

HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP INC  
Form 10-K  
February 28, 2012

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

**FORM 10-K**

(Mark one)

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

**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011**

**OR**

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

**COMMISSION FILE NUMBER 000-50129**

**HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Delaware

59-3547281

(State or Other Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation or Organization)

(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification Number)

**560 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York 10022**

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

**(212) 351-7300**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Securities Registered Pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

| Title of Each Class             | Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Common Stock, \$0.001 par value | The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC               |
| Preferred Share Purchase Rights | The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC               |

Securities Registered Pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: **None**

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

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Website, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit to post such files). Yes  No

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

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

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

Indicate by checkmark whether the Registrant is a shell company (as defined in Exchange Act Rule 12b-2). Yes o No x

The aggregate market value of the voting common stock held by non-affiliates of the Registrant was approximately \$170,977,000 based on the closing price of the Common Stock on the NASDAQ Global Select Market on June 30, 2011.

The number of shares of Common Stock, \$.001 par value, outstanding as of January 31, 2012 was 32,627,162.

## **DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

Portions of the Proxy Statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders are incorporated by reference into Part III.

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## **PART I**

### **ITEM 1. BUSINESS**

Hudson Highland Group, Inc. (the Company or Hudson, we, us and our) provides highly specialized professional-level recruitment and related talent solutions worldwide. Core service offerings include Permanent Recruitment, Contract Consulting, Legal eDiscovery, Recruitment Process Outsourcing (RPO) and Talent Management solutions.

Hudson has operated as an independent publicly-held company since April 1, 2003 when the eResourcing division of Monster Worldwide, Inc., formerly TMP Worldwide, Inc., comprised of 67 acquisitions made between 1999 and 2001, was spun off. Today, Hudson has more than 2,000 employees and operates in 20 countries with three reportable geographic business segments: Hudson Americas, Hudson Asia Pacific, and Hudson Europe. These reportable segments constituted approximately 14%, 42%, and 44% of the Company's gross margin, respectively, for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Offered on both a retained and contingent basis, Hudson's Permanent Recruitment services leverage the firm's more than 1,200 consultants, 150 psychologists and other scientific specialists in the development and delivery of its proprietary methods to identify, select and engage the best-fit talent for critical client roles.

In Contract Consulting, Hudson provides a range of project management, interim management and professional contract staffing services. These services draw upon a combination of specialized recruiting and project management competencies to deliver a wide range of solutions. Hudson-employed professionals either individually or as a team are placed with client organizations for a defined period of time based on specific business need.

Hudson's Legal eDiscovery services comprise eDiscovery solutions, managed document review (encompassing logistical deployment, project management, process design and productivity management), and contract attorney staffing. The most comprehensive of these is the firm's full-service eDiscovery solution, providing an integrated system of discovery management and review technology deployment for both corporate and law firm clients.

Hudson RPO (Recruitment Process Outsourcing) delivers outsourced recruitment solutions tailored to the individual needs of mid- to large-cap multinational companies. Hudson RPO's delivery teams utilize state-of-the-art recruitment process methodologies and project management expertise in their flexible, turnkey solutions to meet clients' ongoing business needs. Hudson RPO services include complete recruitment outsourcing, project-based outsourcing, contingent workforce solutions and recruitment consulting.

Featuring embedded proprietary talent assessment and selection methodologies, Hudson's Talent Management capability encompasses services such as talent assessment (utilizing a variety of competency, attitude and experiential testing), interview training, executive coaching, employee development and outplacement.

## **CLIENTS**

The Company's clients include small to large-sized corporations and government agencies. At December 31, 2011, there were approximately 350 Hudson Americas clients, 2,000 Hudson Asia Pacific clients and 4,200 Hudson Europe clients. The business of the Company is not dependent upon either a single client or a limited number of clients. During 2011, no single client accounted for more than 10% of the Company's revenue. As of December 31, 2011, no

single client accounted for more than 10% of the Company's outstanding accounts receivable.

## **EMPLOYEES**

The Company employs approximately 2,200 people worldwide. In most jurisdictions, our employees are not represented by a labor union or a collective bargaining agreement. The Company regards its relationships with its employees as satisfactory.

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### **SALES AND MARKETING**

The majority of Hudson's roughly 1,500 client-facing consultants sell its portfolio of services to its existing client base of over 6,000 companies and into prospective client organizations. The Company's consultant population has deep expertise in specific functional areas and industry sectors, and provides broad-based recruitment and solution services based on the needs of the client. With the realignment of the Company's business into three regions and the growth in multi-nationals within its client base, the Company's consultants are increasingly partnering with colleagues in other countries to sell the Company's services across geographic boundaries.

