CATALYST SEMICONDUCTOR INC Form 10-K July 13, 2007

# **UNITED STATES** SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549	
FORM 10-K	
x ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECT ACT OF 1934	TION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE
For the fiscal year ended April 29, 2007	
OR	
o TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934	SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES
For the transition period from to .	
Commission File Number 0-21488	
Catalyst Semiconductor, Inc.	
(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)	
<b>Delaware</b> (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	77-0083129 (I.R.S.Employer Identification No.)
2975 Stender Way, Santa Clara California 95054	
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)	
Registrant s telephone number, including area code: (408) 542-1000	
Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:	
Title of each class:  Common Stock, \$0.001 par value	Name of each exchange on which registered: The NASDAQ Global Market LLC (The NASDAQ-GM)
Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:	

NONE

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

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

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

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. x

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or non-accelerated filer (as defined in Exchange Act Rule 12b-2).

Large accelerated filer o

Accelerated filer o

Non-accelerated filer x

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-5 of the Act). Yes o No x

The aggregate market value of voting stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant as of October 29, 2006, the last day of the registrant s most recently completed second quarter, was approximately \$29,895,914 based upon the last sales price reported for such date on the NASDAQ Global Market. For purposes of disclosure, shares of common stock held by persons who hold more than 5% of the outstanding shares of common stock and shares held by executive officers and directors of the registrant have been excluded in that such persons may be deemed to be affiliates. This determination is not necessarily conclusive.

The number of shares of Registrant s Common Stock outstanding as of June 30, 2007 was 16,350,912.

#### DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Items 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 of Part III of this Form 10-K incorporate information by reference from portions of the registrant s 2007 Definitive Proxy Statement to be filed not later than 120 days after the close of the fiscal year ended April 29, 2007.

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#### CATALYST SEMICONDUCTOR, INC.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

This report contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Words such as projected, expects, believes, intends and assumes and similar expression are used to identify forward-looking statements. These statements are made based upon current expectations and projections about our business and the semiconductor industry, and assumptions made by our management are not guarantees of future performance, nor do we assume any obligation to update such forward-looking statements after the date this report is filed. Forward-looking statements contained in this Annual Report include, among others, statements regarding expanding our focus in the analog/mixed-signal market, providing the most comprehensive lines of serial and parallel EEPROM products in the industry, the ability to take advantage of growth and market opportunities in the industries we provide our products, continued investment in research and development to improve our memory and analog/mixed-signal products, the successful implementation of new strategies to meet our long-term strategic goals, the continued ability to competitively and reliably provide non-volatile memory products, the sufficiency of our current cash, cash equivalents and available-for-sale securities, our ability to retain and attract employees, our internal controls, the adequacy of our facilities to meet our customers needs, and the effects of new accounting rules. Actual results may differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements as a result of various factors. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those included herein include, but are not limited to: the information contained under the captions Part I, Item 1. Business, Part I, Item 1A. Risk Factors and Part II, Item 7. Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

#### PART I

#### Item 1. Business

#### Overview

We design, develop and market a broad line of reprogrammable non-volatile memory products and analog/mixed-signal semiconductor products. Our products are used by manufacturers of electronic products in a wide range of consumer, computing, communications, industrial and automotive applications. We generally target high volume markets for our cost effective, high quality products. Through periods of tight manufacturing capacity and cyclical downturns, we have demonstrated long-term commitment to the memory products market.

The market for our non-volatile memory is highly competitive and market participants have relatively weak pricing power. Average selling prices of our non-volatile memory products have declined over time and prices are sensitive to conditions in our original equipment manufacturer (OEM) customers—target markets. In fiscal 2007, we experienced an increase in total unit volume sold to end customers, driven by strong demand particularly for our electrically erasable programmable read-only memory (EEPROM) and analog/mixed-signal products. However, this increase in unit volume was partly offset by an overall decrease in average selling prices. In general, we expect the average selling price for a given memory product to decline in the future, primarily due to market competition, product availability and manufacturing capacity. In response to that trend, we continue to work with our foundries and other vendors to increase the manufacturing efficiency of our products.

Our business is less capital intensive than traditional semiconductor companies because we outsource the manufacturing, assembling and a significant portion of the testing of our products to third parties. We strive to maintain long-term relationships with our suppliers to ensure stability in our supply of products at a competitive cost. In addition, in an effort to alleviate any potential wafer capacity constraints, we maintain a supply of wafers in a die bank for most products.

We market and sell our products through our direct sales force and sales representatives to OEMs and indirectly through distributors and resellers who sell to their end customers. Indirect sales were a majority of our total sales in fiscal 2007, 2006 and 2005. Our total customer base, including OEMs and end-customers of our distributors and resellers, has been relatively diverse and during fiscal 2007 consisted of more than 3,000 end customers. We have approximately 49 distributors and resellers.

We are leveraging our extensive experience in high volume, reprogrammable memory products to develop complementary analog/mixed-signal products that offer our customers a more complete system solution. In fiscal 2003, we strengthened and expanded the expertise of our research and development team by establishing our own development center in Bucharest, Romania and by hiring additional engineers in Romania and in our California headquarters. In fiscal 2005, we purchased a new building in Bucharest for our Romanian product development team and in fiscal 2006, we purchased a new building in Santa Clara, California for our headquarters and U.S development team. We continue to make substantial investments in research and development to advance our non-volatile memory products, as well as develop broader solutions with our line of analog/mixed signal products.

We incorporated in California in October 1985. In May 1993, we reincorporated in Delaware. Our principal executive offices are currently located at 2975 Stender Way, Santa Clara, CA 95054, our telephone number is (408) 542-1000 and our website is *www.catsemi.com*. Information contained on or accessible through our website does not constitute a part of this report.

Our fiscal year ends on the Sunday closest to April 30 of each year. We refer to the fiscal year ended April 27, 2003 as fiscal 2003, the fiscal year ended May 2, 2004 as fiscal 2004, the fiscal year ended May 1, 2005 as fiscal 2005, the fiscal year ended April 30, 2006 as fiscal 2006 and the fiscal year ended April 29, 2007 as fiscal 2007.

#### **Industry Background**

Semiconductor devices may be divided into three broad categories: analog, digital and mixed-signal. Analog products monitor and manipulate real world signals such as sound, light, pressure, motion, temperature and electrical current. Digital circuits, such as microprocessors, use threshold voltages which function as on and off switches, which are expressed in binary code as ones and zeros. The digital components process and manipulate the data while the analog components condition the inputs or signals. Mixed-signal devices incorporate both analog and digital functions into a single semiconductor device. In most cases, these mixed-signal devices convert analog signals to digital signals or vice versa, or these devices may be used to improve the performance of the specific analog application. Non-volatile memory devices require certain building blocks that have analog characteristics included within them in order to perform their memory functions.

#### Non-Volatile Memory Products

The principal distinguishing characteristic of non-volatile memory is that it does not require a continuous application of power to retain data while volatile memory, such as dynamic random access memory, or DRAM, requires continuous power. While non-volatile memory products are often considered digital semiconductor devices, these non-volatile memory devices incorporate certain high performance analog blocks. Electronic systems primarily use non-volatile memory to store critical data when the power to the system is turned off. Virtually all electronic systems that use a digital processor or controller, including personal computers, printers, cellular handsets, digital cameras, optical networks, wireless local area networks, digital set-top boxes and automotive systems, incorporate non-volatile memory products such as EEPROM and/or flash memory. Many electronic systems utilize a combination of volatile and non-volatile memory.

System manufacturers generally prefer non-volatile memory devices that can be reprogrammed efficiently in the system in order to achieve several important advantages in comparison to non-volatile memory devices that are not reprogrammable or which require physical removal for reprogramming. With reprogrammable memory, manufacturers can cost effectively change program codes in response to accelerated product cycles and changing market specifications. Reprogrammable memory greatly simplifies inventory management and manufacturing processes and allows the manufacturer to reconfigure or update a system either locally or remotely through a network connection. In addition, consumers use non-volatile memory devices that can be programmed and reprogrammed to store user selected system configurations in consumer electronics devices, such as phone numbers in mobile telephones. Major non-volatile memory classifications include EEPROM and flash memory.

EEPROM provides significant programming flexibility to system designers. This non-volatile memory can be erased and reprogrammed electrically within the system hundreds of thousands to millions of times and can be altered one byte or several bytes at a time. In an EEPROM device, each cell, which is the discrete area on the device in which one bit is stored, consists of two transistors, one to store data and one to permit the cell to be selected when erasing data. Serial EEPROM transmits data through a single input-output port while parallel EEPROM transmits data through multiple input-output ports concurrently.

Flash memory provides significant programming flexibility to system designers at a higher density than EEPROM. Although flash memory can be reprogrammed electrically within the system, the number of reprogramming cycles is generally less than EEPROM and only a memory block can be rewritten, not an individual byte. In flash memory, a block consists of an array of memory cells. Flash memory products can be manufactured with storage densities, transfer rates and data alterability comparable to DRAM and can achieve a relatively low manufacturing cost at higher densities. For low-density memory used in high volume applications, flash memory is not cost effective relative to EEPROM. Because of its limitations and cost at low densities, flash memory is not used in certain system critical applications.

The EEPROM market is characterized by high unit volumes sold at relatively low per unit prices. The EEPROM market has a limited number of vendors. Each participant in the EEPROM market has relatively weak pricing power because of interchangeability of available vendors—parts. EEPROM prices are largely a function of the demand for electronic devices in which they are incorporated, available memory manufacturing capacity, product availability and memory density. In light of these competitive dynamics, some suppliers have exited the EEPROM market, leaving fewer alternatives for OEM customers. Manufacturers customarily use flash memory and EEPROM to address different needs within the same electronic system. Since most consumer and industrial electronic devices continue to use EEPROM either separately or in conjunction with other memory, OEM customers want to develop relationships with memory vendors who are likely to be long-term vendors of EEPROM and those vendors which are developing and supplying a broad range of products.

## Analog/Mixed-Signal Products

The analog/mixed-signal market is generally divided into two major product categories depending on how the devices are used by system designers:

- general purpose analog/mixed-signal products for standard designs; and
- analog/mixed-signal application specific standard products, or ASSPs, for customized designs.

General purpose analog/mixed-signal products perform a standard function that can usually be sourced from a number of suppliers. Some general purpose products command premium prices due to the additional performance they provide in certain applications. Popular high performance devices generally attract competition and become commoditized over time. Similarly, in the memory market, most

non-volatile memory components are general purpose or industry standard parts and are interchangeable with parts from other suppliers.

General purpose analog/mixed-signal products include power management products, which control and regulate the amount of power delivered to an electronic system. Power management products are critical to overall system performance and cost. These products include direct current to direct current, or DC to DC, converters, switching regulators, low dropout voltage regulators and voltage references. Suppliers of power management products are increasingly integrating discrete power management components into multi-function devices to reduce design time and lower system costs by consuming less board space and power.

ASSPs are a superior solution for systems that have special requirements, such as portability, size constraints or functionality. The relationship between customer and supplier tends to be more dynamic and intertwined in this market with greater reliance on each other. On one hand, the customer has to have enough trust in the supplier to take the risk of committing its supply chain to a single vendor. On the other hand, the supplier faces the risk of investing significant research and development resources to design and develop a customized solution with the uncertainty of the market acceptance of the customer s end product. Suppliers servicing the ASSP market typically have greater pricing power and receive higher margins.

The analog/mixed-signal market is highly fragmented into many segments with numerous vendors serving one or more of the various segments. The general purpose analog/mixed-signal semiconductor market is characterized by long product cycles with a broad, diverse base of customers. As a result, general purpose analog/mixed-signal product prices tend to be more stable than those for non-volatile memory products.

#### **Our Competitive Strengths**

We have two decades of experience in the design, testing and sale of reprogrammable non-volatile memory products, including EEPROM and low-density flash memory. We believe we have established a brand name that our OEM and distribution customers associate with cost effective, high quality and high value products supported by excellent customer service. These strengths have helped us grow in the competitive non-volatile memory market. We intend to leverage our OEM customer base and the design and operational expertise developed in our non-volatile memory products to increase our revenues from our non-volatile memory and analog/mixed-signal product offerings.

We believe the following are our key competitive strengths:

High Quality Design. We have invested and intend to continue to invest substantial resources in research and development to improve our memory and analog/mixed-signal products. To complement our California engineering capabilities, in 2003, we established our own design and development center in Bucharest, Romania. We previously used contract personnel in Romania but now have an integrated design organization, which as of April 29, 2007 included a worldwide total of 79 engineers. Through the development of our EEPROM products, we also routinely design and develop high performance analog and mixed-signal functions for use in our non-volatile memory products. As a result, our design personnel have extensive experience in designing analog blocks, which we believe will enable us to expand our focus to include the complementary analog/mixed-signal product market.

Expertise in High Volume, Efficient Manufacturing. The markets for our non-volatile memory products are characterized by high unit volumes sold at competitive prices. To reduce cost, we are developing successive generations of our memory products scaled to smaller process geometries which is intended to result in reduced die sizes and lower cost per unit. We conduct the majority of our wafer testing operations in our Santa Clara, California headquarters and take other steps to maintain and

improve the quality of our products. These efforts have improved the yield on our products. We use third party contractors for a majority of our manufacturing, packaging, testing and shipping activities in order to control our costs and to be able to respond quickly to customer requests.

Long-Term, Established Foundry Relationships. We have worked with OKI Semiconductor, Inc., our primary foundry that is located in Japan, for more than 20 years. This long standing foundry relationship has enabled us to optimize our designs for its high volume and high yield processes. To reduce our reliance on a single wafer foundry, we also developed our processes so that different fabrication facilities could replicate them. We purchase volume shipments of our analog/mixed-signal products from a United States-based foundry. This facility can act as a second fabrication facility for some of our non-volatile memory products. We also purchase volume shipments from fabrication facilities in Taiwan and China, and regularly evaluate other foundries that may support the production of high performance analog/mixed-signal products for us.

Comprehensive EEPROM Product Line. We believe that we offer one of the most comprehensive lines of serial and parallel EEPROM products in the industry. Our EEPROM products support industry requirements and are available in a broad selection of densities and voltages. Our EEPROM product line includes a wide array of performance characteristics that electronic system manufacturers need, such as interfaces, memory densities, voltages and bus speeds.

Systems Focused Analog/Mixed-signal Product Line. We have concentrated our analog/mixed-signal product development and systems understanding on specific applications such as white light emitting diodes, or LED, backlight drivers for liquid crystal display, or LCD, screens and modules; multi-colored LCD applications such as automotive and aircraft interior lighting and instrumentation clusters; and on the portable power management functions that complement the LED driver applications. We believe that this focus enables us to achieve the necessary systems insight more rapidly in order to gain the confidence of, and secure the business of, major OEMs.

