

# SILICON LABORATORIES INC

## FORM 10-K (Annual Report)

Filed 02/15/12 for the Period Ending 12/31/11

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Telephone	5124168500
CIK	0001038074
Symbol	SLAB
SIC Code	3674 - Semiconductors and Related Devices
Industry	Semiconductors
Sector	Technology
Fiscal Year	12/31

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**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 10-K**

(Mark  
One)

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 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: 000-29823

**SILICON LABORATORIES INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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

**74-2793174**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**400 West Cesar Chavez, Austin, Texas**

(Address of principal executive offices)

**78701**  
(Zip Code)

**(512) 416-8500**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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

Title of each class  
Common Stock, \$0.0001 par value

Name of exchange on which registered  
The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC

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

No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Sections 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 (§232.405 of this chapter) 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 (§229.405 of this chapter) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of the registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

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

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer  Non-accelerated filer  Smaller reporting company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).  Yes  No

The aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates computed by reference to the price at which the common equity was last sold as of the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter (July 1, 2011) was \$1,707,989,934 (assuming, for this purpose, that only directors and officers are deemed affiliates).

There were 42,236,172 shares of the registrant's common stock issued and outstanding as of January 31, 2012.

#### **DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

Portions of the Proxy Statement for the registrant's 2011 Annual Meeting of Stockholders are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Form 10-K.

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### Cautionary Statement

*Except for the historical financial information contained herein, the matters discussed in this report on Form 10-K (as well as documents incorporated herein by reference) may be considered "forward-looking" statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Such forward-looking statements include declarations regarding the intent, belief or current expectations of Silicon Laboratories Inc. and its management and may be signified by the words "believe," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "anticipate," "plan," "project," "will" or similar language. You are cautioned that any such forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve a number of risks and uncertainties. Actual results could differ materially from those indicated by such forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences include those discussed under "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in this report. Silicon Laboratories disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.*

## Part I

### Item 1. Business

#### General

Silicon Laboratories Inc. designs and develops proprietary, analog-intensive, mixed-signal integrated circuits (ICs) for a broad range of applications. Mixed-signal ICs are electronic components that convert real-world analog signals, such as sound and radio waves, into digital signals that electronic products can process. Therefore, mixed-signal ICs are critical components in a broad range of applications in a variety of markets, including communications, consumer, industrial, automotive, medical and power management.

Our world-class, mixed-signal ICs use standard complementary metal oxide semiconductor (CMOS) technology to dramatically reduce the cost, size and system power requirements of devices that our customers sell to their end-user customers. Our expertise in analog-intensive, mixed-signal IC design in CMOS allows us to develop new and innovative products that are highly integrated, simplifying our customers' designs and improving their time-to-market.

#### Industry Background

Communications, computing and consumer electronics continue to converge, driving semiconductor consumption. Growth in these markets has been driven primarily by the pervasiveness of the Internet, development of new communications technologies and applications, the demand for higher-speed, highly reliable networks and the movement towards greener electronics with reduced power consumption. This demand has fueled tremendous growth in the number of electronic devices. Demand for functionality in mobile, handheld devices has increased as manufacturers attempt to further differentiate their products. Demand for smart devices, mobility, alternative telephony services and the transition to digital radio and video are also key trends driving demand for innovative, mixed-signal ICs.

All of these applications are characterized by an intersection between the analog world we live in and the digital world of computing, and therefore require analog-intensive, mixed-signal circuits. Traditional mixed-signal designs relied upon solutions built with numerous, complex discrete analog and digital components. While these traditional designs provide the required functionality, they are often inefficient and inadequate for use in markets where size, cost, power consumption and performance are increasingly important product differentiators. In order to improve their competitive position, electronics manufacturers need to reduce the cost and complexity of their systems and enable new features or functionality to differentiate themselves from their competitors.

Simultaneously, these manufacturers face accelerating time-to-market demands and must be able to rapidly adapt to evolving industry standards and new technologies. Because analog-intensive, mixed-signal IC design expertise is difficult to find, these manufacturers increasingly are turning to third parties, like us, to provide advanced mixed-signal solutions. Mixed-signal design requires specific expertise and relies on creative, experienced engineers to deliver solutions that optimize speed, power and performance despite the noisy digital environment and within the constraints of standard manufacturing processes. The development of this design expertise typically requires years of practical analog design experience under the guidance of a senior engineer, and engineers with the required level of skill and expertise are in short supply.

Many IC providers lack sufficient analog expertise to develop compelling mixed-signal ICs. As a result, manufacturers of electronic devices value IC providers that can supply them with mixed-signal solutions with greater functionality, smaller size and lower power requirements at a reduced cost and shorter time-to-market.

## Products

We provide analog-intensive, mixed-signal ICs for use in a variety of electronic products in a broad range of applications including portable devices, AM/FM radios and other consumer electronics, networking equipment, test and measurement equipment, industrial monitoring and control, and customer premises equipment. Our products integrate complex mixed-signal functions that are frequently performed by numerous discrete components in competing products into a single chip or chipset. By doing so, we are able to create products that, when compared to many competing products:

- Require less board space;
- Reduce the use of external components lowering the system cost and simplifying design;
- Offer superior performance improving our customers' end products;
- Provide increased reliability and manufacturability, improving customer yields; and/or
- Reduce system power requirements enabling smaller form factors and/or longer battery life.

We group our products into the following categories:

- Broad-based products, which include our microcontrollers, timing products (clocks and oscillators), wireless receivers, isolation devices and human interface sensors and controllers;
- Broadcast products, which include our broadcast audio and video products;
- Access products, which include our Voice over IP (VoIP) products, embedded modems and our Power over Ethernet devices; and
- Mature products, which include certain devices that are at the end of their respective life cycles and therefore receive minimal or no continued research and development investment, including our DSL analog front end ICs and IRDA devices.

The following table summarizes the diverse product areas and applications for the various ICs that we have introduced to customers:

<u>Product Areas and Description</u>	<u>Applications</u>
<b><i>Broad-based Products</i></b>	
<b><i>Microcontrollers</i></b>	
Our C8051F family of 8-bit mixed-signal microcontrollers integrates intelligent data capture in the form of high-resolution data converters, a traditional MCU computing function, flash memory and a highly programmable set of communication interfaces in a single system on a chip. The combination of configurable high-performance analog, up to 100 Million Instructions Per Second (MIPS), 8051 core and in-system field programmability provides the user with design flexibility, improved time-to-market, superior system performance and greater end product differentiation. These products are designed for use in a large variety of end-markets, including the automotive, communications, consumer, industrial, medical and power management markets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Industrial automation and control</li><li>• Automotive sensors and controls</li><li>• Medical instrumentation</li><li>• Electronic test and measurement equipment</li> <li>• Consumer electronics</li><li>• Computer peripherals</li><li>• White goods</li></ul>

**Product Areas and Description**

*Precision Clocks and Oscillators*

Leveraging our DSPLL® and MultiSynth technologies to offer frequency agile, extremely low jitter clock and oscillator products, these devices replace traditional solutions implemented using expensive, bulky modules, numerous crystal sources, complicated discrete circuitry requiring numerous components, or hybrid IC/discrete solutions that offer limited functionality.

*EZRadio® Short-Range Wireless Transceivers*

Our EZRadio family of fully integrated, low power, low data rate and low cost short range wireless ICs are designed to meet the needs of customers developing applications requiring a secure, point to point transmission such as industrial monitoring and control. These products are still in the early stages of customer adoption.

*Digital Isolators and Related Products*

Our digital isolators and related products leverage patented isolation techniques to enable, for example, multiple channels of isolation on a single device, simplifying design and reducing system cost. These products are still in the early stages of customer adoption.

*Human Interface Sensors and Controllers*

Our QuickSense™ family of human interface products includes touch sense controllers, proximity sensors and ambient light sensors. These devices leverage our mixed-signal capability to provide high accuracy, quicker response time and lower power consumption than competing parts. These products are in the early stages of customer adoption.

**Broadcast Products**

*Broadcast Radio Receivers and Transmitters*

Our AM and FM receivers deliver the entire tuner from antenna input to audio output in a single chip. The broadcast audio products are based on an innovative digital architecture that enables significant improvements in performance, which translates to a better consumer experience, while reducing system cost and board space for our customers. The AM/FM receivers enable AM and/or FM radio in virtually any device and the transmitters allow customers to cost effectively add wireless AM/FM audio playback capability.

**Applications**

- Networking equipment
- Telecommunications
- Wireless base stations
- Test and measurement equipment
- HDTV video
- High-speed data acquisition
- SONET/SDH line cards
- Storage area networks

- Remote keyless entry
- Home security monitors
- Smart Meters
- Remote controls

- Switch mode power supplies
- Isolated analog data acquisition
- Industrial networking
- Motor control
- Isolated DC-DC supplies
- Electronic ballasts for lighting

- Smartphones and handhelds
- Industrial controls
- Toys and consumer electronics
- Monitors and lavatory controls

- Mobile phones
- Stand-alone AM/FM radios
- Portable audio devices
- MP3/digital media players
- Navigation/GPS devices
- Satellite radios
- Home stereos
- Automotive infotainment systems

**Product Areas and Description**

*Video tuners and demodulators*

Our complete, globally-compliant hybrid TV tuners with analog TV demodulator in a single CMOS IC leverage our proven digital low-IF architecture and exceed the performance of traditional discrete TV tuners, enabling TV makers to deliver improved picture quality and better reception for both analog and digital broadcasts. Our small, low power and high performance digital video demodulators support DVB-T/T2, DVB-S/S2, and/or DVB-C in a single chip and are ideal for equipment receiving digital terrestrial, satellite and/or cable services.

**Access Products**

*ProSLIC® Subscriber Line Interface Circuits*

Our ProSLIC provides the analog subscriber line interface on the source end of the telephone which generates dial tone, busy tone, caller ID and ring signal. Our ProSLIC product family has offerings for short-haul applications suitable for the customer premises as well as long-haul applications suitable for the traditional telephone company central office.

*ISModem® Embedded Modems*

The ISModem embedded modems leverage innovative silicon direct access arrangement (DAA) technology and a digital signal processor to deliver a globally compliant, very small analog modem for embedded applications.

*Power over Ethernet*

Our Power over Ethernet (PoE) Power Source Equipment and Powered Device ICs offer highly differentiated solutions with a reduced total bill of materials (BOM) cost and improved performance and reliability. Our solutions also offer an integration level that enables functionality not available with competing solutions.

**Applications**

- Integrated digital televisions (iDTV)
- Free-to-Air (FtA) or pay-TV set-top box receivers
- PC-TV applications
- DVD/HDD personal video recorders
  
- Wireless local loop remote access systems
- Voice over broadband modems and terminal adapters
- VoIP residential gateways
- PBXs
- Wired long loop and central office systems
  
- Set-top and digital cable boxes
- Industrial monitoring
- Postage meters
- Security systems
- Remote medical monitoring
- Gaming consoles
- Personal Video Recorders (PVRs)
- Point of sale (POS) terminals
- Fax machines and multi-function printers
  
- Wireless access points (WAP)
- VoIP phones
- Radio frequency identification (RFID) tag readers
- POS terminals
- Networking routers and switches
- Security cameras

During fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009, sales of our mixed-signal products accounted for substantially all of our revenue.

## **Customers, Sales and Marketing**

We market our products through our direct sales force and through a network of independent sales representatives and distributors. Direct and distributor customers buy on an individual purchase order basis, rather than pursuant to long-term agreements.

We consider our customer to be the end customer purchasing either directly from a distributor, a contract manufacturer or us. An end customer purchasing through a contract manufacturer typically instructs such contract manufacturer to obtain our products and incorporate such products with other components for sale by such contract manufacturer to the end customer. Although we actually sell the products to, and are paid by, the distributors and contract manufacturers, we refer to such end customer as our customer.

Three of our distributors, Edom Technology, Avnet and Macnica, represented 24%, 12% and 10% of our revenues during fiscal 2011, respectively. No other distributor accounted for 10% or more of revenues for fiscal 2011.

During fiscal 2011, our ten largest end customers accounted for 38% of our revenues. We had one customer, Samsung, whose purchases across a variety of product areas represented 13% of our revenues during this period. Our major customers include Cisco, Huawei, LG Electronics, Pace, Panasonic, Sagem, Samsung, Technicolor, Varian Medical Systems and ZTE.

We maintain numerous sales offices in North America, Europe and Asia. Revenue is attributed to a geographic area based on the shipped-to location. The percentage of our revenues derived from outside of the United States was 86% in fiscal 2011. For further information regarding our revenues and long-lived assets by geographic area, see Note 16, *Segment Information*, to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Our direct sales force includes regional sales managers in the field and area business managers to further support customer communications. We also utilize independent sales representatives and distributors to generate sales of our products. We have relationships with many independent sales representatives and distributors worldwide whom we have selected based on their understanding of the mixed-signal IC marketplace and their ability to provide effective field sales applications support for our products.

Our marketing efforts are targeted at both identified industry leaders and emerging market participants. Direct marketing activities are supplemented by a focused marketing communications effort that seeks to raise awareness of our company and products. Our public relations efforts are focused on leading trade and business publications. Our external website is used to deliver corporate and product information. We also pursue targeted advertising in key trade publications and we have a cooperative marketing program that allows our distributors and representatives to promote our products to their local markets in conjunction with their own advertising activities. Finally, we maintain a presence at strategic trade shows and industry events. These activities, in combination with direct sales activities, help drive demand for our products.

Due to the complex and innovative nature of our ICs, we employ experienced applications engineers who work closely with customers to support the design-win process, and can significantly accelerate the customer's time to market. A design-win occurs when a customer has designed our ICs into its product architecture and ordered product from us. A considerable amount of effort to assist the customer in incorporating our ICs into its products is typically required prior to any sale. In many cases, our innovative ICs require significantly different implementations than existing approaches and, therefore, successful implementations may require extensive communication with potential customers. The amount of time required to achieve a design-win can vary substantially depending on a customer's development cycle, which can be relatively short (such as three months) or very long (such as two years) based on a wide variety of customer factors. Not all design wins ultimately result in revenue.

However, once a completed design architecture has been implemented and produced in high volumes, our customers are reluctant to significantly alter their designs due to this extensive design-win process. We believe this process, coupled with our intellectual property protection, promotes relatively longer product life cycles for our ICs and high barriers to entry for competitive products, even if such competing products are offered at lower prices. Our close collaboration with our customers provides us with knowledge of derivative product ideas or completely new product line offerings that may not otherwise arise in other new product discussions.

## **Research and Development**

Through our research and development efforts, we leverage experienced analog and mixed-signal engineering talent and expertise to create new ICs that integrate functions typically performed inefficiently by multiple discrete components. This integration generally results in lower costs, smaller die sizes, lower power demands and enhanced price/performance characteristics. We attempt to reuse successful techniques for integration in new applications where similar benefits can be realized. We believe that we have attracted many of the best engineers in our industry. We believe that reliable and precise analog and mixed-signal ICs can only be developed by teams of engineers who have significant analog experience and are familiar with the intricacies of designing these ICs for commercial volume production. The development of test methodologies is just one example of a critical activity requiring experience and know-how to enable the rapid release of a new product for commercial success. We have accumulated a vast set of trade secrets that allow us to pursue innovative approaches to mixed-signal problems that are difficult for competitors to duplicate. We highly value our engineering talent and strive to maintain a very high bar when bringing new recruits to the company.

Research and development expenses were \$136.0 million, \$123.8 million and \$104.4 million in fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

## **Technology**

Our product development process facilitates the design of highly-innovative, analog-intensive, mixed-signal ICs. Our engineers' deep knowledge of existing and emerging standards and performance requirements helps us to assess the technical feasibility of a particular IC. We target areas where we can provide compelling product improvements. Once we have solved the primary challenges, our field application engineers continue to work closely with our customers' design teams to maintain and develop an understanding of our customers' needs, allowing us to formulate derivative products and refined features.

In providing mixed-signal ICs for our customers, we believe our key competitive advantages are:

- Analog and RF design expertise in CMOS;
- Digital signal processing, firmware and system design expertise;
- Microcontroller and system on a chip design expertise; and
- Our broad understanding of systems technology and trends.

To fully capitalize on these advantages, we have assembled a world-class development team with exceptional analog and mixed-signal design expertise led by accomplished senior engineers.

## **Analog and RF Design Expertise in CMOS**

We believe that our most significant core competency is world-class analog and RF design capability. Additionally, we strive to design substantially all of our ICs in standard CMOS processes. While it is significantly more difficult to design analog ICs in CMOS, CMOS provides multiple benefits versus existing alternatives, including significantly reduced cost, reduced technology risk and greater

worldwide foundry capacity. CMOS is the most commonly used process technology for manufacturing digital ICs and as a result is most likely to be used for the manufacturing of ICs with finer line geometries. These finer line geometries can enable smaller and faster ICs. By designing our ICs in CMOS, we enable our products to benefit from this trend towards finer line geometries, which allows us to integrate more digital functionality into our mixed-signal ICs.

Designing analog and mixed-signal ICs is significantly more complicated than designing stand alone digital ICs. While advanced software tools exist to help automate digital IC design, there are far fewer tools for advanced analog and mixed-signal IC design. In many cases, our analog circuit design efforts begin at the fundamental transistor level. We believe that we have a demonstrated ability to design the most difficult analog and RF circuits using standard CMOS technologies.

### **Digital Signal Processing, Firmware and System Design Expertise**

We consider the partitioning of a circuit to be a proprietary and creative design technique. Deep systems knowledge allows us to use our digital signal processing (DSP) design expertise to maximize the price/performance characteristics of both the analog and digital functions and allow our ICs to work in an optimized manner to accomplish particular tasks. Generally, we attempt to move analog functions into the digital domain as quickly as possible, creating system efficiencies without compromising performance. These patented approaches require our advanced DSP and systems expertise. We then leverage our firmware know-how to change the 'personality' of our devices, optimizing features and functions needed by various markets we serve. For example, our broadcast audio products use a proven digital low-IF receiver and transmitter architecture to deliver superior RF performance and interference rejection compared to traditional, analog-only approaches. Digital signal processing is utilized to optimize sound quality under varying signal conditions, enabling a better consumer experience. Firmware has enabled us to rapidly expand the portfolio to address multiple markets without substantial silicon changes, including shortwave, longwave, analog tuned, digital tuned and even high performance HD-capable automotive radios.

### **Microcontroller and System on a Chip Design Expertise**

We have the talent and circuit integration methodologies required to combine precision analog, high-speed digital, flash memory and in-system programmability into a single, monolithic CMOS integrated circuit. Our microcontroller products are designed to capture an external analog signal, convert it to a digital signal, compute digital functions on the stream of data and then communicate the results through a standard digital interface. The ability to develop standard products with the broadest possible customer application base while being cost efficient with the silicon area of the monolithic CMOS integrated circuit requires a keen sense of customer value and engineering capabilities. Additionally, to manage the wide variety of signals on a monolithic piece of silicon including electrical noise, harmonics and other electronic distortions requires a fundamental knowledge of device physics and accumulated design expertise.

### **Understanding of Systems Technology and Trends**

Our focused expertise in mixed-signal ICs is the result of the breadth of engineering talent we have assembled with experience working in analog-intensive CMOS design for a wide variety of applications. This expertise, which we consider a competitive advantage, is the foundation of our in-depth understanding of the technology and trends that impact electronic systems and markets. Our expertise includes:

- Isolation, which is critical for existing and emerging telecom networks;
- Frequency synthesis, which is core technology for wireless and clocking applications;

- Integration, which enables the elimination of discrete components in a system; and
- Signal processing and precision analog, which forms the heart of consumer, industrial, medical and automotive electronics applications.

Our understanding of the role of analog/digital interfaces within electronic systems, standards evolution, and end market drivers enables us to identify product development opportunities and capitalize on market trends.

### **Manufacturing**

As a fabless semiconductor company, we conduct IC design and development in our facilities and electronically transfer our proprietary IC designs to third-party semiconductor fabricators who process silicon wafers to produce the ICs that we design. Our IC designs typically use industry-standard CMOS manufacturing process technology to achieve a level of performance normally associated with more expensive special-purpose IC fabrication technology. We believe the use of CMOS technology facilitates the rapid production of our ICs within a lower cost framework. Our IC production employs submicron process geometries which are readily available from leading foundry suppliers worldwide, thus increasing the likelihood that manufacturing capacity will be available throughout our products' life cycles. We currently partner principally with Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. (TSMC) or its affiliates to manufacture our semiconductor wafers. We believe that our fabless manufacturing model significantly reduces our capital requirements and allows us to focus our resources on design, development and marketing of our ICs.

Once the silicon wafers have been produced, they are shipped directly to our third-party assembly subcontractors. The assembled ICs are then moved to the final testing stage. This operation can be performed by the same contractor that assembled the IC, other third-party test subcontractors or within our internal facilities prior to shipping to our customers. During fiscal 2011, most of our units shipped were tested by offshore third-party test subcontractors. We expect that our utilization of offshore third-party test subcontractors will remain substantial during fiscal 2012.

### **Backlog**

As of December 31, 2011, our backlog was approximately \$83.3 million, compared to approximately \$87.5 million as of January 1, 2011. We include in backlog accepted product purchase orders from customers and worldwide distributor stocking orders. We only include orders with an expected shipping date from us within six months. Product orders in our backlog are subject to changes in delivery schedules or cancellation at the option of the purchaser typically without penalty. Our backlog may fluctuate significantly depending upon customer order patterns which may, in turn, vary considerably based on rapidly changing business circumstances. Shipments to distributors are not recognized as revenue until the products are sold by the distributors. Additionally, our arrangements with distributors typically provide for price protection and stock rotation activities. Accordingly, we do not believe that our backlog at any time is necessarily representative of actual sales for any succeeding period.

## Competition

The markets for semiconductors generally, and for analog and mixed-signal ICs in particular, are intensely competitive. We anticipate that the market for our products will continually evolve and will be subject to rapid technological change. We believe the principal competitive factors in our industry are:

- Product size;
- Level of integration;
- Product capabilities;
- Reliability;
- Price;
- Performance;
- Power requirement;
- Customer support;
- Reputation;
- Ability to rapidly introduce new products to market; and
- Intellectual property.

We believe that we are competitive with respect to these factors, particularly because our ICs typically are smaller in size, are highly integrated, achieve high performance specifications at lower price points than competitive products and are manufactured in standard CMOS which generally enables us to supply them on a relatively rapid basis to customers to meet their product introduction schedules. However, disadvantages we face include our relatively short operating history in certain of our markets and the need for customers to redesign their products and modify their software to implement our ICs in their products.

Due to our diversified product portfolio and the numerous markets and applications we serve, we target a relatively large number of competitors. We compete with Analog Devices, Atmel, Broadcom, Conexant, Cypress, Epson, Freescale, IDT, Lantiq, Maxim Integrated Products, Microchip, Microsemi, NXP Semiconductors, Renesas, Sony Semiconductor, ST-Ericsson, STMicroelectronics, Texas Instruments, Vectron International and others. We expect to face competition in the future from our current competitors, other manufacturers and designers of semiconductors and start-up semiconductor design companies. Our competitors may also offer bundled solutions offering a more complete product, which may negatively impact our competitive position despite the technical merits or advantages of our products. In addition, our customers could develop products or technologies internally that would replace their need for our products and would become a source of competition. We could also face competition from module makers or other systems suppliers that may include mixed-signal components in their products that could eliminate the need for our ICs.

Many of our competitors and potential competitors have longer operating histories, greater name recognition, access to larger customer bases, complementary product offerings, and significantly greater financial, sales and marketing, manufacturing, distribution, technical and other resources than us. Current and potential competitors have established or may establish financial and strategic relationships between themselves or with our existing or potential customers, resellers or other third parties. Accordingly, it is possible that new competitors or alliances among competitors could emerge and rapidly acquire significant market share.

## Intellectual Property

Our future success depends in part upon our proprietary technology. We seek to protect our technology through a combination of patents, copyrights, trade secrets, trademarks and confidentiality procedures. As of December 31, 2011, we had approximately 1,140 issued or pending United States patents in the IC field. We also frequently file for patent protection in a variety of international jurisdictions with respect to the proprietary technology covered by our U.S. patents and patent applications. There can be no assurance that patents will ever be issued with respect to these applications. Furthermore, it is possible that any patents held by us may be invalidated, circumvented, challenged or licensed to others. In addition, there can be no assurance that such patents will provide us with competitive advantages or adequately safeguard our proprietary rights. While we continue to

file new patent applications with respect to our recent developments, existing patents are granted for prescribed time periods and will expire at various times in the future.

We claim copyright protection for proprietary documentation for our products. We have filed for registration, or are in the process of filing for registration, the visual images of certain ICs with the U.S. Copyright Office. We have registered the "Silicon Labs" logo and a variety of other product and product family names as trademarks in the United States and selected foreign jurisdictions. All other trademarks, service marks or trade names appearing in this report are the property of their respective owners. We also attempt to protect our trade secrets and other proprietary information through agreements with our customers, suppliers, employees and consultants, and through other customary security measures. We intend to protect our rights vigorously, but there can be no assurance that our efforts will be successful. In addition, the laws of other countries in which our products are sold may not protect our products and intellectual property rights to the same extent as the laws of the United States.

While our ability to effectively compete depends in large part on our ability to protect our intellectual property, we believe that our technical expertise and ability to introduce new products in a timely manner will be an important factor in maintaining our competitive position.

Many participants in the semiconductor and electronics industries have a significant number of patents and have frequently demonstrated a readiness to commence litigation based on allegations of patent and other intellectual property infringement. From time to time, third parties may assert infringement claims against us. We may not prevail in any such litigation or may not be able to license any valid and infringed patents from third parties on commercially reasonable terms, if at all. Litigation, regardless of the outcome, is likely to result in substantial cost and diversion of our resources, including our management's time. Any such litigation could materially adversely affect us.

Our licenses include industry standard licenses with our vendors, such as wafer fabrication tool libraries, third party core libraries, computer-aided design applications and business software applications.