In 2011, the Company named a Chief Knowledge Officer to lead both the marketing and information technology functions in an interconnected manner. The goal was to strengthen the Company's communication and brand presence in all relevant channels, including print media, client events, social media and over the web. This work led to the re-launch of its websites in over 20 countries in December 2011, leveraging its thought leadership content in multiple markets around the world, evolving its brand communication and improving the lead generation capacity both globally and locally.

### **COMPETITION**

The markets for the Company's services and products are highly competitive. There are few barriers to entry, so new entrants occur frequently, resulting in considerable market fragmentation. Companies in this industry compete on a number of parameters including degree and quality of candidate and position knowledge, industry expertise, service quality, and efficiency in completing assignments. Typically, companies with greater strength in these parameters garner higher margins.

### **DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS**

In the first half of 2009, the Company exited Italy and Japan. The operations in Italy were part of the Hudson Europe reportable segment and the operations in Japan were part of the Hudson Asia Pacific reportable segment.

In accordance with the provisions of Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification Topic (ASC) 205-20-45 *Reporting Discontinued Operations*, the financial results of these businesses were reclassified as discontinued operations for all the periods presented.

### **SEGMENT AND GEOGRAPHIC DATA**

Financial information concerning the Company's reportable segments and geographic areas of operation is included in Note 15 in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements contained in Item 8 of this Form 10-K.

### **AVAILABLE INFORMATION**

We maintain a Web site with the address [www.hudson.com](http://www.hudson.com). We are not including the information contained on our Web site as part of, or incorporating it by reference into, this report. Through our Web site, we make available free of charge (other than an investor's own Internet access charges) our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to these reports in a timely manner after we provide them to the Securities and Exchange Commission.



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## ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

The following risk factors and other information included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K should be carefully considered. The risks and uncertainties described below are not the only ones we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial also may impair our business operations. If any of the following risks occur, our business, financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows could be materially adversely affected.

### **Our operations will be affected by global economic fluctuations.**

Client's demand for our services may fluctuate with changes in economic conditions in the markets in which we operate. Those conditions include slower employment growth or reductions in employment. We have limited flexibility to reduce expenses during economic downturns due to some overhead costs which are fixed in the short-term. Furthermore, we may face increased pricing pressures during economic downturns. For example, during the 2008 and 2009 economic downturn, many employers in our operating regions reduced their overall workforce to reflect the slowing demand for their products and services. This contributed to operating losses for our company in 2008, 2009 and 2010. While conditions improved in 2011, the economic recovery has been slower than in previous business cycles. Economic conditions could deteriorate in 2012, which may result in lower operating results than expected.

### **Our operating results fluctuate from quarter to quarter; no single quarter is predictive of future periods results.**

Our operating results fluctuate quarter to quarter primarily due to the vacation periods during the first quarter in the Asia Pacific region and the third quarter in the Americas and Europe regions. Demand for our services is typically lower during traditional national vacation periods when clients and candidates are on vacation.

### **Our revenue can vary because our clients can terminate their relationship with us at any time with limited or no penalty.**

We provide professional mid-market personnel on a temporary assignment-by-assignment basis, which clients can generally terminate at any time or reduce their level of use when compared to prior periods. Our professional recruitment business is also significantly affected by our clients' hiring needs and their views of their future prospects. These factors can also affect our RPO business. Clients may, on very short notice, reduce or postpone their recruiting assignments with us and, therefore, affect demand for our services. This could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

### **Our markets are highly competitive.**

The markets for our services are highly competitive. Our markets are characterized by pressures to provide high levels of service, incorporate new capabilities and technologies, accelerate job completion schedules and reduce prices. Furthermore, we face competition from a number of sources. These sources include other executive search firms and professional search, staffing and consulting firms. Several of our competitors have greater financial and marketing resources than we do. Due to competition, we may experience reduced margins on our services, loss of market share and our customers. If we are not able to compete effectively with current or future competitors as a result of these and other factors, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially adversely affected.