*Intellectual property.* We have a patent portfolio that includes fabrication process and product-related IP. This IP portfolio includes proprietary charge-pump architecture that has been embedded in our line of Quad-Mode LEDs drivers.

Diverse End Markets and Applications. Through direct and indirect sales channels, we sell our products in a variety of end markets, including consumer, computing, communications, industrial and automotive. Our solutions are used in a broad array of applications within each of these markets, such as automotive systems, cordless telephones, digital cameras, digital video players, digital set-top boxes, mobile phones, optical networks, personal computers and wireless local area networks. Due to the diversity of our markets and applications, we are not dependent on any individual industry or end user product. In addition, we believe we have the opportunity to take advantage of the markets and growth in any of the industries we serve.

Strong Customer Base. We are one of the largest suppliers of EEPROM in the world and we have relationships with many customers including large OEMs through direct sales, distributors and resellers. During fiscal 2007, we served more than 3,000 end customers. Through our collaborations with OEM customers in an interactive product design and development process, we have established durable relationships, solidified our customer base and defined the next generation of our products. Consequently, we believe that we are well positioned to continue to sell our existing and future analog/mixed-signal products to these customers, which could use many of these products in conjunction with our memory products.

#### **Our Strategy**

We intend to continue to provide our customers with a reliable source of industry standard non-volatile memory products. We also intend to further improve our non-volatile memory products and become a systems knowledgeable partner to our customers by providing a broad range of standard and custom analog/mixed-signal products. Our strategy includes the following:

Strengthen EEPROM Product Offering. We intend to continue to develop high performance EEPROM products and reduce our costs by continuing to migrate to smaller process geometries. We intend to continue to provide high quality, competitively priced products with a broad range of densities and voltages. As a result, we intend to strengthen our position in the EEPROM market.

Broaden Standard Analog/Mixed-signal Product Offerings. We have developed a range of industry standard analog/mixed-signal products that serve high volume markets. Leveraging our large OEM customer base and efficient, high volume manufacturing process, we intend to become a reliable, high volume, cost effective supplier of standard analog/mixed-signal products to existing and new OEM customers. We intend to continue to introduce additional industry standard analog/mixed-signal products to increase net revenues, address new applications and increase our portfolio of analog building blocks for internal reuse in other products, such as application specific analog/mixed-signal products. We reuse proven design blocks, which enables us to reduce the design and manufacturing risks associated with new products and assists us in reducing development times and in achieving higher reliability and manufacturing yields.

Expand Proprietary Analog/Mixed-signal Product Offerings. We have introduced a range of proprietary analog/mixed-signal products, which often integrate analog elements with reprogrammable non-volatile memory, such as digital potentiometer products, or DPPs, and processor supervisors. We intend to continue to introduce additional embedded memory products and to leverage our non-volatile memory and analog design expertise. We also plan to continue to have these products built for us by our foundry suppliers using our proprietary process technology and open source technology, which supports both analog and non-volatile memory elements in a single manufacturing process. We are working with selected customers to develop next generation high value added products. We are targeting selected applications in large segments, such as solid state illumination, which is lighting for displays, consumer electronic devices, automotive and other purposes.

We intend to implement our strategies by:

- leveraging our design portfolio and ongoing research and development activities;
- expanding engineering resources in low cost areas, such as our Bucharest, Romania engineering center;
- expanding our design portfolio and making selective acquisitions of complementary companies or technologies;
- using third party foundries to provide wafer fabrication for our products;
- developing our processes in a manner that permits the manufacture of our products in the fabrication facilities of different semiconductor foundries; and
- taking advantage of the flexible capacity and lower fixed costs of the outsourced manufacturing model.

#### **Products**

We use our expertise in non-volatile memory to develop and maintain a broad range of EEPROM products and selected flash memory products. In addition, we have expanded our focus to include analog/mixed-signal products.

#### Parallel and Serial EEPROM

We offer a broad range of serial EEPROM products compatible with the three popular industry standard bus interface protocols: the inter-integrated circuit, or I2C, bus interface of Philips Electronics N.V., the Microwire interface protocol and the serial peripheral interface, or SPI, bus protocol of Motorola, Inc. We offer products in a wide variety of densities from 1 kilobit, or Kbit, to 256 Kbit, and voltage ranges from 1.8 volts to 6.0 volts. Serial EEPROM products are used in many applications to store user reconfigurable data. Some of the more common applications are digital cameras, cell phones, digital video recorders, cordless phones, laser printers, memory modules for computers, disk drives, remote controls and various automotive applications.

We offer both standard 5.0 volt and 3.3 volt parallel EEPROM, the latter of which meets most battery operated application requirements. We offer products with a broad range of densities, from 16 Kbit to 512 Kbit. Parallel EEPROM provides faster transfer rates than serial EEPROM, which transfers data through a single port. Because of the higher number of drivers and packaging, parallel EEPROM is larger and more costly to manufacture than serial EEPROM and, accordingly, is used primarily in high performance applications. Parallel EEPROM is primarily used in applications such as point of sale terminals, industrial controllers, local area network adapters and telecommunication switches.

#### Flash Memory

We currently offer flash memory in a small number of densities. We offer Intel licensed flash memory devices in densities ranging from 512 Kbit to 2 megabit, or Mb. This family includes Intel licensed boot block and bulk erase technologies available in 1 Mb and 2 Mb densities.

#### Analog and Mixed-Signal

Although analog/mixed-signal products currently constitute a relatively small portion of our net revenues, we believe that there is a substantial market opportunity for analog/mixed-signal products and have continued leveraging our design, development and sales skills to expand these product lines. Because applications for non-volatile memory incorporate microcontrollers or microprocessors, many of the products interface with the controllers in various applications such as power management, systems supervision and interface support.

Supervisory Products with EEPROM. We have a family of microcontroller supervisory products, which combine serial EEPROM with the reset and watchdog functions required by many microcontrollers to ensure safe sustained operation and allow systems to recover more efficiently from power disruptions. These products integrate two functions in the same package to provide savings in printed circuit board space and component costs. Currently, we offer 1 Kbit, 2 Kbit, 4 Kbit, 8Kbit, 16 Kbit, 32 Kbit and 64 Kbit of EEPROM with embedded supervisory functions.

*Supervisory Products without Memory.* We also have a family of multi-industry general purpose supervisory products without EEPROM memory.

Digitally Programmable Potentiometers (DPP). We have a number of solid-state DPP products, which replace mechanical potentiometers used to fine tune and trim electronic circuitry in a variety of applications. DPP products are built using the same processes as our EEPROM products. Our DPP products have been included in interactive game consoles, digital cameras and optical transceivers.

White LED Drivers. We have a range of products intended to drive the white LEDs used as backlights in multi-colored LCD screens in cell phones, digital cameras, MP3 music players, portable gaming consoles, personal digital assistants, industrial instrumentation, automotive instrument clusters and home appliances. Color displays require more specialized LED drivers than monochrome displays. Our products tightly regulate the current to the LEDs to ensure the uniform brightness and color purity necessary for the clarity in viewing the color displays.

*DC to DC Converters.* Converting one direct current voltage to another within an electronic system is a common requirement, particularly in battery powered applications where the power available from the batteries will decline over time and use. Our designs allow smooth regulated operation of a system throughout the battery life. Our first generation of DC to DC converters are pin compatible with industry standard circuits.

LDO Regulators. Low drop-out (LDO) regulators are a type of linear DC to DC converter. LDO regulators allow the source voltage to approach that of the regulated output voltage, which can improve efficiency in some systems and extend the useable battery life in most battery power equipment. Our first generation of LDO regulators are compatible with industry standard devices.

I/O Expanders. Our line of input/output ( I/O ) expanders are used to connect the digital control bus in embedded systems to the external user interface. They can be configured to accept inputs, for example buttons on a control panel, or they can be configured to drive outputs, for example lights in a display. They are popular in systems that utilize low-cost microcontrollers with a limited number of I/O pins, where they expand the number of inputs or outputs the system can support. Our I/O expanders are direct alternatives to existing popular products.

All of the products described above are available in environmentally friendly packages, generally referred to as green packages.

#### **Sales and Marketing**

The majority of our customers order our products through our manufacturers representatives, distributors and resellers. These manufacturers representatives, distributors and resellers also create demand for our products, generally focusing on OEM customers who are not directly served by our internal sales managers. For example, our distributors sell to OEM customers or to contract manufacturers for the OEMs.

In addition to our sales and marketing organization located in our Santa Clara, California headquarters facility, we have sales operations in East Dundee, Illinois; Shanghai and Shenzhen, China; Oxford, United Kingdom; Munich, Germany; Yokohama, Japan; Singapore; Seoul, South Korea; and Taipei, Taiwan. Our sales offices support OEMs and manufacturers representatives, distributors and resellers. In addition, our Japanese operation works closely with our Japanese foundry partner, OEM customers and their contract manufacturers, as well as our Japanese manufacturers representatives, distributors and resellers.

Currently, we have three distributors and one reseller in North and South America, three distributors and 13 resellers in Europe and Africa, and a network of 10 distributors and 19 resellers throughout Asia to support our international business. These firms work with our regional sales managers in developing new opportunities, providing technical support and other value-added services.

Distributors and resellers have accounted for a significant portion of our net revenues in the past. For fiscal 2007 and 2006, Avnet, Inc. represented 10.3% and 11.8%, respectively, of our net revenues. For fiscal 2005, none of our direct or indirect customers represented 10.0% or more of our net revenues.

We often seek to develop strategic relationships with major OEMs and other customers by providing a high level of customer support and rapid problem solving. Our product knowledge includes a broad range of non-volatile memory and analog and mixed-signal technology compatible with the common industry standards. We also seek to work closely with our customers to provide solutions to address an individual customer s needs.

Our marketing activities consist of several key components:

- setting product strategy by identifying attractive markets that are a good fit with the company s competencies, developing roadmaps and defining products to meet the needs of those markets;
- interacting directly with customers, sales representatives and distributors to promote existing products and to gain knowledge to be applied in the definition of future devices;
- providing training and supporting collateral necessary to enable the sales force to effectively promote and sell products;
- securing press coverage in trade, technical and business publications through press releases, editorial meetings and submitted articles;
- conducting online promotions on our website;
- publishing application notes and journal articles to support the design-in of products; and
- developing dedicated demonstration and evaluation boards to assist customer designers in evaluating our products in their systems.

#### **Research and Development**

We have made and expect to continue to make substantial investments in research and development and to participate in the development of new and existing industry standards. As of April 29, 2007, our research and development staff consisted of 32 engineers working in Santa Clara, California and 47 in Bucharest, Romania.

For fiscal years 2007, 2006 and 2005, we had research and development expenses of \$7.8 million, \$7.5 million and \$7.9 million respectively.

Our memory engineering group develops non-volatile memory products. Our analog/mixed-signal development group develops products with logic as well as analog circuitry contents. We also routinely design and develop high performance analog and mixed-signal functions using EEPROM technology. Our technology development group develops advanced processes in cooperation with our foundries and also supports the design engineers with device modeling and characterization. Our computer aided design engineering group supports the design tools used by our design and layout engineers and converts the design data into mask shop usable format. Our test engineering group develops test programs for validating the electrical performance of our products in wafer and packaged form.

## **Intellectual Property**

We rely on a combination of patents, copyrights and trade secrets to establish and protect our intellectual property rights. As of April 29, 2007, we owned 26 U.S. patents and had 15 pending applications for additional U.S. patents. The expiration dates of our patents range from January 2008 to June 2025. As a result of the rapid changes in technology, the lives of these patents will likely last longer than the economic lives of the technologies they cover. We also have a number of trademarks. There can be no assurance that our pending patent or trademark applications will be allowed or that the issued or pending patents will not be challenged or circumvented by competitors. We also protect our numerous original mask sets under U.S. and foreign copyright laws.

We also own a substantial body of proprietary techniques and trade secrets. We seek to protect our trade secrets and proprietary technology, in part, through confidentiality agreements with employees, consultants and other parties. There can be no assurance that these agreements will not be breached, that we will have adequate remedies for any breach or that our trade secrets will not otherwise become known to or independently developed by others. In addition, the laws of some foreign countries do not offer protection of our proprietary rights to the same extent as the laws of the United States, which is an increasing concern as most of our production is located in foreign countries.

We may become involved in patent or other intellectual property disputes or actions. From time to time, we receive letters alleging patent infringement or inviting us to take a license to other parties patents. We evaluate these letters on a case by case basis. Offers such as these may lead to litigation if we reject the opportunity to obtain the license or reject the other party s demands. Adverse determinations in any litigation could subject us to significant liabilities to third parties, require us to seek licenses from third parties and prevent us from manufacturing and selling our products. Any of these situations could have a material adverse effect on our business.

#### Manufacturing

We have established close relationships with our foundry suppliers for our wafer fabrication in an effort to ensure stability in our supply of products and focus our internal efforts on product design and sales. Most of our designs are manufactured utilizing processes developed jointly by us and our foundry partners. Our Japanese foundry supplier currently manufactures a majority of our high volume production. Our domestic foundry supplier currently manufactures many of our analog/mixed-signal products as well as some of our EEPROM products. Our other foundry partners in Taiwan and China also manufacture analog/mixed-signal products for us. We endeavor to develop our processes in a manner that permits the portability of our manufacturing processes. We currently purchase wafer supplies on a purchase order basis. We also maintain a die bank of wafers in order to be able to respond to customer orders quickly and to attempt to manage our exposure to changes in manufacturing capacity and wafer costs.

We have wafer sorting operations at our headquarters facility in Santa Clara, California to control quality and improve yields and we also utilize a subcontractor in Japan for this purpose. We perform circuit assembly and testing of packaged parts primarily through our subcontractors located in Southeast Asia. In the assembly process, the wafers are separated into individual die, which are then assembled into packages. The packaged devices are further tested and inspected pursuant to our quality assurance program prior to shipment to our customers. The majority of our assembly and test services are provided by subcontractors located in Thailand and in the Philippines and, to a lesser degree, we also utilize assembly and test services provided by companies in Malaysia, Taiwan and China. We also subcontract certain production planning, test engineering, inventory management, shipping and tape and reel activities to a subcontractor in Thailand. In fiscal 2007, we began to conduct a portion of the subcontracted functions through our wholly owned subsidiary in Thailand.

## **Environmental Matters**

Federal, state and local regulations impose various environmental controls on the storage, handling, discharge and disposal of chemicals and gases used in our manufacturing processes. Our company quality manual requires all subcontractors and raw material suppliers to be ISO14001 certified. State agencies require us to report usage of environmentally hazardous materials and we have retained the appropriate personnel to help ensure compliance with all applicable environmental regulations. We actively manage and monitor compliance through our internal auditing program. We believe that our activities conform to present environmental regulations; however, increasing public attention has been focused on the environmental impact of semiconductor operations and these regulations may require us to fund remedial action regardless of fault.