## **Employees**

As of December 31, 2011, we employed 908 people. Our success depends on the continued service of our key technical and senior management personnel and on our ability to continue to attract, retain and motivate highly skilled analog and mixed-signal engineers. The competition for such personnel is intense. We have never had a work stoppage and none of our U.S. employees are represented by a labor organization. We consider our employee relations to be good.

## **Environmental Regulation**

Federal, state and local regulations impose various environmental controls on the storage, use, discharge and disposal of certain chemicals and gases used in the semiconductor industry. Our compliance with these laws and regulations has not had a material impact on our financial position or results of operations.

## **Available Information**

Our website address is [www.silabs.com](http://www.silabs.com). Our annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 are available through the investor relations page of our website free of charge as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Our website and

the information contained therein or connected thereto are not intended to be incorporated into this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

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

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

*We may not be able to maintain our historical growth and may experience significant period-to-period fluctuations in our revenues and operating results, which may result in volatility in our stock price*

Although we have generally experienced revenue growth in our history, we may not be able to sustain this growth. We may also experience significant period-to-period fluctuations in our revenues and operating results in the future due to a number of factors, and any such variations may cause our stock price to fluctuate. In some future period our revenues or operating results may be below the expectations of public market analysts or investors. If this occurs, our stock price may drop, perhaps significantly.

A number of factors, in addition to those cited in other risk factors applicable to our business, may contribute to fluctuations in our revenues and operating results, including:

- The timing and volume of orders received from our customers;
- The timeliness of our new product introductions and the rate at which our new products may cannibalize our older products;
- The rate of acceptance of our products by our customers, including the acceptance of new products we may develop for integration in the products manufactured by such customers, which we refer to as "design wins";
- The time lag and realization rate between "design wins" and production orders;
- The demand for, and life cycles of, the products incorporating our ICs;
- The rate of adoption of mixed-signal ICs in the markets we target;
- Deferrals or reductions of customer orders in anticipation of new products or product enhancements from us or our competitors or other providers of ICs;
- Changes in product mix;
- The average selling prices for our products could drop suddenly due to competitive offerings or competitive predatory pricing, especially with respect to our mobile handset products;
- The average selling prices for our products generally decline over time;
- Changes in market standards;
- Impairment charges related to inventory, equipment or other long-lived assets;
- The software used in our products, including software provided by third parties, may not meet the needs of our customers;
- Significant legal costs to defend our intellectual property rights or respond to claims against us; and
- The rate at which new markets emerge for products we are currently developing or for which our design expertise can be utilized to develop products for these new markets.

The markets for consumer electronics, for example, are characterized by rapid fluctuations in demand and seasonality that result in corresponding fluctuations in the demand for our products that

are incorporated in such devices. Additionally, the rate of technology acceptance by our customers results in fluctuating demand for our products as customers are reluctant to incorporate a new IC into their products until the new IC has achieved market acceptance. Once a new IC achieves market acceptance, demand for the new IC can quickly accelerate to a point and then level off such that rapid historical growth in sales of a product should not be viewed as indicative of continued future growth. In addition, demand can quickly decline for a product when a new IC product is introduced and receives market acceptance. Due to the various factors mentioned above, the results of any prior quarterly or annual periods should not be relied upon as an indication of our future operating performance.

***If we are unable to develop or acquire new and enhanced products that achieve market acceptance in a timely manner, our operating results and competitive position could be harmed***

Our future success will depend on our ability to develop or acquire new ICs and product enhancements that achieve market acceptance in a timely and cost-effective manner. The development of mixed-signal ICs is highly complex, and we have at times experienced delays in completing the development and introduction of new products and product enhancements. Successful product development and market acceptance of our products depend on a number of factors, including:

- Requirements of customers;
- Accurate prediction of market and technical requirements;
- Timely completion and introduction of new designs;
- Timely qualification and certification of our ICs for use in our customers' products;
- Commercial acceptance and volume production of the products into which our ICs will be incorporated;
- Availability of foundry, assembly and test capacity;
- Achievement of high manufacturing yields;
- Quality, price, performance, power use and size of our products;
- Availability, quality, price and performance of competing products and technologies;
- Our customer service, application support capabilities and responsiveness;
- Successful development of our relationships with existing and potential customers;
- Technology, industry standards or end-user preferences; and
- Cooperation of third-party software providers and our semiconductor vendors to support our chips within a system.

We cannot provide any assurance that products which we recently have developed or may develop in the future will achieve market acceptance. We have introduced to market or are in development of many ICs. If our ICs fail to achieve market acceptance, or if we fail to develop new products on a timely basis that achieve market acceptance, our growth prospects, operating results and competitive position could be adversely affected.

***Our research and development efforts are focused on a limited number of new technologies and products, and any delay in the development, or abandonment, of these technologies or products by industry participants, or their failure to achieve market acceptance, could compromise our competitive position***

Our ICs are used as components in electronic devices in various markets. As a result, we have devoted and expect to continue to devote a large amount of resources to develop products based on new and emerging technologies and standards that will be commercially introduced in the future.

Research and development expense in fiscal 2011 was \$136.0 million, or 27.7% of revenues. A number of large companies are actively involved in the development of these new technologies and standards. Should any of these companies delay or abandon their efforts to develop commercially available products based on new technologies and standards, our research and development efforts with respect to these technologies and standards likely would have no appreciable value. In addition, if we do not correctly anticipate new technologies and standards, or if the products that we develop based on these new technologies and standards fail to achieve market acceptance, our competitors may be better able to address market demand than we would. Furthermore, if markets for these new technologies and standards develop later than we anticipate, or do not develop at all, demand for our products that are currently in development would suffer, resulting in lower sales of these products than we currently anticipate.

***We depend on a limited number of customers for a substantial portion of our revenues, and the loss of, or a significant reduction in orders from, any key customer could significantly reduce our revenues***

The loss of any of our key customers, or a significant reduction in sales to any one of them, would significantly reduce our revenues and adversely affect our business. During fiscal 2011, our ten largest customers accounted for 38% of our revenues. Some of the markets for our products are dominated by a small number of potential customers. Therefore, our operating results in the foreseeable future will continue to depend on our ability to sell to these dominant customers, as well as the ability of these customers to sell products that incorporate our IC products. In the future, these customers may decide not to purchase our ICs at all, purchase fewer ICs than they did in the past or alter their purchasing patterns, particularly because:

- We do not have material long-term purchase contracts with our customers;
- Substantially all of our sales to date have been made on a purchase order basis, which permits our customers to cancel, change or delay product purchase commitments with little or no notice to us and without penalty;
- Some of our customers may have efforts underway to actively diversify their vendor base which could reduce purchases of our ICs; and
- Some of our customers have developed or acquired products that compete directly with products these customers purchase from us, which could affect our customers' purchasing decisions in the future.

While we have been a significant supplier of ICs used in many of our customers' products, our customers regularly evaluate alternative sources of supply in order to diversify their supplier base, which increases their negotiating leverage with us and protects their ability to secure these components. We believe that any expansion of our customers' supplier bases could have an adverse effect on the prices we are able to charge and volume of product that we are able to sell to our customers, which would negatively affect our revenues and operating results.

***Significant litigation over intellectual property in our industry may cause us to become involved in costly and lengthy litigation which could seriously harm our business***

In recent years, there has been significant litigation in the United States involving patents and other intellectual property rights. From time to time, we receive letters from various industry participants alleging infringement of patents, trademarks or misappropriation of trade secrets or from customers or suppliers requesting indemnification for claims brought against them by third parties. The exploratory nature of these inquiries has become relatively common in the semiconductor industry. We respond when we deem appropriate and as advised by legal counsel. We have been involved in litigation to protect our intellectual property rights in the past and may become involved in such litigation again in the future. In the future, we may become involved in additional litigation to defend allegations of infringement asserted by others, both directly and indirectly as a result of certain industry-standard indemnities we may offer to our customers or suppliers. Legal proceedings could subject us to significant liability for damages or invalidate our proprietary rights. Legal proceedings initiated by us to protect our intellectual property rights could also result in counterclaims or countersuits against us. Any litigation, regardless of its outcome, would likely be time-consuming and expensive to resolve and would divert our management's time and attention. Most intellectual property litigation also could force us to take specific actions, including:

- Cease selling or manufacturing products that use the challenged intellectual property;
- Obtain from the owner of the infringed intellectual property a right to a license to sell or use the relevant technology, which license may not be available on reasonable terms, or at all;
- Redesign those products that use infringing intellectual property; or
- Pursue legal remedies with third parties to enforce our indemnification rights, which may not adequately protect our interests.

***We may be unable to protect our intellectual property, which would negatively affect our ability to compete***

Our products rely on our proprietary technology, and we expect that future technological advances made by us will be critical to sustain market acceptance of our products. Therefore, we believe that the protection of our intellectual property rights is and will continue to be important to the success of our business. We rely on a combination of patent, copyright, trademark and trade secret laws and restrictions on disclosure to protect our intellectual property rights. We also enter into confidentiality or license agreements with our employees, consultants, intellectual property providers and business partners, and control access to and distribution of our documentation and other proprietary information. Despite these efforts, unauthorized parties may attempt to copy or otherwise obtain and use our proprietary technology. Monitoring unauthorized use of our technology is difficult, and we cannot be certain that the steps we have taken will prevent unauthorized use of our technology, particularly in foreign countries where the laws may not protect our proprietary rights as fully as in the United States. We cannot be certain that patents will be issued as a result of our pending applications nor can we be certain that any issued patents would protect or benefit us or give us adequate protection from competing products. For example, issued patents may be circumvented or challenged and declared invalid or unenforceable. We also cannot be certain that others will not develop effective competing technologies on their own.

***Failure to manage our distribution channel relationships could impede our future growth***

The future growth of our business will depend in large part on our ability to manage our relationships with current and future distributors and sales representatives, develop additional channels for the distribution and sale of our products and manage these relationships. As we execute our indirect sales strategy, we must manage the potential conflicts that may arise with our direct sales

efforts. For example, conflicts with a distributor may arise when a customer begins purchasing directly from us rather than through the distributor. The inability to successfully execute or manage a multi-channel sales strategy could impede our future growth. In addition, relationships with our distributors often involve the use of price protection and inventory return rights. This often requires a significant amount of sales management's time and system resources to manage properly.

***We are subject to increased inventory risks and costs because we build our products based on forecasts provided by customers before receiving purchase orders for the products***

In order to ensure availability of our products for some of our largest customers, we start the manufacturing of our products in advance of receiving purchase orders based on forecasts provided by these customers. However, these forecasts do not represent binding purchase commitments and we do not recognize sales for these products until they are shipped to the customer. As a result, we incur inventory and manufacturing costs in advance of anticipated sales. Because demand for our products may not materialize, manufacturing based on forecasts subjects us to increased risks of high inventory carrying costs, increased obsolescence and increased operating costs. These inventory risks are exacerbated when our customers purchase indirectly through contract manufacturers or hold component inventory levels greater than their consumption rate because this causes us to have less visibility regarding the accumulated levels of inventory for such customers. A resulting write-off of unusable or excess inventories would adversely affect our operating results.

***Our products are complex and may contain errors which could lead to product liability, an increase in our costs and/or a reduction in our revenues***

Our products are complex and may contain errors, particularly when first introduced or as new versions are released. Our new products are increasingly being designed in more complex processes which further increases the risk of errors. We rely primarily on our in-house testing personnel to design test operations and procedures to detect any errors prior to delivery of our products to our customers. Because our products are manufactured by third parties, should problems occur in the operation or performance of our ICs, we may experience delays in meeting key introduction dates or scheduled delivery dates to our customers. These errors also could cause us to incur significant re-engineering costs, divert the attention of our engineering personnel from our product development efforts and cause significant customer relations and business reputation problems. Any defects could require product replacement or recall or we could be obligated to accept product returns. Any of the foregoing could impose substantial costs and harm our business.

Product liability claims may be asserted with respect to our products. Our products are typically sold at prices that are significantly lower than the cost of the end-products into which they are incorporated. A defect or failure in our product could cause failure in our customer's end-product, so we could face claims for damages that are disproportionately higher than the revenues and profits we receive from the products involved. Furthermore, product liability risks are particularly significant with respect to medical and automotive applications because of the risk of serious harm to users of these products. There can be no assurance that any insurance we maintain will sufficiently protect us from any such claims.

***Any acquisitions we make could disrupt our business and harm our financial condition***

As part of our growth and product diversification strategy, we continue to evaluate opportunities to acquire other businesses, intellectual property or technologies that would complement our current offerings, expand the breadth of our markets or enhance our technical capabilities. The acquisitions

that we have made and may make in the future entail a number of risks that could materially and adversely affect our business and operating results, including:

- Problems integrating the acquired operations, technologies or products with our existing business and products;
- Diversion of management's time and attention from our core business;
- Need for financial resources above our planned investment levels;
- Difficulties in retaining business relationships with suppliers and customers of the acquired company;
- Risks associated with entering markets in which we lack prior experience;
- Risks associated with the transfer of licenses of intellectual property;
- Increased operating costs due to acquired overhead;
- Tax issues associated with acquisitions;
- Acquisition-related disputes, including disputes over earn-outs and escrows;
- Potential loss of key employees of the acquired company; and
- Potential impairment of related goodwill and intangible assets.

Future acquisitions also could cause us to incur debt or contingent liabilities or cause us to issue equity securities that could negatively impact the ownership percentages of existing shareholders.

***Our customers require our products to undergo a lengthy and expensive qualification process without any assurance of product sales***

Prior to purchasing our products, our customers require that our products undergo an extensive qualification process, which involves testing of the products in the customer's system as well as rigorous reliability testing. This qualification process may continue for six months or longer. However, qualification of a product by a customer does not ensure any sales of the product to that customer. Even after successful qualification and sales of a product to a customer, a subsequent revision to the IC or software, changes in the IC's manufacturing process or the selection of a new supplier by us may require a new qualification process, which may result in delays and in us holding excess or obsolete inventory. After our products are qualified, it can take an additional six months or more before the customer commences volume production of components or devices that incorporate our products. Despite these uncertainties, we devote substantial resources, including design, engineering, sales, marketing and management efforts, toward qualifying our products with customers in anticipation of sales. If we are unsuccessful or delayed in qualifying any of our products with a customer, such failure or delay would preclude or delay sales of such product to the customer, which may impede our growth and cause our business to suffer.

***We have substantial international activities, which subjects us to additional business risks including logistical and financial complexity, political instability and currency fluctuations***

We have established international subsidiaries and have opened offices in international markets to support our activities in Europe and Asia. This has included the establishment of a headquarters in Singapore for non-U.S. operations. The percentage of our revenues derived from outside of the United

States was 86% during fiscal 2011. We may not be able to maintain or increase international market demand for our products. Our international operations are subject to a number of risks, including:

- Complexity and costs of managing international operations and related tax obligations, including our headquarters for non-U.S. operations in Singapore;
- Protectionist laws and business practices that favor local competition in some countries;
- Difficulties related to the protection of our intellectual property rights in some countries;
- Multiple, conflicting and changing tax and other laws and regulations that may impact both our international and domestic tax and other liabilities and result in increased complexity and costs;
- Longer sales cycles;
- Greater difficulty in accounts receivable collection and longer collection periods;
- High levels of distributor inventory subject to price protection and rights of return to us;
- Political and economic instability;
- Greater difficulty in hiring and retaining qualified technical sales and applications engineers and administrative personnel; and
- The need to have business and operations systems that can meet the needs of our international business and operating structure.

To date, all of our sales to international customers and purchases of components from international suppliers have been denominated in U.S. dollars. As a result, an increase in the value of the U.S. dollar relative to foreign currencies could make our products more expensive for our international customers to purchase, thus rendering our products less competitive. Similarly, a decrease in the value of the U.S. dollar could reduce our buying power with respect to international suppliers.

***We rely on third parties to manufacture, assemble and test our products and the failure to successfully manage our relationships with our manufacturers and subcontractors would negatively impact our ability to sell our products***

We do not have our own wafer fab manufacturing facilities. Therefore, we rely on third-party vendors to manufacture the ICs we design. We also currently rely on Asian third-party assembly subcontractors to assemble and package the silicon chips provided by the wafers for use in final products. Additionally, we rely on these offshore subcontractors for a substantial portion of the testing requirements of our products prior to shipping. We expect utilization of third-party subcontractors to continue in the future.

The cyclical nature of the semiconductor industry drives wide fluctuations in available capacity at third-party vendors. On occasion, we have been unable to adequately respond to unexpected increases in customer demand due to capacity constraints and, therefore, were unable to benefit from this incremental demand. We may be unable to obtain adequate foundry, assembly or test capacity from our third-party subcontractors to meet our customers' delivery requirements even if we adequately forecast customer demand.

There are significant risks associated with relying on these third-party foundries and subcontractors, including:

- Failure by us, our customers or their end customers to qualify a selected supplier;
- Potential insolvency of the third-party subcontractors;
- Reduced control over delivery schedules and quality;

- Limited warranties on wafers or products supplied to us;
- Potential increases in prices or payments in advance for capacity;
- Increased need for international-based supply, logistics and financial management;
- Their inability to supply or support new or changing packaging technologies; and
- Low test yields.

We typically do not have long-term supply contracts with our third-party vendors which obligate the vendor to perform services and supply products to us for a specific period, in specific quantities, and at specific prices. Our third-party foundry, assembly and test subcontractors typically do not guarantee that adequate capacity will be available to us within the time required to meet demand for our products. In the event that these vendors fail to meet our demand for whatever reason, we expect that it would take up to 12 months to transition performance of these services to new providers. Such a transition may also require qualification of the new providers by our customers or their end customers.

Since our inception, most of the silicon wafers for the products that we have shipped were manufactured either by TSMC or its affiliates. Our customers typically complete their own qualification process. If we fail to properly balance customer demand across the existing semiconductor fabrication facilities that we utilize or are required by our foundry partners to increase, or otherwise change the number of fab lines that we utilize for our production, we might not be able to fulfill demand for our products and may need to divert our engineering resources away from new product development initiatives to support the fab line transition, which would adversely affect our operating results.

***Our products incorporate technology licensed from third parties***

We incorporate technology (including software) licensed from third parties in our products. We could be subjected to claims of infringement regardless of our lack of involvement in the development of the licensed technology. Although a third party licensor is typically obligated to indemnify us if the licensed technology infringes on another party's intellectual property rights, such indemnification is typically limited in amount and may be worthless if the licensor becomes insolvent. See *Significant litigation over intellectual property in our industry may cause us to become involved in costly and lengthy litigation which could seriously harm our business*. Furthermore, any failure of third party technology to perform properly would adversely affect sales of our products incorporating such technology.

***Our inability to manage growth could materially and adversely affect our business***

Our past growth has placed, and any future growth of our operations will continue to place, a significant strain on our management personnel, systems and resources. We anticipate that we will need to implement a variety of new and upgraded sales, operational and financial enterprise-wide systems, information technology infrastructure, procedures and controls, including the improvement of our accounting and other internal management systems to manage this growth and maintain compliance with regulatory guidelines, including Sarbanes-Oxley Act requirements. To the extent our business grows, our internal management systems and processes will need to improve to ensure that we remain in compliance. We also expect that we will need to continue to expand, train, manage and motivate our workforce. All of these endeavors will require substantial management effort, and we anticipate that we will require additional management personnel and internal processes to manage these efforts and to plan for the succession from time to time of certain persons who have been key management and technical personnel. If we are unable to effectively manage our expanding global operations, including our international headquarters in Singapore, our business could be materially and adversely affected.

***We are subject to risks relating to product concentration***

We derive a substantial portion of our revenues from a limited number of products, and we expect these products to continue to account for a large percentage of our revenues in the near term. Continued market acceptance of these products, is therefore, critical to our future success. In addition, substantially all of our products that we have sold include technology related to one or more of our issued U.S. patents. If these patents are found to be invalid or unenforceable, our competitors could introduce competitive products that could reduce both the volume and price per unit of our products. Our business, operating results, financial condition and cash flows could therefore be adversely affected by:

- A decline in demand for any of our more significant products;
- Failure of our products to achieve continued market acceptance;
- Competitive products;
- New technological standards or changes to existing standards that we are unable to address with our products;
- A failure to release new products or enhanced versions of our existing products on a timely basis; and
- The failure of our new products to achieve market acceptance.

***We are subject to credit risks related to our accounts receivable***

We do not generally obtain letters of credit or other security for payment from customers, distributors or contract manufacturers. Accordingly, we are not protected against accounts receivable default or bankruptcy by these entities. The current economic situation could increase the likelihood of such defaults and bankruptcies. Our ten largest customers or distributors represent a substantial majority of our accounts receivable. If any such customer or distributor, or a material portion of our smaller customers or distributors, were to become insolvent or otherwise not satisfy their obligations to us, we could be materially harmed.

***We depend on our key personnel to manage our business effectively in a rapidly changing market, and if we are unable to retain our current personnel and hire additional personnel, our ability to develop and successfully market our products could be harmed***

We believe our future success will depend in large part upon our ability to attract and retain highly skilled managerial, engineering, sales and marketing personnel. We believe that our future success will be dependent on retaining the services of our key personnel, developing their successors and certain internal processes to reduce our reliance on specific individuals, and on properly managing the transition of key roles when they occur. There is currently a shortage of qualified personnel with significant experience in the design, development, manufacturing, marketing and sales of analog and mixed-signal ICs. In particular, there is a shortage of engineers who are familiar with the intricacies of the design and manufacturability of analog elements, and competition for such personnel is intense. Our key technical personnel represent a significant asset and serve as the primary source for our technological and product innovations. We may not be successful in attracting and retaining sufficient numbers of technical personnel to support our anticipated growth. The loss of any of our key employees or the inability to attract or retain qualified personnel both in the United States and internationally, including engineers, sales, applications and marketing personnel, could delay the development and introduction of, and negatively impact our ability to sell, our products.

***Any dispositions could harm our financial condition***

Any disposition of a product line would entail a number of risks that could materially and adversely affect our business and operating results, including:

- Diversion of management's time and attention from our core business;
- Difficulties separating the divested business;
- Risks to relations with customers who previously purchased products from our disposed product line;
- Reduced leverage with suppliers due to reduced aggregate volume;
- Risks related to employee relations;
- Risks associated with the transfer and licensing of intellectual property;
- Security risks and other liabilities related to the transition services provided in connection with the disposition;
- Tax issues associated with dispositions; and
- Disposition-related disputes, including disputes over earn-outs and escrows.

***Our stock price may be volatile***

The market price of our common stock has been volatile in the past and may be volatile in the future. The market price of our common stock may be significantly affected by the following factors:

- Actual or anticipated fluctuations in our operating results;
- Changes in financial estimates by securities analysts or our failure to perform in line with such estimates;
- Changes in market valuations of other technology companies, particularly semiconductor companies;
- Announcements by us or our competitors of significant technical innovations, acquisitions, strategic partnerships, joint ventures or capital commitments;
- Introduction of technologies or product enhancements that reduce the need for our products;
- The loss of, or decrease in sales to, one or more key customers;
- A large sale of stock by a significant shareholder;
- Dilution from the issuance of our stock in connection with acquisitions;
- The addition or removal of our stock to or from a stock index fund;
- Departures of key personnel; and
- The required expensing of stock awards.

The stock market has experienced extreme volatility that often has been unrelated to the performance of particular companies. These market fluctuations may cause our stock price to fall regardless of our performance.

***Most of our current manufacturers, assemblers, test service providers, distributors and customers are concentrated in the same geographic region, which increases the risk that a natural disaster, epidemic, labor strike, war or political unrest could disrupt our operations or sales***

Most of TSMC's foundries and several of our assembly and test subcontractors' sites are located in Taiwan and most of our other foundry, assembly and test subcontractors are located in the Pacific Rim region. In addition, many of our customers are located in the Pacific Rim region. The risk of earthquakes in Taiwan and the Pacific Rim region is significant due to the proximity of major earthquake fault lines in the area. Earthquakes, tsunamis, fire, flooding, lack of water or other natural disasters, an epidemic, political unrest, war, labor strikes or work stoppages in countries where our semiconductor manufacturers, assemblers and test subcontractors are located, likely would result in the disruption of our foundry, assembly or test capacity. There can be no assurance that alternate capacity could be obtained on favorable terms, if at all.

A natural disaster, epidemic, labor strike, war or political unrest where our customers' facilities are located would likely reduce our sales to such customers. North Korea's geopolitical maneuverings have created unrest. Such unrest could create economic uncertainty or instability, could escalate to war or otherwise adversely affect South Korea and our South Korean customers and reduce our sales to such customers, which would materially and adversely affect our operating results. In addition, a significant portion of the assembly and testing of our products occurs in South Korea. Any disruption resulting from these events could also cause significant delays in shipments of our products until we are able to shift our manufacturing, assembling or testing from the affected subcontractor to another third-party vendor.

***The semiconductor manufacturing process is highly complex and, from time to time, manufacturing yields may fall below our expectations, which could result in our inability to satisfy demand for our products in a timely manner and may decrease our gross margins due to higher unit costs***

The manufacturing of our products is a highly complex and technologically demanding process. Although we work closely with our foundries and assemblers to minimize the likelihood of reduced manufacturing yields, we have from time to time experienced lower than anticipated manufacturing yields. Changes in manufacturing processes or the inadvertent use of defective or contaminated materials could result in lower than anticipated manufacturing yields or unacceptable performance deficiencies, which could lower our gross margins. If our foundries fail to deliver fabricated silicon wafers of satisfactory quality in a timely manner, we will be unable to meet our customers' demand for our products in a timely manner, which would adversely affect our operating results and damage our customer relationships.

***We depend on our customers to support our products, and some of our customers offer competing products***

Our products are currently used by our customers to produce modems, telephony equipment, mobile handsets, networking equipment and a broad range of other devices. We rely on our customers to provide hardware, software, intellectual property indemnification and other technical support for the products supplied by our customers. If our customers do not provide the required functionality or if our customers do not provide satisfactory support for their products, the demand for these devices that incorporate our products may diminish or we may otherwise be materially adversely affected. Any reduction in the demand for these devices would significantly reduce our revenues.

In certain products, some of our customers offer their own competitive products. These customers may find it advantageous to support their own offerings in the marketplace in lieu of promoting our products.