We have no significant proprietary technology that would preclude or inhibit competitors from entering the mid-market professional staffing contract and consulting markets. We cannot provide assurance that existing or future competitors will not develop or offer services that provide significant performance, price, creative or other advantages over our services. In addition, we believe that, with continuing development and increased availability of information technology, the industries in which we compete may attract new competitors. Specifically, the increased use of the Internet may attract technology-oriented companies to the professional staffing industry. We cannot provide assurance that we will be able to continue to compete effectively against existing or future competitors. Any of these events could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

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**Our investment strategy subjects us to risks.**

From time to time, we make investments, including acquisitions, as part of our growth plans. Investments may not perform as expected because they are dependent on a variety of factors, including our ability to effectively integrate new personnel and operations, our ability to sell new services, and our ability to retain existing or gain new clients.

Furthermore, we may need to borrow more money from lenders or sell equity or debt securities to the public to finance future investments and the terms of these financings may be adverse to us.

**We face risks related to our international operations.**

We conduct operations in approximately twenty countries and face both translation and transaction risks related to foreign currency exchange. For the year ended December 31, 2011, approximately 86% of our gross margin was earned outside of the United States. Our financial results could be materially affected by a number of factors particular to international operations. These include, but are not limited to, difficulties in staffing and managing international operations, operational issues such as longer customer payment cycles and greater difficulties in collecting accounts receivable, changes in tax laws or other regulatory requirements, issues relating to uncertainties of laws and enforcement relating to the regulation and protection of intellectual property, and currency fluctuation. If we are forced to discontinue any of our international operations, we could incur material costs to close down such operations.

Regarding the foreign currency risk inherent in international operations, the results of our local operations are reported in the applicable foreign currencies and then translated into U.S. dollars at the applicable foreign currency exchange rates for inclusion in our financial statements. In addition, we generally pay operating expenses in the corresponding local currency. Because of devaluations and fluctuations in currency exchange rates or the imposition of limitations on conversion of foreign currencies into U.S. dollars, we are subject to currency translation exposure on the revenue and income of our operations in addition to economic exposure. Our consolidated U.S. dollar cash balance could be lower because a significant amount of cash is generated outside of the United States. This risk could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

**We depend on our key management personnel.**

Our continued success will depend to a significant extent on our senior management team. The loss of the services of one or more key senior management team member could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. In addition, if one or more key employees join a competitor or form a competing company, the resulting loss of existing or potential clients could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

**Failure to attract and retain qualified personnel could negatively impact our business, financial condition and results of operations.**

Our success also depends upon our ability to attract and retain highly-skilled professionals who possess the skills and experience necessary to meet the staffing requirements of our clients. We must continually evaluate and upgrade our base of available qualified personnel to keep pace with changing client needs and emerging technologies. Furthermore, a substantial number of our contractors during any given year may terminate their employment with us and accept regular staff employment with our clients. Competition for qualified professionals with proven skills is intense, and demand for these individuals is expected to remain strong for the foreseeable future. There can be no assurance that qualified personnel will continue to be available to us in sufficient numbers. If we are unable to attract the necessary qualified personnel for our clients, it may have a negative impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

**We face risks in collecting our accounts receivable.**

In virtually all of our businesses, we invoice customers after providing services, which creates accounts receivable. Delays or defaults in payments owed to us could have a significant adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations. Factors that could cause a delay or default include, but are not limited to, global economic conditions, business failures, and turmoil in the financial and credit markets.

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In certain situations, we provide our services to clients under a contractual relationship with a third-party vendor manager, rather than directly to the client. In those circumstances, the third-party vendor manager is typically responsible for aggregating billing information, collecting receivables from the client and paying staffing suppliers once funds are received from the client. In the event that the client has paid the vendor manager for our services and we are unable to collect from the vendor manager, we may be exposed to financial losses.

**We have had periods of negative cash flows and operating losses that may reoccur in the future.**

We have experienced negative cash flows and reported operating and net losses in the past. For example, our cash flows from operations were negative during 2010 and 2009 and we had operating and net losses for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009. We cannot provide any assurance that we will have positive cash flows or operating profitability in the future, particularly to the extent the global economy continues to recover slowly from the global economic downturn. If our revenue declines or if operating expenses exceed our expectations, we may not be profitable and may not generate positive operating cash flows.

**Our credit facilities restrict our operating flexibility.**

Our credit facilities contain various restrictions and covenants that restrict our operating flexibility including:

borrowings limited to eligible receivables;  
lenders' ability to impose restrictions, such as payroll or other reserves;  
limitations on payments of dividends;

restrictions on our ability to make additional borrowings, or to consolidate, merge or otherwise fundamentally change our ownership;  
limitations on capital expenditures, investments, dispositions of assets, guarantees of indebtedness, permitted acquisitions and repurchases of stock; and  
limitations on certain intercompany payments of expenses, interest and dividends.