In addition, the use and disposal of electronics is under increasing scrutiny and various countries have begun to adopt regulations such as the European Union s Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) and the Reduction of the use of certain Hazardous Substances in electrical and electronic equipment (RoHS) directives, which could require us to both redesign our products to comply with the standards and develop compliance administration systems. We expect additional countries and locations to adopt similar regulations in the future which may be more stringent than the current regulations. Currently however, we believe the majority of our commercial products are compliant with these emerging regulations. Information for both our facility and product compliance is available for download from our website at www.catsemi.com.

While we have not experienced any materially adverse effects on our operations from environmental regulations, there can be no assurance that changes in such regulations will not impose the need for additional capital equipment or other requirements. We have already invested significant resources into developing compliance tracking systems, and further investments may be required. Any failure by us to adequately restrict the discharge of hazardous substances could subject us to future liabilities or could cause our manufacturing operations to be suspended.

#### Competition

The semiconductor industry is highly competitive and has been characterized by price competition, manufacturing capacity constraints and product availability constraints at various times. We compete with major domestic and international semiconductor companies, many of which have substantially greater financial, technical, marketing, distribution and other resources.

Our non-volatile memory products, such as EEPROM devices, compete on the basis of product performance, price, product availability and customer service. We believe that we compete effectively with respect to each of these competitive factors. Price competition is significant and is expected to continue. We believe our principal competitors for our EEPROM products currently include Atmel Corporation, STMicroelectronics N.V. and Microchip Technology Incorporated.

We also manufacture low density flash memory products, which represent a small sub-segment of the flash memory market. This sub-segment has been characterized by reduced demand for low density memory, which has resulted in lower product availability and higher cost, due to the shift by most customers to the larger flash memory sizes that we do not offer. Our key competitor for low density or similar flash memory products includes Silicon Storage Technology, Inc.

We currently compete in the analog/mixed-signal product market on the basis of product performance, product availability, price and customer support. The analog and mixed-signal industry is highly fragmented with competition varying within the applicable segment and sub-segments, including: Fairchild Semiconductor International, Inc., Intersil Corporation, Linear Technology Corporation, Maxim Integrated Products, Inc., National Semiconductor and Texas Instruments Incorporated.

## **Employees**

As of April 29, 2007, we had a total of 169 full-time employees worldwide, including 79 in research and development, 45 in sales and marketing and 45 in operations, executive and administrative functions. Our future success will depend on our ability to attract, train, retain and motivate highly qualified employees. Our employees are not represented by any collective bargaining organization or labor unions. We have never experienced any work stoppage and believe that our employee relations are favorable.

#### **Executive Officers**

Set forth below is certain information as of April 29, 2007, regarding each of our executive officers who held positions as of the date we filed this report. There are no family relationships among any of our directors and executive officers.

Name	Age	Principal Occupation
Gelu Voicu	57	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director
Sorin Georgescu	55	Vice President of Technology
Daniel Hauck	52	Vice President of Worldwide Sales
Irvin W. Kovalik	69	Vice President of Strategic Accounts
George Smarandoiu	60	Vice President of Product Design
Scott Brown	40	Vice President Marketing for Analog/Mixed-Signal Products

Mr. Voicu is our President and Chief Executive Officer, a position he has held since October 2002. Other management positions held with us since his joining in 1993 include Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Vice President of Engineering and Manufacturing, flash product line director and manager of product engineering. Mr. Voicu also serves as one of our board members. Prior to joining us, Mr. Voicu was with Cypress Semiconductor, Inc. a semiconductor company, most recently as senior product engineer. Mr. Voicu holds an MS degree in Electrical Engineering from the Polytechnical Institute, Bucharest, Romania.

*Mr. Georgescu* is our Vice President of Technology, a position he has held since October 2001. Mr. Georgescu has over 20 years of semiconductor device and process development experience at such firms as Tripath Technology, Inc., SanDisk Corporation and Power Integrations, Inc. His experience includes CMOS, BiCMOS, HVIC (High-Voltage Integrated Circuits) and non-volatile memory technology, processes and architectures. He received a MSEE degree from Polytechnical Institute in Bucharest, Romania.

*Mr. Hauck* is our Vice President of Worldwide Sales, a position he has held since joining the company in January 2007. He has over 20 years of experience in the semiconductor industry, including analog/mixed-signal supplier Leadis Technology, Inc., where he held the position of Vice President of Worldwide Sales from 2004 through 2007. He previously served as Vice President of Worldwide Sales at Amphion Semiconductor from 2002 through 2004. Mr. Hauck was Vice President of Worldwide Sales at BOPS, Inc. and NeoMagic Corporation, and held positions in business development and sales at Cirrus Logic, Inc. Mr. Hauck holds a BSEE from the Ohio Institute of Technology.

*Mr. Kovalik* is our Vice President of Strategic Accounts, a position he has held since January 2007. He was previously our Vice President of Worldwide Sales. Prior to joining us in November 1998, Mr. Kovalik held positions at Alliance Semiconductor, Inc., a semiconductor company, where he was Director of Strategic Sales; NovaWeb Technologies, Inc., a modern manufacturer, where he was Vice President of Sales; and Sequel, Inc., a semiconductor company, where he was Director of Strategic Sales. In addition, from June 1992 to June 1995, Mr. Kovalik was our Vice President of Sales. Mr. Kovalik holds a BS degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Illinois.

*Dr. Smarandoiu* is our Vice President of Design, a position he has held since he joined us in October 2002. He has over 20 years of analog, system-on-a-chip and non-volatile memory integrated circuit development experience. From 1992 to 2002, he was employed at Atmel Corporation, a semiconductor company, and served most recently as Atmel s director of mixed-mode product development. From 1981 to 1992, he was employed by SEEQ Technology, a semiconductor company that was acquired in 1999 by LSI Logic Corporation. At SEEQ he attained the position of director of memory design and was responsible

for the development of EEPROM and FLASH products. He received a Doctor of Engineering and Master of Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley.

*Mr. Brown* is our Vice President of Marketing for analog/mixed-signal products, a position he has held since September 2005. From October 1997 to August 2005, he was Director of RF and mixed-signal products for Micrel Inc., a semiconductor manufacturer. From September 1989 to September 1997, he was a product marketing manager for National Semiconductor, a semiconductor manufacturer. Mr. Brown holds a BSEE degree from Brunel University in the United Kingdom.

#### **Website Postings**

We file electronically with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, our Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those Reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Those reports and statements (1) may be read and copied at the SEC s public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20549, (2) are available at the SEC s internet site (www.sec.gov), which contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC and (3) are available free of charge through our website (www.catsemi.com) as soon as reasonably practicable after electronic filing with, or furnishing to, the SEC. Information regarding the operation of the SEC s public reference room may be obtained by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. Copies of such documents may be requested by contacting our Investor Relations Representative at (408) 542-1051 or by sending an e-mail through the Investor Relations page on our website. We have adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics for our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller and persons performing similar functions. We have posted our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics on our website. Any future amendments to, or waiver from, a provision of this code will also be posted to our website. The information in or that can be accessed through our website is not part of this Annual Report on Form 10-K report.

## Item 1A. Risk Factors

An investment in our common stock is extremely risky. We are subject to a number of risks and some of these risks are endemic to the high-technology and semiconductor industries. This section should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and the accompanying notes thereto, and the other parts of Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

#### Risks related to our Business

Our quarterly operating results may fluctuate due to many factors and are difficult to forecast, which may cause the trading price of our common stock to decline substantially.

Our operating results have historically been and in the future may be adversely affected or otherwise fluctuate due to factors such as:

- fluctuations in customer demand for the electronic devices into which our products are incorporated;
- volatility in supply and demand affecting semiconductor prices generally, such as an increase in the supply of competitive products and a significant decline in average selling prices;
- establishment of additional inventory reserves if sales of our inventory fall below our expected sales, or the anticipated selling prices of our products fall below the amounts paid to produce and sell certain parts;

- changes in our product mix including product category, density, package type, lead content or voltage;
- inadequate visibility of future demand for our products;
- timing of new product introductions and orders for our products;
- increases in expenses associated with new product introductions and promotions, process changes and/or expansion of our sales channels;
- increases in wafer prices due to increased market demand and other factors;
- increases in prices charged by our suppliers due to increased costs, decreased competition and other factors;
- fluctuations in manufacturing yields;
- gains or losses of significant OEM customers or indirect channel sellers, such as distributors or resellers; and
- general economic conditions.

Our net revenues and operating results are difficult to forecast. We base our expense levels, in significant part, on our expectations of future net revenues and our expenses are therefore relatively fixed in the short term. If our net revenues fall below our forecasts, our operating results are likely to be disproportionately adversely affected because our costs are difficult to reduce significantly in the short term.

We may never realize a material portion of our net revenues from our analog/mixed-signal products, despite our expenditure of a disproportionate amount of our research and development and marketing resources on these products.

Analog/mixed-signal products accounted for 8.9%, 7.6% and 4.7% of net revenues for fiscal 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively. We believe that the growth in our analog/mixed-signal product revenues has been limited due to the extended product design cycles and production lead times and a sales force that is still gaining experience selling these products. We continue to invest in and devote research and development and marketing resources to analog/mixed-signal products with the expectation that our analog/mixed-signal products will be accepted by many of our current customers and additional new customers. Competition is intense and our ability to compete is impacted by our relatively limited range of products while our more established competitors are offering a much broader array of analog/mixed-signal products. Many customers favor a vendor that offers a broad range of products. If we are unable to realize more revenues from these products, our net revenues may not grow. In addition, if we devote a disproportionate amount of our research and development resources to analog/mixed-signal products, our development of new non-volatile memory products may suffer and operating results may be harmed.

We have in the past been unable and in the future we may be unable to obtain sufficient quantities of wafers from our current foundry suppliers to fulfill customer demand.

We currently purchase a majority of our production wafers from two foundries. In addition, we do not presently have a wafer supply agreement with our foundry suppliers and instead purchase wafers on a purchase order and acceptance basis. To address our wafer supply concerns, we plan to continue expanding our foundry capability at our primary supplier by qualifying our products in multiple fabrication plants owned by a supplier and to expand our foundry capacity with other suppliers. As the need arises, from time to time, we may pursue additional wafer sources. However, we cannot be certain that these efforts will provide us with access to adequate capacity in the future at costs which will enable us to remain

profitable. Even if such capacity is available from another manufacturer, the qualification process and time required to make the foundry fully operational for us could take many months or longer and be subject to other factors described below and the prices could be materially higher. Our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially adversely affected by:

- inadequate wafer supplies to meet our production needs;
- the loss of any of our current foundries as a supplier;
- increased prices charged by these independent foundries;
- reduced control over delivery schedules, manufacturing yields and costs;
- our inability to qualify our current foundry suppliers for additional products; and
- any other problems foundries may have that cause a significant interruption in our supply of semiconductor wafers.

We may forecast incorrectly and produce excess or insufficient inventories of particular products, which may adversely affect our results of operations.

Since we must order products and build inventory substantially in advance of product shipments, we may forecast incorrectly and produce excess or insufficient inventories of particular products. The ability of our customers to reschedule or cancel orders without significant penalty could adversely affect our liquidity, as we may be unable to adjust our purchases from our wafer suppliers to match any customer changes and cancellations. As part of our business strategy, we maintain a substantial inventory of sorted wafers in a die bank but limit our investment in finished goods. We may have adequate wafer inventory to meet customer needs but may be unable to finish the manufacturing process prior to the delivery date specified by the customer. Demand for our products is volatile and customers often place orders with short lead times. Our inventory may not be reduced by the fulfillment of customer orders and in the future we may produce excess quantities of our products.

It is our policy to fully write down all inventories that we do not expect to sell in a reasonable period of time. During recent fiscal years, as a result of reductions in estimated demand for our various products, we have taken charges for write down of inventories for certain products, primarily our EEPROM products. For example, we recorded inventory write down charges of \$2.2 million, \$1.0 million and \$1.1 million for fiscal 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively, which were partially offset by benefits of \$575,000, \$794,000 and \$1.0 million, respectively, relating to products that were written off in prior periods and sold during these periods. We may suffer reductions in values of our inventories in the future and we may be unable to liquidate our inventory at acceptable prices. To the extent we have excess inventories of particular products, our operating results could be adversely affected by charges to cost of revenues that we would be required to recognize due to significant reductions in demand for our products or rapid declines in the market value of inventory, resulting in inventory write downs or other related factors.

We may be unable to fulfill all our customers orders according to the schedule originally requested due to the constraints in our wafer supply and processing time from die bank to finished goods, which could result in reduced revenues or higher expenses.

Due to the lead time constraints in our wafer supply, foundry activities and other manufacturing processes, from time to time we have been unable to fulfill all our customers orders on the schedule originally requested. Although we attempt to anticipate pending orders and maintain an adequate supply of wafers and communicate to our customers delivery dates that we believe we can reasonably expect to meet, our customers may not accept the alternative delivery date or may cancel their outstanding orders. Reductions in orders received or cancellation of outstanding orders would result in lower net

revenues and reduced operating results, excess inventories and increased inventory reserves. We may also be required to pay substantially higher per wafer prices to replenish our die bank, which could harm our gross margins. If we were requested to pay rush charges to our manufacturing or foundry suppliers to meet a customer s requested delivery date, our expenses would increase and possibly harm our operating results.

We rely on distributors and resellers for a substantial portion of our net revenues and if our relationships with one or more of those distributors or resellers were to terminate, our operating results may be harmed.

We market and distribute our products primarily through independent distributors and resellers, which typically offer competing products. These distribution channels have been characterized by rapid change, including consolidations and financial difficulties.

Distributors and resellers have accounted for a significant portion of our net revenues in the past. For fiscal 2007 and 2006, Avnet, Inc. represented 10.3% and 11.8%, respectively, of our net revenues. For fiscal 2005, none of our direct or indirect customers represented 10.0% or more of our net revenues.

Our business depends on these third parties to sell our products. As a result, our operating results and financial condition could be materially adversely affected by the loss of one or more of our current distributors or resellers, additional volume pricing arrangements, order cancellations, delay in shipment by one of our distributors or resellers, or the failure of our distributors or sellers to successfully sell our products.

In addition, we have experienced and may continue to experience lower margins on sales to certain customers as a result of volume pricing arrangements. We also do not typically enter into long-term arrangements with our customers and we cannot be certain as to future order levels from our customers. When we do enter into long-term arrangements, the contracts are generally terminable at the convenience of either party and it may be difficult to replace that source of revenues in the short-term upon cancellation.