***We could seek to raise additional capital in the future through the issuance of equity or debt securities, but additional capital may not be available on terms acceptable to us, or at all***

We believe that our existing cash, cash equivalents and investments will be sufficient to meet our working capital needs, capital expenditures, investment requirements and commitments for at least the next 12 months. However, it is possible that we may need to raise additional funds to finance our activities or to facilitate acquisitions of other businesses, products, intellectual property or technologies. We believe we could raise these funds, if needed, by selling equity or debt securities to the public or to selected investors. In addition, even though we may not need additional funds, we may still elect to sell additional equity or debt securities or obtain credit facilities for other reasons. However, we may not be able to obtain additional funds on favorable terms, or at all. If we decide to raise additional funds by issuing equity or convertible debt securities, the ownership percentages of existing shareholders would be reduced.

***We are a relatively small company with limited resources compared to some of our current and potential competitors and we may not be able to compete effectively and increase market share***

Some of our current and potential competitors have longer operating histories, significantly greater resources and name recognition and a larger base of customers than we have. As a result, these competitors may have greater credibility with our existing and potential customers. They also may be able to adopt more aggressive pricing policies and devote greater resources to the development, promotion and sale of their products than we can to ours. In addition, some of our current and potential competitors have already established supplier or joint development relationships with the decision makers at our current or potential customers. These competitors may be able to leverage their existing relationships to discourage their customers from purchasing products from us or persuade them to replace our products with their products. Our competitors may also offer bundled solutions offering a more complete product despite the technical merits or advantages of our products. These competitors may elect not to support our products which could complicate our sales efforts. These and other competitive pressures may prevent us from competing successfully against current or future competitors, and may materially harm our business. Competition could decrease our prices, reduce our sales, lower our gross margins and/or decrease our market share.

***Provisions in our charter documents and Delaware law could prevent, delay or impede a change in control of us and may reduce the market price of our common stock***

Provisions of our certificate of incorporation and bylaws could have the effect of discouraging, delaying or preventing a merger or acquisition that a stockholder may consider favorable. For example, our certificate of incorporation and bylaws provide for:

- The division of our Board of Directors into three classes to be elected on a staggered basis, one class each year;
- The ability of our Board of Directors to issue shares of our preferred stock in one or more series without further authorization of our stockholders;
- A prohibition on stockholder action by written consent;
- Elimination of the right of stockholders to call a special meeting of stockholders;
- A requirement that stockholders provide advance notice of any stockholder nominations of directors or any proposal of new business to be considered at any meeting of stockholders; and
- A requirement that a supermajority vote be obtained to amend or repeal certain provisions of our certificate of incorporation.

We also are subject to the anti-takeover laws of Delaware which may discourage, delay or prevent someone from acquiring or merging with us, which may adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

## **Risks related to our industry**

### ***We are subject to the cyclical nature of the semiconductor industry, which has been subject to significant fluctuations***

The semiconductor industry is highly cyclical and is characterized by constant and rapid technological change, rapid product obsolescence and price erosion, evolving standards, short product life cycles and wide fluctuations in product supply and demand. The industry has experienced significant fluctuations, often connected with, or in anticipation of, maturing product cycles and new product introductions of both semiconductor companies' and their customers' products and fluctuations in general economic conditions. Deteriorating general worldwide economic conditions, including reduced economic activity, concerns about credit and inflation, increased energy costs, decreased consumer confidence, reduced corporate profits, decreased spending and similar adverse business conditions, would make it very difficult for our customers, our vendors, and us to accurately forecast and plan future business activities and could cause U.S. and foreign businesses to slow spending on our products. We cannot predict the timing, strength, or duration of any economic slowdown or economic recovery. If the economy or markets in which we operate deteriorate, our business, financial condition, and results of operations would likely be materially and adversely affected.

Downturns have been characterized by diminished product demand, production overcapacity, high inventory levels and accelerated erosion of average selling prices. In the recent past, we believe the semiconductor industry suffered a downturn due in large part to adverse conditions in the global credit and financial markets, including diminished liquidity and credit availability, declines in consumer confidence, declines in economic growth, increased unemployment rates and general uncertainty regarding the economy. Such downturns may have a material adverse effect on our business and operating results.

Upturns have been characterized by increased product demand and production capacity constraints created by increased competition for access to third-party foundry, assembly and test capacity. We are dependent on the availability of such capacity to manufacture, assemble and test our ICs. None of our third-party foundry, assembly or test subcontractors have provided assurances that adequate capacity will be available to us.

### ***The average selling prices of our products could decrease rapidly which may negatively impact our revenues and gross margins***

We may experience substantial period-to-period fluctuations in future operating results due to the erosion of our average selling prices. We have reduced the average unit price of our products in anticipation of or in response to competitive pricing pressures, new product introductions by us or our competitors and other factors. If we are unable to offset any such reductions in our average selling prices by increasing our sales volumes, increasing our sales content per application or reducing production costs, our gross margins and revenues will suffer. To maintain our gross margin percentage, we will need to develop and introduce new products and product enhancements on a timely basis and continually reduce our costs. Our failure to do so could cause our revenues and gross margin percentage to decline.

***Competition within the numerous markets we target may reduce sales of our products and reduce our market share***

The markets for semiconductors in general, and for mixed-signal ICs in particular, are intensely competitive. We expect that the market for our products will continually evolve and will be subject to rapid technological change. In addition, as we target and supply products to numerous markets and applications, we face competition from a relatively large number of competitors. We compete with Analog Devices, Atmel, Broadcom, Conexant, Cypress, Epson, Freescale, IDT, Lantiq, Maxim Integrated Products, Microchip, Microsemi, NXP Semiconductors, Renesas, Sony Semiconductor, ST-Ericsson, STMicroelectronics, Texas Instruments, Vectron International and others. We expect to face competition in the future from our current competitors, other manufacturers and designers of semiconductors, and start-up semiconductor design companies. As the markets for communications products grow, we also may face competition from traditional communications device companies. These companies may enter the mixed-signal semiconductor market by introducing their own ICs or by entering into strategic relationships with or acquiring other existing providers of semiconductor products. In addition, large companies may restructure their operations to create separate companies or may acquire new businesses that are focused on providing the types of products we produce or acquire our customers.

***Our products must conform to industry standards and technology in order to be accepted by end users in our markets***

Generally, our products comprise only a part of a device. All components of such devices must uniformly comply with industry standards in order to operate efficiently together. We depend on companies that provide other components of the devices to support prevailing industry standards. Many of these companies are significantly larger and more influential in affecting industry standards than we are. Some industry standards may not be widely adopted or implemented uniformly, and competing standards may emerge that may be preferred by our customers or end users. If larger companies do not support the same industry standards that we do, or if competing standards emerge, market acceptance of our products could be adversely affected which would harm our business.

Products for certain applications are based on industry standards that are continually evolving. Our ability to compete in the future will depend on our ability to identify and ensure compliance with these evolving industry standards. The emergence of new industry standards could render our products incompatible with products developed by other suppliers. As a result, we could be required to invest significant time and effort and to incur significant expense to redesign our products to ensure compliance with relevant standards. If our products are not in compliance with prevailing industry standards for a significant period of time, we could miss opportunities to achieve crucial design wins.

Our pursuit of necessary technological advances may require substantial time and expense. We may not be successful in developing or using new technologies or in developing new products or product enhancements that achieve market acceptance. If our ICs fail to achieve market acceptance, our growth prospects, operating results and competitive position could be adversely affected.

**Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments**

None.

**Item 2. Properties**

Our primary facilities, housing engineering, sales and marketing, administration and test operations, are located in Austin, Texas. Our Austin, Texas operations currently occupy approximately 210,000 square feet of leased floor space with lease terms expiring in 2013. In addition to these properties, we lease smaller facilities in various locations in the United States, China, France, Germany,

Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Turkey and the United Kingdom for engineering, sales and marketing, administrative and manufacturing support activities. We believe that these facilities are suitable and adequate to meet our current operating needs.

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

#### *Securities Litigation*

On December 6, 2001, a class action complaint for violations of U.S. federal securities laws was filed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York against us, four of our officers individually and the three investment banking firms who served as representatives of the underwriters in connection with our initial public offering of common stock. The Consolidated Amended Complaint alleges that the registration statement and prospectus for our initial public offering did not disclose that (1) the underwriters solicited and received additional, excessive and undisclosed commissions from certain investors, and (2) the underwriters had agreed to allocate shares of the offering in exchange for a commitment from the customers to purchase additional shares in the aftermarket at pre-determined higher prices. The Complaint alleges violations of the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. The action seeks damages in an unspecified amount and is being coordinated with approximately 300 other nearly identical actions filed against other companies. A court order dated October 9, 2002 dismissed without prejudice our four officers who had been named individually. On December 5, 2006, the Second Circuit vacated a decision by the District Court granting class certification in six of the coordinated cases, which are intended to serve as test, or "focus" cases. The plaintiffs selected these six cases, which do not include us. On April 6, 2007, the Second Circuit denied a petition for rehearing filed by the plaintiffs, but noted that the plaintiffs could ask the District Court to certify more narrow classes than those that were rejected.

The parties in the approximately 300 coordinated cases, including the parties in the case against us, reached a settlement. On October 5, 2009, the Court granted final approval of the settlement. Judgment was entered on January 10, 2010. The settlement approval was appealed to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. One appeal was dismissed and the second appeal was remanded to the District Court to determine if the appellant is a class member with standing to appeal. The District Court ruled that the appellant lacked standing. The appellant appealed the District Court's decision to the Second Circuit. Subsequently, the appellant entered into a settlement agreement with counsel for the plaintiff class pursuant to which he dismissed his appeal with prejudice. As a result, the settlement among the parties is final and the case is concluded. The insurers for the issuer defendants in the coordinated cases will make the settlement payment on behalf of the issuers, including us. The settlement did not have a material impact to our financial position or results of operations.

#### *Other*

We are involved in various other legal proceedings that have arisen in the normal course of business. While the ultimate results of these matters cannot be predicted with certainty, we do not expect them to have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial position or results of operations.

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

Not applicable

## Part II

## Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

## Market Information and Holders

Our registration statement (Registration No. 333-94853) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, relating to our initial public offering of our common stock became effective on March 23, 2000. Our common stock is quoted on the NASDAQ National Market (NASDAQ) under the symbol "SLAB". The table below shows the high and low per-share sales prices of our common stock for the periods indicated, as reported by NASDAQ. As of January 31, 2012, there were 126 holders of record of our common stock.

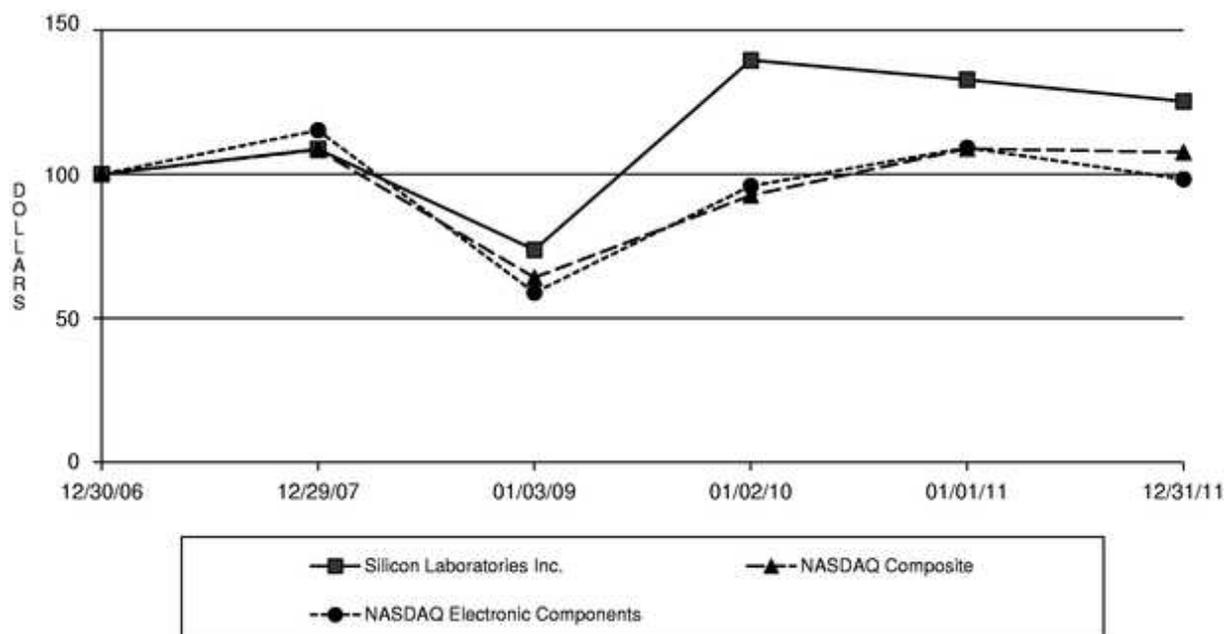
	High	Low
Fiscal Year 2010		
First Quarter	\$ 49.10	\$ 41.98
Second Quarter	53.17	39.84
Third Quarter	44.28	34.10
Fourth Quarter	47.47	35.66
Fiscal Year 2011		
First Quarter	\$ 50.27	\$ 41.48
Second Quarter	46.28	37.56
Third Quarter	42.88	30.36
Fourth Quarter	45.10	31.92

## Dividend Policy

We have never declared or paid any cash dividends on our common stock and we do not intend to pay cash dividends in the foreseeable future. We currently expect to retain any future earnings to fund the operation and expansion of our business.

**Stock Performance Graph**

The graph depicted below shows a comparison of cumulative total stockholder returns for an investment in Silicon Laboratories Inc. common stock, the NASDAQ Composite Index and the NASDAQ Electronic Components Index.



Company / Index	12/30/06	12/29/07	01/03/09	01/02/10	01/01/11	12/31/11
Silicon Laboratories Inc.	\$ 100.00	\$ 108.72	\$ 73.77	\$ 139.62	\$ 132.81	\$ 125.31
NASDAQ Composite	\$ 100.00	\$ 108.51	\$ 64.13	\$ 92.63	\$ 108.90	\$ 107.64
NASDAQ Electronic Components	\$ 100.00	\$ 115.26	\$ 58.88	\$ 95.92	\$ 109.21	\$ 98.29

- (1) The graph assumes that \$100 was invested in our common stock and in each index at the market close on December 30, 2006, and that all dividends were reinvested. No cash dividends have been declared on our common stock.
- (2) Stockholder returns over the indicated period should not be considered indicative of future stockholder returns.

**Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities**

The following table summarizes repurchases of our common stock during the three months ended December 31, 2011 (in thousands, except per share amounts):

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	Approximate Dollar Value of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs
October 2, 2011 - October 29, 2011	—	\$ —	—	\$ 50,000
October 30, 2011 - November 26, 2011	—	\$ —	—	\$ 50,000
November 27, 2011 - December 31, 2011	—	\$ —	—	\$ 50,000
Total	—	\$ —	—	—

In October 2011, our Board of Directors authorized a program to repurchase up to \$50 million of our common stock through April 2012. The program allows for repurchases to be made in the open market or in private transactions, including structured or accelerated transactions, subject to applicable legal requirements and market conditions.



**Item 6. Selected Financial Data**

Please read this selected consolidated financial data in conjunction with "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," our Consolidated Financial Statements and the notes to those statements included in this Form 10-K.

	Fiscal Year				
	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
(in thousands, except per share data)					
<i>Consolidated Statements of Income Data</i>					
Revenues	\$ 491,625	\$ 493,341	\$ 441,020	\$ 415,630	\$ 337,461
Operating income	50,074	86,671	66,511	43,656(3)	23,097
Income from continuing operations	35,472	73,242	73,092(2)	32,935(3)	39,687
Income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes	—	—	—	—	165,149(4)
Net income	\$ 35,472	\$ 73,242	\$ 73,092(2)	\$ 32,935(3)	\$ 204,836(4)
<i>Income from continuing operations per share:</i>					
Basic	\$ 0.82	\$ 1.63	\$ 1.62	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.72
Diluted	\$ 0.79	\$ 1.57	\$ 1.57	\$ 0.67	\$ 0.70
<i>Consolidated Balance Sheet Data</i>					
Cash, cash equivalents and investments (1)	\$ 324,967	\$ 383,362	\$ 434,899	\$ 325,360	\$ 572,974(5)
Working capital	370,211	414,073	435,359	289,716	599,300
Total assets	705,991	727,658	742,838	624,245	840,246
Long-term obligations	24,214	22,372	24,403	48,789	43,309
Total stockholders' equity	598,939	625,430	629,796	502,460	703,545

- (1) Reflects repurchases of \$110 million, \$140 million, \$20 million, \$280 million and \$163 million of our common stock in fiscal 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively.
- (2) Includes a benefit related to the resolution of prior year uncertain tax benefits.
- (3) Includes a charge for in-process research and development costs in connection with our acquisition of Integration Associates.
- (4) Includes a gain on the sale of our Aero® product lines, net of related income taxes.
- (5) Includes proceeds from the sale of our Aero product lines.

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

The following discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and related notes thereto included elsewhere in this report. This discussion contains forward-looking statements. Please see the "Cautionary Statement" and "Risk Factors" above for discussions of the uncertainties, risks and assumptions associated with these statements. Our fiscal year-end financial reporting periods are a 52- or 53- week year ending on the Saturday closest to December 31st. Fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009 were 52-week years and ended on December 31, 2011, January 1, 2011 and January 2, 2010, respectively.

## Overview

We design and develop proprietary, analog-intensive, mixed-signal ICs for a broad range of applications. Mixed-signal ICs are electronic components that convert real-world analog signals, such as sound and radio waves, into digital signals that electronic products can process. Therefore, mixed-signal ICs are critical components in a broad range of applications in a variety of markets, including communications, consumer, industrial, automotive, medical and power management. Our major customers include Cisco, Huawei, LG Electronics, Pace, Panasonic, Sagem, Samsung, Technicolor, Varian Medical Systems and ZTE.

As a fabless semiconductor company, we rely on third-party semiconductor fabricators in Asia, and to a lesser extent the United States and Europe, to manufacture the silicon wafers that reflect our IC designs. Each wafer contains numerous die, which are cut from the wafer to create a chip for an IC. We rely on third parties in Asia to assemble, package, and, in most cases, test these devices and ship these units to our customers. Testing performed by such third parties facilitates faster delivery of products to our customers (particularly those located in Asia), shorter production cycle times, lower inventory requirements, lower costs and increased flexibility of test capacity.

Our expertise in analog-intensive, high-performance, mixed-signal ICs enables us to develop highly differentiated solutions that address multiple markets. We group our products into the following categories:

- Broad-based products, which include our microcontrollers, timing products (clocks and oscillators), wireless receivers, isolation devices and human interface sensors and controllers;
- Broadcast products, which include our broadcast audio and video products;
- Access products, which include our VoIP products, embedded modems and our Power over Ethernet devices; and
- Mature products, which include certain devices that are at the end of their respective life cycles and therefore receive minimal or no continued research and development investment, including our DSL analog front end ICs and IRDA devices.

Through acquisitions and internal development efforts, we have continued to diversify our product portfolio and introduce next generation ICs with added functionality and further integration. In January 2011, we acquired Spectra Linear, Inc. Spectra Linear's family of low-power, highly programmable and small-footprint silicon clocking solutions is optimized for consumer electronics and embedded applications. The acquired products complement our existing timing product line by adding a broad family of ICs that we believe will accelerate penetration in high-volume applications.

In fiscal 2011, we introduced energy-efficient microcontroller and wireless microcontroller solutions for power-sensitive embedded applications, high-performance receivers ideal for multi-tuner car radio systems with HD Radio technology, single-chip hybrid TV receivers designed to simplify TV and set-top box designs, a multi-band radio receiver that streamlines the design of wheel-tuned radio products with digital displays, a silicon TV tuner solution for TV makers in China and Taiwan, next generation ISOModem embedded modems with advanced voice features for a wide range of data modem applications, six-channel digital isolators with isolation ratings up to 5 kV, a highly integrated, cost-effective and power-efficient subscriber line interface circuit (SLIC) solution for VoIP gateways, an energy-efficient wireless sensor node solution powered by a solar energy harvesting source, high-performance clock ICs for high-speed optical transport network (OTN) applications, two microcontroller families that simplify the addition of USB connectivity to embedded designs, next-generation infrared and ambient light sensors for human interface applications and a family of crystal oscillators and voltage-controlled crystal oscillators designed to minimize jitter, system cost and design complexity for a wide range of high-performance, cost-sensitive applications. We plan to

continue to introduce products that increase the content we provide for existing applications, thereby enabling us to serve markets we do not currently address and expanding our total available market opportunity.

During fiscal 2011 and 2009, we had one customer, Samsung, whose purchases across a variety of product areas represented 13% and 16% of our revenues, respectively. We had no customers that accounted for more than 10% of our revenues during fiscal 2010. In addition to direct sales to customers, some of our end customers purchase products indirectly from us through distributors and contract manufacturers. An end customer purchasing through a contract manufacturer typically instructs such contract manufacturer to obtain our products and incorporate such products with other components for sale by such contract manufacturer to the end customer. Although we actually sell the products to, and are paid by, the distributors and contract manufacturers, we refer to such end customer as our customer. Three of our distributors, Edom Technology, Avnet and Macnica, represented 24%, 12% and 10% of our revenues during fiscal 2011, respectively. Edom and Avnet represented 28% and 14% of our revenues during fiscal 2010, and 27% and 10% of our revenues during fiscal 2009, respectively. There were no other distributors or contract manufacturers that accounted for more than 10% of our revenues in fiscal 2011, 2010 or 2009.

The percentage of our revenues derived from outside of the United States was 86% in fiscal 2011, 86% in fiscal 2010 and 88% in fiscal 2009. All of our revenues to date have been denominated in U.S. dollars. We believe that a majority of our revenues will continue to be derived from customers outside of the United States.

The sales cycle for our ICs can be as long as 12 months or more. An additional three to six months or more are usually required before a customer ships a significant volume of devices that incorporate our ICs. Due to this lengthy sales cycle, we typically experience a significant delay between incurring research and development and selling, general and administrative expenses, and the corresponding sales. Consequently, if sales in any quarter do not occur when expected, expenses and inventory levels could be disproportionately high, and our operating results for that quarter and, potentially, future quarters would be adversely affected. Moreover, the amount of time between initial research and development and commercialization of a product, if ever, can be substantially longer than the sales cycle for the product. Accordingly, if we incur substantial research and development costs without developing a commercially successful product, our operating results, as well as our growth prospects, could be adversely affected.

Because many of our ICs are designed for use in consumer products such as televisions, set-top boxes, portable navigation devices and mobile handsets, we expect that the demand for our products will be typically subject to some degree of seasonal demand. However, rapid changes in our markets and across our product areas make it difficult for us to accurately estimate the impact of seasonal factors on our business.

## Results of Operations

The following describes the line items set forth in our Consolidated Statements of Income:

**Revenues.** Revenues are generated almost exclusively by sales of our ICs. We recognize revenue on sales when all of the following criteria are met: 1) there is persuasive evidence that an arrangement exists, 2) delivery of goods has occurred, 3) the sales price is fixed or determinable, and 4) collectibility is reasonably assured. Generally, we recognize revenue from product sales to direct customers and contract manufacturers upon shipment. Certain of our sales are made to distributors under agreements allowing certain rights of return and price protection on products unsold by distributors. Accordingly, we defer the revenue and cost of revenue on such sales until the distributors sell the product to the end customer. Our products typically carry a one-year replacement warranty. Replacements have been insignificant to date. Our revenues are subject to variation from period to period due to the volume of

shipments made within a period, the mix of products we sell and the prices we charge for our products. The vast majority of our revenues were negotiated at prices that reflect a discount from the list prices for our products. These discounts are made for a variety of reasons, including: 1) to establish a relationship with a new customer, 2) as an incentive for customers to purchase products in larger volumes, 3) to provide profit margin to our distributors who resell our products or 4) in response to competition. In addition, as a product matures, we expect that the average selling price for such product will decline due to the greater availability of competing products. Our ability to increase revenues in the future is dependent on increased demand for our established products and our ability to ship larger volumes of those products in response to such demand, as well as our ability to develop or acquire new products and subsequently achieve customer acceptance of newly introduced products.

**Cost of Revenues.** Cost of revenues includes the cost of purchasing finished silicon wafers processed by independent foundries; costs associated with assembly, test and shipping of those products; costs of personnel and equipment associated with manufacturing support, logistics and quality assurance; costs of software royalties, other intellectual property license costs and certain acquired intangible assets; and an allocated portion of our occupancy costs.

**Research and Development.** Research and development expense consists primarily of personnel-related expenses, including stock-based compensation, new product mask, external consulting and services costs, equipment tooling, equipment depreciation, amortization of intangible assets, as well as an allocated portion of our occupancy costs for such operations. Research and development activities include the design of new products, refinement of existing products and design of test methodologies to ensure compliance with required specifications.

**Selling, General and Administrative.** Selling, general and administrative expense consists primarily of personnel-related expenses, including stock-based compensation, related allocable portion of our occupancy costs, sales commissions to independent sales representatives, applications engineering support, professional fees, legal fees and promotional and marketing expenses.

**Interest Income.** Interest income reflects interest earned on our cash, cash equivalents and investment balances.

**Interest Expense.** Interest expense consists of interest on our short and long-term obligations.

**Other Income (Expense), Net.** Other income (expense), net consists primarily of foreign currency remeasurement adjustments as well as other non-operating income and expenses.

**Provision (Benefit) for Income Taxes.** Provision (benefit) for income taxes includes both domestic and foreign income taxes at the applicable statutory rates adjusted for non-deductible expenses, research and development tax credits and other permanent differences.

