

MINDSPEED TECHNOLOGIES, INC  
Form 10-K  
November 30, 2007

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# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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## Form 10-K

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)  
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2007  
Commission file number: 000-50499

## MINDSPEED TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**  
(State of incorporation)

**01-0616769**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**4000 MacArthur Boulevard, East Tower**  
**Newport Beach, California**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**92660-3095**  
(Zip code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code:  
**(949) 579-3000**

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

**Common Stock \$0.01 par value per share**  
**(including associated Preferred Share Purchase Rights)**  
(Title of Each Class)

**The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC**  
(Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered)

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

**None**

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

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

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

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

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Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer or a non-accelerated filer.

Large Accelerated Filer  Accelerated Filer  Non-accelerated Filer

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 Registrant's voting and non-voting stock held by non-affiliates of the Registrant as of the end of its most recently completed second fiscal quarter was approximately \$245 million. Shares held by each officer and director and each person owning more than 10% of the outstanding voting and non-voting stock have been excluded from this calculation because such persons may be deemed to be affiliates of the Registrant. This determination of potential affiliate status is not necessarily a conclusive determination for other purposes. Shares held include shares of which certain of such persons disclaim beneficial ownership.

The number of outstanding shares of the Registrant's Common Stock as of November 23, 2007 was 116,455,372.

**Documents Incorporated by Reference**

Portions of the Registrant's Proxy Statement for the 2008 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A within 120 days after the end of the 2007 fiscal year, are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Form 10-K.

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**FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This Annual Report on Form 10-K contains statements relating to Mindspeed Technologies, Inc. (including certain projections and business trends) that are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act), and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), and are subject to the "safe harbor" created by those sections. All statements included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, other than those that are purely historical, are forward-looking statements. Words such as "expect," "believe," "anticipate," "outlook," "could," "target," "project," "intend," "plan," "seek," "estimate," "should," "may," "assume" and "continue," as well as variations of such words and similar expressions, also identify forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements in this Annual Report on Form 10-K include, without limitation, statements regarding:

our competitive advantages;

the ability of our relationships with network infrastructure original equipment manufacturers to facilitate early adoption of our products, enhance our ability to obtain design wins and encourage adoption of our technology in the industry;

the growth prospects for the network infrastructure equipment and communications semiconductors markets, including increased demand for network capacity, the upgrade and expansion of legacy networks, and the build-out of networks in developing countries;

our investment in research and development and participation in the formulation of industry standards;

the growth rate for products in the enterprise, network access and metro service areas and our position to increase market share;

the focus of our research and development efforts on certain products, including voice over Internet protocol and high performance analog applications, and our expectation of the growth prospects for those products;

our ability to achieve design wins and convert wins into revenue;

the availability of raw materials, parts and supplies;

competition and the principal competitive factors for semiconductor suppliers, including time to market, product quality, reliability and performance, customer support, price and total system cost, new product innovation and compliance with industry standards;

the continuation of intense price and product competition, and the resulting declining average selling prices for our products;

the value of our intellectual property;

the impact of changes in customer purchasing activities, inventory levels and inventory management practices;

the importance of attracting and retaining highly skilled, dedicated personnel;

the challenges of shifting any operations or labor offshore, including the likelihood of competition in offshore markets for qualified personnel;

our ability to achieve revenue growth and profitability, or to achieve positive cash flows from operations, and the expected period through which we will continue to incur losses and negative cash flows;

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our plans to reduce operating expenses, and the amount and timing of any such expense reductions;

the importance of providing comprehensive product service and support;

the dependence of our operating results on our ability to introduce products on a timely basis;

the continuation of a trend toward industry consolidation and the effect it could have on our operating results;

our expected amortization of certain assets;

our belief that we are benefiting from the increasing deployment of IP-based networks both in new network buildouts (particularly in Asia) and the replacement of circuit-switched networks;

the sufficiency of our existing sources of liquidity and expected sources of cash to fund our operations, research and development efforts, anticipated capital expenditures, working capital and other financing requirements for the next twelve months;

our expectation of paying our obligations relating to our restructuring plans and other obligations over their respective terms, our intention to fund those payments from available cash balances and funds from product sales, and the impact of such payments on our liquidity;

the circumstances under which we may need to seek additional financing, our ability to obtain any such financing and any consideration of acquisition opportunities;

our expectation that our provision for income taxes for fiscal 2008 will principally consist of income taxes related to our foreign operations;

our expectations with respect to our recognition of income tax benefits in the future;

our restructuring plans, including expected workforce reductions and facilities closures, the expected cost savings under our restructuring plans and the uses of those savings, the timing and amount of payments to complete the actions, the source of funds for such payments, the impact on our liquidity and the resulting decreases in our research and development and selling, general and administrative expenses, and the amounts of future charges to complete our restructuring plans;

our intentions with respect to inventories that were previously written down;

our beliefs regarding the effect of the disposition of pending or asserted legal matters;

our acquisition strategy and the impact of any past or future acquisitions, including the impact on revenue, margin and profitability;

our intentions to market, sell and support acquired Ethernet aggregation products and to develop and further extend the Ethernet MAC product line;

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our plans relating to our use of stock-based compensation, the effectiveness of our incentive compensation programs and the expected amounts of stock-based compensation expense in future periods;

our belief that the financial stability of suppliers is an important consideration in our customers' purchasing decisions;

the amount and timing of future payments under contractual obligations; and

the impact of recent accounting pronouncements and the adoption of new accounting standards.

Our expectations, beliefs, anticipations, objectives, intentions, plans and strategies regarding the future are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks and uncertainties that could

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cause actual results, and actual events that occur, to differ materially from results contemplated by the forward-looking statement. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to:

market demand for our new and existing products and our ability to increase our revenues;

our ability to maintain operating expenses within anticipated levels;

our ability to reduce our cash consumption;

availability and terms of capital needed for our business;

constraints in the supply of wafers and other product components from our third-party manufacturers;

our ability to successfully and cost effectively establish and manage operations in foreign jurisdictions;

the ability to attract and retain qualified personnel;

successful development and introduction of new products;

our ability to successfully integrate acquired businesses and realize the anticipated benefits from such acquisitions;

our ability to obtain design wins and develop revenues from them;

pricing pressures and other competitive factors;

industry consolidation;

order and shipment uncertainty;

changes in our customers' inventory levels and inventory management practices;

fluctuations in manufacturing yields;

product defects; and

intellectual property infringement claims by others and the ability to protect our intellectual property.

The forward-looking statements in this report are subject to additional risks and uncertainties, including those set forth in Item 1A "Risk Factors" and those detailed from time to time in our other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These forward-looking statements are made only as of the date hereof and, except as required by law, we undertake no obligation to update or revise any of them, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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Mindspeed®, Mindspeed Technologies® and Comcerto® are registered trademarks of Mindspeed Technologies, Inc. Other brands, names and trademarks contained in this report are the property of their respective owners.

For presentation purposes of this Annual Report on Form 10-K, references made to the years ended September 30, 2007, 2006 and 2005 relate to the actual fiscal years ended September 28, 2007, September 29, 2006 and September 30, 2005, respectively.



**PART I**

**Item 1. Business**

Mindspeed Technologies, Inc. (we or Mindspeed) designs, develops and sells semiconductor networking solutions for communications applications in enterprise, access, metropolitan and wide-area networks. Our products, ranging from optical network transceiver solutions to voice and Internet protocol (IP) processors, are sold to original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) for use in a variety of network infrastructure equipment, including mixed media gateways, high-speed routers, switches, access multiplexers, cross-connect systems, digital loop carrier equipment, IP private branch exchanges (PBXs) and optical modules. Service providers and enterprises use this equipment for the processing, transmission and switching of high-speed voice, data and video traffic, including advanced services such as voice over Internet protocol (VoIP), within different segments of the communications network. Our customers include Alcatel-Lucent, Cisco Systems, Inc., Huawei Technologies Co., LM Ericsson Telephone Company, Neophotonics Corporation, Nortel Networks, Inc., Nokia Siemens Networks, and Zhongxing Telecom Equipment Corp. (ZTE).

We believe the breadth of our product portfolio, combined with more than three decades of experience in semiconductor hardware, software and communications systems engineering, provide us with a competitive advantage. We have proven expertise in signal, packet and transmission processing technologies, which are critical core competencies for successfully defining, designing and implementing advanced semiconductor products for next-generation network infrastructure equipment. We seek to cultivate close relationships with leading network infrastructure OEMs to understand emerging markets, technologies and standards. We focus our research and development efforts on applications in the segments of the telecommunications network which we believe offer the most attractive growth prospects. Our business is fabless, which means we outsource all of our manufacturing needs, and we do not own or operate any semiconductor manufacturing facilities. We believe being fabless allows us to minimize operating infrastructure and capital expenditures, maintain operational flexibility and focus our resources on the design, development and marketing of our products the highest value-creation elements of our business model.

**Spin-off from Conexant Systems, Inc.**

Mindspeed was originally incorporated in Delaware in 2001 as a wholly owned subsidiary of Conexant Systems, Inc. On June 27, 2003, Conexant completed the distribution to Conexant stockholders of all outstanding shares of common stock of Mindspeed (the distribution). In the distribution, each Conexant stockholder received one share of our common stock (including an associated preferred share purchase right) for every three shares of Conexant common stock held and cash for any fractional share of our common stock. Following the distribution, we began operations as an independent, publicly held company. Our common stock trades on the Nasdaq Global Market under the ticker symbol "MSPD."

Prior to the distribution, Conexant transferred to us the assets and liabilities of its Mindspeed business, including the stock of certain subsidiaries, and certain other assets and liabilities which were allocated to us under the Distribution Agreement entered into between us and Conexant. Also prior to the distribution, Conexant contributed to us cash in an amount such that at the time of the distribution our cash balance was \$100 million. We issued to Conexant a warrant to purchase 30 million shares of our common stock at a price of \$3.408 per share, exercisable for a period of ten years after the distribution. In connection with the Distribution, we and Conexant also entered into a Credit Agreement (terminated December 2004), an Employee Matters Agreement, a Tax Allocation Agreement, a Transition Services Agreement and a Sublease.

## Industry Overview

Communications semiconductor products are a critical part of network infrastructure equipment. Network infrastructure OEMs require advanced communications semiconductor products such as digital signal processors, transceivers, framers, packet and cell processors and switching solutions that are highly optimized for the equipment employed by their customers. We seek to provide semiconductor products that enable network infrastructure OEMs to meet the needs of their service provider and enterprise customers in terms of system performance, functionality and time-to-market.

### *Addressed Markets*

Our semiconductor products are primarily focused on network infrastructure equipment applications in three segments of the broadly defined communications network: enterprise networks, network access service areas, and metropolitan area networks. The type and complexity of network infrastructure equipment used in these network segments continues to expand, driven by the need for the processing, transmission and switching of digital voice, data and video traffic over multiple communication media, at numerous transmission data rates and employing different protocols. We also offer a limited number of products used in wide-area or long-haul networks.

*Enterprise* networks include equipment that is deployed primarily in the offices of commercial enterprises for voice and data communications and access to outside networks. An enterprise network may be comprised of many local area networks, as well as client workstations, centralized database management systems, storage area networks and other components. In enterprise networks, communications semiconductors facilitate the processing and transmission of voice, data and video traffic in converged IP networks that are replacing the traditional separate telephone, data and video conferencing networks. Typical network infrastructure equipment found in enterprise networks that use our products include voice gateways, IP PBXs, storage area network (SAN) routers and director class switches. In addition, a major trend in the broadcast video market is the switch from analog to digital television transmission and the conversion from standard-definition television services to high-definition television (HDTV) services featuring more detailed images and digital surround sound. We offer a family of broadcast-video products optimized for high-speed HDTV routing and production switcher applications.

*Network Access* service areas of the telecommunications network refer to the "last mile" of a telecommunications or cable service provider's physical network (including copper, fiber optic or wireless transmission) and the network infrastructure equipment that connects end-users, typically located at a business or residence, with metropolitan area and wide-area networks. For this portion of the network, infrastructure equipment requires semiconductors that enable reliable, high-speed connectivity capable of aggregating or disaggregating and transporting multiple forms of voice, data and video traffic. In addition, communications semiconductors must accommodate multiple transmission standards and communications protocols to provide a bridge between dissimilar access networks, for example, connecting wireless base station equipment to a wireline network. Typical network infrastructure equipment found at the edge of the network access service area that use our products include optical network units (ONU), optical line terminals (OLT), remote access concentrators, digital subscriber line (DSL) access multiplexers, mixed-media gateways, wireless base stations, digital loop carrier equipment and media converters.

*Metropolitan Area Networks*, or metro, service areas of the telecommunications network refer to the portion of a service provider's physical network that enables high-speed communications within a city or a larger regional area. In addition, it provides the communications link between network access service areas and the fiber optic-based, wide-area network. For metro equipment applications, communications semiconductors provide transmission and processing capabilities, as well as information segmentation and classification, and routing and switching functionality, to support high-speed traffic

from multiple sources employing different transmission standards and communications protocols. These functions require signal conversion, signal processing and packet processing expertise to support the design and development of highly integrated mixed-signal devices combining analog and digital functions with communications protocols and application software. Typical network infrastructure equipment found in metro service areas that use our products include add-drop multiplexers, switches, high-speed routers, digital cross-connect systems, optical edge devices and multiservice provisioning platforms.