#### We face risks from failures in our manufacturing processes and the processes of our foundries and vendors.

The fabrication of semiconductors, particularly EEPROM products, is a highly complex and precise process. Most of our products are currently manufactured by two outside foundries and a number of other vendors participate in assembling, testing and other processing of our products. During manufacturing, each wafer is processed to provide numerous EEPROM, flash or analog/mixed-signal devices. We may reject or be unable to sell a substantial percentage of wafers or the components on a given wafer because of:

- minute impurities;
- difficulties in the fabrication process, such as failure of special equipment, operator error or power outages;
- defects in the masks used to imprint circuits on a wafer;
- nonconforming electrical and/or optical performance;
- breakage of wafers; or
- other factors.

We refer to the proportion of final components that have been processed, assembled and tested relative to the gross number of components that could be constructed from the raw materials as our manufacturing yield. We have in the past experienced lower than expected manufacturing yields, which have delayed product shipments and negatively impacted our results of operations. We may experience difficulty achieving or maintaining acceptable manufacturing yields in the future.

In addition, the maintenance of our outsourced fabrication, manufacturing and assembly model is subject to risks, including:

- the demands of managing and coordinating workflow between geographically separate production facilities;
- disruption of production in one facility as a result of a slowdown or shutdown in another facility; and
- higher operating costs from managing geographically separate manufacturing facilities.

We depend on certain vendors for foundry services, materials and test and assembly services. We maintain stringent policies regarding qualification of these vendors. However, if these vendors processes vary in reliability or quality, they could negatively affect our products and our results of operations.

We rely on third party subcontractors to sort, assemble, test and ship our products to customers, which reduces our control over quality, delivery schedules and capacity.

We outsource a significant portion of the production planning, assembly, test and finish work of our products, as well as our inventory management function to subcontractors who are primarily located in Thailand and the Philippines. We do not have long-term contractual arrangements with these subcontractors. Our reliance on third parties subjects us to risks such as reduced control over delivery schedules and quality, a potential lack of adequate capacity during periods when demand is high and potential increases in product costs due to factors outside our control such as capacity shortages and pricing changes. Our outsourcing model could lead to delays in product deliveries, lost sales and increased costs which could harm our relationships with OEM customers and indirect sales channels and result in lower operating results. Because we utilize the services of a group of assembly and test providers, this makes our operation highly complex, requiring a high degree of diligence in managing the costs of production and overall logistics of our manufacturing operations.

International sales comprise a significant portion of our product sales, which exposes us to foreign political and economic risks.

For fiscal 2007, 2006 and 2005, sales outside the United States accounted for approximately 92.1%, 88.2% and 88.0% of our net revenues, respectively. We expect that sales outside of the United States will continue to represent a significant portion of our net revenues in the future. However, our international operations may be adversely affected by the following factors:

- greater fluctuations in demand for our products due to the increased sensitivity to pricing changes in certain markets, particularly Asia;
- longer payment cycles;
- fluctuations in exchange rates;
- imposition of government controls;
- difficulties in staffing international operations;
- political, socioeconomic and financial instability, such as the military actions in Afghanistan and Iraq;
- trade restrictions;
- the impact of communicable diseases, such as severe acute respiratory syndrome and avian bird flu; and
- changes in regulatory requirements.

Our business is also subject to other risks because of our design center in Romania and our relationships with foreign subcontractors including, but not limited to, foreign government regulations and political and financial unrest which may cause disruptions or delays in shipments to our customers or access to our inventories. We do not currently hedge against any foreign currency exchange rate risks.

Additionally, our subcontracted presence in Thailand with Trio-Tech subjects us to additional risks associated with the value of the work-in-process and finished goods inventory located there, as well as the test equipment utilized in the operations at the Trio-Tech facility. In fiscal 2007, we formed Catalyst Semiconductor (Thailand) Company Limited, a subsidiary in Bangkok, Thailand, to support our ongoing cost management efforts and increase manufacturing throughput.

Environmental regulations such as the WEEE and RoHS directives may require us to redesign our products and to develop compliance administration systems.

Various countries have begun to require companies selling a broad range of electrical equipment to conform to regulations such as the WEEE and RoHS directives and we expect additional countries and locations to adopt similar regulations in the future. New environmental standards such as these could require us to redesign our products in order to comply with the standards, and require the development of compliance administration systems. We have already invested significant resources into developing compliance tracking systems, and further investments may be required. Additionally, we may incur significant costs to redesign our products and to develop compliance administration systems; however alternative designs may have an adverse effect on our gross profit margin. If we cannot develop compliant products timely or properly administer our compliance programs, our revenues may also decline due to lower sales, which would adversely affect our operating results.

While we believe that we currently have adequate internal control over financial reporting, we are exposed to risks from recent legislation requiring companies to evaluate internal control over financial reporting and cannot be certain that our internal control over financial reporting will be effective or sufficient in the future.

Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 requires our management to report on and our independent registered public accounting firm to attest to the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting. We have an ongoing program to perform the system and process evaluation and testing necessary to comply with these requirements.

As a result, we expect to continue to incur related expenses and to devote additional resources to Section 404 compliance. In addition, it is difficult for us to predict how long it will take to complete the assessment of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting each year and we may not be able to complete the process on a timely basis. For example, in fiscal 2006 we experienced unanticipated delays in closing our books and completing our assessment of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as required by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act under Section 404. As such, we were not able to file our Annual Report on Form 10-K by the original due date without unreasonable expense or effort. Our ability to manage our operations and growth will require us to improve our operations, financial and management controls, as well as our internal control over financial reporting. In the event that our chief executive officer, chief financial officer or independent registered public accounting firm determine that our internal control over financial reporting is not effective as defined under Section 404, we cannot predict how regulators will react or how the market prices of our shares will be affected.

Our ability to operate successfully depends upon the continued service of certain key employees and the continued ability to attract and retain additional highly qualified personnel.

Our ability to operate successfully will depend, to a large extent, upon the continued service of certain key employees and the continued ability to attract and retain additional highly qualified personnel. In

May 2007, our Chief Financial Officer resigned. While we are currently engaged in finding a replacement, a significant delay in finding a replacement could be disruptive to our operations. We may also experience difficulty in integrating a new Chief Financial Officer into our management team, which may disrupt our ongoing business and financial reporting process. Competition for personnel, particularly for highly skilled design, process and test engineers, is intense and we may not be able to retain or attract other highly qualified personnel. In addition, there has been increased competition in Romania, making it more difficult to hire and retain qualified engineers at our design center. We have historically used stock options and other forms of stock-based compensation as a means to hire, motivate and retain our employees, and to align employees interests with those of our stockholders. As a result of our adoption of Statement of Financial Accounting Standard (SFAS)

No. 123(R) (revised 2004), Share-based Payment, or SFAS No. 123(R), we incur increased compensation costs associated with our stock-based compensation awards, which may affect this form of compensation to hire and retain employees. Our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially adversely affected by the loss of or failure to attract and retain highly qualified personnel.

# Expensing employee stock options materially and aversely affects our reported operating results and could adversely affect our competitive position as well.

As of May 1, 2006, we were required to expense stock options and other share-based payments to employees and directors. Since our inception, we have used stock options as fundamental components of our compensation packages. Prior to May 1, 2006, we had not recognized compensation cost for employee stock options. We believe that our stock option program directly motivates our employees and, through the use of vesting, encourage our employees to remain with us. In December 2004, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued SFAS No. 123(R), which requires the measurement and recognition of compensation expense for all stock-based compensation payments. SFAS No. 123(R) requires that we record compensation expense for stock options using the fair value of those awards. During fiscal 2007, we recorded \$2.2 million related to stock-based compensation, which negatively impacted our operating results. We believe that SFAS No. 123(R) will continue to negatively impact our operating results.

To the extent that SFAS No. 123(R) makes it more expensive to grant stock options, we may decide to incur increased cash compensation costs. In addition, actions that we may take to reduce stock-based compensation expense that may be more severe than any actions our competitors may implement may make it difficult to attract, retain and motivate employees, which could adversely affect our competitive position as well as our business and operating results. These actions may also unfavorably influence our future Chief Financial Officer s transition into our management team.

## Our low-density flash memory products may become obsolete.

A portion of our net revenues have been and continue to be derived from sales of low density flash memory products. Flash memory products represented 6.5%, 8.3% and 9.6% of our net revenues for fiscal 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively. In general, the market for flash memory products has been characterized by competing technologies, migration of demand to larger memory sizes and intense overall competition. Other flash memory vendors continue to design, develop and sell flash memory devices with larger memory in reaction to changes in market demand. This transition to larger flash memory sizes is resulting in a limited and shrinking market for the low density flash memory products that we currently offer. We have decided not to develop any of the higher density flash memory devices due to the extreme competition in the medium and high density flash memory market and the considerable costs of development associated with it. Due to these and other factors, we may experience declining net revenues from our low-density flash memory products, which could harm our operating results.

#### Risks Related to Our Industry and Competition

## Competition in our markets may lead to reduced average selling prices of our products, reduced sales of our products or gross margins.

The non-volatile memory market is competitive and has been characterized by rapid price erosion, manufacturing capacity constraints and limited product availability. Average selling prices in the non-volatile memory market generally, and for our products in particular, have fluctuated significantly over the life of each product and, over the long term, the average selling price of each product has tended to decline. Declines in average selling prices for our products, if not offset by reductions in the cost of producing those products or by sales of new products with higher gross margins, would decrease our overall gross margins, could cause a negative adjustment to the value of our inventories and could materially and adversely affect our operating results.

We compete with major domestic and international semiconductor companies, many of which have substantially greater financial, technical, marketing, distribution and other resources. We may not be able to compete successfully in the future. Our more mature products, such as serial and parallel EEPROM devices, compete on the basis of price, product availability and customer service. Principal competitors for our EEPROM products currently include Atmel Corporation, STMicroelectronics N.V. and Microchip Technology Incorporated. Principal competitors for our low density flash products include Integrated Silicon Solution, Inc. Principal competitors for our analog/mixed-signal products include Fairchild Semiconductor International, Inc., Intersil Corporation, Linear Technology Corporation, Maxim Integrated Products, National Semiconductor and Texas Instruments Incorporated.

#### The semiconductor industry is highly cyclical in nature, which may cause our operating results to fluctuate.

We operate in a highly cyclical industry that has been subject to significant economic downturns often in connection with, or in anticipation of, maturing product cycles and declines in general economic conditions. During such downturns, we experience reduced product demand and production overcapacity, which result in competitive pricing pressures leading to accelerated erosion of average selling prices and reduced gross margins. These downturns may occur for extended periods. Accordingly, we may experience substantial period-to-period fluctuations in operating results.

Our continued success depends in large part on the continued growth of various electronics industries that use semiconductors. We attempt to identify changes in market conditions as soon as possible; however, market dynamics make our prediction of and timely reaction to such events difficult. Our business could be harmed in the future by additional cyclical downturns in the semiconductor industry or by slower growth by any of the markets served by our end customers products.

#### If our products fail to keep pace with the rapid changes in the semiconductor industry, we could lose customers and revenues.

The markets for our products are characterized by rapidly changing customer demand, over or under utilization of manufacturing capacity and price fluctuations. To compete successfully, we must introduce new products in a timely manner at competitive price, quality and performance levels. In particular, our future success will depend on our ability to develop and implement new design and process technologies which enable us to reduce product costs. Our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially adversely affected by delays in developing new products, achievement of volume production and market acceptance of new products, successful completion of technology transitions of our existing products to new process geometries or foundries with acceptable yields and reliability.

#### Risks Related to Our Intellectual Property

## Our business may be harmed if we fail to protect our proprietary technology.

We rely on a combination of patents, trademarks, copyrights, trade secret laws, confidentiality procedures and licensing arrangements to protect our intellectual property rights. We currently have 26 patents granted and 15 pending in the United States and intend to seek further United States and international patents on our technology. The expiration dates of our patents range from January 2008 to June 2025. We cannot be certain that patents will be issued from any of our pending applications, that patents will be issued in all countries where our products can be sold or that any issued patents will be of sufficient scope or strength to provide meaningful protection or any commercial advantage. Our competitors may also be able to design around our patents. The laws of some countries in which our products are or may be developed, manufactured or sold may not protect our products or intellectual property rights to the same extent as do the laws of the United States, increasing the possibility of piracy of our technology and products. Although we intend to vigorously defend our intellectual property rights, we may not be able to prevent misappropriation of our technology. Our competitors may also independently develop technologies that are substantially equivalent or superior to our technology.

## Our ability to produce our products may suffer if someone claims we infringe on their intellectual property.

The semiconductor industry is characterized by vigorous protection and pursuit of intellectual property rights or positions, which have resulted in significant and often protracted and expensive litigation. In addition, it is typical for companies in the industry to receive notices from time to time that allege infringement of patents or other intellectual property rights. We may receive other notices or become a party to other proceedings alleging our infringement of patents or intellectual property rights in the future. If it is necessary or desirable, we may seek licenses under such patents or other intellectual property rights. However, we cannot be certain that licenses will be offered or that we would find the terms of licenses that are offered acceptable or commercially reasonable. Our failure to obtain a license from a third party for technology used by us could cause us to incur substantial liabilities and to suspend the manufacture of the affected products. Furthermore, we may initiate claims or litigation against third parties for infringement of our proprietary rights or to establish the validity of our proprietary rights. Litigation by or against us could result in significant expense and divert the efforts of our technical personnel and management, whether or not the litigation results in a favorable resolution. In the event of an adverse result in any litigation, we could be required to:

- pay substantial damages;
- pay amounts to indemnify our customers;
- stop the manufacture and sale of the infringing products;
- expend significant resources to develop non-infringing technology;
- discontinue the use of certain processes; or
- obtain licenses to the technology.

We may be unsuccessful in developing non-infringing products or negotiating licenses with reasonable terms, or at all. These problems might not be resolved in time to avoid harming our results of operations. If any third party makes a successful claim against our customers or us and a license is not made available to us on commercially reasonable terms, our business could be harmed.

We may be subject to damages resulting from claims that we have wrongfully used the alleged trade secrets of our employees former employers.

Many of our employees were previously employed at other companies, including our competitors or potential competitors. Although we have no current or pending claims against us, we may be subject to claims that we have relied on information that these employees have inadvertently, or otherwise, disclosed trade secrets or other proprietary information of their former employers. Litigation may be necessary to defend against these claims. If we fail in defending such claims, in addition to paying monetary damages, we may lose valuable intellectual property rights or personnel. A loss of key research personnel or their work product could hamper or prevent our ability to develop new products, which could severely harm our business. Even if we are successful, litigation could result in substantial costs and be a distraction to management.

We may not be able to expand our proprietary technology if we do not acquire rights to use key technologies, consummate potential acquisitions or investments or successfully integrate them with our business.