The following table sets forth our Consolidated Statements of Income data as a percentage of revenues for the periods indicated:

	Fiscal Year		
	2011	2010	2009
Revenues	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of revenues	39.3	34.3	36.6
Gross margin	60.7	65.7	63.4
Operating expenses:			
Research and development	27.7	25.1	23.7
Selling, general and administrative	22.8	23.0	24.7
Operating expenses	50.5	48.1	48.4
Operating income	10.2	17.6	15.0
Other income (expense):			
Interest income	0.3	0.4	0.7
Interest expense	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other income (expense), net	0.1	(0.3)	0.0
Income before income taxes	10.6	17.7	15.7
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	3.4	2.9	(0.9)
Net income	7.2%	14.8%	16.6%

### Comparison of Fiscal 2011 to Fiscal 2010

#### Revenues

(in millions)	Fiscal Year		Change	% Change
	2011	2010		
Revenues	\$ 491.6	\$ 493.3	\$ (1.7)	(0.3)%

Unit volumes of our products decreased compared to fiscal 2010 by 1.0%. Average selling prices increased during the same period by 1.2%. The average selling prices of our products may fluctuate significantly from period to period. In general, as our products become more mature, we expect to experience decreases in average selling prices. We anticipate that newly announced, higher priced, next generation products and product derivatives will offset some of these decreases.

#### Gross Margin

(in millions)	Fiscal Year		Change	% Change
	2011	2010		
Gross margin	\$ 298.4	\$ 324.2	\$ (25.8)	(8.0)%
Percent of revenue	60.7%	65.7%		

The decrease in gross margin in fiscal 2011 was primarily due to changes in product mix and charges related to the acquisition of Spectra Linear.

We may experience declines in the average selling prices of certain of our products. This creates downward pressure on gross margin as a percentage of revenues and may be offset to the extent we are able to: 1) introduce higher margin new products and gain market share with our ICs; 2) achieve lower production costs from our wafer suppliers and third-party assembly and test subcontractors; 3) achieve

lower production costs per unit as a result of improved yields throughout the manufacturing process; or 4) reduce logistics costs.

## Research and Development

<u>(in millions)</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>		<u>Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>		
Research and development	\$ 136.0	\$ 123.8	\$ 12.2	9.8%
Percent of revenue	27.7%	25.1%		

The increase in research and development expense in fiscal 2011 was primarily due to (a) an increase of \$8.6 million for personnel-related expenses, including \$1.6 million for one-time personnel costs associated with the acquisition of Spectra Linear, (b) an increase of \$2.3 million for amortization of intangible assets, and (c) \$1.0 million for the impairment of intangible assets. We expect that research and development expense will remain relatively stable in absolute dollars in the first quarter of 2012.

Recent development projects include energy-efficient microcontroller and wireless microcontroller solutions for power-sensitive embedded applications, high-performance receivers ideal for multi-tuner car radio systems with HD Radio technology, single-chip hybrid TV receivers designed to simplify TV and set-top box designs, a multi-band radio receiver that streamlines the design of wheel-tuned radio products with digital displays, a silicon TV tuner solution for TV makers in China and Taiwan, next generation ISOModem embedded modems with advanced voice features for a wide range of data modem applications, six-channel digital isolators with isolation ratings up to 5 kV, a highly integrated, cost-effective and power-efficient SLIC solution for VoIP gateways, an energy-efficient wireless sensor node solution powered by a solar energy harvesting source, high-performance clock ICs for high-speed OTN applications, two microcontroller families that simplify the addition of USB connectivity to embedded designs, next-generation infrared and ambient light sensors for human interface applications and a family of crystal oscillators and voltage-controlled crystal oscillators designed to minimize jitter, system cost and design complexity for a wide range of high-performance, cost-sensitive applications.

## Selling, General and Administrative

<u>(in millions)</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>		<u>Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>		
Selling, general and administrative	\$ 112.4	\$ 113.8	\$ (1.4)	(1.2)%
Percent of revenue	22.8%	23.0%		

The decrease in selling, general and administrative expense in fiscal 2011 was principally due to a) a decrease of \$2.0 million for legal fees, and (b) a decline of \$1.9 million in the fair value of acquisition-related contingent consideration. The decrease was offset in part by an increase of \$2.2 million for personnel-related expenses, including \$3.0 million for one-time personnel costs associated with the acquisition of Spectra Linear. We expect that selling, general and administrative expense will increase modestly in absolute dollars in the first quarter of 2012.

## Interest Income

<u>(in millions)</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>		<u>Change</u>
	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	
Interest income	\$ 1.9	\$ 2.3	\$ (0.4)

## Interest Expense

Interest expense in fiscal 2011 was \$37 thousand compared to \$77 thousand in fiscal 2010.

## Other Income (Expense), Net

Other income (expense), net in fiscal 2011 was \$0.4 million compared to \$(1.3) million in fiscal 2010. The change was primarily due to foreign currency remeasurement adjustments.

## Provision (Benefit) for Income Taxes

<u>(in millions)</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>		<u>Change</u>
	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	\$ 16.9	\$ 14.4	\$ 2.5
Effective tax rate	32.2%	16.4%	

The effective tax rate for fiscal 2011 increased from the prior period, primarily due to the tax charge related to the intercompany license of certain technology obtained in the acquisition of Spectra Linear and other one-time nondeductible costs associated with the acquisition of Spectra Linear, a decrease in the foreign tax rate benefit, and a release of prior year unrecognized tax benefits in fiscal 2010 with none in fiscal 2011. These changes were partially offset by an increase in the research and development tax credit.

The effective tax rates for each of the periods presented differ from the federal statutory rate of 35% due to the amount of income earned in foreign jurisdictions where the tax rate may be lower than the federal statutory rate, research and development tax credits and other permanent items including changes to the liability for unrecognized tax benefits.

## Comparison of Fiscal 2010 to Fiscal 2009

### Revenues

<u>(in millions)</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>		<u>Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>		
Revenues	\$ 493.3	\$ 441.0	\$ 52.3	11.9%

The growth in revenues in fiscal 2010 was due primarily to improvements in the health of our products' end markets and increases in market share. Unit volumes of our products increased compared to fiscal 2009 by 2.8%. Average selling prices increased during the same period by 9.3%.

### Gross Margin

<u>(in millions)</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>		<u>Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>		
Gross margin	\$ 324.2	\$ 279.8	\$ 44.4	15.9%
Percent of revenue	65.7%	63.4%		

The increase in the dollar amount of gross margin in fiscal 2010 was primarily due to our increased sales. The increase in gross margin as a percent of revenue in fiscal 2010 was primarily due to changes in product mix, improvements in our inventory management and manufacturing cost reductions.

## Research and Development

<u>(in millions)</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>		<u>Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>		
Research and development	\$ 123.8	\$ 104.4	\$ 19.4	18.6%
Percent of revenue	25.1%	23.7%		

The increase in research and development expense in fiscal 2010 was principally due to an increase of \$15.0 million for personnel-related expenses.

In connection with the purchase of Silicon Clocks, we acquired certain in-process research and development (IPR&D) assets. IPR&D represents acquired technology from business combinations that had not achieved technological feasibility as of the acquisition date and had no alternative future use. IPR&D is capitalized until the related projects are completed, then amortized to research and development expense over their useful lives. IPR&D is written-off if the related projects are abandoned. The fair value of each project was determined using the income approach. The discount rate applicable to the cash flows was 19.0%. This rate reflects the weighted-average cost of capital and the risks inherent in the development process. The IPR&D recorded in connection with the acquisition consisted of the following (in thousands):

<u>Project</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>
Resonator	\$ 5,200
Clocks	4,270
	<u>\$ 9,470</u>

## Selling, General and Administrative

<u>(in millions)</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>		<u>Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>		
Selling, general and administrative	\$ 113.8	\$ 108.8	\$ 5.0	4.5%
Percent of revenue	23.0%	24.7%		

The increase in selling, general and administrative expense in fiscal 2010 was principally due to an increase of \$2.1 million for legal fees, primarily related to acquisition-related costs and litigation. The decrease in selling, general and administrative expense as a percent of revenues in fiscal 2010 is due to our increased sales.

## Interest Income

<u>(in millions)</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>		<u>Change</u>
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	
Interest income	\$ 2.3	\$ 2.7	\$ (0.4)

The decrease in interest income in fiscal 2010 was largely due to lower interest rates on the underlying instruments, partially offset by a higher average investment balance.

## Interest Expense

Interest expense in fiscal 2010 was \$0.1 million compared to \$0.2 million in fiscal 2009.

**Other Income (Expense), Net**

Other income (expense), net in fiscal 2010 was \$(1.3) million compared to \$(0.1) million in fiscal 2009. The change was primarily due to foreign currency remeasurement adjustments.

**Provision (Benefit) for Income Taxes**

<u>(in millions)</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>		<u>Change</u>
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	\$ 14.4	\$ (4.1)	\$ 18.5
Effective tax rate	16.4%	(6.0)%	

The effective tax rate for fiscal 2010 increased from the prior period, primarily due to the resolution of uncertain tax positions as a result of entering into an Advance Pricing Agreement with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2009. In addition, the effective tax rate for fiscal 2010 increased from the prior period due to the intercompany license of certain technology obtained in the acquisition of Silicon Clocks during the second quarter of fiscal 2010. The increase in the effective tax rate was partially offset by an increase in the federal research and development credit in fiscal 2010.

The effective tax rates for each of the periods presented differ from the federal statutory rate of 35% due to the amount of income earned in foreign jurisdictions where the tax rate may be lower than the federal statutory rate, research and development tax credits and other permanent items including changes to the liability for unrecognized tax benefits.

**Business Outlook**

We expect revenues in the first quarter of fiscal 2012 to be in the range of \$120 to \$125 million. Furthermore, we expect our diluted earnings per share to be in the range of \$0.20 to \$0.24.

**Liquidity and Capital Resources**

Our principal sources of liquidity as of December 31, 2011 consisted of \$307.5 million in cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments, of which approximately \$141.7 million was held by our U.S. entities. The remaining balance was held by our foreign subsidiaries. Our cash equivalents and short-term investments consist of corporate bonds, municipal bonds, money market funds, variable-rate demand notes, U.S. government agency bonds, U.S. Treasury bills, asset-backed securities, U.S. government bonds, certificates of deposit and international government bonds.

Our long-term investments consist of auction-rate securities. Early in fiscal 2008, auctions for many of our auction-rate securities failed because sell orders exceeded buy orders. As of December 31, 2011, we held \$19.2 million par value auction-rate securities, all of which have experienced failed auctions. These securities have contractual maturity dates ranging from 2029 to 2046. We are receiving the underlying cash flows on all of our auction-rate securities. The principal amounts associated with failed auctions are not expected to be accessible until a successful auction occurs, the issuer redeems the security, a buyer is found outside of the auction process or the underlying securities mature. We are unable to predict if these funds will become available before their maturity dates. We do not expect to need access to the capital represented by any of our auction-rate securities prior to their maturities.

Net cash provided by operating activities was \$88.7 million during fiscal 2011, compared to net cash provided of \$117.9 million during fiscal 2010. Operating cash flows during fiscal 2011 reflect our net income of \$35.5 million, adjustments of \$62.0 million for depreciation, amortization, stock-based compensation and deferred income taxes, and a net cash outflow of \$8.8 million due to changes in our operating assets and liabilities.

Accounts receivable increased to \$55.4 million at December 31, 2011 from \$45.0 million at January 1, 2011. The increase in accounts receivable resulted primarily from an increase in shipments during the last quarter of fiscal 2011 compared to the last quarter of fiscal 2010. Our average days sales outstanding (DSO) was 39 days at December 31, 2011 and 36 days at January 1, 2011.

Inventory decreased to \$34.8 million at December 31, 2011 from \$39.4 million at January 1, 2011. Our inventory level is primarily impacted by our need to make purchase commitments to support forecasted demand and variations between forecasted and actual demand. Our average days of inventory (DOI) was 63 days at December 31, 2011 and 87 days at January 1, 2011.

Net cash used in investing activities was \$25.2 million during fiscal 2011, compared to net cash used of \$55.2 million during fiscal 2010. The decrease in cash outflows was principally due to a decrease of \$19.8 million in net purchases of investments.

We anticipate capital expenditures of approximately \$8 to \$12 million for fiscal 2012. Additionally, as part of our growth strategy, we expect to evaluate opportunities to invest in or acquire other businesses, intellectual property or technologies that would complement or expand our current offerings, expand the breadth of our markets or enhance our technical capabilities.

Net cash used in financing activities was \$107.2 million during fiscal 2011, compared to net cash used of \$119.9 million during fiscal 2010. The decrease in cash outflows was principally due to a decrease of \$30.3 million for repurchases of our common stock, offset by a decrease of \$10.4 million from proceeds from the issuance of common stock, net of shares withheld for taxes and a payment of \$7.2 million on debt acquired in the acquisition of Spectra Linear. In October 2011, our Board of Directors authorized a program to repurchase up to \$50 million of our common stock through April 2012.

### Contractual Obligations

The following table summarizes our contractual obligations as of December 31, 2011 (in thousands):

	Payments due by period						
	Total	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Thereafter
Operating lease obligations (1)	\$ 17,670	\$ 6,630	\$ 3,347	\$ 1,664	\$ 1,515	\$ 1,518	\$ 2,996
Purchase obligations (2)	25,411	25,377	34	—	—	—	—
Other long-term obligations (3)	8,062	—	5,807	1,991	—	—	264

- (1) Operating lease obligations include amounts for leased facilities.
- (2) Purchase obligations include contractual arrangements in the form of purchase orders with suppliers where there is a fixed non-cancelable payment schedule or minimum payments due with a reduced delivery schedule.
- (3) We are unable to make a reasonably reliable estimate as to when or if cash settlement with taxing authorities will occur for our unrecognized tax benefits. Therefore, our liability of \$10.9 million for unrecognized tax benefits is not included in the table above. See Note 15, *Income Taxes*, to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information.

Our future capital requirements will depend on many factors, including the rate of sales growth, market acceptance of our products, the timing and extent of research and development projects, potential acquisitions of companies or technologies and the expansion of our sales and marketing activities. We believe our existing cash and investment balances are sufficient to meet our capital requirements through at least the next 12 months, although we could be required, or could elect, to

seek additional funding prior to that time. We may enter into acquisitions or strategic arrangements in the future which also could require us to seek additional equity or debt financing.

### Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

In March 2006, we entered into an operating lease agreement and a related participation agreement for a facility at 400 W. Cesar Chavez ("400 WCC") in Austin, Texas for our corporate headquarters. The lease has a term of seven years. The base rent for the term of the lease is an amount equal to the interest accruing on \$44.3 million at 110 basis points over the three-month LIBOR (which would be approximately \$0.9 million over the remaining term assuming LIBOR averages 0.56% during such term).

In March 2008, we entered into an operating lease agreement and a related participation agreement for a facility at 200 W. Cesar Chavez ("200 WCC") in Austin, Texas for the expansion of our corporate headquarters. The lease has a term of five years. The base rent for the term of the lease is an amount equal to the interest accruing on \$50.1 million at 155 basis points over the three-month LIBOR (which would be approximately \$1.3 million over the remaining term assuming LIBOR averages 0.56% during such term).

We have granted certain rights and remedies to the lessors in the event of certain defaults, including the right to terminate the leases, to bring suit to collect damages, and to compel us to purchase the facilities. The leases contain other customary representations, warranties, obligations, conditions, indemnification provisions and termination provisions, including covenants that we shall maintain unencumbered cash and highly-rated short-term investments of at least \$75 million. If our unencumbered cash and highly-rated short-term investments are less than \$150 million, we must also maintain a ratio of funded debt to earnings before interest expense, income taxes, depreciation, amortization, lease expense and other non-cash charges (EBITDAR) over the four prior fiscal quarters of no greater than 2 to 1. As of December 31, 2011, we believe we were in compliance with all covenants of the leases.

During the terms of the leases, we have on-going options to purchase the buildings for purchase prices of approximately \$44.3 million for 400 WCC and \$50.1 million for 200 WCC. Alternatively, we can cause each such property to be sold to third parties provided we are not in default under that property's lease. We are contingently liable on a first dollar loss basis for up to \$35.3 million to the extent that the 400 WCC sale proceeds are less than the \$44.3 million purchase option and up to \$40.0 million to the extent that the 200 WCC sale proceeds are less than the \$50.1 million purchase option.

We determined that the fair value associated with the guaranteed residual values was \$1.0 million for 400 WCC and \$1.2 million for 200 WCC, as of the inception of the leases. These amounts were recorded in "Other assets, net" and "Long-term obligations and other liabilities" in the Consolidated Balance Sheets and are being amortized over the term of the leases.

We are required to periodically evaluate the expected fair value of each facility at the end of the lease terms. If we determine that it is estimable and probable that the expected fair values will be less than \$44.3 million for 400 WCC and \$50.1 million for 200 WCC, we will ratably accrue the loss up to a maximum of approximately \$35.3 million and \$40.0 million, respectively, over the remaining lease terms as additional rent expense. As of December 31, 2011, we do not believe that a loss contingency accrual is required for either property. However, a prolonged economic downturn could increase the likelihood of such a loss accrual.

In connection with our headquarters leases, during fiscal 2008 we entered into interest rate swap agreements as a hedge against the variable rent under the leases. Under the terms of the swap agreements, we have effectively converted the variable rents to fixed rents through March 2011 for 400

WCC and March 2013 for 200 WCC. See Note 5, *Derivative Financial Instruments*, to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information.

### **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements and accompanying notes in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles requires that we make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. Changes in facts and circumstances could have a significant impact on the resulting estimated amounts included in the financial statements. We believe the following critical accounting policies affect our more complex judgments and estimates. We also have other policies that we consider to be key accounting policies, such as our policies for revenue recognition, including the deferral of revenues and cost of revenues on sales to distributors; however, these policies do not meet the definition of critical accounting estimates because they do not generally require us to make estimates or judgments that are difficult or subjective.

*Inventory valuation* —We assess the recoverability of inventories through the application of a set of methods, assumptions and estimates. In determining net realizable value, we write down inventory that may be slow moving or have some form of obsolescence, including inventory that has aged more than 12 months. We also adjust the valuation of inventory when its standard cost exceeds the estimated market value less selling costs. We assess the potential for any unusual customer returns based on known quality or business issues and write-off inventory losses for scrap or non-saleable material. Inventory not otherwise identified to be written down is compared to an assessment of our 12-month forecasted demand. The result of this methodology is compared against the product life cycle and competitive situations in the marketplace to determine the appropriateness of the resulting inventory levels. Demand for our products may fluctuate significantly over time, and actual demand and market conditions may be more or less favorable than those that we project. In the event that actual demand is lower or market conditions are worse than originally projected, additional inventory write-downs may be required.

*Stock-based compensation* —We recognize the fair-value of stock-based compensation transactions in the Consolidated Statement of Income. The fair value of our full-value stock awards (with the exception of market-based performance awards) equals the fair market value of our stock on the date of grant. The fair value of our market-based performance award grants is estimated at the date of grant using a Monte-Carlo simulation. The fair value of our stock option and Employee Stock Purchase Plan grants is estimated at the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model. In addition, we are required to estimate the expected forfeiture rate of our stock grants and only recognize the expense for those shares expected to vest. If our actual experience differs significantly from the assumptions used to compute our stock-based compensation cost, or if different assumptions had been used, we may have recorded too much or too little stock-based compensation cost. See Note 12, *Stock-Based Compensation*, to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information.

*Investments in auction-rate securities* —We determine the fair value of our investments in auction-rate securities using a discounted cash flow model. The assumptions used in preparing the discounted cash flow model include estimates for interest rates, amount of cash flows, expected holding periods of the securities and a discount to reflect our inability to liquidate the securities. For available-for-sale auction-rate securities, if the calculated value is below the carrying amount of the securities, we then determine if the decline in value is other-than-temporary. We consider various factors in determining whether an impairment is other-than-temporary, including the severity and duration of the impairment, changes in underlying credit ratings, forecasted recovery, our intent to sell or the likelihood that we would be required to sell the investment before its anticipated recovery in market value and the probability that the scheduled cash payments will continue to be made. When we conclude that an other-than-temporary impairment has occurred, we assess whether we intend to sell

the security or if it is more likely than not that we will be required to sell the security before recovery. If either of these two conditions is met, we recognize a charge in earnings equal to the entire difference between the security's amortized cost basis and its fair value. If we do not intend to sell a security and it is not more likely than not that we will be required to sell the security before recovery, the unrealized loss is separated into an amount representing the credit loss, which is recognized in earnings, and the amount related to all other factors, which is recorded in accumulated other comprehensive loss.

*Acquired intangible assets* —When we acquire a business, a portion of the purchase price is typically allocated to identifiable intangible assets, such as acquired technology and customer relationships. Fair value of these assets is determined primarily using the income approach, which requires us to project future cash flows and apply an appropriate discount rate. We amortize intangible assets with finite lives over their expected useful lives. Our estimates are based upon assumptions believed to be reasonable but which are inherently uncertain and unpredictable. Assumptions may be incomplete or inaccurate, and unanticipated events and circumstances may occur. Incorrect estimates could result in future impairment charges, and those charges could be material to our results of operations.

*Impairment of goodwill and other long-lived assets* —We review long-lived assets which are held and used, including fixed assets and purchased intangible assets, for impairment whenever changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of the assets may not be recoverable. Such evaluations compare the carrying amount of an asset to future undiscounted net cash flows expected to be generated by the asset over its expected useful life and are significantly impacted by estimates of future prices and volumes for our products, capital needs, economic trends and other factors which are inherently difficult to forecast. If the asset is considered to be impaired, we record an impairment charge equal to the amount by which the carrying value of the asset exceeds its fair value determined by either a quoted market price, if any, or a value determined by utilizing a discounted cash flow technique.

We test our goodwill for impairment annually as of the first day of our fourth fiscal quarter and in interim periods if certain events occur indicating that the carrying value of goodwill may be impaired. The goodwill impairment test is a two-step process. The first step of the impairment analysis compares our fair value to our net book value. In determining fair value, the accounting guidance allows for the use of several valuation methodologies, although it states quoted market prices are the best evidence of fair value. If the fair value is less than the net book value, the second step of the analysis compares the implied fair value of our goodwill to its carrying amount. If the carrying amount of goodwill exceeds its implied fair value, we recognize an impairment loss equal to that excess amount.

*Income taxes* —We are required to calculate income taxes in each of the jurisdictions in which we operate. This process involves calculating the actual current tax liability together with assessing temporary differences in recognition of income (loss) for tax and accounting purposes. These differences result in deferred tax assets and liabilities, which are included in our Consolidated Balance Sheet. We then assess the likelihood that the deferred tax assets will be recovered from future taxable income and, to the extent we believe that recovery is not likely, we establish a valuation allowance against the deferred tax asset.

We recognize liabilities for uncertain tax positions based on a two-step process. The first step requires us to determine if the weight of available evidence indicates that the tax position has met the threshold for recognition; therefore, we must evaluate whether it is more likely than not that the position will be sustained on audit, including resolution of any related appeals or litigation processes. The second step requires us to measure the tax benefit of the tax position taken, or expected to be taken, in an income tax return as the largest amount that is more than 50% likely of being realized upon ultimate settlement. This measurement step is inherently complex and requires subjective estimations of such amounts to determine the probability of various possible outcomes. We re-evaluate

the uncertain tax positions each quarter based on factors including, but not limited to, changes in facts or circumstances, changes in tax law, expirations of statutes of limitation, effectively settled issues under audit, and new audit activity. Such a change in recognition or measurement would result in the recognition of a tax benefit or an additional charge to the tax provision in the period.

Although we believe the measurement of our liabilities for uncertain tax positions is reasonable, no assurance can be given that the final outcome of these matters will not be different than what is reflected in the historical income tax provisions and accruals. If additional taxes are assessed as a result of an audit or litigation, it could have a material effect on our income tax provision and net income in the period or periods for which that determination is made. We operate within multiple taxing jurisdictions and are subject to audit in these jurisdictions. These audits can involve complex issues which may require an extended period of time to resolve and could result in additional assessments of income tax. We believe adequate provisions for income taxes have been made for all periods.

### Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In December 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued FASB Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2011-11, *Balance Sheet (Topic 210)—Disclosures about Offsetting Assets and Liabilities*. ASU 2011-11 requires an entity to disclose information about offsetting and related arrangements to enable users of its financial statements to understand the effect of those arrangements on its financial position. Entities are required to disclose both gross and net information about these instruments. ASU 2011-11 is effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2013, and interim periods within those annual periods. The adoption of this ASU is not expected to have a material impact on our financial statements.

In September 2011, the FASB issued FASB ASU No. 2011-08, *Intangibles—Goodwill and Other (Topic 350)—Testing Goodwill for Impairment*. ASU 2011-08 permits an entity to first assess qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount as a basis for determining whether it is necessary to perform the two-step goodwill impairment test. If an entity determines it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount, then it is required to perform the two-step impairment test. If an entity concludes otherwise, then the two-step impairment test is not required. ASU 2011-08 is effective for annual and interim goodwill impairment tests performed for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2011, with early adoption permitted. The adoption of this ASU is not expected to have a material impact on our financial statements.

In June 2011, the FASB issued FASB ASU No. 2011-05, *Comprehensive Income (Topic 220)—Presentation of Comprehensive Income*. This ASU requires that all non-owner changes in stockholders' equity be presented either in a single continuous statement of comprehensive income or in two separate but consecutive statements. In the two-statement approach, the first statement should present total net income and its components followed consecutively by a second statement that should present total other comprehensive income, the components of other comprehensive income, and the total of comprehensive income. In December 2011, the FASB issued FASB ASU No. 2011-12, *Comprehensive Income (Topic 220)—Deferral of the Effective Date for Amendments to the Presentation of Reclassifications of Items Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income in Accounting Standards Update No. 2011-05*. ASU 2011-12 defers the effective date pertaining to presenting reclassification adjustments by component in both the statements where net income and other comprehensive income are presented. ASU 2011-05 and ASU 2011-12 are effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2011 and are to be applied retrospectively. The adoptions of these ASUs are not expected to have a material impact on our financial position or results of operations, but will result in an additional statement of other comprehensive income.

In May 2011, the FASB issued FASB ASU No. 2011-04, *Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820)—Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRSs*. This ASU provides a consistent definition of fair value between U.S. GAAP and International Financial Reporting Standards. Additionally, the ASU changes certain fair value measurement principles and expands the disclosures for fair value measurements. ASU 2011-04 is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011 and is to be applied prospectively. The adoption of this ASU is not expected to have a material impact on our financial statements.