These restrictions and covenants could have adverse consequences for investors, including as a result of our need to use a portion of our cash flow from operations for debt service rather than for our operations, restrictions on our ability to incur additional debt financing for future working capital or capital expenditures, a lesser ability for us to take advantage of significant business opportunities, such as acquisition opportunities, the potential need for us to undertake equity transactions which may dilute the ownership of existing investors, and our inability to react to market conditions by selling lesser-performing assets.

In addition, a default, amendment or waiver to our credit facilities to avoid a default may result in higher rates of interest and could impact our ability to obtain additional borrowings. Finally, debt incurred under our credit facilities bears interest at variable rates. Any increase in interest expense could reduce the funds available for operations.

**If we are unable to maintain costs at an acceptable level, our operations could be adversely impacted.**

Our ability to reduce costs in line with expectations is important for the improvement of our profitability. Efforts to improve our efficiency could be affected by several factors including turnover, client demands, market conditions, changes in laws, and availability of talent. Our failure to realize the expected benefits of these cost reduction initiatives could have an adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

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**We rely on our information systems, and if we lose our information processing capabilities or fail to further develop our technology, our business could be adversely affected.**

Our success depends in large part upon our ability to store, retrieve, process, and manage substantial amounts of information, including our client and candidate databases. To achieve our strategic objectives and to remain competitive, we must continue to develop and enhance our information systems. This may require the acquisition of equipment and software and the development, either internally or through independent consultants, of new proprietary software. Our inability to design, develop, implement and utilize, in a cost-effective manner, information systems that provide the capabilities necessary for us to compete effectively, or any interruption or loss of our information processing capabilities, for any reason, could adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

As we operate in an international human resources environment, we are subject to cyber-security risks and incidents. Our business involves the storage and transmission of our candidates' personal information, our clients' job requirement preferences and confidential information used in our Legal eDiscovery practice. We also use mobile devices, social networking and other online activities to connect with our candidates, clients and business partners. While we have implemented measures to prevent security breaches and cyber incidents, our measures may not be effective and any security breaches or cyber incidents could adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

**Our business depends on uninterrupted service to clients.**

Our operations depend on our ability to protect our facilities, computer and telecommunication equipment and software systems against damage or interruption from fire, power loss, cyber attacks, sabotage, telecommunications interruption, weather conditions, natural disasters and other similar events such as the flooding experienced throughout Queensland, Australia in January 2011 and the major earthquake that occurred in Christchurch, New Zealand in February 2011. Additionally, severe weather can cause our employees or contractors to miss work and interrupt delivery of our service, resulting in a loss of revenue. While interruptions of these types that have occurred in the past have not caused material disruption, it is not possible to predict the type, severity or frequency of interruptions in the future or their impact on our business.

**We may be exposed to employment-related claims, legal liability and costs from clients, employers and regulatory authorities that could adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations, and our insurance coverage may not cover all of our potential liability.**

We are in the business of employing people and placing them in the workplaces of other businesses. Risks relating to these activities include:

- claims of misconduct or negligence on the part of our employees;
- claims by our employees of discrimination or harassment directed at them, including claims relating to actions of our clients;
- claims related to the employment of illegal aliens or unlicensed personnel;
- claims for payment of workers' compensation and other similar claims;
- claims for violations of wage and hour requirements;
- claims for retroactive entitlement to employee benefits;
- claims of errors and omissions of our temporary employees;
- claims by taxing authorities related to our independent contractors and the risk that such contractors could be considered employees for tax purposes;

claims related to our non-compliance with data protection laws, which require the consent of a candidate to transfer resumes and other data; and

claims by our clients relating to our employees' misuse of client proprietary information, misappropriation of funds, other misconduct, criminal activity or similar claims.

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We are exposed to potential claims with respect to the recruitment process. A client could assert a claim for matters such as breach of a blocking arrangement or recommending a candidate who subsequently proves to be unsuitable for the position filled. Similarly, a client could assert a claim for deceptive trade practices on the grounds that we failed to disclose certain referral information about the candidate or misrepresented material information about the candidate. Further, the current employer of a candidate whom we place could file a claim against us alleging interference with an employment contract. In addition, a candidate could assert an action against us for failure to maintain the confidentiality of the candidate's employment search or for alleged discrimination or other violations of employment law by one of our clients.