To expand our proprietary technologies, we may acquire or make investments in complementary businesses, technologies or products if appropriate opportunities arise. We may be unable to identify suitable acquisition or investment candidates at reasonable prices or on reasonable terms or consummate transactions with such candidates, the failure of which could slow our growth. We may also have difficulty in acquiring licenses to use proprietary technologies of third parties to expand our product lines. We may have difficulty integrating the acquired products, personnel or technologies of any acquisition we might make. These difficulties could disrupt our ongoing business, limit our future growth, distract our management and employees and increase our expenses.

#### Risks Related to Our Stock

Our stock is subject to substantial price and volume fluctuations due to a number of factors, many of which are beyond our control, and those fluctuations may prevent our stockholders from reselling our common stock at a profit.

The trading price of our common stock has in the past been and could in the future be subject to significant fluctuations in response to:

- quarterly variations in our results of operations;
- announcements of technological innovations or new products by us, our customers or competitors;
- our failure to achieve the operating results anticipated by analysts or investors;
- sales or the perception in the market of possible sales of a large number of shares of our common stock by our directors, officers, employees or principal stockholders;
- international political, socioeconomic and financial instability, including instability associated with military action in Afghanistan, Iraq or other conflicts;
- releases or reports by or changes in security analysts recommendations; and
- developments or disputes concerning patents or proprietary rights or other events.

If our net revenues and results of operations are below the expectations of investors, significant fluctuations in the market price of our common stock could occur. Furthermore, because our stock generally trades at relatively low volumes, any sudden increases in trading volumes can cause significant volatility in the stock price. In addition, the securities markets have, from time to time, experienced significant price and volume fluctuations, which have particularly affected the market prices for high technology companies and often are unrelated and disproportionate to the operating performance of

particular companies. These broad market fluctuations, as well as general economic, political and market conditions, may negatively affect the market price of our common stock.

Our charter documents, Delaware law and our stockholder rights plan contain provisions that may inhibit potential acquisition bids, which may adversely affect the market price of our common stock, discourage merger offers or prevent changes in our management.

Our board of directors has the authority to issue up to 2,000,000 shares of preferred stock and to determine the rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions, including voting rights, of the shares without any further vote or action by our stockholders. If we issue any of these shares of preferred stock in the future, the rights of shareholders of our common stock may be negatively affected. If we issue preferred stock, a change of control of our company could be delayed, deferred or prevented. We have no current plans to issue shares of preferred stock. Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law restricts certain business combinations with any interested stockholder as defined by that statute. In addition, our certificate of incorporation and bylaws contain certain other provisions that may have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change of control. These provisions include:

- the classification of our board so that only a portion of our directors are elected each year and each director serves a three year term;
- the elimination of actions by written consent of stockholders; and
- the establishment of an advance notice procedure and a minimum holding requirement for stockholder proposals and director nominations to be acted upon at annual meetings of the stockholders.

In December 2006, our board of directors adopted a stockholder rights plan with a term of ten years which will expire in December 2016. Under this plan, we issued a dividend of one right for each share of our common stock. Each right initially entitles stockholders to purchase one one-thousandth of a share of our preferred stock for \$18.00. However, the rights are not immediately exercisable. If a person or group acquires, or announces a tender or exchange offer that would result in the acquisition of 15% of our common stock, unless the rights are redeemed by us for \$0.01 per right, the rights will become exercisable by all rights holders, except the acquiring person or group, for shares of our common stock or the stock of the third party acquirer having a value of twice the right s then-current exercise price.

These provisions are designed to encourage potential acquirers to negotiate with our board of directors and give our board of directors an opportunity to consider various alternatives to increase stockholder value. These provisions are also intended to discourage certain tactics that may be used in proxy contests. However, the potential issuance of preferred stock, our charter and bylaw provisions, the restrictions in Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law and our stockholder rights plan could discourage potential acquisition proposals and could delay or prevent a change in control, which may adversely affect the market price of our stock. These provisions and plans may also have the effect of preventing changes in our management or board of directors.

We may be the subject of securities class action litigation due to future stock price volatility.

In the past, when the market price of a stock has been volatile, holders of that stock have often initiated securities class action litigation against the company that issued the stock. If any of our stockholders brought a lawsuit against us, we could incur substantial costs defending the lawsuit. The lawsuit could also divert the time and attention of our management.

## Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

Not Applicable.

## Item 2. Properties

In August 2006, we moved our principal administrative, sales, marketing, research and development and sort facility to a 41,965 square-foot building in Santa Clara, California that we purchased on March 16, 2006. Prior to moving into the new facility, we leased space in a building of approximately 42,500 square feet in Sunnyvale, California. This lease ended in July 2006.

In addition, we purchased our research and development facility in Bucharest, Romania, consisting of 25,800 square feet, in August 2004. We lease sales office space in East Dundee, Illinois; Shanghai and Shenzhen, China; Oxford, United Kingdom; Munich, Germany; Yokohama, Japan; Singapore; Seoul, South Korea; and Taipei, Taiwan; and an operations site in Bangpa-in, Thailand. We believe that our existing facilities are adequate to meet our current needs and that additional or alternative space will be available in the future on commercially reasonable terms.

#### Item 3. Legal Proceedings

We are not party to any material legal proceedings as of the date of this report.

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

No matters were submitted to a vote of security holders during the fourth quarter of the fiscal year ended April 29, 2007.

#### PART II

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

#### **Common Stock Market Prices and Dividends**

Our common stock is quoted on the NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol CATS. The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the high and low closing sales price per share of our common stock as reported on the NASDAQ Global Market.

	Price Range	
	High	Low
Fiscal year ended April 29, 2007		
First Quarter	\$ 5.01	\$ 3.23
Second Quarter	3.70	3.20
Third Quarter	3.70	3.13
Fourth Quarter	3.84	3.14
Fiscal year ended April 30, 2006		
First Quarter	\$ 5.06	\$ 4.16
Second Quarter	5.19	4.30
Third Quarter	5.20	4.50
Fourth Quarter	5.05	4.60

As of April 29, 2007, there were approximately 144 holders of record of our common stock, excluding those persons holding shares in street or nominee name. The actual number of our stockholders is greater than this number of holders of record.

#### **Dividend Policy**

We have never declared or paid any cash dividends on our common stock or other securities. We currently expect to retain future earnings for use in the operation and expansion of our business and do not anticipate paying cash dividends in the foreseeable future.

#### **Purchases of Our Stock**

The following table sets forth certain information regarding purchases by us of shares of our common stock during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2007.

	Total Number of Shares	Average Price Paid	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or	Maximum Number of Shares That May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans
Period	Purchased	Per Share	Programs(1)	or Programs
February 2007		\$		888,381
March 2007	102,395	3.56	102,395	785,986
April 2007				785,986
Total	102,395	\$ 3.56	102,395	

In September 2005 our board of directors authorized a new stock repurchase program to repurchase up to 1.0 million shares of its common stock. Prior to September 2005, the board of directors authorized the repurchase of 3.5 million shares. In subsequent periods, our board of directors amended the program and authorized the purchase of up to an aggregate of 2.0 million shares of our common stock. The purpose of these share repurchase programs is to reduce the long-term potential dilution in earnings per share that might result from issuances under our stock option plans. Through

April 29, 2007 (excluding repurchases of shares from Elex N.V.) we have repurchased 4,714,014 shares under our board of director s authorized repurchase plans at a total cost of \$19,175,197 or an average cost per share of \$4.07 per share. See Note 3 Stock-based Compensation in Part IV, Item 15(a)(1) of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

#### **Stock Performance Graph**

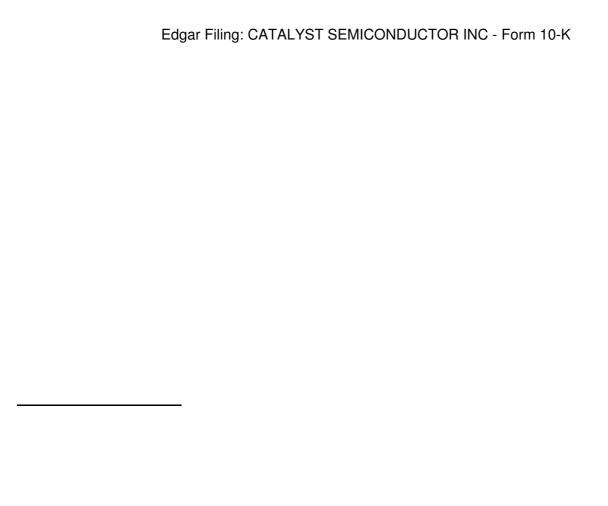
The following graph compares the cumulative total return to stockholders of our common stock from April 30, 2002 to April 30, 2007 to the cumulative total return over such period of (i) the S&P 500 Index and (ii) the S&P Semiconductors Index. The graph assumes that \$100 was invested on April 30, 2002 in our common stock and in each of the other two indices and the reinvestment of all dividends, if any.

The information contained in the Performance Graph shall not be deemed to be soliciting material or to be filed with the SEC, nor shall such information be incorporated by reference into any future filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, except to the extent that Catalyst specifically incorporates it by reference into any such filing. The graph is presented in accordance with SEC requirements. Stockholders are cautioned against drawing any conclusions from the data contained therein, as past results are not necessarily indicative of future performance.

#### **COMPARISON OF 5-YEAR CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURN\***

Among Catalyst Semiconductor, Inc., The S&P 500 Index

And The S&P Semiconductors Index



\* \$100 invested on April 30, 2002 in stock or index-including reinvestment of dividends. For purposes of presentation, data presented above reflect April 30 of each year.

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Item 6. Selected Financial Data

The selected consolidated financial data set forth below should be read together with Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Historical results are not necessarily indicative of results to be expected in the future.

	Fis	cal Year	End	ed							
	Ap 200	oril 29, 07		Ap: 200	ril 30, 16	Ma 200	ny 1, 05	Ma 200	ay 2, 04	Ap 200	ril 27, 13
	(In	thousan	ds, e	cept	per share da	ata)					
Consolidated Statements of Operations Data:											
Net revenues	\$	66,350	)	\$	60,217	\$	62,320	\$	63,538	\$	48,221
Cost of revenues	44	,238		36,	,900	35	,852	37.	,375	28	396
Gross profit	22	,112		23,	,317	26	,468	26	,163	19	825
Research and development	7,8	344		7,4	72	7,9	10	7,1	130	5,2	23
Selling, general and administrative	15	,748		13,	,445	13.	,696	11.	,453	10	020
Income (loss) from operations	(1,	480	)	2,4	.00	4,8	62	7,5	580	4,5	82
Interest income and other, net	1,3	339		1,1	75	73	2	379	9	38	2
Income (loss) before income taxes	(14	41	)	3,5	75	5,5	94	7,9	959	4,9	64
Income tax provision (benefit)	28	8		1,0	19	1,7	73	(1,	408 )	(1,	354 )
Net income (loss)(1)	\$	(429	)	\$	2,556	\$	3,821	\$	9,367	\$	6,318
Net income (loss) per share:											
Basic	\$	(0.03)	)	\$	0.15	\$	0.22	\$	0.57	\$	0.38
Diluted	\$	(0.03)	)	\$	0.14	\$	0.20	\$	0.48	\$	0.34
Weighted average common shares:											
Basic	16	,341		16,	685	17	,507	16	,567	16	721
Diluted	16	,341		18,	220	19	,485	19	,411	18	339

<sup>(1)</sup> In fiscal 2004 and fiscal 2003, our net income was favorably impacted by \$4.7 million and \$1.9 million, respectively, due to the reversals of our tax valuation allowance.

	April 29, 2007	April 30, 2006	May 1, 2005	May 2, 2004	April 27, 2003
	(in thousands,	except per share d	iata)		
Consolidated Balance Sheet Data:					
Cash, cash equivalents and short-term					
investments	\$ 28,658	\$ 29,139	\$ 33,793	\$ 33,809	\$ 27,906
Total working capital	42,127	43,268	48,084	46,338	39,017
Total assets	69,212	70,420	70,061	66,865	50,588
Total current liabilities	10,957	12,890	12,193	12,877	8,235
Total long-term liabilities and capital lease obligations					
Stockholders equity	58,255	57,530	57,868	53,988	42,353

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

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

The following discussion should be read together with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in this annual report on Form 10-K. Certain statements in this Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations are forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements contained herein are based on current expectations and involve various risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements. See the risks and uncertainties identified in Part I. Item 1A. Risk Factors above and in the documents filed by us from time to time with the SEC. We undertake no obligation to revise or update publicly any forward-looking statements for any reason.

#### Overview

We design, develop and market a broad line of reprogrammable non-volatile memory products and analog/mixed-signal products. Our products are used by manufacturers of electronic products in a wide range of consumer, computing, communications, industrial and automotive applications. We generally target high volume markets for our cost effective, high quality products. Through periods of tight manufacturing capacity and cyclical downturns, we have demonstrated long-term commitment to the memory products market.

The market for our non-volatile memory is highly competitive and market participants have relatively weak pricing power. Average selling prices of our non-volatile memory products have declined over time and prices are sensitive to conditions in our OEM customers target markets. In fiscal 2007, we experienced an increase in total unit volume sold to end customers, driven by strong demand particularly for our EEPROM and analog/mixed-signal products. However, this increase in unit volume was partly offset by an overall decrease in average selling prices. In general, we expect the average selling price for a given memory product to decline in the future, primarily due to market competition, product availability and manufacturing capacity. In response to that trend, we continue to work with our foundries and other vendors to increase the manufacturing efficiency of our products.

We are leveraging our extensive experience in high volume, reprogrammable memory products to develop complementary analog/mixed-signal products that offer our customers a more complete system solution. We have strengthened and expanded the expertise of our research and development team by establishing our own development center in Bucharest, Romania and by hiring additional engineers in Romania and in our Santa Clara, California headquarters. In fiscal 2006, we purchased a building in Santa Clara, California that houses our principal offices and our principal wafer test operations, which were previously located in Sunnyvale, California. The move provides employees with modern facilities and makes efficient use of space while reducing our occupancy costs. We continue to make substantial investments in research and development to advance our non-volatile memory products, as well as develop broader solutions with our line of analog/mixed-signal products. In fiscal 2007, we formed a subsidiary in Thailand that will perform a portion of the inventory management and processing functions that are currently subcontracted to Trio-Tech. This is expected to reduce our expenses and improve our control over the personnel and assets located in Thailand.

Sales of our analog/mixed-signal products continued to trend upwards, reaching 8.9% of net revenues in fiscal 2007 as compared to 7.6% of net revenues in fiscal 2006. We expect net revenues from analog/mixed-signal products to comprise a larger portion of our net revenues in the future.

Our business is less capital intensive than traditional semiconductor companies since we outsource to third parties the manufacturing, assembling and most of the testing of our products. We strive to maintain long-term relationships with our suppliers to ensure stability in our supply of products at a competitive

cost. In addition, in an effort to alleviate any potential wafer capacity constraints, we maintain a supply of wafers in a die bank for selected products.