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

### *Interest Income*

Our investment portfolio includes cash, cash equivalents, short-term investments and long-term investments. Our main investment objectives are the preservation of investment capital and the maximization of after-tax returns on our investment portfolio. Our interest income is sensitive to changes in the general level of U.S. interest rates. Our investment portfolio holdings as of December 31, 2011 and January 1, 2011 yielded less than 100 basis points. A decline in yield to zero basis points on our investment portfolio holdings as of December 31, 2011 and January 1, 2011 would decrease our annual interest income by approximately \$1.9 million and \$2.2 million, respectively. We believe that our investment policy meets our investment objectives, both in the duration of our investments and the credit quality of the investments we hold.

### *Headquarters Lease Rent*

We are exposed to interest rate fluctuations in the normal course of our business, including through our corporate headquarters leases. The base rents for these leases are calculated using a variable interest rate based on the three-month LIBOR. We entered into interest rate swap agreements with notional values of \$44.3 million and \$50.1 million and, effectively, fixed the rent payment amounts on these leases through March 2011 and March 2013, respectively. In March 2011, the Company's swap agreement with a notional value of \$44.3 million matured and was not renewed. The fair value of the remaining interest rate swap agreement at December 31, 2011 was a \$2.0 million obligation. An immediate 100 basis point increase in the three-month LIBOR would increase the annual base rent of our lease that is no longer hedged by approximately \$0.4 million.

### *Investments in Auction-rate Securities*

Beginning in fiscal 2008, auctions for many of our auction-rate securities failed because sell orders exceeded buy orders. As of December 31, 2011, we held \$19.2 million par value auction-rate securities, all of which have experienced failed auctions. The principal amounts associated with failed auctions are not expected to be accessible until a successful auction occurs, the issuer redeems the securities, a buyer is found outside of the auction process or the underlying securities mature. We are unable to predict if these funds will become available before their maturity dates. Additionally, if we determine that an other-than-temporary decline in the fair value of any of our available-for-sale auction-rate securities has occurred, we may be required to adjust the carrying value of the investments through an impairment charge.

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

The Financial Statements and supplementary data required by this item are included in Part IV, Item 15 of this Form 10-K and are presented beginning on page F-1.

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

None.

**Item 9A. Controls and Procedures**

We have performed an evaluation under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO), of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures, as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act). Based on that evaluation, our management, including our CEO and CFO, concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of December 31, 2011 to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports filed or submitted by us under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms. Such disclosure controls and procedures include controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our CEO and CFO, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosures. There was no change in our internal controls during the fiscal quarter ended December 31, 2011 that materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal controls over financial reporting.

**Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. Our internal control system was designed to provide reasonable assurance to our management and Board of Directors regarding the preparation and fair presentation of published financial statements.

Our management assessed the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011. In making this assessment, it used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) in *Internal Control—Integrated Framework*. Based on our assessment we concluded that, as of December 31, 2011, our internal control over financial reporting is effective based on those criteria.

Our independent registered public accounting firm, Ernst & Young LLP, issued an attestation report on our internal control over financial reporting. This report appears on page F-1.

**Item 9B. Other Information**

None.

### Part III

Certain information required by Part III is omitted from this report because we intend to file a definitive Proxy Statement pursuant to Regulation 14A (the "Proxy Statement") no later than 120 days after the end of the fiscal year covered by this report, and certain information to be included therein is incorporated herein by reference.

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

Set forth below is information regarding the executive officers and directors of Silicon Laboratories as of January 31, 2012.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Position</u>
Navdeep S. Sooch	49	Chairman of the Board
Necip Sayiner	46	Chief Executive Officer, President and Director
Paul V. Walsh, Jr.	47	Chief Financial Officer and Vice President of Finance
G. Tyson Tuttle	44	Chief Operating Officer and Senior Vice President
Jonathan D. Ivester	56	Senior Vice President of Worldwide Operations
Kurt W. Hoff	54	Vice President of Worldwide Sales
David R. Welland	56	Vice President and Director
William G. Bock	61	Director
Harvey B. Cash	73	Director
R. Ted Enloe III	73	Director
Kristen M. Onken	62	Director
Laurence G. Walker	63	Director
William P. Wood	56	Director

Navdeep S. Sooch co-founded Silicon Laboratories in August 1996 and has served as Chairman of the Board since our inception. Mr. Sooch served as our Chief Executive Officer from our inception through the end of fiscal 2003 and served as interim Chief Executive Officer from April 2005 to September 2005. From March 1985 until founding Silicon Laboratories, Mr. Sooch held various positions at Crystal Semiconductor/Cirrus Logic, a designer and manufacturer of integrated circuits, including Vice President of Engineering, as well as Product Planning Manager of Strategic Marketing and Design Engineer. From May 1982 to March 1985, Mr. Sooch was a Design Engineer with AT&T Bell Labs. Since October 2011, Mr. Sooch has served as the CEO of FireFly Green Technologies, Inc., a private company in the field of solid state lighting. Mr. Sooch holds a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Michigan, Dearborn and an M.S. in Electrical Engineering from Stanford University. Mr. Sooch's prior experience as our Chief Executive Officer as well as a semiconductor designer provides him with extensive insight into our industry and our operations and qualifies him to serve as Chairman of our Board of Directors.

Necip Sayiner has served as director, President and Chief Executive Officer of Silicon Laboratories since September 2005. Prior to joining Silicon Laboratories, Mr. Sayiner held various leadership positions at Agere Systems Inc. From August 2004 to September 2005, Mr. Sayiner served as Vice President and General Manager of Agere's Enterprise and Networking Division and from March 2002 to August 2004 he served as Vice President and General Manager of Agere's Networking IC Division. Mr. Sayiner holds a B.S. in Electrical Engineering and Physics from Bosphorus University in Turkey, an M.S. in Electrical Engineering from Southern Illinois University, and a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Sayiner's experience and understanding of our business gained through his role as our President and Chief Executive Officer qualifies him to serve as a member of our Board of Directors.

Paul V. Walsh, Jr. has served as Chief Financial Officer of Silicon Laboratories since July 2011. Mr. Walsh served as Vice President of Finance and Chief Accounting Officer from November 2006 to July 2011. Mr. Walsh previously served as Corporate Controller from March 2005. From January 2009 through September 2010, Mr. Walsh served on the Board of Directors of Rio Holdings, Inc. (previously Grande Communications, Inc.), a provider of cable, Internet and phone services, where he also served as the Chairman of the Audit Committee and as a member of the Finance Committee. Prior to joining Silicon Laboratories, Mr. Walsh was Site Controller from February 2003 to January 2004 with PerkinElmer, a supplier to the health sciences and photonics markets. From 1992 to 2003, Mr. Walsh held various operational, finance and management roles at Analog Devices and Teradyne, in the Boston area. Mr. Walsh received his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maine, and an M.B.A from Boston University.

G. Tyson Tuttle was appointed as Chief Operating Officer for Silicon Laboratories in May 2011. Mr. Tuttle served as Chief Technical Officer from January 2010 to May 2011. From May 2005 to December 2009, he was the Vice President and General Manager of Broadcast products including the audio and video product families. Mr. Tuttle joined Silicon Laboratories in 1997 as a senior design engineer. From 1999 to 2005, Mr. Tuttle served in a variety of product management, marketing and business leadership positions. Previously, Mr. Tuttle held senior design engineering positions at Crystal Semiconductor/Cirrus Logic and Broadcom Corporation where he focused on high-speed mixed-signal circuit design for hard disk drive read channel and Ethernet applications. Mr. Tuttle holds an M.S. in Electrical Engineering from UCLA and a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Johns Hopkins University.

Jonathan D. Ivester has served as Senior Vice President of Worldwide Operations since June 2008. He served as Vice President of Worldwide Operations since May 2005. He joined Silicon Laboratories in September 1997 as Vice President. Previously, Mr. Ivester was with Applied Materials, a supplier of equipment and services to the semiconductor industry, and served as Director of Manufacturing and Director of U.S. Procurement in addition to various engineering and manufacturing management positions. Mr. Ivester also was a scientist at Bechtel Corporation, an engineering and construction company, and at Abcor, Inc., an ultrafiltration company and subsidiary of Koch Industries. Mr. Ivester holds a B.S. in Chemistry from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and an M.B.A. from Stanford University.

Kurt W. Hoff has served as Vice President of Worldwide Sales for Silicon Laboratories since July 2007. From 2005 until July 2007, he managed the company's European sales and operations. Prior to joining Silicon Laboratories in 2005, Mr. Hoff served as president, Chief Executive Officer and director of Cognio. Mr. Hoff also managed the operations and sales of C-Port Corporation, a network processor company acquired by Motorola in May 2000. Additionally, Mr. Hoff spent 10 years in various sales positions at AMD. Mr. Hoff holds a B.S. in Physics from the University of Illinois and an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago.

David R. Welland co-founded Silicon Laboratories in August 1996, has served as a Vice President and director since our inception and was appointed Fellow in March 2004. From November 1991 until founding Silicon Laboratories, Mr. Welland held various positions at Crystal Semiconductor/Cirrus Logic, a designer and manufacturer of integrated circuits, including Senior Design Engineer. Mr. Welland holds a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Mr. Welland's years of experience as a semiconductor designer provide him with extensive insight into our operations and qualifies him to serve as a member of our Board of Directors.

William G. Bock rejoined Silicon Laboratories' Board of Directors in July of 2011. He served as Chief Financial Officer from November 2006 to July 2011, and Senior Vice President of Finance and Administration through December 2011. He joined Silicon Laboratories as a director in March 2000, and served as Chairman of the audit committee until November 2006 when he stepped down from the

Board of Directors to assume the CFO role. From April 2001 to November 2006, Mr. Bock participated in the venture capital industry, principally as a partner with CenterPoint Ventures. From February 1997 to March 2001, Mr. Bock led DAZEL Corporation, a provider of electronic information delivery systems, initially as its President and Chief Executive Officer and subsequent to its acquisition by Hewlett-Packard in June 1999 as an HP Vice President and General Manager. Prior to 1997, Mr. Bock served as Chief Operating Officer of Tivoli Systems, a client server software company acquired by IBM in March 1996, in senior sales and financial management positions with Convex Computer Corporation and began his career with Texas Instruments. Mr. Bock has served on the Board of Directors of Convio, Inc., a provider of on-demand constituent engagement solutions for nonprofit organizations, since January 2008, chairman of the board since April 2011 and as lead independent director since January 2010. Mr. Bock holds a B.S. in Computer Science from Iowa State University and an M.S. in Industrial Administration from Carnegie Mellon University. Mr. Bock's extensive financial and executive experience and his in-depth knowledge of Silicon Laboratories qualify him to serve as a member of our Board of Directors.

Harvey B. Cash has served as a director of Silicon Laboratories since June 1997. Mr. Cash has served as general partner of InterWest Partners, a venture capital firm, since 1986. Mr. Cash currently serves on the Board of Directors of the following public companies: Ciena Corporation, a designer and manufacturer of dense wavelength division multiplexing systems for fiber optic networks; Argo Group International Holdings, Ltd., a specialty insurance company; and First Acceptance Corp, a provider of low-cost auto insurance. Mr. Cash holds a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Texas A&M University and an M.B.A. from Western Michigan University. Mr. Cash's independence and experience as a director of various public companies, as well as his prior operational experience as an executive, qualifies him to serve as a member of our Board of Directors.

R. Ted Enloe III has served as a director of Silicon Laboratories since April 2003. Mr. Enloe is currently the Managing General Partner of Balquita Partners, Ltd., a family investment firm. Previously, Mr. Enloe served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Optisoft, Inc., a provider of intelligent traffic signal platforms. Mr. Enloe formerly served as Vice Chairman and member of the office of chief executive of Compaq Computer Corporation. He also served as President of Lomas Financial Corporation and Liberté Investors for more than 15 years. Mr. Enloe co-founded a number of other publicly held firms, including Capstead Mortgage Corp., Tyler Cabot Mortgage Securities Corp., and Seaman's Corp. Mr. Enloe currently serves on the Board of Directors of Leggett & Platt, Inc. and Live Nation, Inc. Mr. Enloe holds a B.S. in Engineering from Louisiana Polytechnic University and a J.D. from Southern Methodist University. Mr. Enloe's combination of independence, qualification as an audit committee financial expert and his experience, including past experience as an executive officer and current and past experience as a director of various public companies, qualifies him to serve as a member of our Board of Directors.

Kristen M. Onken has served as a director of Silicon Laboratories since September 2007. Ms. Onken was elected to the Board of Directors of Seagate Technology plc in November 2011, where she also serves as a member of the Audit Committee. Ms. Onken retired from Logitech in May 2006, a maker of electronics peripherals, where she served as Senior Vice President, Finance, and Chief Financial Officer from February 1999 to May 2006. From September 1996 to February 1999, Ms. Onken served as Vice President of Finance at Fujitsu PC Corporation, the U.S. subsidiary of the Japanese electronics manufacturer. From 1991 to September 1996, Ms. Onken was employed by Sun Microsystems initially as Controller of the Southwest Area, and later as Director of Finance, Sun Professional Services. Ms. Onken holds a B.S. from Southern Illinois University, and an M.B.A. in Finance from the University of Chicago. Ms. Onken's independence and prior experience as the Chief Financial Officer of Logitech and her finance roles with other technology companies qualifies her to serve as a member of our Board of Directors.

Laurence G. Walker has served as a director of Silicon Laboratories since June 2003. Previously, Mr. Walker co-founded and served as Chief Executive Officer of C-Port Corporation, a pioneer in the network processor industry, which was acquired by Motorola in 2000. Following the acquisition, Mr. Walker served as Vice President of Strategy for Motorola's Network and Computing Systems Group and then as Vice President and General Manager of the Network and Computing Systems Group until 2002. From August 1996 to May 1997, Mr. Walker served as Chief Executive Officer of CertCo, a digital certification supplier. Mr. Walker served as Vice President and General Manager, Network Products Business Unit, of Digital Equipment Corporation, a computer hardware company, from January 1994 to July 1996. From 1998 to 2007, he served on the Board of Directors of McData Corporation, a provider of storage networking solutions. From 1981 to 1994, he held a variety of other management positions at Digital Equipment Corporation. Mr. Walker holds a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Princeton University and an M.S. and Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Mr. Walker's combination of independence and his experience, including past experience as an executive officer, qualifies him to serve as a member of our Board of Directors.

William P. Wood has served as a director of Silicon Laboratories since March 1997 and as Lead Director since December 2005. Since 1996, Mr. Wood has also served as general partner of various funds associated with Silverton Partners, a venture capital firm. From 1984 to 2003, Mr. Wood was a general partner, and for certain funds created since 1996, a special limited partner, of various funds associated with Austin Ventures, a venture capital firm. Mr. Wood holds a B.A. in History from Brown University and an M.B.A. from Harvard University. Mr. Wood's combination of independence and his experience, including past experience as an investor in numerous semiconductor and technology companies, qualifies him to serve as a member of our Board of Directors.

The remaining information required by this Item is incorporated by reference to the Proxy Statement under the sections captioned "Proposal One: Election of Directors", "Executive Compensation", "Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance" and "Code of Ethics."

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

The information under the caption "Executive Compensation" and "Proposal One: Election of Directors" appearing in the Proxy Statement, is incorporated herein by reference.

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

The information under the caption "Ownership of Securities" and "Equity Compensation Plan Information" appearing in the Proxy Statement is incorporated herein by reference.

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

The information under the caption "Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence" appearing in the Proxy Statement is incorporated herein by reference.

#### **Item 14. Principal Accounting Fees and Services**

The information under the caption "Proposal Two: Ratification of Appointment of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm" appearing in the Proxy Statement is incorporated herein by reference.

**Part IV**

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

(a) 1. Financial Statements

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2. Schedules

All schedules have been omitted since the information required by the schedule is not applicable, or is not present in amounts sufficient to require submission of the schedule, or because the information required is included in the Consolidated Financial Statements and notes thereto.

3. Exhibits

The exhibits listed on the accompanying index to exhibits immediately following the Consolidated Financial Statements are filed as part of, or hereby incorporated by reference into, this Form 10-K.

(b) Exhibits

<u>Exhibit Number</u>	
2.1*	Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated January 22, 2011, by and among Silicon Laboratories Inc., Sophia Merger Sub, Inc., Spectra Linear, Inc. and Shareholder Representative Services LLC (filed as Exhibit 2.1 to the Form 8-K filed January 26, 2011).
3.1*	Form of Fourth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Silicon Laboratories Inc. (filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 (Securities and Exchange Commission File No. 333-94853) (the "IPO Registration Statement")).
3.2*	Second Amended and Restated Bylaws of Silicon Laboratories Inc (filed as Exhibit 3.2 to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 3, 2004).
4.1*	Specimen certificate for shares of common stock (filed as Exhibit 4.1 to the IPO Registration Statement).
10.1*	Form of Indemnification Agreement between Silicon Laboratories Inc. and each of its directors and executive officers (filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the IPO Registration Statement).
10.2*+	Silicon Laboratories Inc. 2000 Stock Incentive Plan (filed as Exhibit 99.1 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-8 (Securities and Exchange Commission File No. 333-60794) filed on May 11, 2001).
10.3*+	Form of Stock Option Agreement and Notice of Grant of Stock Option under Registrant's 2000 Stock Incentive Plan (filed as Exhibit 10.3 to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 1, 2005).
10.4*+	Form of Addendum to Stock Option Agreement under Registrant's 2000 Stock Incentive Plan (filed as Exhibit 10.4 to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 1, 2005).
10.5*+	Form of Stock Issuance Agreement under Registrant's 2000 Stock Incentive Plan (filed as Exhibit 10.5 to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 1, 2005).
10.6*+	Form of Addendum to Stock Issuance Agreement under Registrant's 2000 Stock Incentive Plan (filed as Exhibit 10.6 to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 1, 2005).
10.7*+	Employment Agreement dated August 30, 2005 between Silicon Laboratories Inc. and Dr. Necip Sayiner (filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Form 8-K filed September 12, 2005).
10.8*	Lease, Deed of Trust and Security Agreement dated March 30, 2006 among Silicon Laboratories Inc., BAL Investment & Advisory, Inc. and Gary S. Farmer (filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on April 5, 2006).
10.9*	Participation Agreement dated March 30, 2006 among Silicon Laboratories Inc., BAL Investment & Advisory, Inc., Wells Fargo Bank Northwest, National Association and various other financial institutions named therein (filed as Exhibit 10.2 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on April 5, 2006).
10.10*	Sale and Purchase Agreement dated February 8, 2007 by and between NXP B.V., NXP Semiconductors France SAS, Silicon Laboratories Inc. and Silicon Laboratories International Pte. Ltd. (filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on February 9, 2007).

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<u>Exhibit Number</u>	
10.11*	Intellectual Property License Agreement dated as of March 23, 2007, by and among Silicon Laboratories Inc., Silicon Laboratories International Pte. Ltd., NXP B.V. and NXP Semiconductors France SAS (filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on March 29, 2007).
10.12*	Lease, Deed of Trust and Security Agreement dated March 14, 2008 among Silicon Laboratories Inc., BA Leasing BSC, LLC and Gary S. Farmer (filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on March 19, 2008).
10.13*	Participation Agreement dated March 14, 2008 among Silicon Laboratories Inc., BA Leasing BSC, LLC, Wells Fargo Bank Northwest, National Association and various other financial institutions named therein (filed as Exhibit 10.2 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on March 19, 2008).
10.14*+	Silicon Laboratories Inc. 2009 Stock Incentive Plan (filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on April 27, 2009).
10.15*+	Silicon Laboratories Inc. 2009 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (filed as Exhibit 10.2 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on April 27, 2009).
10.16*+	Form of Restricted Stock Units Grant Notice and Restricted Stock Units Award Agreement under Registrant's 2009 Stock Incentive Plan (filed as Exhibit 10.3 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on April 27, 2009).
10.17*+	Form of Stock Option Grant Notice and Stock Option Award Agreement under Registrant's 2009 Stock Incentive Plan (filed as Exhibit 10.4 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on April 27, 2009).
21	Subsidiaries of the Registrant.
23.1	Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.
24	Power of Attorney (included on signature page to this Form 10-K).
31.1	Certification of the Principal Executive Officer, as required by Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2	Certification of the Principal Financial Officer, as required by Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.1	Certification as required by Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
101.INS**	XBRL Instance Document
101.SCH**	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
101.CAL**	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
101.LAB**	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
101.PRE**	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document
101.DEF**	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document

\* Incorporated herein by reference to the indicated filing.

\*\* The information in these exhibits shall not be deemed to be "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liability of that section. The information contained therein shall not be incorporated by reference into any filing with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission made by Silicon Laboratories, whether made before or after the date hereof, regardless of any general incorporation language in such filing.

+ Management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement





<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
<u>/s/ WILLIAM G. BOCK</u> William G. Bock	Director	February 15, 2012
<u>/s/ HARVEY B. CASH</u> Harvey B. Cash	Director	February 15, 2012
<u>/s/ ROBERT TED ENLOE, III</u> Robert Ted Enloe, III	Director	February 15, 2012
<u>/s/ KRISTEN M. ONKEN</u> Kristen M. Onken	Director	February 15, 2012
<u>/s/ LAURENCE G. WALKER</u> Laurence G. Walker	Director	February 15, 2012
<u>/s/ WILLIAM P. WOOD</u> William P. Wood	Director	February 15, 2012

## Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

### The Board of Directors and Stockholders of Silicon Laboratories Inc.

We have audited Silicon Laboratories Inc.'s (the Company) 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 COSO criteria). Silicon Laboratories Inc.'s management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on 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 the assessed 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 to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

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

In our opinion, Silicon Laboratories Inc. maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011, based on the COSO criteria.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheets of Silicon Laboratories Inc. as of December 31, 2011 and January 1, 2011, and the related consolidated statements of income, changes in stockholders' equity and cash flows for each of the three fiscal years in the period ended December 31, 2011 of Silicon Laboratories Inc. and our report dated February 15, 2012 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/ ERNST & YOUNG LLP

Austin, Texas  
February 15, 2012

**Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

**The Board of Directors and Stockholders of Silicon Laboratories Inc.**

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Silicon Laboratories Inc. (the Company) as of December 31, 2011 and January 1, 2011, and the related consolidated statements of income, changes in stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the three fiscal years in the period ended December 31, 2011. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

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

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Silicon Laboratories Inc. at December 31, 2011 and January 1, 2011, and the consolidated results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three fiscal years in the period ended December 31, 2011, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), Silicon Laboratories Inc.'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 and our report dated February 15, 2012 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/ ERNST & YOUNG LLP

Austin, Texas  
February 15, 2012

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Consolidated Balance Sheets**  
(In thousands, except per share data)

	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 94,964	\$ 138,567
Short-term investments	212,526	227,295
Accounts receivable, net of allowances for doubtful accounts of \$725 at December 31, 2011 and \$772 at January 1, 2011	55,351	45,030
Inventories	34,778	39,450
Deferred income taxes	11,563	9,140
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	43,867	34,447
Total current assets	453,049	493,929
Long-term investments	17,477	17,500
Property and equipment, net	25,141	29,945
Goodwill	115,489	112,296
Other intangible assets, net	60,005	53,242
Other assets, net	34,830	20,746
Total assets	<u>\$ 705,991</u>	<u>\$ 727,658</u>
<b>Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 26,354	\$ 24,433
Accrued expenses	30,857	25,604
Deferred income on shipments to distributors	24,962	26,127
Income taxes	665	3,692
Total current liabilities	82,838	79,856
Long-term obligations and other liabilities	24,214	22,372
Total liabilities	107,052	102,228
Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock—\$0.0001 par value; 10,000 shares authorized; no shares issued and outstanding	—	—
Common stock—\$0.0001 par value; 250,000 shares authorized; 42,068 and 43,933 shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2011 and January 1, 2011, respectively	4	4
Additional paid-in capital	14,749	49,947
Retained earnings	586,653	579,127
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(2,467)	(3,648)
Total stockholders' equity	598,939	625,430
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	<u>\$ 705,991</u>	<u>\$ 727,658</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these Consolidated Financial Statements.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Consolidated Statements of Income**  
(In thousands, except per share data)

	Year Ended		
	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011	January 2, 2010
Revenues	\$ 491,625	\$ 493,341	\$ 441,020
Cost of revenues	193,179	169,097	161,267
Gross margin	298,446	324,244	279,753
Operating expenses:			
Research and development	135,953	123,821	104,394
Selling, general and administrative	112,419	113,752	108,848
Operating expenses	248,372	237,573	213,242
Operating income	50,074	86,671	66,511
Other income (expense):			
Interest income	1,859	2,318	2,725
Interest expense	(37)	(77)	(180)
Other income (expense), net	444	(1,253)	(90)
Income before income taxes	52,340	87,659	68,966
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	16,868	14,417	(4,126)
Net income	<u>\$ 35,472</u>	<u>\$ 73,242</u>	<u>\$ 73,092</u>
Earnings per share:			
Basic	\$ 0.82	\$ 1.63	\$ 1.62
Diluted	\$ 0.79	\$ 1.57	\$ 1.57
Weighted-average common shares outstanding:			
Basic	43,421	44,845	45,023
Diluted	44,832	46,742	46,542

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these Consolidated Financial Statements.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity**  
(In thousands)