The telecommunications network, including the Internet, has evolved into a complex, hybrid series of digital and optical networks that connect individuals and businesses globally. These new larger bandwidth, data-centric networks integrate voice, data and video traffic, operate over both wired and wireless media, link existing voice and data networks and cross traditional enterprise, network access, metro and long haul service area boundaries. Network infrastructure OEMs are designing faster, more intelligent and more complex equipment to satisfy the needs of the service providers as they continue to expand their network coverage and service offerings while upgrading and connecting or integrating existing networks of disparate types. In this demanding environment, we believe network infrastructure OEMs select as their strategic partners communications semiconductor suppliers who can deliver advanced products that provide increased functionality, lower total system cost and support for a variety of communications media, operating speeds and protocols.

### *The Mindspeed Approach*

We believe the breadth of our product portfolio, combined with our expertise in semiconductor hardware, software and communications systems engineering, provide us with a competitive advantage in designing and selling our products to leading network infrastructure OEMs.

We have proven expertise in signal, packet and transmission processing technologies. Signal processing involves both signal conversion and digital signal processing techniques that convert and compress voice, data and video between analog and digital representations. Packet processing involves bundling or segmenting information traffic using standard protocols such as IP or asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) and enables sharing of transmission bandwidth across a given communication medium. Transmission processing involves the transport and receipt of voice, data and video traffic across copper wire and optical fiber communications media.

These core technology competencies are critical for developing semiconductor networking solutions that enable the processing, transmission and switching of high-speed voice, data and video traffic, employing multiple communications protocols, across disparate communications networks. Our core technology competencies are the foundation for developing our:

semiconductor device architectures, including digital signal processors, mixed signal devices and programmable protocol engines, as well as analog signal processing capabilities;

highly optimized signal processing algorithms and communications protocols, which we implement in semiconductor devices; and

critical software drivers and application software to perform signal, packet and transmission processing tasks.

We believe the software drivers and application software are an increasingly important part of the semiconductor networking solutions we offer to OEMs.

***Increasing Demand for Communications Semiconductors***

We believe the market for network infrastructure equipment in general, and for communications semiconductors in particular, offers attractive long-term growth prospects for several reasons:

We anticipate that demand for network capacity will continue to increase, driven by:

Internet user growth;

higher network utilization rates; and

the popularity of VoIP and other bandwidth-intensive applications, such as wireless data transfer and video/multimedia applications.

We believe that incumbent telecommunications carriers, integrated communication service providers and cable multiple service operators worldwide will continue to upgrade and expand legacy portions of their networks to accommodate new service offerings and to reduce operating costs.

In developing countries, we expect that service providers will continue the build-out of telecommunication networks, many of which were previously government owned.

Moreover, we expect that network infrastructure OEMs will outsource more of their semiconductor component requirements to semiconductor suppliers, allowing the OEMs to reduce their operating cost structure by shifting their focus and investment from internal application specific integrated circuit (ASIC) semiconductor design and development to more strategic systems development.

**Strategy**

Our objective is to grow our business and to become the leading supplier of semiconductor networking solutions to leading global network infrastructure OEMs in key enterprise, network access and metro service area market segments. To achieve this objective, we are pursuing the following strategies:

***Focus on Increasing Share in High-Growth, High-Margin Applications***

We have established strong market positions for our products in the enterprise, network access and metro service areas of the telecommunications network. We believe the markets for semiconductor products that address these applications will grow at faster rates than the markets for network infrastructure equipment in general. In addition, products which address applications in the enterprise, network access and metro service areas and perform packet processing, transmission processing and/or signal processing functions typically command higher average selling prices and higher margins, primarily due to their functional complexity and their software content. These two key attributes are expected to make the enterprise, network access and metro service areas the most attractive market segments for the foreseeable future. We believe that our three core technology competencies, coupled with focused investments in product development, will position us to increase our share in those target areas.

***Expand Strategic Relationships with Industry-Leading Global Network Infrastructure OEMs and Maximize Design Win Share***

We identify and selectively establish strategic relationships with market leaders in the network infrastructure equipment industry to develop next-generation products and, in some cases, customized solutions for their specific needs. We have an extensive history of working closely with our customers' research and development and marketing teams to understand emerging markets, technologies and

standards, and we invest our product development resources in those areas. We believe our close relationships with leading network infrastructure OEMs facilitate early adoption of our semiconductor products during development of their system-level products, enhance our ability to obtain design wins from those customers and encourage adoption of our technology throughout the industry.

In North America, we have cultivated close relationships with leading network infrastructure OEMs, including Cisco Systems, Inc. and Nortel Networks, Inc. Abroad, we have established close relationships with market leaders such as Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd., TrueLight Corporation and Zhongxing Telecom Equipment Corp. in the Asia-Pacific region and Alcatel-Lucent, Nokia Siemens Networks, and LM Ericsson Telephone Company in Europe.

*Capitalize on the Breadth of Our Product Portfolio*

We build on the breadth of our product portfolio of physical-layer devices, together with our signal and packet processing devices and communications software expertise, to increase our share of the silicon content in our customers' products. We offer a range of complementary products that are optimized to work with each other and provide our customers with complete information receipt, processing and transmission functions. These complementary products allow infrastructure OEMs to source components that provide proven interoperability from a single semiconductor supplier, rather than requiring OEMs to combine and coordinate individual components from multiple vendors. In addition, we offer highly integrated products such as our family of Comcerto packet processors that provide our customers with a complete hardware and software solution in a single device. These integrated products perform functions typically requiring multiple discrete components and software. We believe that this strategy of offering both complementary and integrated products increases product performance, speeds time-to-market and lowers the total system cost for our customers.

The breadth of our product portfolio also provides a competitive advantage for serving network convergence applications such as multiprotocol wireless-to-wireline connectivity. These applications generally require a combination of processing, transmission or switching functionality to move high-speed voice and data traffic using multiple communications protocols across disparate communications networks.

*Provide Outstanding Technical Support and Customer Service*

We provide broad-based technical and product design support to our customers through three dedicated teams: field application engineers, product application engineers, and technical marketing personnel. We believe that comprehensive service and support are critical to shortening our customers' design cycles and maintaining a long-term competitive position within the network infrastructure equipment market. Outstanding customer service and support are important competitive factors for semiconductor component suppliers like us seeking to be the preferred suppliers to leading network infrastructure OEMs.

**Products**

We provide network infrastructure OEMs with a broad portfolio of advanced semiconductor networking solutions, ranging from physical-layer transceivers and framers to higher-layer network processors. Our products can be classified into three focused product families: high-performance analog products, multiservice access digital signal processor (DSP) products, and wide-area networking (WAN) communications products. These three product families are found in a variety of networking equipment designed to process, transmit and switch voice, data and video traffic between, and within, the different segments of the communications network.

***High-Performance Analog Products***

Our high-performance analog transmission devices and switching products support storage area networking, fiber-to-the-premise and broadcast video, as well as mainstream synchronous optical networking (SONET)/synchronous digital hierarchy (SDH) and packet-over-SONET applications, typically operating at data transmission rates between 155 megabits per second (Mbps) and 10 gigabits per second (Gbps). Our transmission products include laser drivers, transimpedance amplifiers, post amplifiers, clock and data recovery circuits, serializers/deserializers, video reclockers, cable drivers and line equalizers. These products serve as the connection between a fiber optic or coaxial cable component interface and the remainder of the electrical subsystem in various network equipment and perform a variety of functions, including:

converting incoming optical signals from fiber optic cables to electrical signals for processing and transport over a wireline medium and vice-versa;

conditioning the signal to remove unwanted noise or errors;

combining lower speed signals from multiple parallel paths into higher speed serial paths, and vice-versa, for bandwidth economy; and

amplifying and equalizing weaker signals as they pass through a particular system's equipment, media or network.

Our switching products include a family of high-speed crosspoint switches capable of switching traffic up to 4.25 Gbps within various types of network switching equipment. These crosspoint switches direct, or transfer, a large number of high-speed data input streams, regardless of traffic type, to different connection trunks for rerouting the information to new destination points in the network. Crosspoint switches are often used to provide redundant traffic paths in networking equipment to protect against the loss of critical data from spurious network outages or failures that may occur from time-to-time. Target equipment applications for our switching products include add-drop multiplexers, high-density IP switches, storage-area routers and optical cross-connect systems. In addition, we offer crosspoint switches optimized for standard and high-definition broadcast video routing and production switching applications at rates up to 3 Gbps.

***Multiservice Access Processor Products***

Our software-configurable multiservice access DSP products serve as bridges for transporting voice, fax and modem transmissions between circuit-switched networks and packet-based networks. Our multiservice access DSP device architecture combines the performance of a digital-signal processor core with the flexibility of a microcontroller core to support our extensive suite of voice compression techniques, echo cancellers and communications protocols. These products process and translate voice and data and perform various management and reporting functions. They compress the signals to minimize bandwidth consumption and modify or add communications protocols to accommodate transport of the signals across a variety of different networks. Supported services include VoIP, voice-over-ATM (VoATM) and voice-over-DSL services, as well as wireline-to-wireless connectivity.

Our Comcerto family of packet processors includes a full range of software-compatible solutions that enable OEMs to provide scalable systems with customized features for carrier, enterprise and customer premise applications. The high-density members of this family, the Comcerto 600, Comcerto 700 and Comcerto 900 series processors and related software, provide a complete "system-on-a-chip" solution for carrier-class VoIP and VoATM applications. The Comcerto 600 is capable of handling more than 256 channels of both VoIP and VoATM traffic, while the Comcerto 700 supports more than 400 channels, and the Comcerto 900 supports more than 600 channels. All are targeted for use in media gateways designed to bridge wireless, wireline and enterprise networks.

The Comcerto 500 and 800 series solutions are designed for enterprise voice and data processing applications. The Comcerto 500 series is a silicon "PBX-on-a-chip" which supports all required voice processing functionality for up to 64 channels, including encryption. The Comcerto 800 series enables a new class of "office-in-a-box" systems by combining a high-quality VoP subsystem with a high-performance routing and virtual private network (VPN) engine. The Comcerto 800 series integrates voice processing, packet processing and encryption functionality into a single device for the rapidly growing market for VoP enterprise networks. This product is targeted for use in enterprise voice gateways, IP PBXs and integrated access devices (IADs).

The newest member of the Comcerto family, the Comcerto 100 series broadband services processor, is designed to support secure "triple-play" voice, video and data networks for residential and small office/home office markets. The Comcerto 100 series processor integrates high-performance security processing, packet processing and quality of service (QoS) capabilities for next-generation broadband customer premise equipment (CPE) enabling service providers to deliver sophisticated multimedia content to their subscribers.

#### ***Wide-Area Networking Communications Products***

Our WAN communications products include transmission solutions and high-performance ATM/multi-protocol label switching (MPLS) network processors that facilitate the aggregation, processing and transport of voice and data traffic over copper wire or fiber optic cable to access metropolitan and long-haul networks.

Our T1/E1, T3/E3 and SONET carrier devices incorporate high-speed analog, digital and mixed-signal circuit technologies and include multi-port framers and line interface units (LIUs) or transceivers for 1.5 Mbps to 155 Mbps data transmission. Framers format data for transmission and extract data at reception, while LIUs condition signals for transmission and reception over multiple media. Our link-layer products include multi-channel, high-level data link channel (HDLC) communications controllers and multi-channel, inverse multiplexing over ATM (IMA) traffic controllers. The IMA protocol enables the aggregation of multiple T1 or DSL lines to deliver higher data rates using existing ATM infrastructure while the HDLC protocol is used for the packetization of data and the transfer of messaging and signaling information across the network. We also offer a family of symmetric DSL (SDSL) transceivers which enable service providers to deliver Internet access at data transmission rates of 1.5 Mbps to 5.7 Mbps in both directions over copper wire, supporting telecommuting and branch office functions worldwide.

Our high-performance ATM/MPLS network processors are designed to offer advanced protocol translation and traffic management capabilities. Protocol translation occurs where different types of networks and protocols interconnect. Traffic management describes a collection of functions which are used to optimally allocate network bandwidth and allow service providers to provide differentiated services over their networks. Our software-programmable devices operate at data transmission rates from 1.5 Mbps to 2.5 Gbps. Our network processor devices address internetworking applications, including ATM segmentation and reassembly, and a variety of traffic management functions, including traffic shaping, traffic policing and queue management, required by these applications.

Our wide-area networking communications products are designed for use in a variety of equipment including digital loop carriers, DSL access multiplexers, add-drop multiplexers, switches, high-speed routers, digital cross-connect systems, optical edge devices, multiservice provisioning platforms, voice gateways and wireless base station controllers.

Through the recent acquisition of certain assets of Ample Communications, Inc., we have entered the carrier Ethernet market. Our products in this area include Ethernet media access controllers and oversubscription aggregators which have applications in both enterprise switches and telecom edge switches. These carrier Ethernet products add traffic shaping and quality of service prioritization

mechanisms in order to provide the higher degree of traffic control needed in wide area networks that base their data transmission on the Ethernet protocol prevalent in local area networks.

### **Customers**

We market and sell our semiconductor networking solutions directly to leading network infrastructure OEMs. We also sell our products indirectly through electronic component distributors and third-party electronic manufacturing service providers, which manufacture products incorporating our semiconductor networking solutions for OEMs. Sales to distributors accounted for approximately 54% of our revenues for fiscal 2007. For fiscal 2007, distributors Avnet, Inc. and Alltek Technology Corporation accounted for 16% and 15%, respectively, of our net revenues.

Our top five direct OEM customers for fiscal year 2007 were ADC DSL Systems, Inc., Alcatel-Lucent, Huawei Technologies Co., Nortel Networks, Inc. and Zhongxing Telecom Equipment Corp. While our direct sales to these customers accounted for a total of approximately 14% of our fiscal 2007 net revenues, we believe indirect sales to these same customers represent a significant additional portion of our net revenues. Including indirect sales, we believe that Cisco Systems, Inc. accounted for approximately 12% of our fiscal 2007 net revenues and that no other OEM customer accounted for 10% or more of our net revenues. We believe that our significant indirect network infrastructure OEM customers for fiscal year 2007 also included Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, Nokia Siemens Networks and TrueLight Corporation.