We market and sell our products directly through our sales force and sales representatives to OEMs and indirectly through distributors and resellers who sell to their end customers. Indirect sales represented 56.8% of net revenues in fiscal 2007 as compared to 60.2% in fiscal 2006. Our total customer base, including OEMs and end-customers of our distributors and resellers, is relatively diverse and during fiscal 2007 consisted of more than 3,000 end customers. We have approximately 49 distributors and resellers.

Distributors and resellers have accounted for a significant portion of our net revenues in the past. For fiscal 2007 and 2006, Avnet, Inc. represented 10.3% and 11.8%, respectively, of our net revenues. For fiscal 2005, none of our direct or indirect customers represented 10.0% or more of our net revenues.

Our sales are initiated by purchase orders received from our customers and are typically shipped within a few weeks of receiving the order. Since industry practice allows customers to reschedule or cancel orders on relatively short notice, we do not use backlog to forecast our future net revenues. Cancellations of customer orders, distributor price protection and distributor stock rotation rights, all industry standards, could result in the loss of future net revenues without allowing us sufficient time to reduce our inventory and operating expenses.

Sales to customers outside the United States comprised 92.1%, 88.2% and 88.0% of our net revenues for fiscal 2007, fiscal 2006 and fiscal 2005, respectively. Substantially all sales of our products are denominated in U.S. dollars, minimizing the effects of foreign currency fluctuations.

Our net revenues in fiscal 2005 benefited by approximately \$1.0 million from the termination of price adjustment and stock rotation rights of certain small regional resellers, which had not historically used those rights that resulted in recognition of revenue and gross margin for the inventories held by such resellers. We did not have similar benefits in fiscal 2007 or 2006.

#### **Description of Operating Accounts**

Net Revenues. Net revenues consist of product sales, net of returns and allowances.

Gross Profit. Gross profit is net revenues less cost of revenues and is affected by a number of factors, including competitive pricing, product mix, foundry pricing, the cost of test and assembly services and manufacturing yields. Cost of revenues consists primarily of costs of manufacturing, assembly and testing of our products, compensation (including stock-based compensation) and associated costs related to manufacturing support, inbound freight shipments and quality assurance personnel, as well as provision for excess and obsolete inventories and any recoveries from sales of previously written down inventories. It also can include, on occasion, adjustments to inventory valuations based on demand and average selling prices expected in future periods.

Research and Development Research and development expense consists primarily of compensation (including stock-based compensation) and associated costs for engineering, technical and support personnel, contract engineering services, depreciation of equipment and cost of wafers and mask sets used to evaluate new products and new versions of current products.

*Selling, General and Administrative.* Selling, general and administrative expense consists primarily of compensation (including stock-based compensation) and associated costs for sales, marketing and administrative personnel, commissions, promotional activities, bad debt expense, outbound freight shipments, professional fees and director and officer insurance.

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

The preparation of our consolidated financial statements and related disclosures in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue, cost of revenues, expenses and related disclosure of contingencies. On an on-going basis, we evaluate our estimates, including those related to revenue recognition, inventory valuation, accounts receivable and allowance for doubtful accounts, stock-based compensation and income taxes. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, and apply them on a consistent basis. We believe that such consistent application results in condensed consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes that fairly represent our financial condition, operating results and cash flows for all periods presented. However, any factual errors or errors in these estimates and judgments may have a material impact on our financial conditions, operating results and cash flows.

#### Recognition of Revenues

We generally recognize revenues as products are shipped if all of the following criteria are met:

- we have evidence that a sales arrangement exists;
- our customer has taken title to the products;
- we have performed the services, if any;
- the sales price is fixed or determinable;
- we believe that collection of the resulting receivable is reasonably assured; and
- we can reasonably estimate product returns.

We sell our products directly through our sales force and sales representatives to OEMs and indirectly through distributors and resellers who sell to their end customers. We recognize revenues upon delivery to OEM customers and resellers who have no, or limited, product return rights and no price protection rights. We deem that delivery occurs when legal title and the risk of loss transfers to the customer. Delivery is generally defined by the customers shipping terms, as stated in the related purchase order. If the customers purchase orders do not define the shipping terms, the shipping terms will be Ex-Works as defined in our invoice. We record an estimated allowance for returns from OEM customers and resellers, based on a percentage of our revenues. This estimate is based on historical averages.

We sell products to certain distributors under agreements that provide for product return and price protection rights. These agreements generally permit the distributor to return up to 10% by value of the total products that the distributor has purchased from us every six months. We defer recognition of revenues until the time the distributor resells the product to an end-customer, at which time the sales price becomes fixed. On a monthly basis, we receive point of sales and ending inventory information from each distributor. Using this information, we determine the amount of revenues to recognize. For distributors who have product return rights, we also record an inventory reserve to address the cost of products we anticipate that we will not be able to resell after their return by the distributors. For distributors who have price protection rights, distributors may take the associated credits immediately and in general, we process the credits one or two months after the credit is earned by the distributor. We record a reserve to cover the estimated liability of those unprocessed credits.

In assessing the timing of revenue recognition from sales to distributors and resellers, we consider both direct and indirect risks of returns and price protection associated in our business dealings with them. We recognize that we may accept returns or grant price protection to certain resellers, even

though the sales contracts do not explicitly provide for such rights. Accordingly, we account for sales to such resellers on a sell through basis.

We re-evaluate our revenue recognition policies periodically and no less often than annually.

#### **Inventory Valuation**

We value our inventory at the lower of standard cost or net realizable value. Standard cost approximates actual cost on a first-in, first-out basis. We routinely evaluate the value and quantities of our inventory in light of the current market conditions and market trends and we record reserves for quantities in excess of demand, cost in excess of market value and product age. Our analysis may take into consideration historical usage, expected demand, anticipated sales price, new product development schedules, the effect new products might have on the sales of existing products, product age, customer design activity, customer concentration and other factors. Our forecasts for our inventory may differ from actual inventory use.

We reduce the value of our inventory by analyzing on-hand quantities and open purchase orders which are in excess of demand equal to the cost of inventory that exceeds expected demand for approximately the next 12 to 15 months. We make judgments in establishing these reserves and do not establish reserves if we believe we can sell the excess inventory. If market conditions are less favorable than those we estimate, we may be required to write down inventory. If we overestimate the future selling prices, we will incur additional losses when the inventory is sold for a lower price or when we establish additional write downs to cover the even lower estimated sales price. Once written down, we do not reverse inventory provisions until the associated inventory has been sold or physically scrapped.

#### Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

We estimate the collectibility of our accounts receivable at the end of each reporting period. We analyze the aging of accounts receivable and bad debt history, payment history, customer concentration, customer credit worthiness and current economic trends when evaluating the adequacy of the allowance for doubtful accounts. We maintain an allowance for doubtful accounts, which is created by charges to selling, general and administrative expenses. Our accounts receivable balance was \$10.4 million, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$108,000 as of April 29, 2007.

#### Stock-Based Compensation

Effective May 1, 2006, we adopted the provisions of SFAS No. 123(R). We estimate the fair value of stock options using the Black-Scholes model, consistent with the provisions of SFAS No. 123(R) and SEC Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 107, *Share-Based Payment*. Option-pricing models require the input of highly subjective assumptions, including the price volatility of the underlying stock. The expected term assumption used in calculating the estimated fair value of our stock-based compensation awards using the Black-Scholes model is based primarily on detailed historical data about employees exercise behavior, vesting schedules, and death and disability probabilities. In addition, we are required to estimate the expected forfeiture rate and only recognize expense for those shares expected to vest. We estimate the forfeiture rate based on historical experience of our stock-based awards that have been granted and forfeited prior to vesting. Stock-based compensation is amortized on a straight-line basis and allocated to cost of revenues, research and development and selling, general and administrative expenses in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations based on the related employee s function.

### Income Taxes

As part of the process of preparing our consolidated financial statements, we are required to estimate our income taxes in each of the jurisdictions in which we operate. This process involves estimating our

current tax exposure and assessing temporary differences resulting from differing treatment of items, such as deferred revenues, for tax and accounting purposes. These differences result in deferred tax assets and liabilities, which are included on our balance sheet on a net basis. We then assess the likelihood that our deferred tax assets will be recovered from future taxable income and to the extent we establish a valuation allowance or increase this allowance in a period, we will include an additional tax provision in the statement of operations.

The calculation of tax liabilities involves dealing with uncertainties in the application of complex global tax regulations. The Company recognizes potential liabilities for anticipated tax audit issues in the U.S. and other tax jurisdictions based on its estimate of whether, and the extent to which, additional taxes will be due. If payment of these amounts ultimately proves to be unnecessary, the reversal of the liabilities that would result in tax benefits being recognized in the period when the Company determines that liabilities are not longer necessary. If the estimate of tax liabilities proves to be less than the ultimate assessment, a further charge to expense would result.

We make significant judgments in determining our provision for income taxes, our deferred tax assets and any valuation allowance recorded against our net deferred tax asset. As of April 29, 2007 and April 30, 2006, our gross deferred tax assets, consisting primarily of net operating loss carryforwards, tax credit carryforwards and nondeductible reserves and accruals, were valued at \$6.8 million and \$7.5 million, respectively. Our valuation allowance was zero as we have concluded that it is more likely than not that all of our deferred tax assets will be realizable, based on available objective evidence and our history of taxable income.

#### **Results of Operations**

The following table sets forth the results of our operations as a percentage of net revenues for the periods indicated:

	Fiscal Year Ended April 29, 2007	April 30, 2006	May 1, 2005
Net revenues	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %
Cost of revenues	66.7	61.3	57.5
Gross profit	33.3	38.7	42.5
Operating expenses:			
Research and development	11.8	12.4	12.7
Selling, general and administrative	23.7	22.3	22.0
Income (loss) from operations	(2.2)	4.0	7.8
Interest income and other, net	2.0	2.0	1.2
Income (loss) before income taxes	(0.2)	6.0	9.0
Income tax provision	0.4	1.8	2.9
Net income (loss)	(0.6)%	4.2 %	6.1 %

The following table sets forth net revenues (in thousands) and percentage of net revenues by product group:

	Fiscal Year Ende	ed		
	April 29, 2007	April 30, 2006	May 1, 2005	
EEPROM	\$ 56,150	84.6 % \$ 50,597	84.1 % \$ 53,397	85.7 %
Flash	4,284	6.5 5,016	8.3 5,983	9.6
Analog/mixed-signal	5,916	8.9 4,604	7.6 2,940	4.7
Net revenues	\$ 66.350	100.0 % \$ 60.217	100.0 % \$ 62.320	100.0 %

#### Comparison of Fiscal 2007 and 2006

Net Revenues. Our net revenues increased \$6.2 million, or 10.2%, to \$66.4 million for fiscal 2007 from \$60.2 million for fiscal 2006. The increase in net revenues was primarily due to a 24.1% increase in total unit volume sold to end customers from 416 million units in fiscal 2006 to 517 million units in fiscal 2007, driven by strong demand particularly for our EEPROM and analog/mixed-signal products. Combined sales of our EEPROM and analog/mixed signal products increased approximately \$6.9 million or 12.4%. This increase was partially offset by lower unit volume sales of our flash memory products, which decreased \$732,000 or 14.6%. However, intensified market competition resulted in an overall decrease of 11.2% in average selling prices.

Sales to customers outside the United States represented approximately 92.1% and 88.2% of net revenues in fiscal 2007 and fiscal 2006, respectively.

*Gross Profit.* Gross profit decreased \$1.2 million, or 5.2%, to \$22.1 million for fiscal 2007 from \$23.3 million for fiscal 2006. Gross margin, which equals gross profit divided by net revenues, was 33.3% for fiscal 2007 and 38.7% for fiscal 2006. The decrease in gross profit was due to a significant decline in average selling prices that we were not able to fully offset with a decline in our costs; lower revenues from our flash memory products which generally carry higher margins; and inventory write-offs stemming from the transition to ..35 micron technology and products not compliant with new environmental standards. The benefit from sales of previously written down inventory was \$575,000 for fiscal 2007 and \$794,000 for fiscal 2006, and provisions for excess and obsolete inventory were \$2.2 million for fiscal 2007 and \$1.0 million for fiscal 2006. The net impact of these inventory provisions was a decrease in gross profit of \$1.6 million in fiscal 2007 as compared to a decrease in gross profit of \$232,000 in fiscal 2006.

Research and Development. Research and development expense increased \$372,000, or 5.0%, to \$7.8 million for fiscal 2007 from \$7.5 million for fiscal 2006. As a percentage of net revenues, research and development expense was 11.8% and 12.4% for fiscal 2007 and fiscal 2006, respectively. For fiscal 2007, we experienced an increase in payroll and related costs of approximately \$915,000, of which \$761,000 related to stock-based compensation costs resulting from our adoption of SFAS No. 123(R). This amount was offset by a decrease in wafer fabrication tooling of \$154,000 due to the progression of .35 micron technology transition from development in fiscal 2006 to production in fiscal 2007, and a decrease in depreciation and amortization of \$385,000 due to assets reaching the end of their useful lives.

Selling, General and Administrative. Selling, general and administrative expense increased \$2.3 million, or 17.1%, to \$15.7 million for fiscal 2007 from \$13.4 million for fiscal 2006. As a percentage of net revenues, selling, general and administrative expense was 23.7% and 22.3% for fiscal 2007 and fiscal 2006, respectively. The increase was primarily attributable to a \$1.9 million increase in salary and benefits, of which \$1.4 million related to stock-based compensation costs resulting from our adoption of SFAS No. 123(R). In addition, sales commissions increased \$377,000 as a result of higher revenues. In fiscal 2007, selling, general and administrative costs were favorably impacted by the reversal of an accrual of approximately \$270,000 that we did not consider necessary.

Interest Income and Other, Net. We earned interest income and other, net, of \$1.3 million for fiscal 2007, as compared to interest income and other, net, of \$1.2 million for fiscal 2006. The slight increase in interest income and other, net, primarily relates to a higher rate of return, despite the lower average balances of our cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments for fiscal 2007. Our rate of return was approximately 4.8% for fiscal 2007 compared to approximately 3.4% for fiscal 2006.