	Common Stock			Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Total Stockholders' Equity
	Number of Shares	Par Value	Additional Paid-In Capital			
Balance as of January 3, 2009	44,613	\$ 4	\$ 75,711	\$432,793	\$ (6,048)	\$ 502,460
Comprehensive income:						
Net income	—	—	—	73,092	—	73,092
Unrealized gains on available-for-sale securities, net of tax of \$(522)	—	—	—	—	969	969
Unrealized gains on cash flow hedges, net of tax of \$(389)	—	—	—	—	723	723
Total comprehensive income						74,784
Stock issuances under employee plans, net of shares withheld for taxes	1,669	1	25,186	—	—	25,187
Income tax benefit from employee stock-based awards	—	—	3,890	—	—	3,890
Repurchases of common stock	(633)	—	(20,181)	—	—	(20,181)
Stock-based compensation	123	—	43,656	—	—	43,656
Balance as of January 2, 2010	45,772	5	128,262	505,885	(4,356)	629,796
Comprehensive income:						
Net income	—	—	—	73,242	—	73,242
Unrealized gains on available-for-sale securities, net of tax of \$(143)	—	—	—	—	266	266
Unrealized gains on cash flow hedges, net of tax of \$(238)	—	—	—	—	442	442
Total comprehensive income						73,950
Stock issuances under employee plans, net of shares withheld for taxes	1,453	—	18,055	—	—	18,055
Income tax benefit from employee stock-based awards	—	—	3,277	—	—	3,277
Repurchases of common stock	(3,292)	(1)	(140,331)	—	—	(140,332)
Stock-based compensation	—	—	40,684	—	—	40,684
Balance as of January 1, 2011	43,933	4	49,947	579,127	(3,648)	625,430
Comprehensive income:						
Net income	—	—	—	35,472	—	35,472
Unrealized gains on						

available-for-sale securities, net of tax of \$(1)	—	—	—	—	3	3
Unrealized gains on cash flow hedges, net of tax of \$(635)	—	—	—	—	1,178	1,178
Total comprehensive income						36,653
Stock issuances under employee plans, net of shares withheld for taxes	1,290	—	7,660	—	—	7,660
Income tax benefit from employee stock-based awards	—	—	2,707	—	—	2,707
Repurchases of common stock	(3,155)	—	(82,117)	(27,946)	—	(110,063)
Stock-based compensation	—	—	36,552	—	—	36,552
Balance as of December 31, 2011	<u>42,068</u>	<u>\$ 4</u>	<u>\$ 14,749</u>	<u>\$586,653</u>	<u>\$ (2,467)</u>	<u>\$ 598,939</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these Consolidated Financial Statements.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows**  
(In thousands)

	Year Ended		
	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011	January 2, 2010
<b>Operating Activities</b>			
Net income	\$ 35,472	\$ 73,242	\$ 73,092
Adjustments to reconcile net income to cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation of property and equipment	13,570	11,797	11,887
Amortization of other intangible assets and other assets	11,030	7,494	7,842
Impairment of long-lived assets	1,322	—	—
Stock-based compensation expense	36,115	40,324	43,974
Income tax benefit from employee stock-based awards	2,814	3,295	2,422
Excess income tax benefit from employee stock-based awards	(2,404)	(2,412)	(1,862)
Deferred income taxes	(445)	(552)	1,896
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Accounts receivable	(8,562)	11,342	(19,657)
Inventories	5,334	(7,811)	(3,216)
Prepaid expenses and other assets	(5,948)	(5,300)	3,395
Accounts payable	(2,176)	(777)	8,036
Accrued expenses	(1,320)	(2,590)	(825)
Deferred income on shipments to distributors	(1,915)	(2,343)	6,871
Income taxes	5,855	(7,774)	(12,914)
Net cash provided by operating activities	88,742	117,935	120,941
<b>Investing Activities</b>			
Purchases of available-for-sale investments	(178,676)	(357,777)	(237,968)
Proceeds from sales and maturities of marketable securities	193,474	352,779	153,275
Purchases of property and equipment	(8,690)	(13,850)	(8,943)
Purchases of other assets	(4,018)	(8,372)	(6,408)
Acquisitions of businesses, net of cash acquired	(27,262)	(28,021)	(4,300)
Net cash used in investing activities	(25,172)	(55,241)	(104,344)
<b>Financing Activities</b>			
Proceeds from issuance of common stock, net of shares withheld for taxes	7,660	18,055	25,187
Excess income tax benefit from employee stock-based awards	2,404	2,412	1,862
Repurchases of common stock	(110,063)	(140,331)	(20,181)
Payments on debt	(7,174)	—	—
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(107,173)	(119,864)	6,868
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(43,603)	(57,170)	23,465
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	138,567	195,737	172,272
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	<u>\$ 94,964</u>	<u>\$ 138,567</u>	<u>\$ 195,737</u>
<b>Supplemental Disclosure of Cash Flow Information:</b>			
Interest paid	<u>\$ 35</u>	<u>\$ 90</u>	<u>\$ 279</u>
Income taxes paid	<u>\$ 8,241</u>	<u>\$ 20,780</u>	<u>\$ 4,500</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these Consolidated Financial Statements.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011**

**1. Description of Business**

Silicon Laboratories Inc. (the "Company"), a Delaware corporation, develops and markets mixed-signal analog intensive integrated circuits (ICs) for a broad range of applications for global markets. Within the semiconductor industry, the Company is known as a "fabless" company meaning that the ICs are manufactured by third-party foundry semiconductor companies.

**2. Significant Accounting Policies**

*Basis of Presentation and Principles of Consolidation*

The Company prepares financial statements on a 52-53 week year that ends on the Saturday closest to December 31. Fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009 were 52-week years and ended on December 31, 2011, January 1, 2011 and January 2, 2010, respectively. The accompanying Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly owned subsidiaries. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

*Foreign Currency Transactions*

The Company's foreign subsidiaries are considered to be extensions of the U.S. Company. The functional currency of the foreign subsidiaries is the U.S. dollar. Accordingly, gains and losses resulting from remeasuring transactions denominated in currencies other than U.S. dollars are included in other income (expense), net in the Consolidated Statements of Income.

*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 amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Among the significant estimates affecting the financial statements are those related to inventories, stock-based compensation, investments in auction-rate securities, acquired intangible assets, goodwill, long-lived assets and income taxes. Actual results could differ from those estimates, and such differences could be material to the financial statements.

*Reclassifications*

Certain reclassifications have been made to prior year financial statements to conform to current year presentation.

*Fair Value of Financial Instruments*

The fair values of the Company's financial instruments are recorded using a hierarchal disclosure framework based upon the level of subjectivity of the inputs used in measuring assets and liabilities. The three levels are described below:

Level 1—Inputs are unadjusted, quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities at the measurement date.

Level 2—Inputs are inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**2. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

Level 3—Inputs are unobservable for the asset or liability and are developed based on the best information available in the circumstances, which might include the Company's own data.

*Cash and Cash Equivalents*

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash deposits, money market funds and investments in debt securities with original maturities of ninety days or less when purchased.

*Investments*

The Company's investments typically have original maturities greater than ninety days as of the date of purchase and are classified as either available-for-sale or trading securities. Investments in available-for-sale securities are reported at fair value, with unrealized gains and losses, net of tax, recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive loss in the Consolidated Balance Sheet. Investments in trading securities are reported at fair value, with both realized and unrealized gains and losses recorded in other income (expense), net in the Consolidated Statement of Income. Investments in which the Company has the ability and intent, if necessary, to liquidate in order to support its current operations (including those with contractual maturities greater than one year from the date of purchase) are classified as short-term. The Company's long-term investments consist of auction-rate securities.

The Company reviews its available-for-sale investments as of the end of each reporting period for other-than-temporary declines in fair value based on the specific identification method. The Company considers various factors in determining whether an impairment is other-than-temporary, including the severity and duration of the impairment, changes in underlying credit ratings, forecasted recovery, its intent to sell or the likelihood that it would be required to sell the investment before its anticipated recovery in market value and the probability that the scheduled cash payments will continue to be made. When the Company concludes that an other-than-temporary impairment has occurred, the Company assesses whether it intends to sell the security or if it is more likely than not that it will be required to sell the security before recovery. If either of these two conditions is met, the Company recognizes a charge in earnings equal to the entire difference between the security's amortized cost basis and its fair value. If the Company does not intend to sell a security and it is not more likely than not that it will be required to sell the security before recovery, the unrealized loss is separated into an amount representing the credit loss, which is recognized in earnings, and the amount related to all other factors, which is recorded in accumulated other comprehensive loss.

*Derivative Financial Instruments*

The Company uses derivative financial instruments to manage exposures to the variability of interest rates used to calculate base rents for its corporate headquarters leases. The Company's objective is to offset increases and decreases in expenses resulting from changes in interest rates with gains and losses on the derivative contracts, thereby reducing volatility of earnings. The Company does not use derivative contracts for speculative purposes. The effective portion of the gain or loss on interest rate swaps is recorded in accumulated other comprehensive loss as a separate component of stockholders' equity and is subsequently recognized in earnings when the hedged exposure affects earnings. Cash flows from derivatives are classified as cash flows from operating activities in the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**2. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

*Inventories*

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost, determined using the first-in, first-out method, or market. The Company writes down the carrying value of inventory to net realizable value for estimated obsolescence or unmarketable inventory based upon assumptions about the age of inventory, future demand and market conditions. Inventory impairment charges establish a new cost basis for inventory and charges are not subsequently reversed to income even if circumstances later suggest that increased carrying amounts are recoverable.

*Property and Equipment*

Property and equipment are stated at cost, net of accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the useful lives of the assets ranging from three to five years. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the contractual lease period or their useful life, whichever is shorter.

*Long-Lived Assets*

Purchased intangible assets are stated at cost, net of accumulated amortization, and are amortized using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives, ranging from two to twelve years. Fair values are determined primarily using the income approach, in which the Company projects future expected cash flows and applies an appropriate discount rate.

Long-lived assets "held and used" by the Company are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that their net book value may not be recoverable. When such factors and circumstances exist, the Company compares the projected undiscounted future cash flows associated with the related asset or group of assets over their estimated useful lives, against their respective carrying amounts. Impairment, if any, is based on the excess of the carrying amount over the fair value of those assets and is recorded in the period in which the determination was made.

The carrying value of goodwill is reviewed at least annually by the Company for possible impairment. The goodwill impairment test is a two-step process. The first step of the impairment analysis compares the fair value of the reporting unit to the net book value of the reporting unit. In determining fair value, several valuation methodologies are allowed, although quoted market prices are the best evidence of fair value. If the results of the first step demonstrate that the net book value is greater than the fair value, the Company must proceed to step two of the analysis. Step two of the analysis compares the implied fair value of goodwill to its carrying amount. If the carrying amount of goodwill exceeds its implied fair value, an impairment loss is recognized equal to that excess. The Company tests goodwill for impairment annually as of the first day of its fourth fiscal quarter and in interim periods if events occur that would indicate that the carrying value of goodwill may be impaired.

*Revenue Recognition*

Revenues are generated almost exclusively by sales of the Company's ICs. The Company recognizes revenue when all of the following criteria are met: 1) there is persuasive evidence that an arrangement exists, 2) delivery of goods has occurred, 3) the sales price is fixed or determinable, and 4) collectibility is reasonably assured. Generally, revenue from product sales to direct customers and contract manufacturers is recognized upon shipment.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**2. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

A portion of the Company's sales are made to distributors under agreements allowing certain rights of return and price protection related to the final selling price to the end customers. Accordingly, the Company defers revenue and cost of revenue on such sales until the distributors sell the product to the end customers. The net balance of deferred revenue less deferred cost of revenue associated with inventory shipped to a distributor but not yet sold to an end customer is recorded in the deferred income on shipments to distributors liability on the Consolidated Balance Sheet. Such net deferred income balance reflects the Company's estimate of the impact of rights of return and price protection.

*Shipping and Handling*

Shipping and handling costs are classified as a component of cost of revenues in the Consolidated Statements of Income.

*Stock-Based Compensation*

The Company has stock-based compensation plans, which are more fully described in Note 12, *Stock-Based Compensation*. The Company accounts for those plans using a fair-value method and recognizes the expense in its Consolidated Statement of Income.

*Research and Development*

Research and development costs are expensed as incurred. Research and development expense consists primarily of personnel-related expenses, including stock-based compensation, new product mask, external consulting and services costs, equipment tooling, equipment depreciation, amortization of intangible assets, as well as an allocated portion of our occupancy costs for such operations. Assets purchased to support the Company's ongoing research and development activities are capitalized when related to products which have achieved technological feasibility or have an alternative future use, and are amortized over their estimated useful lives.

*Advertising*

Advertising costs are expensed as incurred. Advertising expenses were \$1.6 million, \$1.4 million and \$1.5 million in fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

*Income Taxes*

The Company accounts for income taxes using the asset and liability method whereby deferred tax asset and liability account balances are determined based on differences between financial reporting and the tax bases of assets and liabilities and are measured using the enacted tax laws and related rates that will be in effect when the differences are expected to reverse. These differences result in deferred tax assets and liabilities, which are included in the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheet. The Company then assesses the likelihood that the deferred tax assets will be recovered from future taxable income. A valuation allowance is established against deferred tax assets to the extent the Company believes that recovery is not likely based on the level of historical taxable income and projections for future taxable income over the periods in which the temporary differences are deductible.

Uncertain tax positions must meet a more-likely-than-not threshold to be recognized in the financial statements and the tax benefits recognized are measured based on the largest benefit that has

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**2. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

a greater than 50% likelihood of being realized upon final settlement. See further discussion in Note 15, *Income Taxes* .

*Recent Accounting Pronouncements*

In December 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued FASB Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2011-11, *Balance Sheet (Topic 210)—Disclosures about Offsetting Assets and Liabilities* . ASU 2011-11 requires an entity to disclose information about offsetting and related arrangements to enable users of its financial statements to understand the effect of those arrangements on its financial position. Entities are required to disclose both gross and net information about these instruments. ASU 2011-11 is effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2013, and interim periods within those annual periods. The adoption of this ASU is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's financial statements.

In September 2011, the FASB issued FASB ASU No. 2011-08, *Intangibles—Goodwill and Other (Topic 350)—Testing Goodwill for Impairment* . ASU 2011-08 permits an entity to first assess qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount as a basis for determining whether it is necessary to perform the two-step goodwill impairment test. If an entity determines it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount, then it is required to perform the two-step impairment test. If an entity concludes otherwise, then the two-step impairment test is not required. ASU 2011-08 is effective for annual and interim goodwill impairment tests performed for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2011, with early adoption permitted. The adoption of this ASU is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's financial statements.

In June 2011, the FASB issued FASB ASU No. 2011-05, *Comprehensive Income (Topic 220)—Presentation of Comprehensive Income* . This ASU requires that all non-owner changes in stockholders' equity be presented either in a single continuous statement of comprehensive income or in two separate but consecutive statements. In the two-statement approach, the first statement should present total net income and its components followed consecutively by a second statement that should present total other comprehensive income, the components of other comprehensive income, and the total of comprehensive income. In December 2011, the FASB issued FASB ASU No. 2011-12, *Comprehensive Income (Topic 220)—Deferral of the Effective Date for Amendments to the Presentation of Reclassifications of Items Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income in Accounting Standards Update No. 2011-05* . ASU 2011-12 defers the effective date pertaining to presenting reclassification adjustments by component in both the statements where net income and other comprehensive income are presented. ASU 2011-05 and ASU 2011-12 are effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2011 and are to be applied retrospectively. The adoptions of these ASUs are not expected to have a material impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations, but will result in an additional statement of other comprehensive income.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**2. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

In May 2011, the FASB issued FASB ASU No. 2011-04, *Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820)—Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRSs*. This ASU provides a consistent definition of fair value between U.S. GAAP and International Financial Reporting Standards. Additionally, the ASU changes certain fair value measurement principles and expands the disclosures for fair value measurements. ASU 2011-04 is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011 and is to be applied prospectively. The adoption of this ASU is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's financial statements.

**3. Earnings Per Share**

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted earnings per share (in thousands, except per share data):

	Year Ended		
	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011	January 2, 2010
Net income	\$ 35,472	\$ 73,242	\$ 73,092
Shares used in computing basic earnings per share	43,421	44,845	45,023
Effect of dilutive securities:			
Stock options and awards	1,411	1,897	1,519
Shares used in computing diluted earnings per share	44,832	46,742	46,542
Earnings per share:			
Basic	\$ 0.82	\$ 1.63	\$ 1.62
Diluted	\$ 0.79	\$ 1.57	\$ 1.57

Approximately 0.4 million, 0.6 million and 2.1 million weighted-average dilutive potential shares of common stock have been excluded from the diluted earnings per share calculation for fiscal years ended December 31, 2011, January 1, 2011 and January 2, 2010, respectively, as they were anti-dilutive.

**4. Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments**

The Company's cash equivalents and short-term investments as of December 31, 2011 consisted of corporate bonds, municipal bonds, money market funds, variable-rate demand notes, U.S. government agency bonds, U.S. Treasury bills, asset-backed securities, U.S. government bonds, certificates of deposit and international government bonds. The Company's long-term investments consist of auction-rate securities. Early in fiscal 2008, auctions for many of the Company's auction-rate securities failed because sell orders exceeded buy orders. As of December 31, 2011, the Company held \$19.2 million par value auction-rate securities, all of which have experienced failed auctions. The underlying assets of the securities consisted of student loans and municipal bonds, of which \$17.2 million were guaranteed by the U.S. government and the remaining \$2.0 million were privately insured. As of December 31, 2011, \$17.2 million of the auction-rate securities had credit ratings of AAA and \$2.0 million had a credit rating of A. These securities have contractual maturity dates ranging from 2029 to 2046 and with current yields of 0.21% to 3.14% per year at December 31, 2011. The Company is receiving the

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**4. Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments (Continued)**

underlying cash flows on all of its auction-rate securities. The principal amounts associated with failed auctions are not expected to be accessible until a successful auction occurs, the issuer redeems the securities, a buyer is found outside of the auction process or the underlying securities mature. The Company is unable to predict if these funds will become available before their maturity dates.

The Company does not expect to need access to the capital represented by any of its auction-rate securities prior to their maturities. The Company does not intend to sell, and believes it is not more likely than not that it will be required to sell, its auction-rate securities before their anticipated recovery in market value or final settlement at the underlying par value. The Company believes that the credit ratings and credit support of the security issuers indicate that they have the ability to settle the securities at par value. As such, the Company has determined that no other-than-temporary impairment losses existed as of December 31, 2011.

The Company's cash, cash equivalents and investments consist of the following (in thousands):

	December 31, 2011			
	Cost	Gross Unrealized Losses	Gross Unrealized Gains	Fair Value
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents:</b>				
Cash on hand	\$ 44,113	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 44,113
Available-for-sale securities:				
Money market funds	50,851	—	—	50,851
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>\$ 94,964</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 94,964</b>
<b>Short-term Investments:</b>				
Available-for-sale securities:				
Corporate bonds	\$ 75,189	\$ (363)	\$ 234	\$ 75,060
Municipal bonds	56,915	(12)	81	56,984
Variable-rate demand notes	41,280	—	—	41,280
U.S. government agency	19,820	(12)	28	19,836
U.S. Treasury bills	8,600	—	—	8,600
Asset-backed securities	5,743	(5)	1	5,739
U.S. government bonds	2,507	—	—	2,507
Certificates of deposit	1,570	—	—	1,570
International government bonds	950	—	—	950
<b>Total short-term investments</b>	<b>\$ 212,574</b>	<b>\$ (392)</b>	<b>\$ 344</b>	<b>\$ 212,526</b>
<b>Long-term Investments:</b>				
Available-for-sale securities:				
Auction rate securities	\$ 19,225	\$ (1,748)	\$ —	\$ 17,477
<b>Total long-term investments</b>	<b>\$ 19,225</b>	<b>\$ (1,748)</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 17,477</b>

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**4. Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments (Continued)**

	January 1, 2011			
	Cost	Gross Unrealized Losses	Gross Unrealized Gains	Fair Value
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents:</b>				
Cash on hand	\$ 40,644	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 40,644
Available-for-sale securities:				
U.S. Treasury bills	50,096	—	1	50,097
Money market funds	45,167	—	—	45,167
Commercial paper	2,659	—	—	2,659
Total available-for-sale securities	<u>97,922</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>97,923</u>
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ 138,566</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 1</u>	<u>\$ 138,567</u>
<b>Short-term Investments:</b>				
Available-for-sale securities:				
Corporate bonds	\$ 88,183	\$ (46)	\$ 381	\$ 88,518
Variable-rate demand notes	39,425	—	—	39,425
Municipal bonds	38,408	(18)	24	38,414
U.S. government agency	34,635	(5)	50	34,680
International government bonds	10,792	—	38	10,830
U.S. Treasury bills	6,998	—	1	6,999
Certificates of deposit	5,744	(2)	—	5,742
Commercial paper	2,687	—	—	2,687
Total short-term investments	<u>\$ 226,872</u>	<u>\$ (71)</u>	<u>\$ 494</u>	<u>\$ 227,295</u>
<b>Long-term Investments:</b>				
Available-for-sale securities:				
Auction rate securities	\$ 19,725	\$ (2,225)	\$ —	\$ 17,500
Total long-term investments	<u>\$ 19,725</u>	<u>\$ (2,225)</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 17,500</u>

The available-for-sale investments that were in a continuous unrealized loss position, aggregated by length of time that individual securities have been in a continuous loss position, were as follows (in thousands):

	Less Than 12 Months		12 Months or Greater		Total	
	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses
<b>As of December 31, 2011</b>						
Corporate bonds	\$ 25,438	\$ (363)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 25,438	\$ (363)
Auction rate securities	—	—	17,477	(1,748)	17,477	(1,748)
Municipal bonds	10,437	(12)	—	—	10,437	(12)
U.S. government agency	5,772	(12)	—	—	5,772	(12)
Asset-backed securities	4,539	(5)	—	—	4,539	(5)
	<u>\$ 46,186</u>	<u>\$ (392)</u>	<u>\$ 17,477</u>	<u>\$ (1,748)</u>	<u>\$ 63,663</u>	<u>\$ (2,140)</u>

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**4. Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments (Continued)**

	Less Than 12 Months		12 Months or Greater		Total	
	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses
<b>As of January 1, 2011</b>						
Municipal bonds	\$ 22,272	\$ (18)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 22,272	\$ (18)
Corporate bonds	17,538	(44)	1,298	(2)	18,836	(46)
Auction rate securities	—	—	17,500	(2,225)	17,500	(2,225)
U.S. government agency	17,007	(5)	—	—	17,007	(5)
Certificates of deposit	1,569	(2)	—	—	1,569	(2)
	\$ 58,386	\$ (69)	\$ 18,798	\$ (2,227)	\$ 77,184	\$ (2,296)

The gross unrealized losses as of December 31, 2011 and January 1, 2011 were due primarily to the illiquidity of the Company's auction-rate securities and, to a lesser extent, to changes in market interest rates.

The following summarizes the contractual underlying maturities of the Company's available-for-sale investments at December 31, 2011 (in thousands):

	Cost	Fair Value
Due in one year or less	\$ 148,641	\$ 148,734
Due after one year through ten years	78,254	78,113
Due after ten years	55,755	54,007
	\$ 282,650	\$ 280,854

**5. Derivative Financial Instruments**

The Company is exposed to interest rate fluctuations in the normal course of its business, including through its corporate headquarters leases. The base rents for these leases are calculated using a variable interest rate based on the three-month LIBOR. The Company has entered into interest rate swap agreements with notional values of \$44.3 million and \$50.1 million and, effectively, fixed the rent payment amounts on these leases through March 2011 and March 2013, respectively. The Company's swap agreement with a notional value of \$44.3 million matured in March 2011 and was not renewed. The interest rate swap agreements are designated and qualify as cash flow hedges.

The Company estimates the fair values of derivatives based on quoted prices and market observable data of similar instruments. If the lease agreements or the interest rate swap agreements are terminated prior to maturity, the fair value of the interest rate swaps recorded in accumulated other comprehensive loss may be recognized in the Consolidated Statement of Income based on an assessment of the agreements at the time of termination. The Company did not discontinue any cash flow hedges in any of the periods presented.

The Company measures the effectiveness of its cash flow hedges by comparing the change in fair value of the hedged item with the change in fair value of the interest rate swap. The Company recognizes ineffective portions of the hedge, as well as amounts not included in the assessment of effectiveness, in the Consolidated Statement of Income. As of December 31, 2011, no portion of the gains or losses from the Company's hedging instrument was excluded from the assessment of effectiveness. There was no hedge ineffectiveness for any of the periods presented.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**5. Derivative Financial Instruments (Continued)**

The Company's derivative financial instrument consisted of the following (in thousands):

	Balance Sheet Location	Fair Value	
		December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011
Interest rate swaps:	Accrued expenses	\$ —	\$ 344
	Long-term obligations and other liabilities	1,998	3,467
	Total	\$ 1,998	\$ 3,811

The before-tax effect of derivative instruments in cash flow hedging relationships was as follows (in thousands):

	Loss Recognized in OCI on Derivatives (Effective Portion) during the Year Ended			Location of Loss Reclassified into Income	Loss Reclassified from Accumulated OCI into Income (Effective Portion) during the Year Ended		
	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011	January 2, 2010		December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011	January 2, 2010
Interest rate swap	\$ (424)	\$ (2,640)	\$ (1,681)	Rent expense	\$ (2,237)	\$ (3,321)	\$ (2,792)

The Company expects to reclassify \$1.7 million of its interest rate swap losses included in accumulated other comprehensive loss as of December 31, 2011 into earnings in the next 12 months, which is offset by lower rent payments.

The Company's interest rate swap agreement contains provisions that require it to maintain unencumbered cash and highly-rated short-term investments of at least \$150 million. If the Company's unencumbered cash and highly-rated short-term investments are less than \$150 million, it would be required to post collateral with the counterparty in the amount of the fair value of the interest rate swap agreements in net liability positions. The Company's interest rate swap was in a net liability position at December 31, 2011. No collateral has been posted with the counterparty as of December 31, 2011.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**6. Fair Value of Financial Instruments**

The following summarizes the valuation of the Company's financial instruments (in thousands). The tables do not include either cash on hand or assets and liabilities that are measured at historical cost or any basis other than fair value.

