating lease		5,713		(5,713)		
Accrued property and equipment purchases		3,704				3,704
Capital lease refinancing				1,688		1,688

F-38



**Table of Contents**

Schedule II

**NORTHWEST PIPE COMPANY**  
**VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS**

(Dollars in thousands)

	<b>Balance at Beginning of Period</b>	<b>Charged to Profit and Loss</b>	<b>Deduction from Reserves</b>	<b>Balance at End of Period</b>
<b>Year ended December 31, 2011:</b>				
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 2,151	\$ 3,518	\$ (4,019)	\$ 1,650
Valuation allowance for deferred tax assets	105	872	(51)	926
<b>Year ended December 31, 2010:</b>				
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 793	\$ 3,118	\$ (1,760)	\$ 2,151
Valuation allowance for deferred tax assets	470		(365)	105
<b>Year ended December 31, 2009:</b>				
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 701	\$ 960	\$ (868)	\$ 793
Valuation allowance for deferred tax assets	290	244	(64)	470

S-1

**Table of Contents**

**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, on the 27th day of April 2012.

NORTHWEST PIPE COMPANY

By */s/* RICHARD A. ROMAN  
**Richard A. Roman**  
**President and Chief Executive Officer**

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 in the capacities indicated, on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of April 2012.

<b>Signature</b>	<b>Title</b>
<i>/s/</i> WILLIAM R. TAGMYER  <b>William R. Tagmyer</b>	Director and Chairman of the Board
<i>/s/</i> RICHARD A. ROMAN  <b>Richard A. Roman</b>	Director, President and Chief Executive Officer
<i>/s/</i> ROBIN GANTT  <b>Robin Gantt</b>	Vice President and Chief Financial Officer  (Principal Financial Officer)
<i>/s/</i> JAMES E. DECLUSIN  <b>James E. Declusin</b>	Director
<i>/s/</i> MICHAEL C. FRANSON  <b>Michael C. Franson</b>	Director
<i>/s/</i> WAYNE B. KINGSLEY  <b>Wayne B. Kingsley</b>	Director
<i>/s/</i> KEITH R. LARSON  <b>Keith R. Larson</b>	Director