*Income Tax Provision.* The provision for income taxes was \$288,000 for fiscal 2007. The provision for income taxes was \$1.0 million for fiscal 2006. The effective income tax rate for fiscal 2007 is higher than the statutory U.S. federal

income tax rate of 34.0% primarily due to the non-deductible stock compensation charges associated with incentive stock options recorded as a result of our adoption of SFAS No. 123(R) in

fiscal 2007. The provision for income taxes in fiscal 2006 was favorably impacted by the reversal of certain tax accruals upon expiry of the related statute of limitations. See Note 7 at Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

#### Comparison of Fiscal 2006 and 2005

Net Revenues. Our net revenues decreased \$2.1 million, or 3.4%, to \$60.2 million for fiscal 2006 from \$62.3 million for fiscal 2005. The decrease in net revenues was primarily due to a decrease in EEPROM average selling prices, which led to a decline of net revenues from our EEPROM and flash memory products of \$3.8 million. This decrease was partially offset by an increase in net revenues from our analog/mixed-signal products of \$1.7 million, or 58.6% to \$4.6 million for fiscal 2006 from \$2.9 million for fiscal 2005, which resulted from the introduction of new products and increased sales to our existing OEM customer base. While we experienced an improved market demand that resulted in a 9.0% increase in total unit volume sold to end customers in fiscal 2006, net revenues decreased overall because the increase in total unit volume was offset by an 11.0% decrease in overall average selling prices from increased market competition in the more recent period.

In addition, our net revenues in fiscal 2005 benefited by approximately \$1.0 million from the termination of price adjustment and stock rotation rights of certain small regional resellers that had not historically used those rights, which resulted in recognition of revenue and gross margin for the inventories held by such resellers. We did not experience a similar benefit in fiscal 2006.

Sales to customers outside the United States represented approximately 88.0% of net revenues in both fiscal 2006 and fiscal 2005.

*Gross Profit.* Gross profit decreased \$3.2 million, or 11.9%, to \$23.3 million for fiscal 2006 from \$26.5 million for fiscal 2005. Gross margin, which equals gross profit divided by net revenues, was 38.7% for fiscal 2006 and 42.5% for fiscal 2005. The decrease in gross profit was primarily due to increased market competition resulting in a decline in overall average selling prices, as well as the unfavorable impact of movements in our inventory reserves in fiscal 2006 as compared to fiscal 2005. The benefit from sales of previously reserved inventory was \$794,000 for fiscal 2006 and \$1.0 million for fiscal 2005, and provisions for excess and obsolete inventory were \$1.0 million for fiscal 2006 and \$1.1 million for fiscal 2005. The net impact of these inventory provisions was a decrease in gross profit of \$232,000 in fiscal 2006 as compared to a decrease in gross profit of \$83,000 in fiscal 2005.

Research and Development. Research and development expense decreased \$438,000, or 5.5%, to \$7.5 million for fiscal 2006 from \$7.9 million for fiscal 2005. As a percentage of net revenues, research and development expense was 12.4% in fiscal 2006 and 12.7% in fiscal 2005. The decrease in research and development expense was primarily attributable to a \$152,000 decrease in employee incentive compensation, a \$143,000 decrease in wafer fabrication and test and assembly costs and a \$133,000 decrease in facilities and insurance costs for our research and development activities.

Selling, General and Administrative. Selling, general and administrative expense decreased \$251,000, or 1.8%, to \$13.4 million for fiscal 2006 from \$13.7 million for fiscal 2005. As a percentage of net revenues, selling, general and administrative expense was 22.3% in fiscal 2006 and 22.0% in fiscal 2005. The decrease in selling, general and administrative expense was primarily attributable to a decrease in employee incentive and commission related compensation of \$329,000, a decrease in consulting work performed for Section 404 compliance of \$224,000, offset by an increase in depreciation expense for our new enterprise resource planning systems of \$104,000, an increase in freight expense of \$139,000 for increased unit shipments and an increase in marketing expense of \$58,000.

*Interest Income and Other, net.* We earned interest income and other, net, of \$1.2 million in fiscal 2006 as compared to interest income and other, net, of \$732,000 in fiscal 2005. Our rate of return on

our average balance of cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments was approximately 3.4% in fiscal 2006 and approximately 1.8% in fiscal 2005. The change was due to higher average interest rates experienced in fiscal 2006 compared to fiscal 2005, partially offset by lower investable cash.

*Income Tax Provision (Benefit).* The provision for income taxes was \$1.0 million, or 28.5% of income before taxes, for fiscal 2006. The provision for income taxes was \$1.8 million or 31.7% of income before taxes, for fiscal 2005. The income tax rates are impacted by the level of available tax credits as compared to pretax income and the current estimate of the level of income subject to California taxation. The provision for income taxes in fiscal 2006 has also been favorably impacted by the reversal of certain tax accruals upon expiry of the related statute of limitations.

#### **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

At April 29, 2007, we had cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments of \$28.7 million. During fiscal 2007, we repurchased 355,795 shares of common stock for approximately \$1.3 million. We invest our excess cash in short-term financial instruments to generate interest income. These instruments are U.S. government debt securities, the majority of which have maturities that are less than one year. They are highly liquid and can be converted to cash at any time.

Historically, our primary source of cash has been provided through operations and the issuance of our common stock. Our historical uses of cash have primarily been for operating activities as well as capital expenditures. Supplemental information pertaining to our historical sources and uses of cash is presented as follows and should be read in conjunction with our Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows and notes thereto (in thousands):

	Fiscal Year Ended		
	April 29, 2007	April 30, 2006	May 1, 2005
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 4,820	\$ 4,473	\$ 4,868
Net cash proceeds from sales and (purchases) of short-term investments	9,411	1,425	(6,285)
Acquisitions of property and equipment	4,261	5,728	4,126
Treasury stock purchases	1,253	4,503	9,553

#### Net Cash from Operating Activities

In fiscal 2007, net cash generated in operating activities was \$4.8 million, which was primarily due to a net loss of \$429,000, adjusted for depreciation and amortization of \$2.0 million and other non-cash items such as stock-based compensation of \$2.2 million, as well as additional inventory provisions of \$2.2 million. Cash provided in operating activities included the sale of previously written down inventory of \$575,000 and the effect of decreases in inventory of \$1.5 million, offset by increases in accounts receivable of \$942,000, due in part to the increase in net revenues and timing of shipments and collections. In addition, we made significant payments to vendors during fiscal 2007 for amounts that became due as a result of our increased purchases of inventory in prior periods. As a result, accounts payable and accrued liabilities decreased by \$1.8 million during fiscal 2007. Deferred gross profit from distributors decreased \$162,000 for fiscal 2007.

In fiscal 2006, we had cash from operating activities of \$4.5 million, which resulted from net income of \$2.6 million, adjusted for non-cash charges including depreciation and amortization of \$1.9 million, a charge of \$232,000 for net movements in inventory reserves and a tax benefit of \$505,000 related to the exercise of employee stock options. Cash provided by operating activities also included a decrease in gross accounts receivable of \$464,000 related to our decrease in net revenues, an increase in accounts payable of \$1.5 million primarily due to the timing and amount of inventory purchases, and a decrease in accrued expenses of \$1.2 million related primarily to tax liabilities. These decreases were partially offset by an

increase in gross inventory of \$3.0 million due to faster delivery times from our suppliers, and an increase in our deferred gross profit on shipments to distributors.

In fiscal 2005, we had cash from operating activities of \$4.9 million, which resulted from net income of \$3.8 million, adjusted for non-cash charges including depreciation and amortization of \$1.6 million, a net charge of \$1.1 million for movements in inventory reserves, a reduction in gross accounts receivable of \$2.6 million, an increase in accounts payable of \$1.1 million primarily due to the timing and amount of inventory purchases and an increase in accrued expenses and accrued expenses of \$463,000 related primarily to tax liabilities. These increases were partially offset by a reduction of gross inventories of \$4.6 million and a decrease of \$2.2 million for deferred gross profit on distributor sales due to decreased distributor inventories.

#### Net Cash from Investing Activities

In fiscal 2007, net cash provided by investing activities was \$5.2 million, primarily related to the proceeds from the sales and maturities of our short-term investments of \$39.5 million and purchases of short-term investments of \$30.1 million. We had capital expenditures of \$4.3 million, mostly for construction costs related to our newly acquired headquarters building, as well as for production mask sets and equipment.

In fiscal 2006, cash used by investing activities was \$4.3 million. During fiscal 2006 our short-term investments decreased by \$1.4 million. We used \$5.7 million to acquire property and equipment, of which \$3.7 million was used for the purchase of a building in Santa Clara, California, which replaced the leased principal headquarters in Sunnyvale, California.

In fiscal 2005, cash used by investing activities was \$10.4 million. During fiscal 2005, our short-term investments increased by \$6.3 million as we transferred those funds from cash and cash equivalents. We also used \$4.1 million, which was primarily for the purchase of our new building for our R&D operations in Romania and for continuing investments in our new enterprise resource planning and supply chain management systems.

#### Net Cash from Financing Activities

In fiscal 2007, net cash used in our financing activities was \$1.1 million, consisting primarily of \$1.3 million used to repurchase an aggregate of 355,795 shares of our common stock on the open market during fiscal 2007, offset by proceeds of \$112,000 from the sale of common stock through the exercise of stock options.

In fiscal 2006, cash used by financing activities was \$3.4 million, consisting of \$4.5 million used for the repurchase of an aggregate of 912,943 shares of common stock on the open market, at an average price per share of \$4.93, which was partially offset by \$1.1 million in proceeds from the sale of common stock through the exercise of stock options by employees.

In fiscal 2005, cash used by financing activities was \$724,000, consisting of \$9.6 million for the repurchase of an aggregate of 1,901,176 shares of common stock on the open market, at an average price per share of \$5.02, which was partially offset by \$8.0 million in net proceeds from our public offering of 1,450,000 shares of common stock in July 2004 and \$843,000 in proceeds from the sale of common stock through the exercise of stock options by employees.

#### Common Stock Repurchase Plan

In September 2001, our board of directors authorized a program for the open market repurchase of up to 1.5 million shares of our common stock. In subsequent periods, our board of directors amended the program and authorized purchases up to an aggregate of 3.5 million shares of our common stock. Upon reaching the maximum number of shares authorized under this program, our board of directors authorized a new stock repurchase program in September 2005 to repurchase up to 1.0 million shares of its common stock. In subsequent periods, our board of directors amended the program and authorized the purchase of up to an aggregate of 2.0 million shares of our common stock. The purpose of these share repurchase programs is to reduce the long-term potential dilution in earnings per share that might result from issuances under our stock option plans. The following table summarizes the activity of the open market repurchase program for the stated periods and does not include our repurchase of shares from Elex N.V.:

	Fisca	al Years						
	Tota	l	200	7	200	6	200	5
Shares repurchased in open market	3,169,914		355	,795	912	,943	1,901,176	
Total cost of shares	\$	15,309,000	\$	1,253,000	\$	4,503,000	\$	9,553,000
Average cost per share	\$	4.83	\$	3.52	\$	4.93	\$	5.02

Through April 29, 2007 (excluding repurchases of shares from Elex N.V.) we have repurchased 4,714,014 shares under the board of director s authorized repurchase plans at a total cost of \$19,175,197 or an average cost per share of \$4.07 per share.

#### Contractual Obligations and Commercial Commitments

The following table summarizes our contractual obligations as of April 29, 2007 and the effects these obligations and commitments are expected to have on our liquidity and cash flows in future periods (in thousands):

	Fiscal Years				
	Total	Less Than 1 Year	1-3 Years	4-5 Years	More Than 5 Years
Contractual cash obligations					
Operating leases(1)	\$ 1,776	\$ 291	\$ 1,167	\$ 318	\$
Wafer purchases	5,441	5,441			
Other purchase commitments	469	469			
Total contractual cash obligations	\$ 7,686	\$ 6,201	\$ 1,167	\$ 318	\$

(1) In July 2006, our primary facility lease in Sunnyvale, California expired and in August 2006 we moved into a building we purchased in Santa Clara, California.

#### Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

As part of our ongoing business, we do not participate in transactions that generate relationships with unconsolidated entities of financial partnerships, such as entities often referred to as structured finance or special purpose entities, or SPEs, which would have been established for the purpose of facilitating off-balance sheet arrangements or other contractually narrow or limited purpose. As of April 29, 2007, we were not involved in any SPE transactions.

#### **Future Liquidity**

We believe that our current cash, cash equivalents and available-for-sale securities will be sufficient to meet our anticipated operating and capital requirements for at least the next 12 months. We have no

current plans, nor are we currently negotiating, to obtain additional financing. Our long-term plan is to finance our core business operations with cash we generate from operations. However, from time to time we may raise additional capital through a variety of sources, including the public equity market, private financings, collaborative arrangements and debt. The additional capital we raise could be used for working capital purposes, to fund our research and development activities or our capital expenditures or to acquire complementary businesses or technologies. If we raise additional capital through the issuance of equity or securities convertible into equity, our stockholders may experience dilution. Those securities may have rights, preferences or privileges senior to those of the holders of the common stock. Additional financing may not be available to us on favorable terms, if at all. If we are unable to obtain financing, or to obtain it on acceptable terms, we may be unable to successfully support our business requirements.

#### **Effects of Transactions with Related Parties**

#### Elex N.V.

During the fourth quarter of fiscal 2000, we began taking delivery of wafers fabricated at X-FAB Texas, Inc. (X-FAB) a wholly owned subsidiary of Elex N.V. (Elex), a Belgian holding company. Roland Duchâtelet, the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Elex, serves as a member of our Board of Directors. Elex initially became a related party in 1998 through the purchase of 5.5 million restricted shares of our common stock. The wafers provided by X-FAB include most of our analog/mixed-signal products and supplement some of the same EEPROM designs fabricated at various other foundries we utilize. Other than purchase orders currently open with X-FAB, there is no purchasing agreement in place with X-FAB. During fiscal 2007, fiscal 2006 and fiscal 2005, we purchased \$1.2 million, \$2.5 million and \$2.4 million of wafers, respectively, from X-FAB. As of April 29, 2007 and April 30, 2006, the total amount we owed X-FAB was \$68,000 and \$143,000, respectively. Elex held 4.5% of our outstanding shares as of April 29, 2007.

We believe that the terms of these transactions were no less favorable than reasonably could be expected to be obtained from unaffiliated parties.

#### **Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

In July 2006, the FASB issued FASB Interpretation Number 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes an interpretation of FAS 109. This Interpretation clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in an enterprise s financial statements in accordance with FASB Statement No. 109, Accounting for Income Taxes. This interpretation prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. This interpretation also provides guidance on derecognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure, and transition. The guidance will become effective as of the beginning of a company s fiscal year beginning after December 15, 2006. We are currently assessing the impact, if any, of adopting this standard on our financial position, results of operations and liquidity.

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, Fair Value Measurements (SFAS No. 157). SFAS No. 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework and gives guidance regarding the methods used for measuring fair value, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. SFAS No. 157 is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007, and interim periods within those fiscal years. The adoption of this standard is not expected to have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities, including an amendment of FASB Statement No. 115 (SFAS No. 159). SFAS No. 159 permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair

value that are not currently required to be measured at fair value. Unrealized gains and losses on items for which the fair value option has been elected are reported in earnings. SFAS No. 159 does not affect any existing accounting literature that requires certain assets and liabilities to be carried at fair value. SFAS No. 159 is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. We are currently assessing the impact, if any, of adopting this standard on our financial position, results of operations and liquidity.