Description	Fair Value Measurements at December 31, 2011 Using			Total
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	
<b>Assets:</b>				
<b>Cash Equivalents:</b>				
Money market funds	\$ 50,851	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 50,851
Total cash equivalents	\$ 50,851	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 50,851
<b>Short-term Investments:</b>				
Corporate bonds	\$ —	\$ 75,060	\$ —	\$ 75,060
Municipal bonds	—	56,984	—	56,984
Variable-rate demand notes	—	41,280	—	41,280
U.S. government agency	—	19,836	—	19,836
U.S. Treasury bills	8,600	—	—	8,600
Asset-backed securities	—	5,739	—	5,739
U.S. government bonds	2,507	—	—	2,507
Certificates of deposit	—	1,570	—	1,570
International government bonds	—	950	—	950
Total short-term investments	\$ 11,107	\$ 201,419	\$ —	\$ 212,526
<b>Long-term Investments:</b>				
Auction rate securities	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 17,477	\$ 17,477
Total long-term investments	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 17,477	\$ 17,477
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 61,958</b>	<b>\$ 201,419</b>	<b>\$ 17,477</b>	<b>\$ 280,854</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>				
Derivative instruments	\$ —	\$ 1,998	\$ —	\$ 1,998
Contingent consideration	—	—	876	876
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 1,998</b>	<b>\$ 876</b>	<b>\$ 2,874</b>

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**6. Fair Value of Financial Instruments (Continued)**

Description	Fair Value Measurements at January 1, 2011 Using			Total
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2) (1)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	
<b>Assets:</b>				
<b>Cash Equivalents:</b>				
U.S. Treasury bills	\$ 50,097	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 50,097
Money market funds	45,167	—	—	45,167
Commercial paper	—	2,659	—	2,659
Total cash equivalents	\$ 95,264	\$ 2,659	\$ —	\$ 97,923
<b>Short-term Investments:</b>				
Corporate bonds	\$ —	\$ 88,518	\$ —	\$ 88,518
Variable-rate demand notes	—	39,425	—	39,425
Municipal bonds	—	38,414	—	38,414
U.S. government agency International government bonds	—	34,680	—	34,680
U.S. Treasury bills	6,999	10,830	—	10,830
Certificates of deposit	—	5,742	—	5,742
Commercial paper	—	2,687	—	2,687
Total short-term investments	\$ 6,999	\$ 220,296	\$ —	\$ 227,295
<b>Long-term Investments:</b>				
Auction rate securities	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 17,500	\$ 17,500
Total long-term investments	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 17,500	\$ 17,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 102,263</b>	<b>\$ 222,955</b>	<b>\$ 17,500</b>	<b>\$ 342,718</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>				
Derivative instruments	\$ —	\$ 3,811	\$ —	\$ 3,811
Contingent consideration	—	—	1,780	1,780
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 3,811</b>	<b>\$ 1,780</b>	<b>\$ 5,591</b>

- (1) The Company previously classified all of its cash equivalents and short-term investments as using Level 1 inputs. The Company has determined that the pricing methods for certain of these investments use significant other observable inputs. Accordingly, such investments held in prior periods have been properly presented as Level 2. The reclassification had no impact on the fair value of investments in any of the periods presented.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**6. Fair Value of Financial Instruments (Continued)**

The Company's cash equivalents and short-term investments that are classified as Level 1 are valued using quoted prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions involving identical assets. Cash equivalents and short-term investments classified as Level 2 are valued using non-binding market consensus prices that are corroborated with observable market data; quoted market prices for similar instruments in active markets; or pricing models, such as a discounted cash flow model, with all significant inputs derived from or corroborated with observable market data. Investments classified as Level 3 are valued using a discounted cash flow model. The assumptions used in preparing the discounted cash flow model include estimates for interest rates, amount of cash flows, expected holding periods of the securities and a discount to reflect the Company's inability to liquidate the securities.

The Company's derivative instruments are valued using a discounted cash flow model. The assumptions used in preparing the discounted cash flow model include quoted interest swap rates and market observable data of similar instruments. The Company's contingent consideration is valued using a probability weighted discounted cash flow model. The assumptions used in preparing the discounted cash flow model include estimates for possible outcomes if certain milestone goals are achieved, the probability of achieving each outcome and discount rates.

The following summarizes the activity in Level 3 financial instruments for the years ended December 31, 2011 and January 1, 2011 (in thousands):

<u>Assets</u>	<u>Auction Rate Securities</u>
Balance at January 1, 2011	\$ 17,500
Settlements	(500)
Unrealized gains	477
Balance at December 31, 2011	<u>\$ 17,477</u>

	<u>Auction Rate Securities</u>	<u>Put Option</u>	<u>Total</u>
Balance at January 2, 2010	\$ 45,575	\$ 3,093	\$ 48,668
Settlements (1)	(31,142)	(2,226)	(33,368)
Unrealized gains	179	—	179
Net recognized gains (losses)	2,888	(867)	2,021
Balance at January 1, 2011	<u>\$ 17,500</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 17,500</u>

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**6. Fair Value of Financial Instruments (Continued)**

<u>Liabilities</u>	<u>Contingent Consideration</u>
Balance at January 1, 2011	\$ 1,780
Issuance (2)	1,025
Recognized gain (3)	(1,929)
Balance at December 31, 2011	<u>\$ 876</u>
Net gain for period included in earnings attributable to contingent consideration still held at December 31, 2011:	<u>\$ 1,929</u>

	<u>Contingent Consideration</u>
Balance at January 2, 2010	\$ —
Issuance (2)	1,840
Recognized gain	(60)
Balance at January 1, 2011	<u>\$ 1,780</u>
Gain for period included in earnings attributable to contingent consideration still held at January 1, 2011:	<u>\$ 60</u>

- 
- (1) The Company previously held \$23.5 million par value auction-rate securities purchased through UBS AG. During fiscal 2010, the Company sold these securities to UBS at par value under an agreement which provided the Company with certain rights to sell to UBS the auction-rate securities that were purchased through them. Recognized gains and losses on these securities and the related UBS put option were recorded in other income (expense), net in the Consolidated Statement of Income.
  - (2) In connection with the acquisitions of Spectra Linear and ChipSensors, the Company recorded contingent consideration based upon the achievement of certain milestone goals. Changes to the fair value of contingent consideration due to changes in assumptions used in preparing the discounted cash flow model are recorded in selling, general and administrative expenses in the Consolidated Statement of Income. Changes resulting from foreign currency remeasurement adjustments to the contingent consideration liability are recorded in other income (expense), net.
  - (3) The Company reduced the estimated fair value of contingent consideration because certain milestone goals were either not achieved or are less likely to be achieved.

The Company's other financial instruments, including cash, accounts receivable and accounts payable, are recorded at amounts that approximate their fair values due to their short maturities.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**7. Balance Sheet Details**

The following tables show the details of selected Consolidated Balance Sheet items (in thousands):

*Inventories*

	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011
Work in progress	\$ 28,023	\$ 32,977
Finished goods	6,755	6,473
	<u>\$ 34,778</u>	<u>\$ 39,450</u>

*Prepaid Expenses and Other Current Assets*

	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011
Distributor advances	\$ 23,221	\$ 9,887
Other	20,646	24,560
	<u>\$ 43,867</u>	<u>\$ 34,447</u>

*Property and Equipment*

	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011
Equipment	\$ 43,934	\$ 40,520
Computers and purchased software	28,371	29,501
Furniture and fixtures	3,356	3,051
Leasehold improvements	21,832	21,042
	<u>97,493</u>	<u>94,114</u>
Accumulated depreciation	(72,352)	(64,169)
	<u>\$ 25,141</u>	<u>\$ 29,945</u>

*Accrued Expenses*

	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011
Accrued compensation and benefits	\$ 17,948	\$ 15,115
Other	12,909	10,489
	<u>\$ 30,857</u>	<u>\$ 25,604</u>

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**7. Balance Sheet Details (Continued)***Long-term Obligations and Other Liabilities*

	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011
Unrecognized tax benefits (including interest)	\$ 10,943	\$ 10,187
CAD software license accruals	6,047	420
Other	7,224	11,765
	<u>\$ 24,214</u>	<u>\$ 22,372</u>

**8. Risks and Uncertainties***Financial Instruments*

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to significant concentrations of credit risk consist primarily of cash equivalents, investments, accounts receivable and derivatives. The Company places its cash equivalents and investments primarily in corporate bonds, municipal bonds, money market funds, variable-rate demand notes, U.S. government agency bonds, U.S. Treasury bills, asset-backed securities, U.S. government bonds, certificates of deposit and international government bonds and auction-rate securities. Concentrations of credit risk with respect to accounts receivable are primarily due to customers with large outstanding balances. The Company's customers that accounted for greater than 10% of accounts receivable consist of the following:

	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011
Edom Technology	29%	11%
Avnet	13%	18%
Macnica	**	14%

\*\* Less than 10% of accounts receivable

The Company performs periodic credit evaluations of its customers' financial condition and generally requires no collateral from its customers. The Company provides an allowance for potential credit losses based upon the expected collectibility of such receivables. Losses have not been significant for any of the periods presented.

*Distributor Advances*

On sales to distributors, the Company's payment terms often require the distributor to settle amounts owed to the Company for an amount in excess of their ultimate cost. The Company's sales price to its distributors may be higher than the amount that the distributors will ultimately owe the Company because distributors often negotiate price reductions after purchasing the product from the Company and such reductions are often significant. These negotiated price discounts are not granted until the distributor sells the product to the end customer, which may occur after the distributor has paid the original invoice amount to the Company. Payment of invoices prior to receiving an associated discount can have an adverse impact on the working capital of the Company's distributors. Accordingly, the Company has entered into agreements with certain distributors whereby it advances cash to the

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**8. Risks and Uncertainties (Continued)**

distributors to reduce the distributor's working capital requirements. The advance amounts are based on the distributor's inventory balance, and are adjusted quarterly. Such amounts are recorded in prepaid expenses and other current assets in the Consolidated Balance Sheet. The terms of these advances are set forth in binding legal agreements and are unsecured, bear no interest on unsettled balances and are due upon demand. The agreements governing these advances can be cancelled by the Company at any time.

*Suppliers*

A significant portion of the Company's products are fabricated by Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. (TSMC) or its affiliates. The inability of TSMC to deliver wafers to the Company on a timely basis could impact the production of the Company's products for a substantial period of time, which could have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, financial condition and results of operations.

*Customers*

The Company sells directly to end customers, distributors and contract manufacturers. Although the Company actually sells the products to, and is paid by, distributors and contract manufacturers, the Company refers to the end customer as its customer. None of the Company's contract manufacturers accounted for greater than 10% of revenue during fiscal 2011, 2010 or 2009. The Company's end customers and distributors that accounted for greater than 10% of revenue consists of the following:

	Year Ended		
	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011	January 2, 2010
<i>End Customers</i>			
Samsung*	13%	**	16%
<i>Distributors</i>			
Edom Technology	24%	28%	27%
Avnet	12%	14%	10%
Macnica	10%	**	**

\* Samsung's purchases were across a variety of product areas.

\*\* Less than 10% of revenue

**9. Acquisitions***Spectra Linear*

On January 25, 2011, the Company acquired Spectra Linear, Inc., a late-stage private company offering integrated timing solutions. The Company acquired Spectra Linear for approximately \$28.6 million, including contingent consideration with an estimated fair value of \$1.0 million at the date of acquisition. In addition, the Company assumed approximately \$8.0 million of Spectra Linear net liabilities in connection with the acquisition.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**9. Acquisitions (Continued)**

The Company paid an additional approximately \$4.5 million of consideration to certain Spectra Linear employees in connection with an agreement between the employees and Spectra Linear. This agreement provided that upon the sale of Spectra Linear, a portion of the proceeds would be paid to such employees as bonuses. The agreement was accounted for as a transaction separate from the business combination based on its economic substance and was recorded as post-combination compensation expense in the Company's financial statements during fiscal 2011.

Approximately \$6.0 million of the consideration was deposited in escrow as security for breaches of representations and warranties and certain other expressly enumerated matters.

The Company recorded the purchase of Spectra Linear using the acquisition method of accounting and accordingly, recognized the assets acquired and liabilities assumed at their fair values as of the date of the acquisition. The results of Spectra Linear's operations are included in the Company's consolidated results of operations beginning with the date of the acquisition. Revenues and earnings from this acquisition and pro forma financial information have not been presented because the results of Spectra Linear's operations were not material. Acquisition-related costs were not significant.

The Company believes that the acquisition adds a broad family of timing ICs that will enable it to accelerate penetration in high-volume applications, while further scaling the Company's engineering team. These factors contributed to a purchase price that was in excess of the fair value of the net assets acquired and, as a result, the Company recorded goodwill. The goodwill was allocated to the Company's operating segment and is not deductible for tax purposes. The purchase price was allocated as follows (in thousands):

	Amount	Weighted-Average Amortization Period (Years)
Intangible assets:		
Core and developed technology	\$ 16,560	9.6
Customer relationships	1,400	10.0
	<u>17,960</u>	
Accounts receivable	1,759	
Inventories	1,199	
Other current assets	1,658	
Goodwill	4,097	
Deferred tax assets—non-current	12,316	
Other non-current assets	597	
Notes payable—current portion	(4,641)	
Current liabilities	(3,112)	
Non-current liabilities	(3,254)	
Total purchase price	<u>\$ 28,579</u>	

One of the Company's directors, Harvey B. Cash, is a General Partner with InterWest Partners and InterWest Partners was one of the principal stockholders of Spectra Linear. Mr. Cash abstained from the decision-making process with respect to the acquisition.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**9. Acquisitions (Continued)***Silicon Clocks*

In April 2010, the Company acquired Silicon Clocks, Inc., a privately held company that designed and developed microelectromechanical system (MEMS) technology to enable the manufacture of silicon resonators and sensors directly on standard complementary metal oxide semiconductor (CMOS) wafers. The Company acquired Silicon Clocks for approximately \$21.0 million in cash.

The Company recorded the purchase of Silicon Clocks using the acquisition method of accounting and accordingly, recognized the assets acquired and liabilities assumed at their fair values as of the date of the acquisition. The results of Silicon Clocks' operations are included in the Company's consolidated results of operations beginning with the date of the acquisition. Revenues and earnings from this acquisition and pro forma financial information have not been presented because the results of Silicon Clocks' operations were not material. Acquisition-related costs were not significant.

The Company believes that the acquisition will enable the Company to accelerate its entry into the low end timing market while further scaling the Company's engineering team. These factors contributed to a purchase price that was in excess of the fair value of the net assets acquired and, as a result, the Company recorded goodwill. The goodwill was allocated to the Company's operating segment and is not deductible for tax purposes. The purchase price was allocated as follows (in thousands):

	Amount	Weighted-Average Amortization Period (Years)
<b>Intangible assets:</b>		
In-process research and development	\$ 9,470	Not amortized
Developed technology	230	3.0
Customer relationships	30	2.0
	<u>9,730</u>	
Cash and cash equivalents	514	
Other current assets	473	
Deferred tax assets—non-current	11,521	
Other non-current assets	322	
Goodwill	3,209	
Current liabilities	(1,338)	
Deferred tax liabilities—non-current	(3,406)	
<b>Total purchase price</b>	<u>\$ 21,025</u>	

In-process research and development (IPR&D) represents acquired technology that had not achieved technological feasibility as of the acquisition closing date and had no alternative future use. These costs were recorded as indefinite-lived intangible assets. The assets are tested for impairment through their completion and then amortized to research and development expense over their useful lives. IPR&D is written-off if the related projects are abandoned. The fair value of each project was determined using the income approach. The discount rate applicable to the cash flows was 19.0%. This rate reflects the weighted-average cost of capital and the risks inherent in the development process.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**9. Acquisitions (Continued)**

The Company is developing the IPR&D projects using MEMS technology. The IPR&D recorded in connection with the acquisition consisted of the following (in thousands):

<u>Project</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>
Resonator	\$ 5,200
Clocks	4,270
	<u>\$ 9,470</u>

*ChipSensors*

In October 2010, the Company acquired ChipSensors Ltd, a privately held company for approximately \$11.7 million, including contingent consideration with an estimated fair value of \$1.8 million at the date of acquisition. ChipSensors created innovative single-chip CMOS sensors designed to detect temperature, humidity and gases. The Company recorded the purchase of Silicon Clocks using the acquisition method of accounting and accordingly, recognized the assets acquired and liabilities assumed at their fair values as of the date of the acquisition. The purchase price was allocated as follows: intangible assets—\$9.1 million; goodwill—\$3.1 million; and net tangible assets—\$(0.5) million. Revenues and earnings from this acquisition and pro forma financial information have not been presented because the results of ChipSensors' operations were not material.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**10. Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets***Goodwill*

The following summarizes the activity in goodwill for the years ended December 31, 2011 and January 1, 2011 (in thousands):

	Year Ended	
	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011
Beginning balance	\$ 112,296	\$ 105,109
Additions due to business combinations	4,097	7,187
Adjustments	(904)	—
Ending balance	<u>\$ 115,489</u>	<u>\$ 112,296</u>

*Other Intangible Assets*

The gross carrying amount and accumulated amortization of other intangible assets are as follows (in thousands):

	Weighted-Average Amortization Period (Years)	December 31, 2011		January 1, 2011	
		Gross Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Gross Amount	Accumulated Amortization
<b>Intangible assets:</b>					
Subject to amortization:					
Core and developed technology	9.4	\$ 79,500	\$ (30,432)	\$ 64,270	\$ (22,383)
Customer relationships	9.9	2,510	(523)	3,410	(1,766)
Patents	—	—	—	2,898	(2,657)
	<u>9.4</u>	<u>82,010</u>	<u>(30,955)</u>	<u>70,578</u>	<u>(26,806)</u>
Not subject to amortization:					
In-process research and development	Not amortized	8,950	—	9,470	—
<b>Total intangible assets</b>		<u><u>\$ 90,960</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (30,955)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 80,048</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (26,806)</u></u>

Gross intangible assets increased \$18.0 million in fiscal 2011 due to the acquisition of Spectra Linear. This increase was offset by the removal of \$2.9 million of fully amortized assets and \$4.2 million of impaired assets (which had a remaining unamortized balance of \$1.3 million, resulting in a \$1.3 million charge primarily to research and development expense in the Consolidated Statement of Income). The impaired assets were written down to zero.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**10. Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets (Continued)**

Amortization expense related to intangible assets for fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009 was \$9.9 million, \$7.5 million and \$7.8 million, respectively. The estimated aggregate amortization expense for intangible assets subject to amortization for each of the five succeeding fiscal years is as follows (in thousands):

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	
2012	\$ 9,056
2013	7,680
2014	6,840
2015	6,448
2016	5,716

**11. Stockholders' Equity**

*Common Stock*

The Company issued 1.3 million shares of common stock during fiscal 2011, net of 0.2 million shares withheld to satisfy employee tax obligations for the vesting of certain stock grants made under the Company's stock incentive plans.

*Share Repurchase Programs*

In October 2011, the Board of Directors adopted a share repurchase program to repurchase up to \$50 million of the Company's common stock through April 2012. The Company's repurchase program announced in July 2010, authorized the repurchase of up to \$150 million of the Company's common stock through 2011, and was completed in August 2011. The Company's repurchase program announced in October 2009 authorized the repurchase of up to \$150 million of the Company's common stock through 2010, and was terminated upon the adoption of the July 2010 program. The Company's repurchase program announced in October 2008 authorized the repurchase of up to \$100 million of the Company's common stock over a 12-month period, and was completed in November 2009. These programs allow for repurchases to be made in the open market or in private transactions, including structured or accelerated transactions, subject to applicable legal requirements and market conditions. The Company repurchased 3.2 million shares, 3.3 million shares and 0.6 million shares of its common stock for \$110.1 million, \$140.3 million and \$20.2 million during fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**11. Stockholders' Equity (Continued)***Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss*

The components of accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of taxes, were as follows (in thousands):

	Unrealized Losses on Cash Flow Hedges	Net Unrealized Losses on Available- For-Sale Securities	Total
Balance at January 3, 2009	\$ (3,642)	\$ (2,406)	\$ (6,048)
Change associated with current period transactions, net of tax	(1,092)	969	(123)
Amount reclassified into earnings, net of tax	1,815	—	1,815
Balance at January 2, 2010	(2,919)	(1,437)	(4,356)
Change associated with current period transactions, net of tax	(1,716)	185	(1,531)
Amount reclassified into earnings, net of tax	2,158	81	2,239
Balance at January 1, 2011	(2,477)	(1,171)	(3,648)
Change associated with current period transactions, net of tax	(276)	3	(273)
Amount reclassified into earnings, net of tax	1,454	—	1,454
Balance at December 31, 2011	<u>\$ (1,299)</u>	<u>\$ (1,168)</u>	<u>\$ (2,467)</u>

**12. Stock-Based Compensation**

In fiscal 2009, the stockholders of the Company approved the 2009 Stock Incentive Plan (the "2009 Plan") and the 2009 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the "2009 Purchase Plan"). The 2009 Plan is currently effective, and no further grants will be issued under the Company's 2000 Stock Incentive Plan (the "2000 Plan") as of the effective date of the 2009 Plan. The 2009 Plan has a term of 10 years from the shareholders' approval date. The 2009 Purchase Plan became effective upon the termination of the previous Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the "Purchase Plan"), on April 30, 2010. There is no provision for an automatic share reserve increase in either the 2009 Plan or the 2009 Purchase Plan.

*2009 Stock Incentive Plan*

Under the 2009 Plan, the following may be granted: stock options, stock appreciation rights, performance shares, performance stock units, restricted stock units (RSUs), restricted stock awards (RSAs), performance-based awards and other awards (collectively, all such grants are referred to as "awards"). Awards of stock options and stock appreciation rights each deduct one share from the 2009 Plan shares available for issuance for each share granted, and full value awards (awards other than for which the participant is required to pay at least the fair market value of the underlying shares on the date of grant) deduct 1.55 shares from the 2009 Plan shares available for issuance for each share granted. Awards granted under the 2009 Plan generally contain vesting provisions ranging from three to four years. The exercise price of stock options offered under the 2009 Plan may not be less than 100% of the fair market value of a share of our common stock on the date of grant. To the extent awards

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**12. Stock-Based Compensation (Continued)**

granted under the 2009 Plan terminate, expire or lapse for any reason, or are settled in cash, shares subject to such awards will again be available for grant.

*2000 Stock Incentive Plan*

In fiscal 2000, the Company's Board of Directors and stockholders approved the 2000 Plan. The 2000 Plan contains programs for (i) the discretionary granting of stock options to employees, non-employee board members and consultants for the purchase of shares of the Company's common stock, (ii) the discretionary issuance of common stock directly (as granted under direct issuance shares in RSAs and RSUs), (iii) the granting of special below-market stock options to executive officers and other highly compensated employees of the Company for which the exercise price can be paid using payroll deductions and (iv) the automatic issuance of stock options to non-employee board members. The discretionary issuance of common stock, RSUs and stock options generally contain vesting provisions ranging from three to eight years. If permitted by the Company, stock options can be exercised immediately and, similar to the direct issuance shares, are subject to repurchase rights which generally lapse in accordance with the vesting schedule. The repurchase rights provide that upon certain defined events, the Company can repurchase unvested shares at the price paid per share. The term of each stock option is no more than ten years from the date of grant.

*Stock Grants and Modifications*

The Company granted to its employees 0.8 million, 0.8 million and 0.2 million shares of full value awards and no stock options from the 2009 Plan during fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The Company granted to its employees 0.8 million of full value awards from the 2000 Plan during fiscal 2009. There were no significant modifications made to any stock grants during these periods.

Included in the full value awards granted under the 2009 Plan in fiscal 2011 were a total of 55 thousand market-based stock awards. The awards, also known as Market Stock Units (MSUs), provide the rights to acquire a number of shares of common stock for no cash consideration based upon achievement of specified levels of market conditions. The requisite service period for these MSUs is also the vesting period, which is generally three years. The performance criteria of the MSUs measure the difference between the total stockholders' return of the Company against that of the Philadelphia Semiconductor Sector Total Return Index.

*2009 Employee Stock Purchase Plan*

The rights to purchase common stock granted under the 2009 Purchase Plan are intended to be treated as either (i) purchase rights granted under an "employee stock purchase plan," as that term is defined in Section 423(b) of the Internal Revenue Code (the "423(b) Plan"), or (ii) purchase rights granted under an employee stock purchase plan that is not subject to the terms and conditions of Section 423(b) of the Internal Revenue Code (the "Non-423(b) Plan"). The Company will retain the discretion to grant purchase rights under either the 423(b) Plan or the Non-423(b) Plan. Eligible employees may purchase a limited number of shares of the Company's common stock at no less than 85% of the fair market value of a share of common stock at prescribed purchase intervals during an offering period. Each offering period will be comprised of a series of one or more successive and/or overlapping purchase intervals and has a maximum term of 24 months. During fiscal 2011 and 2010, the

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**12. Stock-Based Compensation (Continued)**

Company issued 169 thousand and 75 thousand shares, respectively, under the 2009 Purchase Plan to its employees. The weighted-average fair value for purchase rights granted under the 2009 Purchase Plan for fiscal 2011 was \$10.98 per share.

*Employee Stock Purchase Plan*

The Purchase Plan was adopted by the Company's Board of Directors in fiscal 2000. Eligible employees could purchase a limited number of shares of the Company's common stock at 85% of the market value during a series of offering periods. Each offering period is divided into semi-annual purchase intervals and has a maximum term of 24 months. During fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009, the Company issued zero, 79 thousand and 148 thousand shares, respectively, under the Purchase Plan to its employees. There were no purchase rights granted under the Purchase Plan for fiscal 2011.

*Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*

Stock-based compensation costs are based on the fair values on the date of grant for stock options and on the date of enrollment for the employee stock purchase plans, estimated by using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. The fair values of stock awards and RSUs equal their intrinsic value on the date of grant. The fair values of market-based performance awards generally are estimated using a Monte Carlo simulation based on the date of grant.

The Black-Scholes valuation calculation requires the Company to estimate key assumptions such as future stock price volatility, expected terms, risk-free rates and dividend yield. Expected stock price volatility is based upon a combination of both historical volatility and implied volatility derived from traded options on the Company's stock in the marketplace. Expected term is derived from an analysis of historical exercises and remaining contractual life of options. The risk-free rate is based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve in effect at the time of grant. The Company has never paid cash dividends and does not currently intend to pay cash dividends, thus it has assumed a 0% dividend yield.

The Monte Carlo simulation used to calculate the fair value of the MSUs simulates the present value of the potential outcomes of future stock prices of the Company and the Philadelphia Semiconductor Sector Total Return Index over the requisite service period. The projection of stock prices are based on the risk-free rate of return, the volatilities of the stock price of the Company and the Index, and the correlation of the stock price of the Company with the Index.