We may incur fines and other losses or negative publicity with respect to these problems. In addition, some or all of these claims may give rise to litigation, which could be time-consuming to our management team, costly and could have a negative effect on our business. In some cases, we have agreed to indemnify our clients against some or all of these types of liabilities. We cannot assure that we will not experience these problems in the future, that our insurance will cover all claims, or that our insurance coverage will continue to be available at economically-feasible rates.

From time to time, we may continue to incur liabilities associated with certain pre-spin off activities with Monster. Under the terms of our Distribution Agreement with Monster, these liabilities generally will continue to be retained by us. If these liabilities are significant, the retained liabilities could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. However, in some circumstance, we may have claims against Monster, and we will make a determination on a case by case basis.

### **Our ability to utilize net operating loss carry-forwards may be limited.**

The Company has U.S. net operating loss carry-forwards ( NOLs ) that expire through 2031. Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code imposes an annual limitation on a corporation's ability to utilize NOLs if it experiences an ownership change. In general terms, an ownership change may result from transactions increasing the ownership of certain stockholders in the stock of a corporation by more than 50% over a three-year period. The Company has experienced ownership changes in the past. Ownership changes in our stock, some of which are outside of our control, could result in a limitation in our ability to use our NOLs to offset future taxable income, could cause U.S. federal income taxes to be paid earlier than otherwise would be paid if such limitation were not in effect and could cause such NOLs to expire unused, reducing or eliminating the benefit of such NOLs.

### **There may be volatility in our stock price.**

The market price for our common stock has fluctuated in the past and could fluctuate substantially in the future. For example, during 2011, the market price of our common stock reported on the NASDAQ Global Select Market ranged from a high of \$7.11 to a low of \$3.05. Factors such as general macroeconomic conditions adverse to workforce expansion, the announcement of variations in our quarterly financial results or changes in our expected financial results could cause the market price of our common stock to fluctuate significantly. Further, due to the volatility of the stock market generally, the price of our common stock could fluctuate for reasons unrelated to our operating performance.

### **Our future earnings could be reduced as a result of the imposition of licensing or tax requirements or new regulations that prohibit, or restrict certain types of employment services we offer.**

In many jurisdictions in which we operate, the provision of temporary staffing is heavily regulated. For example, governmental regulations can restrict the length of contracts of contract employees and the industries in which they may be used. In some countries, special taxes, fees or costs are imposed in connection with the use of contract

workers.

The countries in which we operate may:

create additional regulations that prohibit or restrict the types of employment services that we currently provide;  
impose new or additional benefit requirements;  
require us to obtain additional licensing to provide staffing services;

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impose new or additional visa restrictions on movements between countries;  
increase taxes, such as sales or value-added taxes, payable by the providers of staffing services;  
increase the number of various tax and compliance audits relating to a variety of regulations, including wage and hour laws, unemployment taxes, workers' compensation, immigration, and income, value-added and sales taxes; or  
revise transfer pricing laws or successfully challenge our transfer prices, which may result in higher foreign taxes or tax liabilities or double taxation of our foreign operations.  
Any future regulations that make it more difficult or expensive for us to continue to provide our staffing services may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

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

Our certificate of incorporation and by-laws and the Delaware General Corporation Law contain several provisions that make more difficult an acquisition of control of us in a transaction not approved by our Board of Directors, including transactions in which stockholders might otherwise receive a premium for their shares over then current prices, and that may limit the ability of stockholders to approve transactions that they may deem to be in their best interests. Our certificate of incorporation and by-laws include provisions:

dividing our Board of Directors into three classes to be elected on a staggered basis, one class each year;  
authorizing our Board of Directors to issue shares of our preferred stock in one or more series without further authorization of our stockholders;  
requiring that stockholders provide advance notice of any stockholder nomination of directors or any proposal of new business to be considered at any meeting of stockholders;  
permitting removal of directors only for cause by a super-majority vote;  
providing that vacancies on our Board of Directors will be filled by the remaining directors then in office;  
requiring that a super-majority vote be obtained to amend or repeal specified provisions of our certificate of incorporation or by-laws; and  
eliminating the right of stockholders to call a special meeting of stockholders or take action by written consent without a meeting of stockholders.

In addition, Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law generally provides that a corporation may not engage in any business combination with any interested stockholder during the three-year period following the time that the stockholder becomes an interested stockholder, unless a majority of the directors then in office approve either the business combination or the transaction that results in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder or specified stockholder approval requirements are met.