Our customer base is widely dispersed geographically. Revenues derived from customers located in the Americas, Europe, and the Asia-Pacific region were 36%, 11% and 53%, respectively, of our total revenues for fiscal 2007. We believe a substantial portion of the products we sell to OEMs and third-party manufacturing service providers in the Asia-Pacific region is ultimately shipped to end-markets in the Americas and Europe. See Item 8. "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data," including Note 2 and Note 14 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information on customers and geographic areas.

### **Sales, Marketing and Technical Support**

We have a worldwide sales, marketing and technical support organization comprised of 108 employees as of October 26, 2007, located in 3 domestic and 7 international sales locations. Our marketing, sales and field applications engineering teams, augmented by 16 electronic component distributors and 12 sales representative organizations, focus on marketing and selling semiconductor networking solutions to worldwide network infrastructure OEMs.

We maintain close working relationships with our customers throughout their lengthy product development cycle. Our customers may need six months or longer to test and evaluate our products and an additional six months or longer to begin volume production of network infrastructure equipment that incorporates our products. During this process, we provide broad-based technical and product design support to our customers through our field application engineers, product application engineers and technical marketing personnel. We believe that providing comprehensive product service and support is critical to shortening our customers' design cycles and maintaining a competitive position in the network infrastructure equipment market.

### **Operations and Manufacturing**

We are a fables company, which means we do not own or operate foundries for wafer fabrication or facilities for device assembly and final test of our products. Instead, we outsource wafer fabrication, assembly and testing of our semiconductor products to independent, third-party contractors. We use mainstream digital complementary metal-oxide semiconductor (CMOS) process technology for the majority of our products; we rely on specialty processes for the remainder of products. Taiwan



Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., Ltd. (TSMC) is our principal foundry supplier of CMOS wafers and die. Our primary foundry supplier for specialty process requirements is Jazz Semiconductor, Inc. We use several other suppliers for wafers used in older products. We believe that the raw materials, parts and supplies required by our foundry suppliers are generally available at present and will be available in the foreseeable future.

Semiconductor wafers are usually shipped to third-party contractors for device assembly and packaging where the wafers are cut into individual die, packaged and tested before final shipment to customers. We use Amkor Technology, Inc. and other third-party contractors, located in the Asia-Pacific region, Europe and California, to satisfy a variety of assembly and packaging technology and product testing requirements associated with the back-end portion of the manufacturing process.

We qualify each of our foundry and back-end process providers. This qualification process consists of a detailed technical review of process performance, design rules, process models, tools and support, as well as analysis of the subcontractor's quality system and manufacturing capability. We also participate in quality and reliability monitoring through each stage of the production cycle by reviewing electrical and parametric data from our wafer foundry and back-end providers. We closely monitor wafer foundry production for overall quality, reliability and yield levels.

### **Competition**

The communications semiconductor industry in general, and the markets in which we compete in particular, are intensely competitive. We compete worldwide with a number of U.S. and international suppliers that are both larger and smaller than us in terms of resources and market share. We expect intense competition to continue.

Our principal competitors are Applied Micro Circuits Corporation, Centillium Communications, Inc., Conexant Systems, Inc., Exar Corporation, Freescale Semiconductor, Inc., Gennum Corporation, Infineon Technologies A.G., Maxim Integrated Products, Inc., PMC-Sierra, Inc., Texas Instruments Incorporated, Transwitch Corporation and Vitesse Semiconductor Corporation.

We believe that the principal competitive factors for semiconductor suppliers in each of our served markets are:

time-to-market;

product quality, reliability and performance;

customer support;

price and total system cost;

new product innovation; and

compliance with industry standards.

While we believe that we compete favorably with respect to each of these factors, many of our current and potential competitors have certain advantages over us, including:

stronger financial position and liquidity;

longer presence in key markets;

greater name recognition;

more secure supply chain;

access to larger customer bases; and

significantly greater sales and marketing, manufacturing, distribution, technical and other resources.

As a result, these competitors may be able to devote greater resources to the development, promotion and sale of their products than we can. Our competitors may also be able to adapt more quickly to new or emerging technologies and changes in customer requirements or may be more able to respond to the cyclical fluctuations or downturns that affect the semiconductor industry from time to time. Moreover, we have incurred substantial operating losses and we anticipate future losses. If we are not successful in assuring our customers of our financial stability, our OEM customers may choose semiconductor suppliers whom they believe have a stronger financial position or liquidity, which may materially adversely affect our business.

### **Backlog**

Our sales are made primarily pursuant to standard purchase orders for delivery of products. Because industry practice allows customers to cancel orders with limited advance notice to us prior to shipment, we believe that backlog as of any particular date is not a reliable indicator of our future revenue levels.

### **Research and Development**

We have significant research, development, engineering and product design capabilities. As of October 26, 2007, we had 304 employees engaged in research and development activities. We perform research and product development activities at our headquarters in Newport Beach, California and at 8 design centers. In order to enhance the cost-effectiveness of our operations, we have increasingly sought to shift portions of our research and development operations to jurisdictions with lower cost structures than that available in the United States. Our design centers are strategically located to take advantage of key technical and engineering talent. Our success depends to a substantial degree upon our ability to develop and introduce in a timely fashion new products and enhancements to our existing products that meet changing customer requirements and emerging industry standards. We have made and plan to make substantial investments in research and development and to participate in the formulation of industry standards. In addition, we actively collaborate with technology leaders to define and develop next-generation technologies.

We spent approximately \$57.4 million, \$64.1 million, and \$71.4 million on research and development activities in fiscal years 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The decreases in our research and development expenses reflect the workforce reductions and other cost reduction actions we implemented in fiscal years 2002 through 2007.

### **Intellectual Property**

Our success and future revenue growth depend, in part, on the intellectual property that we own and develop, including patents, licenses, trade secrets, know-how, trademarks and copyrights, and on our ability to protect our intellectual property. We continuously review our patent portfolio to maximize its value to us, abandoning or selling inapplicable or less useful patents and filing new patents important to our product roadmap. Our patent portfolio may be used to avoid, defend or settle any potential litigation with respect to various technologies contained in our products. The portfolio may also provide negotiating leverage in attempts to cross-license patents or technologies with third parties. We may also seek to leverage our patent portfolio by licensing or selling our patents or other intellectual property. We rely primarily on patent, copyright, trademark and trade secret laws, as well as employee and third-party nondisclosure and confidentiality agreements and other methods to protect our proprietary technologies and processes. In connection with our participation in the development of various industry standards, we may be required to reasonably license certain of our patents to other

parties, including competitors that develop products based upon the adopted industry standards. We have also entered into agreements with certain of our customers and granted these customers the right to use our proprietary technology in the event that we file for bankruptcy protection or take other equivalent actions. While in the aggregate our intellectual property is considered important to our operations, no single patent, license, trade secret, know-how, trademark or copyright is considered of such importance that its loss or termination would materially affect our business or financial condition.

### **Employees**

As of October 26, 2007, we had 527 full-time employees, of whom approximately 361 were engineers. Our employees are not covered by any collective bargaining agreements and we have not experienced a work stoppage in the past five years. We believe our future success will depend in large part on our ability to continue to attract, motivate, develop and retain highly skilled and dedicated technical, marketing and management personnel.

### **Cyclical**

The semiconductor industry is highly cyclical and is characterized by constant and rapid technological change, rapid product obsolescence and price erosion, evolving technical standards, short product life cycles and wide fluctuations in product supply and demand. From time to time, these and other factors, together with changes in general economic conditions, cause significant upturns and downturns in the industry, and in our business in particular.

In addition, our operating results are subject to substantial quarterly and annual fluctuations due to a number of factors, such as demand for network infrastructure equipment, the timing of receipt, reduction or cancellation of significant orders, fluctuations in the levels of component inventories held by our customers, the gain or loss of significant customers, market acceptance of our products and our customers' products, our ability to develop, introduce and market new products and technologies on a timely basis, the availability and cost of products from our suppliers, new product and technology introductions by competitors, intellectual property disputes, and the timing and extent of product development costs.

### **Available Information**

We maintain an Internet website at <http://www.mindspeed.com>. Our Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and amendments to such reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, and other information related to our company, are available free of charge on this site as soon as reasonably practicable after such reports are filed with or furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, Guidelines on Corporate Governance and Board Committee Charters are also available on our website. We will provide reasonable quantities of paper copies of filings free of charge upon request. In addition, we will provide a copy of the Board Committee Charters to stockholders upon request. No portion of our Internet website or the information contained in or connected to the website is incorporated into this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

**Item 1A. Risk Factors**

Our business, financial condition and operating results can be affected by a number of factors, including those listed below, any one of which could cause our actual results to vary materially from recent results or from our anticipated future results. Any of these risks could also materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition or the price of our common stock or other securities.

***We are incurring substantial operating losses, and we anticipate additional future losses.***

We incurred a net loss of \$21.9 million for fiscal 2007 compared to net losses of \$24.5 million in fiscal 2006 and \$62.6 million in fiscal 2005. We expect that we will continue to incur losses at least through the first half of fiscal 2008, and we may incur additional losses and negative cash flows in subsequent periods.

In order to become profitable, or to generate positive cash flows from operations, we must reduce operating expenses or increase our revenues. Through fiscal 2007, we have completed a series of cost reduction actions which have improved our operating cost structure. These expense reductions alone may not make us profitable or allow us to sustain profitability if it is achieved. Our ability to achieve the necessary revenue growth will depend on increased demand for network infrastructure equipment that incorporates our products, which in turn depends primarily on the level of capital spending by communications service providers and enterprises. We may not be successful in achieving the necessary revenue growth or the expected expense reductions. Moreover, we may be unable to sustain past or expected future expense reductions in subsequent periods. We may not achieve profitability or sustain such profitability, if achieved.

***We have substantial cash requirements to fund our operations, research and development efforts and capital expenditures. Our capital resources are limited and capital needed for our business may not be available when we need it.***

For fiscal 2007, our net cash used in operating activities was \$10.0 million compared to net cash used in operating activities of \$15.9 million for fiscal 2006 and \$30.2 million for fiscal 2005. Our principal sources of liquidity are our existing cash balances, marketable securities and cash generated from product sales. As of September 30, 2007, our cash and cash equivalents totaled \$25.8 million. We believe that our existing sources of liquidity will be sufficient to fund our operations, research and development efforts, anticipated capital expenditures, working capital and other financing requirements for at least the next twelve months. However, this may not be the case, and if we continue to incur operating losses and negative cash flows in the future, we may need to reduce further our operating costs or obtain alternate sources of financing, or both. We may not have access to additional sources of capital on favorable terms or at all. If we raise additional funds through the issuance of equity, equity-based or debt securities, such securities may have rights, preferences or privileges senior to those of our common stock and our stockholders may experience dilution of their ownership interests.

***We operate in the highly cyclical semiconductor industry, which is subject to significant downturns.***

The semiconductor industry is highly cyclical and is characterized by constant and rapid technological change, rapid product obsolescence and price erosion, evolving technical standards, short product life cycles and wide fluctuations in product supply and demand. From time to time these and other factors, together with changes in general economic conditions, cause significant upturns and downturns in the industry in general, and in our business in particular. Periods of industry downturns have been characterized by diminished product demand, production overcapacity, high inventory levels and accelerated erosion of average selling prices. These factors have caused substantial fluctuations in our revenues and our results of operations in the past and we may experience similar fluctuations in our business in the future.

***Our operating results are subject to substantial quarterly and annual fluctuations.***

Our revenues and operating results have fluctuated in the past and may fluctuate in the future. These fluctuations are due to a number of factors, many of which are beyond our control. These factors include, among others:

changes in end-user demand for the products manufactured and sold by our customers;

the timing of receipt, reduction or cancellation of significant orders by customers;

fluctuations in the levels of component inventories held by our customers and changes in our customers' inventory management practices;

shifts in our product mix and the effect of maturing products;

availability and cost of products from our suppliers;

the gain or loss of significant customers;

market acceptance of our products and our customers' products;

our ability to develop, introduce, market and support new products and technologies on a timely basis;

the timing and extent of product development costs;

new product and technology introductions by us or our competitors;

fluctuations in manufacturing yields;

significant warranty claims, including those not covered by our suppliers;

intellectual property disputes; and

the effects of competitive pricing pressures, including decreases in average selling prices of our products.

The foregoing factors are difficult to forecast, and these, as well as other factors, could materially and adversely affect our quarterly or annual operating results.

***The increasing significance of our foreign operations exposes us to risks that are beyond our control and could affect our ability to operate successfully.***

In order to enhance the cost-effectiveness of our operations, we have increasingly sought to shift portions of our research and development and customer support operations to jurisdictions with lower cost structures than that available in the United States. The transition of even a portion of our business operations to new facilities in a foreign country involves a number of logistical and technical challenges that could result in product development delays and operational interruptions, which could reduce our revenues and adversely affect our business. We may encounter complications associated with the set-up, migration and operation of business systems and equipment in a new facility. This could

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result in delays in our research and development efforts and otherwise disrupt our operations. If such delays or disruptions occur, they could damage our reputation and otherwise adversely affect our business and results of operations.

To the extent that we shift any operations or labor offshore to jurisdictions with lower cost structures, we may experience challenges in effectively managing those operations as a result of several factors, including time zone differences and regulatory, legal, cultural and logistical issues. Additionally, the relocation of labor resources may have a negative impact on our existing employees, which could negatively impact our operations. If we are unable to effectively manage our offshore research and

development staff and any other offshore operations, our business and results of operations could be adversely affected.