The Company must estimate potential forfeitures of stock grants and adjust compensation cost recorded accordingly. The estimate of forfeitures will be adjusted over the requisite service period to the extent that actual forfeitures differ, or are expected to differ, from such estimates. Changes in estimated forfeitures are recognized through a cumulative catch-up adjustment in the period of change and will also impact the amount of stock-based compensation expense to be recognized in future periods.

The fair values of stock options and RSUs are amortized as compensation expense on a straight-line basis over the vesting period of the grants. The fair values of RSAs are fully expensed in the period of grant, when shares are immediately issued with no vesting restrictions. The fair values of MSUs are amortized as compensation expense on a straight-line basis over the performance period of

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**12. Stock-Based Compensation (Continued)**

the grants. Compensation expense recognized is shown in the operating activities section of the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

The fair values estimated from the Black-Scholes option-pricing model were calculated using the following assumptions:

	Year Ended		
	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011	January 2, 2010
<i>2009 Employee Stock Purchase Plan:</i>			
Expected volatility	27%	32%	n/a
Risk-free interest rate %	0.2%	0.4%	n/a
Expected term (in months)	11	15	n/a
Dividend yield	—	—	n/a
<i>Employee Stock Purchase Plan:</i>			
Expected volatility	n/a	n/a	44%
Risk-free interest rate %	n/a	n/a	0.3%
Expected term (in months)	n/a	n/a	8
Dividend yield	n/a	n/a	—

n/a—Not applicable

There were no stock options granted during fiscal 2011, 2010 or 2009.

A summary of stock-based compensation activity with respect to fiscal 2011 follows:

<u>Stock Options</u>	<u>Shares (000s)</u>	<u>Weighted- Average Exercise Price</u>	<u>Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Term (In Years)</u>	<u>Aggregate Intrinsic Value (000s)</u>
Outstanding at January 1, 2011	3,000	\$ 33.26		
Granted	—	\$ —		
Exercised	(484)	\$ 25.96		
Cancelled or expired	(31)	\$ 52.98		
Outstanding at December 31, 2011	2,485	\$ 34.44	3.5	\$ 24,685
Vested at December 31, 2011 and expected to vest	2,485	\$ 34.44	3.5	\$ 24,685
Exercisable at December 31, 2011	2,446	\$ 34.42	3.5	\$ 24,375

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**12. Stock-Based Compensation (Continued)**

<u>RSAs, RSUs and MSUs</u>	<u>Shares (000s)</u>	<u>Weighted- Average Purchase Price</u>	<u>Weighted-Average Remaining Vesting Term (In Years)</u>	<u>Aggregate Intrinsic Value (000s)</u>
Outstanding at January 1, 2011	2,206	\$ 0.00		
Granted	753	\$ 0.00		
Issued	(878)	\$ 0.00		
Cancelled or expired	(92)	\$ 0.00		
Outstanding at December 31, 2011	1,989	\$ 0.00	1.1	\$ 86,361
Outstanding at December 31, 2011 and expected to vest	1,866	\$ 0.00	1.1	\$ 81,025

The following summarizes the Company's weighted average fair value at the date of grant:

	<u>Year Ended</u>		
	<u>December 31, 2011</u>	<u>January 1, 2011</u>	<u>January 2, 2010</u>
Per grant of RSAs, RSUs and MSUs	\$ 44.73	\$ 44.88	\$ 27.45

The following summarizes the Company's stock-based payment and stock option values (in thousands):

	<u>Year Ended</u>		
	<u>December 31, 2011</u>	<u>January 1, 2011</u>	<u>January 2, 2010</u>
Intrinsic value of stock options exercised	\$ 8,622	\$ 14,087	\$ 14,549
Intrinsic value of RSAs and RSUs that vested	\$ 38,769	\$ 32,109	\$ 23,983
Grant date fair value of RSAs and RSUs that vested	\$ 29,488	\$ 25,398	\$ 22,764

The Company had approximately \$41.0 million of total unrecognized compensation costs related to stock options and stock awards at December 31, 2011 that are expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 1.4 years. There were no significant stock-based compensation costs capitalized into assets in any of the periods presented.

The Company received cash of \$7.7 million for the issuance of common stock, net of shares withheld for taxes, during fiscal 2011. The Company issues shares from the shares reserved under its stock plans upon the exercise of stock options, issuance of RSAs, vesting of RSUs and purchases through employee stock purchase plans. The Company does not currently expect to repurchase shares from any source to satisfy such obligation.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**12. Stock-Based Compensation (Continued)**

The following table presents details of stock-based compensation costs recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Income (in thousands):

	Year Ended		
	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011	January 2, 2010
Cost of revenues	\$ 1,319	\$ 1,435	\$ 1,457
Research and development	14,872	17,017	13,866
Selling, general and administrative	19,924	21,872	28,651
	<u>36,115</u>	<u>40,324</u>	<u>43,974</u>
Income tax benefit	3,957	5,462	6,221
	<u>\$ 32,158</u>	<u>\$ 34,862</u>	<u>\$ 37,753</u>

As of December 31, 2011, the Company had reserved shares of common stock for future issuance as follows (in thousands):

2000 Stock Incentive Plan	3,055
2009 Stock Incentive Plan	6,350
2009 Employee Stock Purchase Plan	1,006
Total shares reserved	<u>10,411</u>

**13. Employee Benefit Plan**

The Company maintains a defined contribution or 401(k) Plan for its qualified U.S. employees. Participants may contribute a percentage of their compensation on a pre-tax basis, subject to a maximum annual contribution imposed by the Internal Revenue Code. The Company may make discretionary matching contributions as well as discretionary profit-sharing contributions to the 401(k) Plan. The Company contributed \$2.7 million, \$2.6 million and \$2.2 million to the 401(k) Plan during fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

**14. Commitments and Contingencies***Operating Leases*

The Company leases its facilities under operating lease agreements that expire at various dates through 2019. Some of these arrangements contain renewal options and require the Company to pay taxes, insurance and maintenance costs.

Rent expense under operating leases was \$4.5 million, \$5.0 million and \$5.1 million for fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**14. Commitments and Contingencies (Continued)**

The minimum annual future rentals under the terms of these leases as of December 31, 2011 are as follows (in thousands):

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	
2012	\$ 6,630
2013	3,347
2014	1,664
2015	1,515
2016	1,518
Thereafter	2,996
Total minimum lease payments	<u>17,670</u>
Minimum sublease rental income	(3,795)
Total net minimum lease payments	<u>\$ 13,875</u>

*Headquarters Leases*

In March 2006, the Company entered into an operating lease agreement and a related participation agreement for a facility at 400 W. Cesar Chavez ("400 WCC") in Austin, Texas for its corporate headquarters. The lease has a term of seven years. The base rent for the term of the lease is an amount equal to the interest accruing on \$44.3 million at 110 basis points over the three-month LIBOR (which would be approximately \$0.9 million over the remaining term assuming LIBOR averages 0.56% during such term).

In March 2008, the Company entered into an operating lease agreement and a related participation agreement for a facility at 200 W. Cesar Chavez ("200 WCC") in Austin, Texas for the expansion of its corporate headquarters. The lease has a term of five years. The base rent for the term of the lease is an amount equal to the interest accruing on \$50.1 million at 155 basis points over the three-month LIBOR (which would be approximately \$1.3 million over the remaining term assuming LIBOR averages 0.56% during such term).

The Company has granted certain rights and remedies to the lessors in the event of certain defaults, including the right to terminate the leases, to bring suit to collect damages, and to compel the Company to purchase the facilities. The leases contain other customary representations, warranties, obligations, conditions, indemnification provisions and termination provisions, including covenants that the Company shall maintain unencumbered cash and highly-rated short-term investments of at least \$75 million. If the Company's unencumbered cash and highly-rated short-term investments are less than \$150 million, it must also maintain a ratio of funded debt to earnings before interest expense, income taxes, depreciation, amortization, lease expense and other non-cash charges (EBITDAR) over the four prior fiscal quarters of no greater than 2 to 1. As of December 31, 2011, the Company believes it was in compliance with all covenants of the leases.

During the terms of the leases, the Company has on-going options to purchase the buildings for purchase prices of approximately \$44.3 million for 400 WCC and \$50.1 million for 200 WCC. Alternatively, the Company can cause each such property to be sold to third parties provided it is not in default under that property's lease. The Company is contingently liable on a first dollar loss basis for

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**14. Commitments and Contingencies (Continued)**

up to \$35.3 million to the extent that the 400 WCC sale proceeds are less than the \$44.3 million purchase option and up to \$40.0 million to the extent that the 200 WCC sale proceeds are less than the \$50.1 million purchase option.

The Company determined that the fair value associated with the guaranteed residual values was \$1.0 million for 400 WCC and \$1.2 million for 200 WCC, as of the inception of the leases. These amounts were recorded in "Other assets, net" and "Long-term obligations and other liabilities" in the Consolidated Balance Sheets and are being amortized over the term of the leases.

The Company is required to periodically evaluate the expected fair value of each facility at the end of the lease terms. If the Company determines that it is estimable and probable that the expected fair values will be less than \$44.3 million for 400 WCC and \$50.1 million for 200 WCC, it will ratably accrue the loss up to a maximum of approximately \$35.3 million and \$40.0 million, respectively, over the remaining lease terms as additional rent expense. As of December 31, 2011, the Company does not believe that a loss contingency accrual is required for either property. However, a prolonged economic downturn could increase the likelihood of such a loss accrual.

*Interest Rate Swap Agreements*

In connection with its headquarters leases, during fiscal 2008 the Company entered into interest rate swap agreements as a hedge against the variable rent under the leases. Under the terms of the swap agreements, the Company effectively converted the variable rents to fixed rents through March 2011 for 400 WCC and March 2013 for 200 WCC. See Note 5, *Derivative Financial Instruments*, for additional information.

*Litigation*

*Securities Litigation*

On December 6, 2001, a class action complaint for violations of U.S. federal securities laws was filed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York against the Company, four officers individually and the three investment banking firms who served as representatives of the underwriters in connection with the Company's initial public offering of common stock. The Consolidated Amended Complaint alleges that the registration statement and prospectus for the Company's initial public offering did not disclose that (1) the underwriters solicited and received additional, excessive and undisclosed commissions from certain investors, and (2) the underwriters had agreed to allocate shares of the offering in exchange for a commitment from the customers to purchase additional shares in the aftermarket at pre-determined higher prices. The Complaint alleges violations of the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. The action seeks damages in an unspecified amount and is being coordinated with approximately 300 other nearly identical actions filed against other companies. A court order dated October 9, 2002 dismissed without prejudice the four officers of the Company who had been named individually. On December 5, 2006, the Second Circuit vacated a decision by the District Court granting class certification in six of the coordinated cases, which are intended to serve as test, or "focus" cases. The plaintiffs selected these six cases, which do not include the Company. On April 6, 2007, the Second Circuit denied a petition for rehearing filed by the plaintiffs, but noted that the plaintiffs could ask the District Court to certify more narrow classes than those that were rejected.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**14. Commitments and Contingencies (Continued)**

The parties in the approximately 300 coordinated cases, including the parties in the case against the Company, reached a settlement. On October 5, 2009, the Court granted final approval of the settlement. Judgment was entered on January 10, 2010. The settlement approval was appealed to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. One appeal was dismissed and the second appeal was remanded to the District Court to determine if the appellant is a class member with standing to appeal. The District Court ruled that the appellant lacked standing. The appellant appealed the District Court's decision to the Second Circuit. Subsequently, the appellant entered into a settlement agreement with counsel for the plaintiff class pursuant to which he dismissed his appeal with prejudice. As a result, the settlement among the parties is final and the case is concluded. The insurers for the issuer defendants in the coordinated cases will make the settlement payment on behalf of the issuers, including the Company. The settlement did not have a material impact to the Company's financial position or results of operations.

*Other*

The Company is involved in various other legal proceedings that have arisen in the normal course of business. While the ultimate results of these matters cannot be predicted with certainty, the Company does not expect them to have a material adverse effect on its consolidated financial position or results of operations.

*Discontinued Operations Indemnification*

In fiscal 2007, the Company sold its Aero transceiver, AeroFONE™ single-chip phone and power amplifier product lines (the "Aero product lines") to NXP B.V. and NXP Semiconductors France SAS (collectively "NXP"). In connection with the sale of the Aero product lines, the Company agreed to indemnify NXP with respect to liabilities for certain tax matters. There is no contractual limit on exposure with respect to such matters. As of December 31, 2011, the Company had no material liabilities recorded with respect to this indemnification obligation.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**15. Income Taxes**

Significant components of the provision (benefit) for income taxes are as follows (in thousands):

	Year Ended		
	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011	January 2, 2010
<b>Current:</b>			
Domestic	\$ 14,468	\$ 10,824	\$ (11,560)
International	2,845	4,145	5,538
Total Current	17,313	14,969	(6,022)
<b>Deferred:</b>			
Domestic	(70)	(192)	2,234
International	(375)	(360)	(338)
Total Deferred	(445)	(552)	1,896
	<u>\$ 16,868</u>	<u>\$ 14,417</u>	<u>\$ (4,126)</u>

The Company's provision (benefit) for income taxes differs from the expected tax expense amount computed by applying the statutory federal income tax rate to income before income taxes as a result of the following:

	Year Ended		
	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011	January 2, 2010
Federal statutory rate	35.0%	35.0%	35.0%
Foreign tax rate benefit	(11.0)	(15.6)	(16.7)
Research and development tax credits	(8.5)	(6.1)	(3.1)
Release of prior year unrecognized tax benefits	—	(3.6)	(23.4)
Intercompany technology license	10.4	4.4	—
Excess officer compensation	3.2	2.0	1.8
Nondeductible acquisition costs	2.9	—	—
Other	0.2	0.3	0.4
	<u>32.2%</u>	<u>16.4%</u>	<u>(6.0)%</u>

The effective tax rate for fiscal 2011 increased from the prior period, primarily due to the tax charge related to the intercompany license of certain technology obtained in the acquisition of Spectra Linear and other one-time nondeductible costs associated with the acquisition of Spectra Linear, a decrease in the foreign tax rate benefit, and a release of prior year unrecognized tax benefits in fiscal 2010 with none in fiscal 2011. These changes were partially offset by an increase in the research and development tax credit. The effective tax rate for fiscal 2010 increased from fiscal 2009, primarily due to the resolution of uncertain tax positions as a result of entering into an Advance Pricing Agreement with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service during fiscal 2009. In addition, the effective tax rate for fiscal 2010 increased from the prior period due to the intercompany license of certain technology obtained in the acquisition of Silicon Clocks during fiscal 2010. The increase in the effective tax rate was partially offset by an increase in the federal research and development credit in fiscal 2010.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**15. Income Taxes (Continued)**

Income before income taxes included approximately \$4.1 million, \$40.1 million and \$39.5 million related to foreign operations in fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Foreign income before income taxes decreased from fiscal 2010 to fiscal 2011 predominantly due to changes in product mix, an increase in research and development expense and an increase in the intercompany technology license payments made by a foreign subsidiary.

At the end of fiscal 2011, undistributed earnings of the Company's foreign subsidiaries of approximately \$265.3 million are considered permanently reinvested. Accordingly, no provision for U.S. federal and state income taxes has been made. Determination of the amount of the unrecognized deferred tax liability on these unremitted earnings is not practicable.

Significant components of the Company's deferred taxes as of December 31, 2011 and January 1, 2011 are as follows (in thousands):

	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011
Deferred tax assets:		
Net operating loss carryforwards	\$ 21,479	\$ 10,927
Research and development tax credit carryforwards	5,556	4,880
Stock-based compensation	9,963	10,204
Depreciable assets	34,762	31,489
Reserves and allowances	122	136
Unrealized losses on available-for-sale securities	629	631
Unrealized losses on cash flow hedges	699	1,334
Deferred income on shipments to distributors	3,895	3,299
Accrued liabilities and other	5,855	4,559
	<u>82,960</u>	<u>67,459</u>
Less: Valuation allowance	—	—
	<u>82,960</u>	<u>67,459</u>
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Acquired intangibles	18,562	15,536
Long term obligations for tax purposes	33,023	33,023
Prepaid expenses and other	913	1,234
	<u>52,498</u>	<u>49,793</u>
Net deferred tax assets	<u>\$ 30,462</u>	<u>\$ 17,666</u>

As of December 31, 2011, the Company had federal net operating loss and research and development credit carryforwards of approximately \$52.5 million and \$0.3 million, respectively, as a result of the Cygnal Integrated Products, Silicon Clocks and SpectraLinear acquisitions. These carryforwards expire in fiscal years 2019 through 2030. Recognition of these loss and credit carryforwards is subject to an annual limit, which may cause them to expire before they are used.

The Company also had state loss and research and development credit carryforwards of approximately \$60.6 million and \$8.0 million, respectively. A portion of these loss and credit

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**15. Income Taxes (Continued)**

carryforwards was generated by the Company and a portion was acquired through the Integration Associates, Silicon Clocks and SpectraLinear acquisitions. Certain of these carryforwards expire in fiscal years 2014 through 2030 and others do not expire. Recognition of some of these loss and credit carryforwards is subject to an annual limit, which may cause them to expire before they are used.

Deferred income taxes reflect the net tax effects of temporary differences between the carrying value of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the values used for income tax purposes. During 2011, the Company recorded net deferred tax assets of approximately \$0.9 million related to the acquisition of Silicon Clocks and net deferred tax assets of approximately \$12.2 million related to the acquisition of SpectraLinear due to differences between book and tax bases of acquired assets and assumed liabilities. Management believes that the Company's results of future operations will generate sufficient taxable income such that it is "more likely than not" that the deferred tax assets will be realized.

The Company's operations in Singapore are subject to reduced tax rates through 2019, as long as certain conditions are met. The income tax benefit from the reduced Singapore tax rate reflected in earnings was approximately \$2.5 million (representing \$0.06 per diluted share) in fiscal 2011, approximately \$6.1 million (representing \$0.13 per diluted share) in fiscal 2010 and approximately \$6.3 million (representing \$0.13 per diluted share) in fiscal 2009.

The following table reflects changes in the unrecognized tax benefits (in thousands):

	Year Ended		
	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011	January 2, 2010
Beginning balance	\$ 10,789	\$ 12,160	\$ 32,695
Additions based on tax positions related to current year	757	1,742	—
Additions based on tax positions related to prior years	—	—	4,127
Reductions for tax positions related to prior years	(603)	(3,113)	(14,954)
Reductions for tax positions as a result of a lapse of the applicable statute of limitations	—	—	(1,197)
Reductions for settlements with taxing authorities	—	—	(8,511)
Ending balance	<u>\$ 10,943</u>	<u>\$ 10,789</u>	<u>\$ 12,160</u>

As of December 31, 2011, January 1, 2011 and January 2, 2010, the Company had gross unrecognized tax benefits of \$10.9 million, \$10.8 million and \$12.2 million, respectively, all of which would affect the effective tax rate if recognized. The Company recognizes interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits in the provision for income taxes. The Company did not recognize any interest in the provision for income taxes in fiscal 2011 and 2010. During fiscal 2009, the Company recognized \$0.8 million of interest, net of tax, in the provision for income taxes. In addition, the Company had decreases of interest, net of tax, of \$0.1 million in fiscal 2010, and of \$1.8 million in fiscal 2009. The Company has not made an accrual for the payment of interest related to unrecognized tax positions at the end of fiscal 2011 and 2010.

**Silicon Laboratories Inc.**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2011 (Continued)**

**15. Income Taxes (Continued)**

The Company believes it is reasonably possible that the gross unrecognized tax benefits will decrease by approximately \$3.5 million in the next 12 months due to the lapse of the statute of limitations applicable to a tax deduction claimed on a prior year foreign tax return.

The tax years 2005 through 2011 remain open to examination by the major taxing jurisdictions to which the Company is subject. The Company is not currently under audit in any major taxing jurisdiction.

**16. Segment Information**

The Company has one operating segment, mixed-signal analog intensive ICs, consisting of numerous product areas. The Company's chief operating decision maker is considered to be its Chief Executive Officer. The chief operating decision maker allocates resources and assesses performance of the business and other activities at the operating segment level.

Revenue is attributed to a geographic area based on the shipped-to location. The following summarizes the Company's revenue by geographic area (in thousands):

	Year Ended		
	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011	January 2, 2010
United States	\$ 67,432	\$ 69,753	\$ 54,065
China	152,533	137,703	105,509
South Korea	70,252	65,409	91,974
Taiwan	59,208	76,991	68,320
Japan	50,270	34,031	28,874
Rest of world	91,930	109,454	92,278
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 491,625</b>	<b>\$ 493,341</b>	<b>\$ 441,020</b>

The following summarizes the Company's property and equipment, net by geographic area (in thousands):

	December 31, 2011	January 1, 2011
United States	\$ 17,293	\$ 20,559
Singapore	6,220	8,017
Rest of world	1,628	1,369
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 25,141</b>	<b>\$ 29,945</b>

### Supplementary Financial Information (Unaudited)

Quarterly financial information for fiscal 2011 and 2010 is as follows. All quarterly periods reported here had 13 weeks (in thousands, except per share amounts):

	Fiscal 2011			
	Fourth Quarter	Third Quarter	Second Quarter	First Quarter
Revenues	\$ 126,692	\$ 119,100	\$ 126,197	\$ 119,636
Gross margin	77,179	72,897	76,212	72,158
Operating income	15,223	13,928	15,984	4,939
Net income (loss)	\$ 12,805	\$ 11,255	\$ 13,372	\$ (1,960)
Earnings (loss) per share:				
Basic	\$ 0.31	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.30	\$ (0.04)
Diluted	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.29	\$ (0.04)

	Fiscal 2010			
	Fourth Quarter	Third Quarter	Second Quarter	First Quarter
Revenues	\$ 111,891	\$ 120,154	\$ 134,577	\$ 126,719
Gross margin	71,091	78,670	90,893	83,590
Operating income	11,014	19,345	30,647	25,665
Net income	\$ 12,883	\$ 18,233	\$ 21,047	\$ 21,079
Earnings per share:				
Basic	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.46
Diluted	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.44



### Subsidiaries of the Registrant

	<u>Organized Under Law Of</u>
Shenzhen Silicon Laboratories Technology Co. Ltd.	China
Silicon Laboratories France SAS	France
Silicon Laboratories GmbH	Germany
Silicon Laboratories Asia Pacific, Limited	Hong Kong
Silicon Laboratories Hungary Korlátolt Felelősségű Társaság	Hungary
Silicon Laboratories Semiconductors India Private Ltd.	India
ChipSensors Limited	Ireland
Silicon Laboratories Ireland Limited	Ireland
Silicon Laboratories Italy, S.r.l.	Italy
Silicon Laboratories Y.K.	Japan
Spectralinear Japan K.K.	Japan
Silicon Laboratories International Pte. Ltd.	Singapore
Silicon Laboratories Teknoloji Limited Sirketi	Turkey
Silicon Laboratories UK Limited	United Kingdom
IC Works, Inc.	State of California
International Microcircuits, Inc.	State of California
Silicon Labs Integration, Inc.	State of California
Silicon Labs Spectra, Inc.	State of California
Silicon Laboratories Technology, LLC	State of Delaware
Silicon Labs CP, Inc.	State of Delaware
Silicon Labs HV, Inc.	State of Texas

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QuickLinks

[Exhibit 21](#)

[Subsidiaries of the Registrant](#)

[QuickLinks](#) -- Click here to rapidly navigate through this document

**Exhibit 23.1**

**Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statements (Form S-8 Nos. 333-39528, 333-45682, 333-60794, 333-83844, 333-104771, 333-112324, 333-122845, 333-131700, 333-140862, 333-149104 and 333-158938) pertaining to the stock incentive and employee stock purchase plans of Silicon Laboratories Inc. of our reports dated February 15, 2012, with respect to the consolidated financial statements of Silicon Laboratories Inc., and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting of Silicon Laboratories Inc., included in this Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended December 31, 2011.

/s/ ERNST & YOUNG LLP

Austin, Texas  
February 15, 2012

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QuickLinks

[Exhibit 23.1](#)

[Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm](#)

**Certification to the Securities and Exchange Commission  
by Registrant's Chief Executive Officer, as required by Section 302  
of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002**

I, Necip Sayiner, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this report on Form 10-K of Silicon Laboratories Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officers and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and we have:
  - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, 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;
  - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officers and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of registrant's board of directors (or persons fulfilling the equivalent functions):
  - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal controls over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal controls over financial reporting.

Date: February 15, 2012

/s/ NECIP SAYINER

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Necip Sayiner  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*  
*(Principal Executive Officer)*

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QuickLinks

[Exhibit 31.1](#)

[Certification to the Securities and Exchange Commission by Registrant's Chief Executive Officer, as required by Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002](#)

**Certification to the Securities and Exchange Commission  
by Registrant's Chief Financial Officer, as required by Section 302  
of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002**

I, Paul V. Walsh, Jr., certify that:

1. I have reviewed this report on Form 10-K of Silicon Laboratories Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officers and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and we have:
  - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, 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;
  - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officers and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of registrant's board of directors (or persons fulfilling the equivalent functions):
  - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal controls over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal controls over financial reporting.

Date: February 15, 2012

/s/ PAUL V. WALSH, JR.

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Paul V. Walsh, Jr.  
*Vice President and Chief Financial Officer*  
*(Principal Financial Officer)*

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QuickLinks

Exhibit 31.2

Certification to the Securities and Exchange Commission by Registrant's Chief Financial Officer, as required by Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

**Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer**

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350, as created by Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, each of the undersigned officers of Silicon Laboratories Inc. (the "Company") hereby certify that:

(i) the accompanying Annual Report on Form 10-K of the Company for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Report") fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or Section 15(d), as applicable, of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and

(ii) the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906 has been provided to the Company and will be retained by the Company and furnished to the Securities Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

Date: February 15, 2012

/s/ NECIP SAYINER

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Necip Sayiner  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*

/s/ PAUL V. WALSH, JR.

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Paul V. Walsh, Jr.  
*Vice President and Chief Financial Officer*

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QuickLinks

[Exhibit 32.1](#)

[Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer](#)