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

Interest Rate Risk. We do not use derivative financial instruments in our investment portfolio. Our investment portfolio is generally comprised of U.S. government debt securities and cash deposits. Our policy is to place these investments in instruments that meet high credit quality standards and have maturities of less than two years with an overall average maturity of less than one year. These securities are subject to interest rate risk and could decline in value if interest rates fluctuate. Due to the short duration of the securities in which we invest and the conservative nature of our investment portfolio, a 10% change in interest rates would have an immaterial effect on our financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

Foreign Currency Exchange Rate Risk. The majority of our sales, manufacturing costs, and research and development and marketing expenses are transacted in U.S. dollars. Accordingly, our net profitability is not currently subject to material foreign exchange rate fluctuations. Gains and losses from fluctuations in exchange rates have not been material to us to date.

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

Our consolidated financial statements required by this Item are set forth at the pages indicated in Part IV, Item 15(a).

The following table presents selected unaudited consolidated statements of income data for our eight most recently completed fiscal quarters. The information for each of these quarters is unaudited and has been prepared on the same basis as the audited consolidated financial statements appearing elsewhere in this report. In our opinion, all necessary adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring adjustments, have been included to present fairly the unaudited quarterly results when read together with our consolidated financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in the report. We believe that results of operations for interim periods should not be relied upon as any indication of the results to be expected or achieved in any future period or any fiscal year as a whole.

	Tł	ree Moi	nth	s En	ded													
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	20 (T)		d) (	20 In tł	07 1ousands, e	20 xcer		20 dat			20	06	20	006	20	005	20	005
Net revenues	\$	18,398		\$		\$	16,310	\$	15,225		\$	14,187	\$	14,423	\$	16,931	\$	14,676
Gross profit	5,5	580		5,8	341	5,7	87	4,9	004		4,9	46	6,	215	6,	438	5,	718
Income (loss) from operations	(5)	24	)	(61	1 )	22		(91	17	)	(28	33 )	1,	041	1,	110	53	32
Net income (loss)(1)	\$	(457	)	\$	111	\$	176	\$	(259	)	\$	270	\$	864	\$	927	\$	495
Net income (loss) per share:																		
Basic	\$	(0.03)	)	\$	0.01	\$	0.01	\$	(0.02)	)	\$	0.02	\$	0.05	\$	0.05	\$	0.03
Diluted	\$	(0.03	)	\$	0.01	\$	0.01	\$	(0.02	)	\$	0.02	\$	0.05	\$	0.05	\$	0.03

<sup>(1)</sup> In the quarter ended April 30, 2006, our net income was favorably impacted by \$226,000 due to the reversal of certain tax accruals upon expiry of a state income tax statute of limitation.

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

None.

#### Item 9A. Controls and Procedures

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

Our management evaluated, with the participation of our Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer, the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Based upon that evaluation, our Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures are effective to ensure that information we are required to disclose in reports that we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in SEC rules and forms.

#### Management s Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. Our management assessed the effectiveness of the company s internal control over financial reporting as of April 29, 2007. In making this assessment, our management used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission in *Internal Control Integrated Framework*.

Based on this assessment, our management concluded that, as of April 29, 2007, our internal control over financial reporting was effective.

Management s assessment of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of April 29, 2007, has been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report which appears herein.

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

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the quarter ended April 29, 2007 that have materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect its internal control over financial reporting, as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Exchange Act.

## Item 9B. Other Information

None.

#### PART III

Certain information required by Part III is incorporated by reference from the Company s 2007 definitive proxy statement to be filed not later than 120 days following the close of the 2007 fiscal year ( 2007 Definitive Proxy Statement ).

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

Certain information regarding our executive officers required by this Item 10 is contained under Part 1, Item 1, Executive Officers and is incorporated herein by reference.

Certain information regarding our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics required by this Item 10 is contained under Part 1, Item 1, Website Postings and is incorporated herein by reference.

All other information required under this Item is hereby incorporated by reference from the Company s 2007 Definitive Proxy Statement.

#### Item 11. Executive Compensation

The information required under this Item is hereby incorporated by reference from the Company s 2007 Definitive Proxy Statement.

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

The information required under this Item is hereby incorporated by reference from the Company s 2007 Definitive Proxy Statement.

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

The information required under this Item is hereby incorporated by reference from the Company s 2007 Definitive Proxy Statement.

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

The information required under this Item is hereby incorporated by reference from the Company s 2007 Definitive Proxy Statement.

#### **PART IV**

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

#### (a)(1) Financial Statements

See Index to Consolidated Financial Statements on page F-1 hereof.

#### (a)(2) Financial Statement Schedules

Schedule II Valuation and Qualifying Accounts.

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

## (b) Exhibits

Exhibit No.	Description
3.1(1)	Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Registrant.
3.2(2)	Certificate of Designation of Rights, Preferences and Privileges of Series A Participating Preferred Stock.
3.4(3)	Bylaws of Catalyst Semiconductor, Inc., as amended and restated June 6, 2004.
4.1(4)	Specimen Stock Certificate.
4.2(2)	Preferred Shares Rights Agreement, dated as of December 21, 2006 between Catalyst Semiconductor, Inc. and Computershare Trust Company, N.A., including the Certificate of Designation, the form of Rights Certificate and the Summary of Rights attached thereto as Exhibits A, B and C, respectively.
4.6(5)	Amended and Restated 2003 Stock Incentive Plan.
4.6.1(6)	Form of Stock Option Agreement.
4.6.2(7)	Form of Restricted Stock Agreement.
4.6.3(5)	Form of Restricted Stock Unit Agreement.
4.7	2003 Director Stock Option Plan.
4.7.1(6)	Form of 2003 Director Option Plan (same as 4.6.1).
4.8(8)	1998 Special Equity Incentive Plan.
10.27(9)*	Form of Indemnification Agreement entered into by Registrant with each of its directors and executive officers.
10.61(10)	Common Stock Purchase Agreement dated as of May 26, 1998 between Registrant and Elex N.V. with
• •	Standstill Agreement dated as of May 26, 1998 between the Registrant and Elex N.V.
10.61.1(11)	Common Stock Purchase Agreement dated as of September 14, 1998 between Registrant and Elex N.V. with Standstill Agreement dated as of September 14, 1998 between the Registrant and Elex N.V.
10.61.2(12)	Amendment No. 1 to Amended and Restated Standstill Agreement dated as of April 22, 2004.
10.61.3(12)	Second Amended and Restated Standstill Agreement dated as of June 10, 2004.
10.83(13)	Stock Transfer Agreement dated April 19, 2002 between Elex NV and Registrant.
10.84(14)*	Form of Change of Control Agreement between Registrant and its non-employee directors.
10.85(15)*	Amended and Restated Employment Agreement dated May 14, 2007 between Gelu Voicu and Registrant.
10.86(12)	Stock Transfer Agreement dated as of April 22, 2004 between the Registrant and Elex N.V.
10.87(16)*	Severance Agreement dated October 14, 2002 between George Smarandoiu and Registrant.
10.88(17)	Sale-Purchase Promissory Agreement dated November 6, 2003 between Registrant and S.C. Hathor Impex
	SRL.
10.91(18)	Fiscal 2005 Bonus Plan.
44	

10.92(19)	Severance Agreement dated August 23, 2005 between Thomas Gay and Registrant.
10.93(19)	Severance Agreement dated August 23, 2005 between Sorin Georgescu and Registrant.
10.94(19)	Severance Agreement dated August 23, 2005 between Irvin Kovalik and Registrant.
10.95(19)	Severance Agreement dated August 23, 2005 between George Smarandoiu and Registrant.
10.96(20)	Fiscal 2006 Bonus Plan.
10.97(21)	Separation agreement effective as of July 29, 2005 between Barry Wiley and Registrant.
10.98(22)	Offer Letter with Scott Brown dated August 18, 2005.
10.99(23)	Agreement of Sale by and between 2975 Stender Associates LLC and Catalyst Semiconductor, Inc. effective as of February 3, 2006.
10.100(24)	Lease Agreement entered into on March 6, 2006 by and between Catalyst Semiconductor International, Inc. and Stars Microelectronics.
10.100.1(25)	Amendment No. 1 dated October 19, 2006 to Lease Agreement by and between Catalyst Semiconductor
	(Thailand) Limited and Stars Microelectronics.
21.1	List of Subsidiaries of Registrant.
23.1	Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.
24.1	Power of Attorney (included on page 39).
31	Certification of Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer pursuant to U.S.C. Section 302
	of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32	Certification of Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer pursuant to U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

- (1) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Registration Statement on Form 8-A/A filed with the SEC on December 28, 2006.
- (2) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on December 28, 2006.
- (3) Incorporated by reference to Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on June 12, 2007.
- (4) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Registration Statement on Form 8-A/A filed with the SEC on April 29, 1993.
- (5) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on December 28, 2006.
- (6) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Registration Statement on Form S-8 filed with the SEC on March 3, 2006 (File No. 333-132204).
- (7) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on December 4, 2006.
- (8) Incorporated by reference to an Appendix to Registrant s Definitive Proxy Statement previously filed with the SEC on July 27, 2000.

- (9) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed with the SEC on May 11, 1993 (File No. 33-60132), as amended.
- (10) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on August 19, 1998.
- (11) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on September 21, 1998.
- (12) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Registration Statement on Form S-3 filed with the SEC on June 14, 2004 (File No. 333-116425).
- (13) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on April 30, 2002.
- (14) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on July 29, 2002.
- (15) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on May 25, 2007.
- (16) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on June 30, 2004.
- (17) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on March 9, 2004.
- (18) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on August 5, 2005.
- (19) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on August 26, 2005.
- (20) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on September 7, 2005.
- (21) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on September 9, 2005.
- (22) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on October 11, 2005.
- (23) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on February 9, 2006.
- (24) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on March 10, 2006.
- (25) Incorporated by reference to Registrant s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on October 25, 2006.

Confidential treatment has been granted as to a portion of this Exhibit. Such portion has been redacted and filed separately with the SEC.

\* Constitutes a management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement required to be filed as an exhibit pursuant to Item 14(c) of Form 10-K.

#### **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Santa Clara and State of California, on July 13, 2007.

CATALYST SEMICONDUCTOR, INC.

By:

/s/ GELU VOICU Gelu Voicu

President, Chief Executive Officer and Director

#### POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Gelu Voicu, as his attorney-in-fact, with the full power of substitution, for him in any and all capacities, to sign any amendments to this Report on Form 10-K and to file the same with exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith with the Securities and Exchange Commission, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney-in-fact, or his substitute or substitutes may do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this Report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of Registrant and in the capacities and on July 13, 2007.

By:	/s/ GELU VOICU	President, Chief Executive Officer and	July 13, 2007
·	Gelu Voicu	Director (Principal Executive and Financial Officer)	
By:	/s/ STEVE MILLER	Corporate Controller	July 13, 2007
	Steve Miller	(Principal Accounting Officer)	
By:		Director	
	Roland M. Duchâtelet		
By:	/s/ GARRETT GARRETTSON	Director	July 13, 2007
	Garrett Garrettson		
By:	/s/ HENRY C. MONTGOMERY	Chairman of the Board	July 13, 2007
	Henry C. Montgomery		
By:	/s/ GLEN G. POSSLEY	Director	July 13, 2007
	Glen G. Possley		

# CATALYST SEMICONDUCTOR, INC. INDEX TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Consolidated Statements of Operations for the years ended April 29, 2007, April 30, 2006 and May 1, 2005	F-5
Consolidated Statements of Stockholders Equity and Comprehensive Income (Loss) for the years ended April 29, 2007,	
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#### REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of Catalyst Semiconductor, Inc.

We have completed integrated audits of Catalyst Semiconductor, Inc. s consolidated financial statements and of its internal control over financial reporting as of April 29, 2007, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Our opinions, based on our audits, are presented below.

#### Consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedule

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements listed in the index appearing under Item 15(a)(1) present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Catalyst Semiconductor, Inc. and its subsidiaries at April 29, 2007 and April 30, 2006, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended April 29, 2007 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. In addition, in our opinion, the financial statement schedule listed in the index appearing under Item 15(a)(2) presents fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein when read in conjunction with the related consolidated financial statements. These financial statements and financial statement schedule are the responsibility of the Company s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and financial statement schedule based on our audits. We conducted our audits of these statements in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit of financial statements includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements, the Company changed the manner in which it accounted for stock-based compensation in fiscal 2007.

#### Internal control over financial reporting

Also, in our opinion, management s assessment, included in Management s Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting appearing under Item 9A, that the Company maintained effective internal control over financial reporting as of April 29, 2007 based on criteria established in *Internal Control Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO), is fairly stated, in all material respects, based on those criteria. Furthermore, in our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of April 29, 2007, based on criteria established in *Internal Control Integrated Framework* issued by the COSO. The Company s management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting. Our responsibility is to express opinions on management s assessment and on the effectiveness of the Company s internal control over financial reporting based on our audit. We conducted our audit of internal control over financial reporting in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. An audit of internal control over financial reporting includes obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, evaluating management s assessment, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control, and performing such other

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procedures as we consider necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

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

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

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP San Jose, California July 13, 2007

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# CATALYST SEMICONDUCTOR, INC. CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

	April 29, 2007 (In thousands, except per share am	April 30, 2006
ASSETS		,
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 16,626	\$ 7,730
Short-term investments	12,032	21,409
Accounts receivable, net	10,444	9,502
Inventories	11,137	14,262
Deferred tax assets	2,391	2,771
Other current assets	454	484
Total current assets	53,084	56,158
Property and equipment, net	11,700	9,408
Deferred tax assets	4,376	4,759
Other assets	52	95
Total assets	\$ 69,212	\$ 70,420
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 6,622	\$ 7,453
Accounts payable related parties	68	143
Accrued expenses	2,137	3,002
Deferred gross profit on shipments to distributors	2,130	2,292
Total current liabilities	10,957	12,890
Commitments and contingencies (Note 11)		
Stockholders equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.001 par value, 2,000 shares authorized; no shares issued and outstanding		
Common stock, \$0.001 par value, 45,000 shares authorized; 23,131 shares issued and 16,317		
shares outstanding at April 29, 2007 and 22,808 shares issued and 16,350 shares outstanding		
at April 30, 2006	23	23
Additional paid-in-capital	72,834	70,461
Treasury stock, 6,814 shares at April 29, 2007 and 6,458 shares at April 30, 2006	(27,925)	
Retained earnings	13,330	13,759
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(7)	(41)
Total stockholders equity	58,255	57,530