We cannot be certain that any shifts in our operations to offshore jurisdictions will ultimately produce the expected cost savings. We cannot predict the extent of government support, availability of qualified workers, future labor rates or monetary and economic conditions in any offshore locations where we may operate. Although some of these factors may influence our decision to establish or increase our offshore operations, there are inherent risks beyond our control, including:

political uncertainties;

wage inflation;

exposure to foreign currency fluctuations;

tariffs and other trade barriers; and

foreign regulatory restrictions and unexpected changes in regulatory environments.

We will likely be faced with competition in these offshore markets for qualified personnel, including skilled design and technical personnel, and we expect this competition to increase as companies expand their operations offshore. If the supply of such qualified personnel becomes limited due to increased competition or otherwise, it could increase our costs and employee turnover rates. One or more of these factors or other factors relating to foreign operations could result in increased operating expenses and make it more difficult for us to manage our costs and operations, which could cause our operating results to decline and result in reduced revenues.

***We are entirely dependent upon third parties for the manufacture of our products and are vulnerable to their capacity constraints during times of increasing demand for semiconductor products.***

We are entirely dependent upon outside wafer fabrication facilities, known as foundries, for wafer fabrication services. Our principal suppliers of wafer fabrication services are TSMC and Jazz. We are also dependent upon third parties, including Amkor, for the assembly and testing of all of our products. Under our fabless business model, our long-term revenue growth is dependent on our ability to obtain sufficient external manufacturing capacity, including wafer production capacity. Periods of upturns in the semiconductor industry may be characterized by rapid increases in demand and a shortage of capacity for wafer fabrication and assembly and test services.

The risks associated with our reliance on third parties for manufacturing services include:

the lack of assured supply, potential shortages and higher prices;

increased lead times;

limited control over delivery schedules, manufacturing yields, production costs and product quality; and

the unavailability of, or delays in obtaining, products or access to key process technologies.

Our standard lead time, or the time required to manufacture our products (including wafer fabrication, assembly and testing) is typically 12 to 16 weeks. During periods of manufacturing capacity shortages, the foundries and other suppliers on whom we rely may devote their limited capacity to fulfill the production requirements of other clients that are larger or better financed than we are, or who have superior contractual rights to enforce manufacture of their products, including to the exclusion of producing our products.

Additionally, if we are required to seek alternative foundries or assembly and test service providers, we would be subject to longer lead times, indeterminate delivery schedules and increased





manufacturing costs, including costs to find and qualify acceptable suppliers. For example, if we choose to use a new foundry, the qualification process may take as long as six months over the standard lead time before we can begin shipping products from the new foundry.

Wafer fabrication processes are subject to obsolescence, and foundries may discontinue a wafer fabrication process used for certain of our products. In such event, we generally offer our customers a "last-time buy" program to satisfy their anticipated requirements for our products. The unanticipated discontinuation of a wafer fabrication process on which we rely may adversely affect our revenues and our customer relationships.

The foundries and other suppliers on whom we rely may experience financial difficulties or suffer disruptions in their operations due to causes beyond our control, including labor strikes, work stoppages, electrical power outages, fire, earthquake, flooding or other natural disasters. Certain of our suppliers' manufacturing facilities are located near major earthquake fault lines in the Asia-Pacific region and in California. In the event of a disruption of the operations of one or more of our suppliers, we may not have an alternate source immediately available. Such an event could cause significant delays in shipments until we are able to shift the products from an affected facility or supplier to another facility or supplier. The manufacturing processes we rely on are specialized and are available from a limited number of suppliers. Alternate sources of manufacturing capacity, particularly wafer production capacity, may not be available to us on a timely basis. Even if alternate manufacturing capacity is available, we may not be able to obtain it on favorable terms, or at all. Difficulties or delays in securing an adequate supply of our products on favorable terms, or at all, could impair our ability to meet our customers' requirements and have a material adverse effect on our operating results.

In addition, the highly complex and technologically demanding nature of semiconductor manufacturing has caused foundries to experience, from time to time, lower than anticipated manufacturing yields, particularly in connection with the introduction of new products and the installation and start-up of new process technologies. Lower than anticipated manufacturing yields may affect our ability to fulfill our customers' demands for our products on a timely basis. Moreover, lower than anticipated manufacturing yields may adversely affect our cost of goods sold and our results of operations.

***We are subject to intense competition.***

The communications semiconductor industry in general, and the markets in which we compete in particular, are intensely competitive. We compete worldwide with a number of U.S. and international semiconductor manufacturers that are both larger and smaller than we are in terms of resources and market share. We currently face significant competition in our markets and expect that intense price and product competition will continue. This competition has resulted, and is expected to continue to result, in declining average selling prices for our products.

Many of our current and potential competitors have certain advantages over us, including:

stronger financial position and liquidity;

longer presence in key markets;

greater name recognition;

more secure supply chain;

access to larger customer bases; and

significantly greater sales and marketing, manufacturing, distribution, technical and other resources.

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As a result, these competitors may be able to adapt more quickly to new or emerging technologies and changes in customer requirements or may be able to devote greater resources to the development, promotion and sale of their products than we can. Moreover, we have incurred substantial operating losses and we anticipate future losses. We believe that financial stability of suppliers is an important consideration in our customers' purchasing decisions. If our OEM customers perceive that we lack adequate financial stability, they may choose semiconductor suppliers that they believe have a stronger financial position or liquidity.

Current and potential competitors also have established or may establish financial or strategic relationships among themselves or with our existing or potential customers, resellers or other third parties. These relationships may affect customers' purchasing decisions. Accordingly, it is possible that new competitors or alliances among competitors could emerge and rapidly acquire significant market share. We may not be able to compete successfully against current and potential competitors.

### ***Industry consolidation may harm our operating results.***

There has been an increasing trend toward industry consolidation in our markets in recent years, particularly among major network equipment and telecommunications companies. We expect this trend to continue as companies attempt to strengthen or hold their market positions in an evolving industry and as companies are acquired or are unable to continue operations. While we cannot predict how consolidation in our industry will affect our customers or competitors, rapid consolidation will lead to fewer customers, with the effect that loss of a major customer could have a material impact on results not anticipated in a customer marketplace composed of more numerous participants. Increased consolidation and competition for fewer customers may result in pricing pressures or a loss in market share, each of which could materially impact our business.

### ***Our success depends on our ability to develop competitive new products in a timely manner.***

Our operating results will depend largely on our ability to continue to introduce new and enhanced semiconductor products on a timely basis. Successful product development and introduction depends on numerous factors, including, among others:

our ability to anticipate customer and market requirements and changes in technology and industry standards;

our ability to accurately define new products;

our ability to complete development of new products, and bring our products to market, on a timely basis;

our ability to differentiate our products from offerings of our competitors; and

overall market acceptance of our products.

We may not have sufficient resources to make the substantial investment in research and development in order to develop and bring to market new and enhanced products, particularly if we are required to take further cost reduction actions. Furthermore, we are required to evaluate expenditures for planned product development continually and to choose among alternative technologies based on our expectations of future market growth. We may be unable to develop and introduce new or enhanced products in a timely manner, our products may not satisfy customer requirements or achieve market acceptance, or we may be unable to anticipate new industry standards and technological changes. We also may not be able to respond successfully to new product announcements and introductions by competitors.

Research and development projects may experience unanticipated delays related to our internal design efforts. New product development also requires the production of photomask sets and the

production and testing of sample devices. In the event we experience delays in obtaining these services from the wafer fabrication and assembly and test vendors on whom we rely, our product introductions may be delayed and our revenues and results of operations may be adversely affected.

***If we are not able to keep abreast of the rapid technological changes in our markets, our products could become obsolete.***

The demand for our products can change quickly and in ways we may not anticipate because our markets generally exhibit the following characteristics:

rapid technological developments;

rapid changes in customer requirements;

frequent new product introductions and enhancements;

declining prices over the life cycle of products; and

evolving industry standards.

Our products could become obsolete sooner than we expect because of faster than anticipated, or unanticipated, changes in one or more of the technologies related to our products. The introduction of new technology representing a substantial advance over current technology could adversely affect demand for our existing products. Currently accepted industry standards are also subject to change, which may also contribute to the obsolescence of our products. If we are unable to develop and introduce new or enhanced products in a timely manner, our business may be adversely affected.

***Uncertainties involving the ordering and shipment of our products could adversely affect our business.***

Our sales are typically made pursuant to individual purchase orders and we generally do not have long-term supply arrangements with our customers. Generally, our customers may cancel orders until 30 days prior to shipment. In addition, we sell a substantial portion of our products through distributors, some of whom have a right to return unsold products to us. Sales to distributors accounted for approximately 54% of our net revenues for fiscal 2007.

Because of the significant lead times for wafer fabrication and assembly and test services, we routinely purchase inventory based on estimates of end-market demand for our customers' products, which may be subject to dramatic changes and is difficult to predict. This difficulty may be compounded when we sell to OEMs indirectly through distributors or contract manufacturers, or both, as our forecasts of demand are then based on estimates provided by multiple parties. In addition, our customers may change their inventory practices on short notice for any reason. The cancellation or deferral of product orders, the return of previously sold products or overproduction due to the failure of anticipated orders to materialize could result in our holding excess or obsolete inventory, which could result in write-downs of inventory. Conversely, if we fail to anticipate inventory needs we may be unable to fulfill demand for our products, resulting in a loss of potential revenue.

***If network infrastructure OEMs do not design our products into their equipment, we will be unable to sell those products. Moreover, a design win from a customer does not guarantee future sales to that customer.***

Our products are not sold directly to the end-user but are components of other products. As a result, we rely on network infrastructure OEMs to select our products from among alternative offerings to be designed into their equipment. We may be unable to achieve these "design wins." Without design wins from OEMs, we would be unable to sell our products. Once an OEM designs another supplier's semiconductors into one of its product platforms, it is more difficult for us to achieve future design wins with that OEM's product platform because changing suppliers involves significant cost, time, effort and risk. Achieving a design win with a customer does not ensure that we will receive significant

revenues from that customer and we may be unable to convert design wins into actual sales. Even after a design win, the customer is not obligated to purchase our products and can choose at any time to stop using our products if, for example, its own products are not commercially successful.

***Because of the lengthy sales cycles of many of our products, we may incur significant expenses before we generate any revenues related to those products.***

Our customers generally need six months or longer to test and evaluate our products and an additional six months or more to begin volume production of equipment that incorporates our products. These lengthy periods also increase the possibility that a customer may decide to cancel or change product plans, which could reduce or eliminate sales to that customer. As a result of this lengthy sales cycle, we may incur significant research and development and selling, general and administrative expenses before we generate any revenues from new products. We may never generate the anticipated revenues if our customers cancel or change their product plans.

***We may be subject to claims, or we may be required to defend and indemnify customers against claims, of infringement of third-party intellectual property rights or demands that we, or our customers, license third-party technology, which could result in significant expense.***

The semiconductor industry is characterized by vigorous protection and pursuit of intellectual property rights. From time to time, third parties have asserted and may in the future assert patent, copyright, trademark and other intellectual property rights against technologies that are important to our business. The resolution or compromise of any litigation or other legal process to enforce such alleged third party rights, including claims arising through our contractual indemnification of our customers, or claims challenging the validity of our patents, regardless of its merit or resolution, could be costly and divert the efforts and attention of our management and technical personnel.

We may not prevail in any such litigation or other legal process or we may compromise or settle such claims because of the complex technical issues and inherent uncertainties in intellectual property disputes and the significant expense in defending such claims. If litigation or other legal process results in adverse rulings, we may be required to:

pay substantial damages for past, present and future use of the infringing technology;

cease the manufacture, use or sale of infringing products;

discontinue the use of infringing technology;

expend significant resources to develop non-infringing technology;

pay substantial damages to our customers or end users to discontinue use or replace infringing technology with non-infringing technology;

license technology from the third party claiming infringement, which license may not be available on commercially reasonable terms, or at all; or

relinquish intellectual property rights associated with one or more of our patent claims, if such claims are held invalid or otherwise unenforceable.

In connection with the distribution, we generally assumed responsibility for all contingent liabilities and litigation against Conexant or its subsidiaries related to our business.

***If we are not successful in protecting our intellectual property rights, it may harm our ability to compete.***

We rely primarily on patent, copyright, trademark and trade secret laws, as well as employee and third-party nondisclosure and confidentiality agreements and other methods, to protect our proprietary technologies and processes. We may be required to engage in litigation to enforce or protect our



intellectual property rights, which may require us to expend significant resources and to divert the efforts and attention of our management from our business operations. In particular:

the steps we take to prevent misappropriation or infringement of our intellectual property may not be successful;

any existing or future patents may be challenged, invalidated or circumvented; or

the measures described above may not provide meaningful protection.

Despite the preventive measures and precautions that we take, a third party could copy or otherwise obtain and use our technology without authorization, develop similar technology independently or design around our patents. We generally enter into confidentiality agreements with our employees, consultants and strategic partners. We also try to control access to and distribution of our technologies, documentation and other proprietary information. Despite these efforts, internal or external parties may attempt to copy, disclose, obtain or use our products, services or technology without our authorization. Also, former employees may seek employment with our business partners, customers or competitors, and the confidential nature of our proprietary information may not be maintained in the course of such future employment. Further, in some countries outside the United States, patent protection is not available or not reliably enforced. Some countries that do allow registration of patents do not provide meaningful redress for patent violations. As a result, protecting intellectual property in those countries is difficult and competitors may sell products in those countries that have functions and features that infringe on our intellectual property.

***The complexity of our products may lead to errors, defects and bugs, which could subject us to significant costs or damages and adversely affect market acceptance of our products.***

Although we, our customers and our suppliers rigorously test our products, our products are complex and may contain errors, defects or bugs when first introduced or as new versions are released. We have in the past experienced, and may in the future experience, errors, defects and bugs. If any of our products contain production defects or reliability, safety, quality or compatibility problems that are significant to our customers, our reputation may be damaged and customers may be reluctant to buy our products, which could adversely affect our ability to retain existing customers and attract new customers. In addition, these defects or bugs could interrupt or delay sales of affected products to our customers, which could adversely affect our results of operations.

If defects or bugs are discovered after commencement of commercial production of a new product, we may be required to make significant expenditures of capital and other resources to resolve the problems. This could result in significant additional development costs and the diversion of technical and other resources from our other development efforts. We could also incur significant costs to repair or replace defective products and we could be subject to claims for damages by our customers or others against us. We could also be exposed to product liability claims of indemnification claims by our customers. These costs or damages could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

***We may not be able to attract and retain qualified personnel necessary for the design, development, sale and support of our products. Our success could be negatively affected if key personnel leave.***

Our future success depends on our ability to attract, retain and motivate qualified personnel, including executive officers and other key management, technical and support personnel. As the source of our technological and product innovations, our key technical personnel represent a significant asset. The competition for such personnel can be intense in the semiconductor industry. We may not be able to attract and retain qualified management and other personnel necessary for the design, development, sale and support of our products.

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In periods of poor operating performance, we have experienced, and may experience in the future, particular difficulty attracting and retaining key personnel. If we are not successful in assuring our employees of our financial stability and our prospects for success, our employees may seek other employment, which may materially and adversely affect our business. Moreover, our recent expense reduction and restructuring initiatives, including a series of worldwide workforce reductions, have significantly reduced the number of our technical employees. We intend to continue to expand our international business activities including expansion of design and operational centers abroad and may have difficulty attracting and maintaining international employees. The loss of the services of one or more of our key employees, including Raouf Y. Halim, our chief executive officer, or certain key design and technical personnel, or our inability to attract, retain and motivate qualified personnel could have a material adverse effect on our ability to operate our business.

Approximately 7% of our engineers are foreign nationals working in the United States under visas. The visas held by many of our employees permit qualified foreign nationals working in specialty occupations, such as certain categories of engineers, to reside in the United States during their employment. The number of new visas approved each year may be limited and may restrict our ability to hire additional qualified technical employees. In addition, immigration policies are subject to change, and these policies have generally become more stringent since the events of September 11, 2001. Any additional significant changes in immigration laws, rules or regulations may further restrict our ability to retain or hire technical personnel.

### ***We are subject to the risks of doing business internationally.***

A significant part of our strategy involves our continued pursuit of growth opportunities in a number of international markets. We market, sell, design and service our products internationally. Sales to customers located outside the United States, primarily in the Asia-Pacific region and Europe, were approximately 69% of our net revenues for fiscal 2007. In addition, we have design centers, customer support centers, and rely on suppliers, located outside the United States, including foundries and assembly and test service providers located in the Asia-Pacific region. Our international sales and operations are subject to a number of risks inherent in selling and operating abroad which could adversely affect our ability to increase or maintain our foreign sales. These include, but are not limited to, risks regarding:

currency exchange rate fluctuations;

local economic and political conditions;

disruptions of capital and trading markets;

accounts receivable collection and longer payment cycles;

difficulties in staffing and managing foreign operations;

potential hostilities and changes in diplomatic and trade relationships;

restrictive governmental actions (such as restrictions on the transfer or repatriation of funds and trade protection measures, including export duties and quotas and customs duties and tariffs);

changes in legal or regulatory requirements;

difficulty in obtaining distribution and support;

the laws and policies of the United States and other countries affecting trade, foreign investment and loans and import or export licensing requirements;

tax laws;



limitations on our ability under local laws to protect our intellectual property;

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cultural differences in the conduct of business; and

natural disasters, acts of terrorism and war.

Because most of our international sales, other than sales to Japan (which are denominated principally in Japanese yen), are currently denominated in U.S. dollars, our products could become less competitive in international markets if the value of the U.S. dollar increases relative to foreign currencies. As we continue to shift a portion of our operations offshore, more of our expenses are incurred in currencies other than those in which we bill for the related services. An increase in the value of certain currencies, such as the Euro, Ukrainian hryvnia and Indian rupee, against the U.S. dollar could increase costs of our offshore operations by increasing labor and other costs that are denominated in local currencies.

From time to time we may enter into foreign currency forward exchange contracts to mitigate the risk of loss from currency exchange rate fluctuations for foreign currency commitments entered into in the ordinary course of business. We have not entered into foreign currency forward exchange contracts for other purposes. Our financial condition and results of operations could be adversely affected by currency fluctuations.

***We may make business acquisitions or investments, which involve significant risk.***

We may from time to time make acquisitions, enter into alliances or make investments in other businesses to complement our existing product offerings, augment our market coverage or enhance our technological capabilities. However, any such transactions could result in:

issuances of equity securities dilutive to our existing stockholders;

substantial cash payments;

the incurrence of substantial debt and assumption of unknown liabilities;

large one-time write-offs;

amortization expenses related to intangible assets;

the diversion of management's attention from other business concerns; and

the potential loss of key employees, customers and suppliers of the acquired business.

Integrating acquired organizations and their products and services may be expensive, time-consuming and a strain on our resources and our relationships with employees, customers and suppliers, and ultimately may not be successful. The benefits or synergies we may expect from the acquisition of complementary or supplementary businesses may not be realized to the extent or in the time frame we initially anticipate.

Additionally, in periods subsequent to an acquisition, we must evaluate goodwill and acquisition-related intangible assets for impairment. When such assets are found to be impaired, they will be written down to estimated fair value, with a charge against earnings.

***The price of our common stock may fluctuate significantly.***

The price of our common stock is volatile and may fluctuate significantly. There can be no assurance as to the prices at which our common stock will trade or that an active trading market in our common stock will be sustained in the future. The market price at which our common stock trades may be influenced by many factors, including:

our operating and financial performance and prospects, including our ability to achieve or sustain profitability, if achieved, within the forecasted time period;



the depth and liquidity of the market for our common stock;

investor perception of us and the industry in which we operate;

the level of research coverage of our common stock;

changes in earnings estimates or buy/sell recommendations by analysts;

general financial and other market conditions; and

domestic and international economic conditions.

In addition, public stock markets have experienced, and may in the future experience, extreme price and trading volume volatility, particularly in the technology sectors of the market. This volatility has significantly affected the market prices of securities of many technology companies for reasons frequently unrelated to or disproportionately impacted by the operating performance of these companies. These broad market fluctuations may adversely affect the market price of our common stock. If our common stock trades below \$1.00 for 30 consecutive trading days, or if we otherwise do not meet the requirements for continued quotation on the Nasdaq Global Market, our common stock could be delisted, which would adversely affect the ability of investors to sell shares of our common stock and could otherwise adversely affect our business.

***Our results of operations could vary as a result of the methods, estimates and judgments we use in applying our accounting policies.***

The methods, estimates and judgments we use in applying our accounting policies have a significant impact on our results of operations (see "Critical Accounting Policies" in Part II, Item 7 of this Form 10-K). Such methods, estimates and judgments are, by their nature, subject to substantial risks, uncertainties and assumptions, and changes in rulemaking by the regulatory bodies. Factors may arise over time that lead us to change our methods, estimates and judgments. Changes in those methods, estimates and judgments could significantly affect our results of operations.

***Substantial sales of the shares of our common stock issuable upon conversion of our convertible senior notes or exercise of the warrant issued to Conexant could adversely affect our stock price or our ability to raise additional financing in the public capital markets.***

Conexant holds a warrant to acquire 30 million shares of our common stock at a price of \$3.408 per share, exercisable through June 27, 2013, representing approximately 16% of our outstanding common stock on a fully diluted basis. The warrant may be transferred or sold in whole or part at any time. If Conexant sells the warrant or if Conexant or a transferee of the warrant exercises the warrant and sells a substantial number of shares of our common stock in the future, or if investors perceive that these sales may occur, the market price of our common stock could decline or market demand for our common stock could be sharply reduced. As of September 30, 2007, we have \$46.0 million principal amount of convertible senior notes outstanding. These notes are convertible at any time, at the option of the holder, into approximately 432.9004 shares of common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of notes or an aggregate of approximately 19.9 million shares of our common stock. The conversion of the notes and subsequent sale of a substantial number of shares of our common stock could also adversely affect demand for, and the market price of, our common stock. Each of these transactions could adversely affect our ability to raise additional financing by issuing equity or equity-based securities in the public capital markets.

***Antidilution and other provisions in the warrant issued to Conexant may also adversely affect our stock price or our ability to raise additional financing.***

The warrant issued to Conexant contains antidilution provisions that provide for adjustment of the warrant's exercise price, and the number of shares issuable under the warrant, upon the occurrence of certain events. If we issue, or are deemed to have issued, shares of our common stock, or securities convertible into our common stock, at prices below the current market price of our common stock (as defined in the warrant) at the time of the issuance of such securities, the warrant's exercise price will be reduced and the number of shares issuable under the warrant will be increased. The amount of such adjustment if any, will be determined pursuant to a formula specified in the warrant and will depend on the number of shares issued, the offering price and the current market price of our common stock at the time of the issuance of such securities. Adjustments to the warrant pursuant to these antidilution provisions may result in significant dilution to the interests of our existing stockholders and may adversely affect the market price of our common stock. The antidilution provisions may also limit our ability to obtain additional financing on terms favorable to us.

Moreover, we may not realize any cash proceeds from the exercise of the warrant held by Conexant. A holder of the warrant may opt for a cashless exercise of all or part of the warrant. In a cashless exercise, the holder of the warrant would make no cash payment to us, and would receive a number of shares of our common stock having an aggregate value equal to the excess of the then-current market price of the shares of our common stock issuable upon exercise of the warrant over the exercise price of the warrant. Such an issuance of common stock would be immediately dilutive to the interests of other stockholders.

***Some of our directors and executive officers may have potential conflicts of interest because of their positions with Conexant or their ownership of Conexant common stock.***

Some of our directors are Conexant directors, and our non-executive chairman of the board is chairman of the board of Conexant. Several of our directors and executive officers own Conexant common stock and hold options to purchase Conexant common stock. Service on our board of directors and as a director or officer of Conexant, or ownership of Conexant common stock by our directors and executive officers, could create, or appear to create, potential conflicts of interest when directors and officers are faced with decisions that could have different implications for us and Conexant. For example, potential conflicts could arise in connection with decisions involving the warrant to purchase our common stock issued to Conexant, or other agreements entered into between us and Conexant in connection with the distribution.

Our restated certificate of incorporation includes provisions relating to the allocation of business opportunities that may be suitable for both us and Conexant based on the relationship to the companies of the individual to whom the opportunity is presented and the method by which it was presented and also includes provisions limiting challenges to the enforceability of contracts between us and Conexant.

We may have difficulty resolving any potential conflicts of interest with Conexant, and even if we do, the resolution may be less favorable than if we were dealing with an entirely unrelated third party.

***Provisions in our organizational documents and rights plan and Delaware law will make it more difficult for someone to acquire control of us.***

Our restated certificate of incorporation, our amended and restated bylaws, our amended rights agreement and the Delaware General Corporation Law contain several provisions that would make

more difficult an acquisition of control of us in a transaction not approved by our board of directors. Our restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws include provisions such as:

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;

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;

a requirement that a supermajority vote be obtained to remove a director for cause or to amend or repeal certain provisions of our restated certificate of incorporation or amended and restated bylaws;

elimination of the right of stockholders to call a special meeting of stockholders; and

a fair price provision.

Our rights agreement gives our stockholders certain rights that would substantially increase the cost of acquiring us in a transaction not approved by our board of directors.

In addition to the rights agreement and the provisions in our restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws, Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law generally provides that a corporation shall not engage in any business combination with any interested stockholder during the three-year period following the time that such stockholder becomes an interested stockholder, unless a majority of the directors then in office approves either the business combination or the transaction that results in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder or specified stockholder approval requirements are met.

#### **Item 1B. *Unresolved Staff Comments***

None.

#### **Item 2. *Properties***

At October 26, 2007, we occupied our headquarters located in Newport Beach, California (which includes design and sales offices), 8 design centers and 10 sales locations. These facilities had an aggregate floor space of approximately 270,000 square feet, all of which is leased, consisting of approximately 193,000 square feet at our headquarters, 58,000 square feet at our design centers and 19,000 square feet at our sales locations. In June 2008, we plan to reduce the space we rent at our headquarters by approximately 50,000 square feet. This space has been unoccupied since early 2007 when we recorded an impairment charge for the remaining rent to be paid on this space. We believe our properties are well maintained, are in sound operating condition and contain all the equipment and facilities to operate at present levels.

Through our design centers, we provide design engineering and product application support and after-sales service to our OEM customers. The design centers are strategically located to take advantage of key technical and engineering talent worldwide.

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

We are currently not engaged in legal proceedings that require disclosure under this Item.

**Item 4. *Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders***

No matters were submitted to a vote of our stockholders during the quarter ended September 30, 2007.

## PART II

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

Our common stock is traded on the Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol "MSPD." The following table lists the high and low sales price of our common stock as reported by the Nasdaq Global Market for the periods indicated.

	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>
<b>Fiscal 2006</b>		
Quarter ended December 31, 2005	\$ 2.38	\$ 1.70
Quarter ended March 31, 2006	\$ 4.05	\$ 2.41
Quarter ended June 30, 2006	\$ 4.25	\$ 2.30
Quarter ended September 30, 2006	\$ 2.62	\$ 1.39
<b>Fiscal 2007</b>		
Quarter ended December 31, 2006	\$ 2.05	\$ 1.62
Quarter ended March 31, 2007	\$ 2.53	\$ 1.75
Quarter ended June 30, 2007	\$ 2.38	\$ 1.95
Quarter ended September 30, 2007	\$ 2.25	\$ 1.59

**Recent Share Prices and Holders**

The last reported sale price of our common stock on November 27, 2007 was \$1.39 and there were approximately 37,826 holders of record of our common stock. However, many holders' shares are listed under their brokerage firms' names.

**Dividend Policy**

We have never paid cash dividends on our capital stock. We currently intend to retain any earnings for use in our business and do not anticipate paying cash dividends in the foreseeable future.

**Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities**

	<u>Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased</u>	<u>Average Price Paid per Share (or Unit)</u>	<u>Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs</u>	<u>Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares (or Units) that May yet be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs</u>
June 30, 2007 to July 27, 2007	639(a)	\$ 2.21		
July 28, 2007 to August 24, 2007		\$		
August 25, 2007 to September 28, 2007		\$		
	<u>639</u>	<u>\$ 2.21</u>		

- (a) Represents shares of our common stock withheld from, or delivered by, employees in order to satisfy applicable tax withholding obligations in connection with the vesting of restricted stock. These repurchases were not made pursuant to any publicly announced plan or program.



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*Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth in any of our filings under the Securities Act or the Exchange Act that might incorporate future filings, including this Annual Report on Form 10-K, in whole or in part, the Stock Performance Graph which follows shall not be deemed to be incorporated by reference in*

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to any such filings except to the extent that we specifically incorporate any such information into any such future filings. The Stock Performance Graph is not, and shall not be deemed to be, "soliciting material" or "filed" with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

### Stock Performance Graph

Set forth below is a line graph comparing the cumulative total stockholder return on our common stock against the cumulative total return of the Nasdaq U.S. Index and the Nasdaq Electronic Components Index. The graph assumes that \$100 was invested on June 30, 2003, the first day of public trading of our common stock, in each of our common stock, the Nasdaq U.S. Index and the Nasdaq Electronic Components Index and that all dividends were reinvested. No cash dividends have been paid or declared on our common stock. Total return is based on historical results and is not intended to indicate future performance.

**COMPARISON OF CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURN\***  
AMONG MINDSPEED TECHNOLOGIES, INC., THE NASDAQ U.S. INDEX  
AND THE NASDAQ ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS INDEX

\*

\$100 INVESTED ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2003 IN STOCK OR INDEX INCLUDING REINVESTMENT OF DIVIDENDS. FISCAL YEARS ENDING SEPTEMBER 30.

Cumulative Total Return September 30,				
2003	2004	2005	2006	2007

(Dollars)

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Cumulative Total Return September 30,

Mindspeed Technologies, Inc.	\$	100.00	\$	37.11	\$	44.71	\$	32.10	\$	32.10
Nasdaq U.S. Index		100.00		106.24		121.25		127.87		151.34
Nasdaq Electronic Components Index		100.00		84.37		94.04		96.21		124.72

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**Item 6. Selected Financial Data**

The selected consolidated financial data presented below should be read in conjunction with Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and our consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto appearing elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Our consolidated selected financial data have been derived from our audited consolidated financial statements. The selected financial data include our results of operations and financial position while we were part of Conexant prior to June 27, 2003. The financial data for periods prior to June 27, 2003 do not reflect what our results of operations and financial position would have been if we had operated as an independent public company during those periods.

	Year Ended September 30,				
	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
(In thousands, except per share amounts)					
<b>Statement of Operations Data</b>					
Net revenues	\$ 127,805	\$ 135,919	\$ 111,777	\$ 119,435	\$ 81,906
Cost of goods sold	42,334	43,592	33,704	35,149	25,127
Gross margin	85,471	92,327	78,073	84,286	56,779
Operating expenses:					
Research and development	57,447	64,104	71,355	79,582	106,289
Selling, general and administrative	43,385	46,970	41,871	46,845	49,656
Amortization of intangible assets			20,481	50,318	51,223
Special charges(1)	4,724	2,550	5,999	387	27,170
Total operating expenses	105,556	113,624	139,706	177,132	234,338
Operating loss	(20,085)	(21,297)	(61,633)	(92,846)	(177,559)
Interest expense	(2,240)	(2,231)	(1,788)		
Other income, net	522	863	1,162	320	1,078
Loss before income taxes	(21,803)	(22,665)	(62,259)	(92,526)	(176,481)
Provision for income taxes	111	1,849	370	721	780
Loss before cumulative effect of accounting change	(21,914)	(24,514)	(62,629)	(93,247)	(177,261)
Cumulative effect of change in accounting for goodwill(2)					(573,184)
Net loss	\$ (21,914)	\$ (24,514)	\$ (62,629)	\$ (93,247)	\$ (750,445)
Loss per share, basic and diluted:					
Loss before cumulative effect of accounting change	\$ (0.20)	\$ (0.23)	\$ (0.61)	\$ (0.95)	\$ (1.98)
Cumulative effect of change in accounting for goodwill(2)					(6.39)
Net loss	\$ (0.20)	\$ (0.23)	\$ (0.61)	\$ (0.95)	\$ (8.37)
As of September 30,					
	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
<b>Balance Sheet Data</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 25,796	29,976	15,335	43,638	80,121
Marketable Securities		11,260	40,094		
Working capital	35,814	50,880	59,332	49,082	71,783

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As of September 30,

Total assets	82,079	96,542	105,504	126,300	203,889
Long-term debt	45,037	44,618	44,219		
Stockholders' equity	14,246	23,476	33,826	90,927	167,134

- (1) Special charges consist of asset impairments, restructuring charges, separation costs and gains and losses on the sale of certain assets.
- (2) Effective October 1, 2002, we adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142, "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets," and recorded an impairment charge of \$573.2 million to write down the carrying value of goodwill to estimated fair value.

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

**Overview**

We design, develop and sell semiconductor networking solutions for communications applications in enterprise, access, metropolitan and wide-area networks. Our products, ranging from optical network transceiver solutions to voice and Internet protocol (IP) processors, are classified into three focused product families: high-performance analog products, multiservice access digital signal processor (DSP) products and wide area networking (WAN) communications products. Our products are sold to original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) for use in a variety of network infrastructure equipment, including mixed media gateways, high-speed routers, switches, access multiplexers, cross-connect systems, add-drop multiplexers, digital loop carrier equipment, IP private branch exchanges (PBXs) and optical modules. Service providers use this equipment for the processing, transmission and switching of high-speed voice, data and video traffic, including advanced services such as voice-over-IP (VoIP), within different segments of the communications network. Our OEM customers include Alcatel-Lucent, Cisco Systems, Inc., Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd., LM Ericsson Telephone Company, Nortel Networks, Inc., Nokia Siemens Networks and Zhongxing Telecom Equipment Corp. (ZTE).

**Trends and Factors Affecting Our Business**

Our products are components of network infrastructure equipment. As a result, we rely on network infrastructure OEMs to select our products from among alternative offerings to be designed into their equipment. These "design wins" are an integral part of the long sales cycle for our products. Our customers may need six months or longer to test and evaluate our products and an additional six months or more to begin volume production of equipment that incorporates our products. We believe our close relationships with leading network infrastructure OEMs facilitate early adoption of our products during development of their products, enhance our ability to obtain design wins and encourage adoption of our technology by the industry.

We market and sell our semiconductor products directly to network infrastructure OEMs. We also sell our products indirectly through electronic component distributors and third-party electronic manufacturing service providers, who manufacture products incorporating our semiconductor networking solutions for OEMs. Sales to distributors accounted for approximately 54% of our revenues for fiscal 2007. Sales to customers located outside the United States, primarily in the Asia-Pacific region and Europe, were approximately 69% of our net revenues for fiscal 2007. We believe a substantial portion of the products we sell to OEMs and third-party manufacturing service providers in the Asia-Pacific region is ultimately shipped to end markets in the Americas and Europe.

We have significant research, development, engineering and product design capabilities. Our success depends to a substantial degree upon our ability to develop and introduce in a timely fashion new products and enhancements to our existing products that meet changing customer requirements and emerging industry standards. We have made, and plan to make, substantial investments in research and development and to participate in the formulation of industry standards. We spent approximately \$57.4 million on research and development for fiscal 2007. We seek to maximize our return on our research and development spending by focusing our research and development investment in what we believe are key high-growth markets, including VoIP and high-performance analog applications. We have developed and maintain a broad intellectual property portfolio, and we intend to periodically enter into strategic arrangements to leverage our portfolio by licensing or selling our patents or other intellectual property that are no longer core to our business. We recognized our first revenues from the sale of patents during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2007.

We are dependent upon third parties for the manufacture, assembly and testing of our products. Our ability to bring new products to market, to fulfill orders and to achieve long-term revenue growth is dependent on our ability to obtain sufficient external manufacturing capacity, including wafer

fabrication capacity. Periods of upturn in the semiconductor industry may be characterized by rapid increases in demand and a shortage of capacity for wafer fabrication and assembly and test services. In such periods, we may experience longer lead times or indeterminate delivery schedules, which may adversely affect our ability to fulfill orders for our products. During periods of capacity shortages for manufacturing, assembly and testing services, our primary foundries and other suppliers may devote their limited capacity to fulfill the requirements of other clients that are larger than we are, or who have superior contractual rights to enforce manufacture of their products, including to the exclusion of producing our products. We may also incur increased manufacturing costs, including costs of finding acceptable alternative foundries or assembly and test service providers.

In order to achieve profitability, we must reduce operating expenses or achieve substantial revenue growth. Through fiscal 2007, we have completed a series of cost reduction actions which have improved our operating cost structure.

Our ability to achieve the necessary revenue growth will depend on increased demand for network infrastructure equipment that incorporates our products, which in turn depends primarily on the level of capital spending by communications service providers. We believe the market for network infrastructure equipment in general, and for communications semiconductors in particular, offers attractive long-term growth prospects due to increasing demand for network capacity, the continued upgrading and expansion of existing networks and the build-out of telecommunication networks in developing countries. However, the semiconductor industry is highly cyclical and is characterized by constant and rapid technological change, rapid product obsolescence and price erosion, evolving technical standards, short product life cycles and wide fluctuations in product supply and demand. In addition, there has been an increasing trend toward industry consolidation, particularly among major network equipment and telecommunications companies. Consolidation in the industry may lead to pricing pressure and loss of market share. These factors have caused substantial fluctuations in our revenues and our results of operations in the past, and we may experience cyclical fluctuations in our business in the future.

On September 25, 2007, we acquired the product portfolio and intellectual property assets of Ample Communications, Inc., an innovative developer of Ethernet media access controller (MAC) products for carrier Ethernet aggregation applications. We paid approximately \$4.6 million in cash to acquire the assets in a private foreclosure sale from Ample's senior creditor.

Ample's products ship to major OEM equipment customers for installation in Ethernet metropolitan, access, and enterprise networks, including wireless/cellular backhaul and Ethernet-over-SONET applications. We intend to market, sell and support these Ethernet aggregation products with densities ranging from two to 24 ports and Ethernet transmission speeds from 10 Mbps to 10 Gbps. We also expect to develop and further extend the Ethernet MAC product line.

### **Stock-Based Compensation Programs**

We use stock-based compensation to attract and retain employees and to provide long-term incentive compensation that aligns the interests of our employees with those of our stockholders. Prior to fiscal 2006, our stock-based compensation consisted principally of stock options. Eligible employees received grants of stock options at the time of hire; we also made broad-based stock option grants covering substantially all of our employees annually. Stock option awards have exercise prices not less than the market price of our common stock at the grant date and a contractual term of eight or ten years, and are subject to time-based vesting (generally over four years). From time to time we have also used restricted stock awards with time-based vesting for incentive or retention purposes.

Beginning in fiscal 2006, we revised our stock-based compensation arrangements to provide current and long-term incentive compensation, principally through restricted stock awards. During fiscal 2007 and fiscal 2006, we granted an aggregate of 2.8 million shares and 4.2 million shares, respectively, of

restricted stock to our employees. These awards principally consisted of broad-based grants, covering substantially all of our employees. One broad-based grant was intended to provide performance emphasis and incentive compensation through vesting tied to each employee's performance against individual goals for each of the fiscal years. Another broad-based grant of restricted stock was intended to provide long-term incentive compensation; these awards vest ratably over a period of four years, and require continued service. In fiscal 2006, certain senior management personnel also received additional restricted stock awards having vesting tied to our achievement of an operating profit.

From time to time, we also grant stock options or other stock-based awards for incentive or retention purposes. We periodically review, and may further revise, our compensation arrangements based on our assessment of the effectiveness of our compensation arrangements and to keep our overall compensation package at market levels.

Effective October 1, 2005, we adopted Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) 123R, "Share-Based Payment" using the "modified prospective application." SFAS 123R requires that we account for all stock-based compensation transactions using a fair-value method and recognize the fair value of each award as an expense over the service period. As required by SFAS 123R, our stock-based compensation expense for fiscal 2006 and fiscal 2007 includes the fair value of new awards, modified awards and any unvested awards outstanding at October 1, 2005. However, the consolidated financial statements for periods prior to the adoption of SFAS 123R have not been restated to reflect the fair value method of accounting for stock-based compensation. The fair value of restricted stock awards is based upon the market price of our common stock at the grant date. We estimate the fair value of stock option awards, as of the grant date, using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. The fair value of each award is recognized on a straight-line basis over the vesting or service period.

Stock-based compensation expense totaling \$7.3 million, \$7.5 million and \$400,000 for fiscal 2007, fiscal 2006 and fiscal 2005, respectively, is included in cost of goods sold, research and development expenses, selling, general and administrative expenses and special charges. The increase principally reflects the cost of restricted stock and other awards made during fiscal 2007 and fiscal 2006, as well as the cost of awards outstanding at October 1, 2005 but vesting after that date. As of September 30, 2007, there was unrecognized compensation expense of \$2.5 million related to unvested stock options, which we expect to recognize over a weighted-average period of 2.4 years and unrecognized compensation expense of \$3.5 million related to unvested restricted stock awards, which we expect to recognize over a weighted-average period of 1.7 years.

#### **Critical Accounting Policies**

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Among the significant estimates affecting our consolidated financial statements are those relating to inventories, revenue recognition, allowances for doubtful accounts, stock-based compensation, income taxes and impairment of long-lived assets. We regularly evaluate our estimates and assumptions based upon historical experience and various other factors that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. To the extent actual results differ from those estimates; our future results of operations may be affected.

*Inventories* We write down our inventory for estimated obsolete or unmarketable inventory in an amount equal to the difference between the cost of inventory and the estimated market value based upon assumptions about future demand and market conditions. If actual market conditions are less favorable than our estimates, additional inventory write-downs may be required. In the event we



experience unanticipated demand and are able to sell a portion of the inventories we have previously written down, our gross margins will be favorably affected.

*Stock-Based Compensation* We account for stock-based compensation in accordance with SFAS No. 123R, "Share-Based Payment." SFAS 123R requires that we account for all stock-based compensation transactions using a fair-value method and recognize the fair value of each award as an expense over the service period. The fair value of restricted stock awards is based upon the market price of our common stock at the grant date. We estimate the fair value of stock option awards, as of the grant date, using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. The use of the Black-Scholes model requires that we make a number of estimates, including the expected option term, the expected volatility in the price of our common stock, the risk-free rate of interest and the dividend yield on our common stock. If our expected option term and stock-price volatility assumptions were different, the resulting determination of the fair value of stock option awards could be materially different. In addition, judgment is also required in estimating the number of share-based awards that we expect will ultimately vest upon the fulfillment of service conditions (such as time-based vesting) or the achievement of specific performance conditions. If the actual number of awards that ultimately vest differs significantly from these estimates, stock-based compensation expense and our results of operations could be materially impacted.

*Revenue Recognition* We recognize revenues when the following fundamental criteria are met: (i) persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists; (ii) delivery has occurred; (iii) our price to the customer is fixed or determinable; and (iv) collection of the sales price is reasonably assured. Delivery occurs when goods are shipped and title and risk of loss transfer to the customer, in accordance with the terms specified in the arrangement with the customer. Revenue recognition is deferred in all instances where the earnings process is incomplete. We make certain product sales to electronic component distributors under agreements allowing for a right to return unsold products. We defer the recognition of revenue on all sales to these distributors until the products are sold by the distributors to a third party. We record a reserve for estimated sales returns and allowances in the same period as the related revenues are recognized. We base these estimates on our historical experience or the specific identification of an event necessitating a reserve. To the extent actual sales returns differ from our estimates, our future results of operations may be affected. Development revenue is recognized when services are performed and was not significant for any of the periods presented. Revenues from the sale of intellectual property is recognized when the above mentioned four criteria are met and was not significant for any of the periods presented.

*Deferred Income Taxes* We have provided a full valuation allowance against our U.S federal and state deferred tax assets. If sufficient evidence of our ability to generate future U.S federal and/or state taxable income becomes apparent, we may be required to reduce our valuation allowance, resulting in income tax benefits in our statement of operations. We evaluate the realizability of our deferred tax assets and assess the need for a valuation allowance quarterly.

*Impairment of Long-Lived Assets* We continually monitor and review long-lived assets, including fixed assets, goodwill and intangible assets, for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of any such asset may not be recoverable. The determination of recoverability is based on an estimate of the undiscounted cash flows expected to result from the use of an asset and its eventual disposition. The estimate of cash flows is based upon, among other things, certain assumptions about expected future operating performance, growth rates and other factors. Our estimates of undiscounted cash flows may differ from actual cash flows due to, among other things, technological changes, economic conditions, changes to our business model or changes in our operating performance. If the sum of the undiscounted cash flows (excluding interest) is less than the carrying value, we recognize an impairment loss, measured as the amount by which the carrying value exceeds the fair value of the asset.

## Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In July 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued FASB Interpretation No. 48, "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes" ("FIN 48") which clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in the financial statements in accordance with FASB Statement No. 109, "Accounting for Income Taxes." This pronouncement recommends a recognition threshold and measurement process for recording in the financial statements uncertain tax positions taken or expected to be taken in the Company's tax return. FIN 48 also provides guidance on de-recognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods and disclosure requirements for uncertain tax positions. The accounting provisions of FIN 48 will be effective for our first fiscal quarter of fiscal 2008. We are in the process of evaluating the effect, if any, the adoption of FIN 48 will have on our financial statements.

In September 2006, the FASB issued Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 157, "Fair Value Measurement", which defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and expands disclosures regarding assets and liabilities measured at fair value. We will be required to adopt SFAS 157 in the first quarter of fiscal 2009 and do not expect that the adoption will have a material impact on our financial condition or results of operations.

In February 2007, the FASB issued Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 159, "The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities." The statement permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value that are currently not required to be measured at fair value. We will be required to adopt SFAS 159 in the first quarter of fiscal 2009 and do not expect that the adoption will have a material impact on our financial condition or results of operations.

In June 2007, the FASB ratified Emerging Issues Task Force consensus on EITF Issue No. 07-3, "Accounting for Non-refundable Advanced Payments for Goods or Services to be Used in Future Research and Development Activities." EITF Issue No. 07-3 requires that these payments be deferred and capitalized and expensed as goods are delivered or as the related services are performed. We will be required to adopt EITF 07-3 in the first quarter of fiscal 2009 and do not expect that the adoption will have a material impact on our financial condition or results of operations.

## Results of Operations

### *Fourth Quarter Fiscal 2007 Compared to Fourth Quarter Fiscal 2006*

In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2007, our net revenues grew 5% year over year, reaching \$33.7 million. Our fiscal 2007 fourth quarter net revenues increased approximately 1% from fiscal 2007 third quarter net revenues of \$33.2 million. Over the past year we have been reviewing our portfolio of intellectual property with a view to license some of our key patents. In addition, we have been considering the sale of certain patents that are no longer core to our business. In the fourth quarter of 2007, we recognized our first revenues from these efforts. Our operating loss for the fiscal 2007 fourth quarter was \$375,000 compared to \$7.0 million in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2006. The decrease in our operating loss reflects a higher gross margin of \$2.8 million and decreased operating expenses of \$3.7 million mainly due to cost cutting measures implemented beginning in the first quarter of fiscal 2007.

**Net Revenues*****Fiscal 2007 Compared to Fiscal 2006; Fiscal 2006 Compared to Fiscal 2005***

The following table summarizes our net revenues:

	<u>2007</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>2005</u>
	(Dollars in millions)				
Multiservice access DSP products	\$ 36.3	(3)%	\$ 37.4	13%	\$ 33.1
High-performance analog products	37.5	(12)%	42.7	58%	27.1
WAN communications products	54.0	(3)%	55.8	8%	51.6
Net revenues	\$ 127.8	(6)%	\$ 135.9	22%	\$ 111.8

The 6% decrease in our net revenues for fiscal 2007 compared to fiscal 2006 reflects lower sales volumes across each of our product families. Net revenues from our multiservice access DSP products decreased \$1.1 million, or 3%, reflecting a decrease in sales in our legacy products mostly offset by increased sales volumes across our newer VoIP product families as well as revenues recorded on the sale of intellectual property. We are experiencing increased sales volumes of our newer VoIP product families as telecommunication service providers install equipment to transmit their voice traffic over IP data networks. We believe we are benefiting from the increasing deployment of IP-based networks both in new network buildouts (particularly in Asia) and the replacement of circuit-switched networks. Net revenues from our high-performance analog products decreased by \$5.2 million, or 12%, mostly due to decreased shipments of our physical media dependent devices serving fiber optic markets somewhat offset by increased shipments of video infrastructure products serving standard and high definition broadcast video markets. Sales of our WAN communications products decreased by \$1.8 million, or 3%, primarily resulting from a slowdown in consumption of our products in access and metropolitan area network applications such as T/E carrier transmission products. These decreases were partially offset by an increase in demand for our ATM/MPLS network processor products for use in wireless, enterprise and broadband infrastructure applications.

For fiscal 2006, the 22% increase in our net revenues compared to fiscal 2005 reflects higher sales volumes across each of our product families. Net revenues from our multiservice access DSP products increased \$4.3 million, or 13%, reflecting increased sales volumes across the majority of our VoIP product families. Net revenues from our high-performance analog products increased by \$15.6 million, or 58%, benefiting from increased shipments of our crosspoint switches, physical media dependent devices serving fiber optic markets and video infrastructure products serving standard and high definition broadcast video markets. Sales of our WAN communications products increased by \$4.2 million, or 8%, reflecting increased shipments of our T/E carrier transmission products serving metro access and aggregation as well as wireless markets, partially offset by lower demand for our ATM/MPLS network processor products serving router markets.

**Gross Margin**

	<u>2007</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>2005</u>
	(Dollars in millions)				
Gross margin	\$ 85.5	(7)%	\$ 92.3	18%	\$ 78.1
Percent of net revenues	67%		68%		70%

Gross margin represents net revenues less cost of goods sold. As a fabless semiconductor company, we use third parties (including TSMC, Jazz and Amkor) for wafer fabrication and assembly and test services. Our cost of goods sold consists predominantly of: purchased finished wafers; assembly and test services; royalty and other intellectual property costs; labor and overhead costs associated with product procurement; and sustaining engineering expenses pertaining to products sold.

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Our gross margin for fiscal 2007 decreased \$6.8 million over fiscal 2006, principally reflecting the 6% decrease in our net revenues. Our gross margin as a percent of net revenues for fiscal 2007 decreased 1% from fiscal 2006 primarily as a result of a \$1.5 million reduction in the benefit related to the sale of inventory previously written down to a zero cost basis in 2001. In addition, the change in provision for excess and obsolete inventories was an increase in the provision of \$1.8 million in fiscal 2007 compared to a net decrease of \$586,000 for fiscal 2006. Our gross margin for fiscal 2006 increased \$14.2 million over fiscal 2005, principally reflecting the 22% increase in our net revenues in fiscal 2006 and the favorable effect of increased manufacturing volumes, net favorable impact of higher than anticipated manufacturing yields, a net decrease in the provision for excess and obsolete inventories, partially offset by a greater level of depreciation on photomask production tooling and a higher level of variable manufacturing overhead. Our gross margin as a percent of net revenues for fiscal 2006 declined from fiscal 2005 primarily as a result of a reduction in the benefit related to the sale of inventory previously written down to a zero cost basis in 2001. The change in provision for excess and obsolete inventories was a decrease of \$586,000 for fiscal 2006, compared to an increase in the provision of \$489,000 for fiscal 2005.

Our gross margins also benefited from the sale of inventories with an original cost of \$4.0 million (2007), \$5.5 million (2006) and \$8.7 million (2005) that we had written down to a zero cost basis during fiscal 2001. These sales resulted from renewed demand for certain products that was not anticipated at the time of the write-downs. The previously written-down inventories were generally sold at prices which exceeded their original cost.

In fiscal 2001, we recorded an aggregate of \$83.5 million of inventory write-downs, reducing the cost basis of the affected inventories to zero. The fiscal 2001 inventory write-downs resulted from the sharply reduced end-customer demand for network infrastructure equipment during that period. As a result of these market conditions, we experienced a significant number of order cancellations and a decline in the volume of new orders beginning in the fiscal 2001 first quarter. The inventories written down in fiscal 2001 principally consisted of multiservice access processors and DSL transceivers.

We assess the recoverability of our inventories at least quarterly through a review of inventory levels in relation to foreseeable demand (generally over twelve months). Foreseeable demand is based upon all available information, including sales backlog and forecasts, product marketing plans and product life cycles. When the inventory on hand exceeds the foreseeable demand, we write down the value of those inventories which, at the time of our review, we expect to be unable to sell. The amount of the inventory write-down is the excess of historical cost over estimated realizable value. Once established, these write-downs are considered permanent adjustments to the cost basis of the excess inventory.

Our products are used by OEMs that have designed our products into network infrastructure equipment. For many of our products, we gain these design wins through a lengthy sales cycle, which often includes providing technical support to the OEM customer. In the event of the loss of business from existing OEM customers, we may be unable to secure new customers for our existing products without first achieving new design wins. When the quantities of inventory on hand exceed foreseeable demand from existing OEM customers into whose products our products have been designed, we generally will be unable to sell our excess inventories to others, and the estimated realizable value of such inventories to us is generally zero.

From the time of the fiscal 2001 inventory write-downs through September 30, 2007, we scrapped a portion of these inventories having an original cost of \$39.8 million and sold a portion of these inventories with an original cost of \$36.0 million. The sales resulted from increased demand beginning in the first quarter of fiscal 2002 which was not anticipated at the time of the write-downs. As of September 30, 2007, we continued to hold inventories with an original cost of \$7.7 million which were previously written down to a zero cost basis. We currently intend to hold these remaining inventories and will sell these inventories if we continue to experience a renewed demand for these products.

While there can be no assurance that we will be able to do so, if we are able to sell a portion of the inventories which are carried at zero cost basis, our gross margins will be favorably affected by an amount equal to the original cost of the zero-cost basis inventory sold. To the extent that we do not experience renewed demand for the remaining inventories, they will be scrapped as they become obsolete.

We base our assessment of the recoverability of our inventories, and the amounts of any write-downs, on currently available information and assumptions about future demand and market conditions. Demand for our products may fluctuate significantly over time, and actual demand and market conditions may be more or less favorable than those projected by management. In the event that actual demand is lower than originally projected, additional inventory write-downs may be required.

### Research and Development

	<u>2007</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>2005</u>
	(Dollars in millions)				
Research and development expenses	\$ 57.4	(10)%	\$ 64.1	(10)%	\$ 71.4
Percent of net revenues	45%		47%		64%

Our research and development (R&D) expenses consist principally of direct personnel costs, photomasks, electronic design automation tools and pre-production evaluation and test costs. The \$6.7 million decrease in R&D expenses from fiscal 2007 to fiscal 2006 principally reflects a \$4.0 million decrease in compensation and personnel-related costs and a \$0.5 million decrease in the cost of our facilities resulting from our expense reduction actions. The decrease in R&D expenses also reflects a \$1.4 million decrease in depreciation expense, principally resulting from certain assets reaching the end of their depreciable lives, and a \$0.6 million decrease in the cost of materials, photomasks and preproduction devices.

The decrease in R&D expenses fiscal 2006 compared to fiscal 2005 includes a \$4.3 million decrease in compensation and personnel-related costs, partly attributable to a one-time vacation requirement, a \$2.7 million decrease in depreciation expense and a \$2.2 million decrease in materials, supplies and mask sets, principally resulting from the expense reduction actions we completed in fiscal 2005. During fiscal 2005, we reduced our workforce and closed design centers in Herzlia, Israel and Lisle, Illinois. The affected research and development programs were principally our asynchronous transfer mode (ATM)/multi-protocol label switching (MPLS) network processor products and, to a lesser extent, our T/E carrier transmission products. These personnel-related cost savings were partly offset by increased headcount and spending directed toward VoIP products and our high-performance analog products, and by a \$2.5 million increase in stock based compensation expense. The decrease in R&D expenses in fiscal 2006 also reflects lower costs for materials, photomasks and preproduction devices resulting from the aforementioned expense reduction actions and the reduction in new product development activities in the ATM/MPLS and T/E carrier transmission product lines.

### Selling, General and Administrative

	<u>2007</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>2005</u>
	(Dollars in millions)				
Selling, general and administrative expenses	\$ 43.4	(8)%	\$ 47.0	12%	\$ 41.9
Percent of net revenues	34%		35%		37%

Our selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses include personnel costs, independent sales representative commissions and product marketing, applications engineering and other marketing costs. Our SG&A expenses also include costs of corporate functions including accounting, finance, legal, human resources, information systems and communications. The \$3.6 million decrease in our

SG&A expenses for fiscal 2007 compared to fiscal 2006 reflects a \$1.3 million decrease in personnel-related costs and a \$0.6 million decrease in the cost of our facilities, all of which are a result of our expense reduction actions. In addition, insurance costs decreased \$0.4 million and commissions expense decreased \$0.8 million as a result of a reduction in the usage of outside sales representatives.

The increase in our SG&A expenses for fiscal 2006 compared to fiscal 2005 principally reflects a \$3.9 million increase in stock-based compensation expense, partially offset by the benefit of a one-time vacation requirement. The increase also reflects increased compensation and personnel-related costs and higher sales commissions associated with the 22% increase in sales for fiscal 2006 compared to fiscal 2005.

#### Amortization of Intangible Assets and Change in Accounting for Goodwill

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
	(Dollars in millions)		
Amortization of intangible assets	\$	\$	\$ 20.5

Amortization of intangible assets decreased to zero beginning in fiscal 2006 because the remainder of our intangible assets became fully amortized during fiscal 2005, reducing their carrying value to zero. Intangible assets were amortized over periods averaging approximately five years for each major asset class and extending to various dates through June 2005. In conjunction with the acquisition of certain assets of Ample Communications, Inc. which occurred at the end of the fourth quarter of fiscal 2007, we have recorded intangible assets over periods ranging from three months to ten years that will be amortized beginning in fiscal 2008.

#### Special Charges

Special charges consist of the following:

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
	(In millions)		
Asset impairments	\$	\$	\$ 0.8
Restructuring charges	4.7	2.6	5.2
	<u>\$ 4.7</u>	<u>\$ 2.6</u>	<u>\$ 6.0</u>

#### *Asset Impairments*

During fiscal 2005, we recorded asset impairment charges totaling \$810,000 related to property and equipment that we determined to abandon or scrap, including assets associated with the closure of our former design centers in Herzlia, Israel and Lisle, Illinois.

We continually monitor and review long-lived assets, including fixed assets and intangible assets, for possible impairment. Future impairment tests may result in significant write-downs of the value of our assets.

#### *Restructuring Charges*

*Mindspeed 2007 Restructuring Plan* During the first and second quarters of fiscal 2007, we implemented a restructuring plan under which we reduced our workforce by approximately 49 employees. The affected employees included approximately 38 persons in research and development, 8 in sales and marketing and 3 in general and administrative functions. In connection with this reduction in workforce, we recorded a charge of \$2.4 million for severance benefits payable to the affected employees and \$75,000 for the value of stock-based compensation awards that will vest without future service to us. On December 1, 2006, we vacated approximately 50,000 square feet of excess space at our Newport Beach headquarters and recorded a charge related to contractual obligations on this space

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of approximately \$1.9 million. This charge was increased by \$0.6 million during the second fiscal quarter of 2007 and an additional \$0.2 million in the fourth fiscal quarter of 2007 as a result of a change in sub-lease income estimates. We expect to incur a total of \$0.2 million of additional restructuring costs in future periods related to this plan.

&nbs goods sold and should enable the Company to avoid unexpected significant adjustments related to this process at period-end.

The Company made changes in its internal control over financial reporting to incorporate Valley Forge's financial reporting into Synergetics Inc.'s financial reporting including a change in the accounting and finance reporting structure during the first six months of the fiscal year covered by this report. No other changes were made that would materially affect the internal control over financial reporting.

**Table of Contents****Part II Other Information****Item 1 Legal Proceedings**

On February 11, 2004, Synergetics, the Company's wholly owned subsidiary, filed an action against two ex-employees, which alleged that the defendants, among other things, misappropriated trade secrets, intentionally interfered with Synergetics' business relationships and breached confidentiality agreements. Subsequently, Synergetics filed an amended complaint adding claims of fraud and breach of fiduciary duty. The suit was brought in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Missouri and was captioned Synergetics, Inc. v. Charles Richard Hurst, Jr. and Michael McGowan, Case No. 4:04-CV-318DDN. After the court transferred defendants' counterclaim for tortious interference to New Jersey (where it was subsequently dismissed by defendants), the trial began on September 12, 2005. On September 20, 2005, the jury found Hurst and McGowan had intentionally interfered with Synergetics' business relationships and further found that Hurst and McGowan had misappropriated trade secrets, breached confidentiality agreements and breached fiduciary duties, including the duty of loyalty. The jury awarded the Company \$1,759,165 in compensatory damages and \$586,388 in punitive damages. Defendants moved the Court to dismiss the case on legal grounds and/or reduce the amount of the jury verdict, and the Company has additionally requested an injunction against the defendants. On December 9, 2005, the court entered judgment consistent with the jury's findings, awarded injunctive relief and denied the motion of defendants to reduce the verdict. On January 9, 2006, defendants filed a notice of appeal. Proceedings in the appeal are on-going.

On October 21, 2004, Synergetics filed suit in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania, against Hurst and McGowan's company, Innovatech Surgical, Inc. (Innovatech), and its manufacturer, Peregrine Surgical, Ltd. (Peregrine) for patent infringement. This suit is captioned Synergetics, Inc. v. Peregrine Surgical, Ltd. and Innovatech Surgical, Inc., Case No. 4:04-CV-4939. The suit against Innovatech and Peregrine arises out of the defendants' sale, use and manufacture of an adapter and connector that are alleged to infringe two of Synergetics' patents. Synergetics seeks damages and injunctive relief in this action. The defendants have asserted by way of an affirmative defense that they do not infringe the patents and that the patents in the suit are invalid. Synergetics does not believe that the patents are invalid and intends to vigorously prosecute this litigation. Both Synergetics and the defendants have filed for summary judgment and await the judge's decision.

On October 19, 2005, IRIDEX Corporation filed suit in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Missouri against the Company for patent infringement. This suit is captioned IRIDEX Corporation v. Synergetics USA, Inc., Case No. 4:05V1916CDP. IRIDEX Corporation filed suit against the Company for infringement of the IRIDEX Patent No. 5,085,492 entitled Optical Fiber with Electrical Encoding. IRIDEX alleges that Synergetics' Quick Disconnect Laser Probes and adapter infringe its patent. It seeks damages, including treble damages and injunctive relief. On November 30, 2005, the Company filed its answer in this lawsuit and asked the court to declare that its products do not infringe the IRIDEX patent. In addition, the Company countersued IRIDEX alleging commercial disparagement, trade libel, injurious falsehood and unfair competition under the Federal Lanham Act and applicable Missouri law. The counterclaim also includes a count of defamation. These claims primarily relate to alleged false or misleading statement and publications by IRIDEX and its representatives with respect to the Company's laser adapters and laser probes. Litigation in this matter is ongoing.

On January 10, 2006, Synergetics filed a suit in United States District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania against Innovatech and Peregrine for infringement of U.S. Patent No. 6,984,230. This suit is captioned Synergetics, Inc. v. Peregrine Surgical, Ltd. and Innovatech Surgical, Inc., Case No. 2:06-CV-00107. The suit against Innovatech and Peregrine arises out of defendant's sale, use and manufacture of a laser probe that is alleged to infringe Synergetics' patent. Synergetics seeks damages and injunctive relief in this action. The defendants have asserted by way of affirmative defenses or counterclaims, *inter alia*, that they do not infringe the patent, that the patent in the suit is invalid and that Synergetics engaged in inequitable conduct rendering the patent unenforceable. Innovatech also counterclaimed for alleged violations of the Federal Lanham Act. Synergetics does not believe the patent is invalid or that it engaged in inequitable conduct or conduct that violated the Federal Lanham Act, and intends to vigorously prosecute this litigation and defend the counterclaim.

On November 29, 2004, Synergetics filed an action in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Missouri against an ex-employee and his company, Protomedics, LLC (Protomedics), for trade secret misappropriation,



intentional interference with business relationships, breach of contract, fraud, breach of fiduciary duty and conversion. This suit was captioned Synergetics, Inc. v. Christopher Lumpkin and Protomedics, LLC, Case No 4:04-CV-01650TCM. This suit arose partly out of such ex-employee s alleged transfer of Synergetics confidential information to the principals of Innovatech in breach of existing confidentiality agreements. Synergetics sought damages and injunctive relief in this action. On December 30, 2004, Christopher Lumpkin and Protomedics filed counterclaims alleging trade secret misappropriation and breaches of contracts. In their counterclaims, defendants sought damages, including punitive damages, and injunctive relief. The Company believes it is not in breach of any contracts and that no

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misappropriation occurred. A mediation conference was held on September 7, 2005. On November 14, 2005, the parties entered into a non-monetary settlement agreement and on November 15, 2005, they entered a joint stipulation of dismissal with prejudice.

In addition, from time to time we may become subject to litigation claims that may greatly exceed our product liability insurance limits. An adverse outcome of such litigation may adversely impact our financial condition, results of operation and liquidity. We record a liability when a loss is known or considered probable and the amount can be reasonably estimated. If a loss is not probable, a liability is not recorded. As of January 30, 2006, the Company has no litigation reserves recorded.

The Company is also involved in certain litigation incidental to the conduct of its business and affairs. Management does not believe that the outcome of any such litigation will have a material adverse effect on the financial condition, results of operation or liquidity of the Company.

**Item 1A Risk Factors**

The Company's business is subject to certain risks and events that, if they occur, could adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations and the trading price of our common stock. For a discussion of these risks, please refer to the Risk Factors section of the Company's Annual Report of Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended July 31, 2005. In connection with its preparation of this quarterly report, management has reviewed and considered these risk factors and has determined that there have been no material changes to the Company's risk factors since the date of filing the Annual Report.

**Item 2 Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds**

None

**Item 3 Defaults upon Senior Securities**

None

**Item 4 Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders**

None

**Item 5 Other Information**

None

**Item 6 Exhibits**

**Exhibit No. Description**

- 31.1 Certification of the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.2 Certification of the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.1 Certification of the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.2 Certification of the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

**Trademark Acknowledgements**

Synergetics, the Synergetics logo, Malis, OMNI, Bident and Finest Energy Source for Surgery are our registered trademarks. PHOTON, DualWave, COAG, Advantage, Microserrated, Microfiber, Solution, Tru-Micro, DDMS, Kryptonite, Bullseye, Spetzler Claw, Spetzler Micro Claw, Spetzler Open Angle Micro Claw, Spetzler Barracuda, Spetzler Pineapple and Bi-Safe product names are our trademarks. All other trademarks or tradenames appearing in the Form 10-Q are the property of their respective owners.

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SIGNATURES

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

SYNERGETICS USA, INC.  
(Registrant)

March 15, 2006

/s/ Gregg D. Scheller

Gregg D. Scheller, President and Chief  
Executive Officer (Principal Executive  
Officer)

March 15, 2006

/s/ Pamela G. Boone

Pamela G. Boone, Executive Vice  
President, Chief Financial Officer, Secretary  
and Treasurer (Principal Financial and  
Principal Accounting Officer)

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