In February 2005, our Board of Directors declared a dividend of one preferred share purchase right (a "Right") for each outstanding share of our common stock payable upon the close of business on February 28, 2005 to the stockholders of record on that date. Each Right entitles the registered holder to purchase from us one one-hundredth (1/100<sup>th</sup>) of a share of our Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock ("Preferred Shares") at a price of \$60 per one one-hundredth of a Preferred Share, subject to adjustment. These Rights may make the cost of acquiring us more expensive and, therefore, make an acquisition more difficult.

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**ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS**

None.

**ITEM 2. PROPERTIES**

All of the Company's operating offices are located in leased premises. Our principal executive office is currently located at 560 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York, where we occupy space under a lease expiring in March 2017.

Hudson Americas maintains 24 leased locations with approximately 147,637 aggregate square feet, which include two leased locations with space of approximately 60,000 aggregate square feet, which are shared between the Hudson Americas and corporate functions. Hudson Asia Pacific maintains 18 leased locations with approximately 221,000 aggregate square feet. Hudson Europe maintains 37 leased locations with approximately 301,000 aggregate square feet. All leased space is considered to be adequate for the operation of its business, and no difficulties are foreseen in meeting any future space requirements.

**ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

The Company is involved in various legal proceedings that are incidental to the conduct of its business. The Company is not involved in any pending or threatened legal proceedings that it believes could reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect on its financial condition or results of operations.

**ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES**

Not applicable.

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**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE REGISTRANT**

The following table sets forth certain information, as of February 23, 2012, regarding the executive officers of Hudson Highland Group, Inc.:

| Name                  | Age | Title   |
|-----------------------|-----|---|
| Manuel Marquez Dorsch | 53  | Chairman and Chief Executive Officer  |
| Mary Jane Raymond     | 51  | Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer                            |
| Latham Williams       | 59  | Senior Vice President, Legal Affairs and Administration,<br>Corporate Secretary |
| Frank P. Lanuto       | 49  | Senior Vice President and Corporate Controller                                  |
| Neil J. Funk          | 60  | Vice President, Internal Audit  |
| Richard S. Gray       | 55  | Senior Vice President, Marketing and Communications                             |
| Margaretta R. Noonan  | 54  | Senior Human Resources Officer  |

The following biographies describe the business experience of our executive officers:

Manuel Marquez Dorsch has served as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer since May 13, 2011, with overall responsibility for the Company's growth strategy, operational execution and performance. Mr. Marquez has over 20 years of experience in senior leadership positions. Most recently, from 2007 to 2010, he was the chief executive officer of Amper S.A., a leading defense, homeland security and telecom services company in Spain with approximately 1,200 employees. Prior to joining Amper, Mr. Marquez spent 15 years in the recruitment industry with Spencer Stuart, an international leader in executive search consulting services. He joined Spencer Stuart in 1991 and co-founded one of the firm's first specialized industry practices, High Technology. In 1995, he was asked to lead the European Telecommunications Practice. From 1997 to 2000, he was the Managing Partner responsible for the Spanish market. From 2000 to 2005, he was a member of the global executive team of Spencer Stuart responsible for the firm's operations in Europe, India and South Africa. Mr. Marquez began his professional career at IBM in 1981. He later joined Digital Equipment Corporation in 1989, as marketing and sales director for its Spanish subsidiary.

Mary Jane Raymond has served as the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, which position she has held since joining the Company in December 2005. From February 23, 2011 to May 17, 2011, she also served as Interim Chief Executive Officer. Prior to that, Ms. Raymond was the Chief Risk Officer of The Dun & Bradstreet Corporation during 2005. From 2002 to 2005, Ms. Raymond served as the Vice President and Corporate Controller of the Dun & Bradstreet Corporation. Ms. Raymond served as the Merger Integration Vice President of Lucent Technologies, Inc. from 1998 to 2002 and as Financial Vice President in International from 1997 to 1998. From 1988 to 1997, Ms. Raymond served in various positions with Cummins, Inc.

Latham Williams has served as Senior Vice President, Legal Affairs and Administration, Corporate Secretary since February 2007. Prior to that, Mr. Williams served as Vice President, Legal Affairs and Administration, Corporate Secretary since joining the Company in April 2003. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Williams was a Partner, Leader Diversity Practice Group and Co-Leader Global Legal Practice in Monster's executive search division. Prior to joining Monster in 2001, Mr. Williams was an equity partner with the international law firm of Sidley Austin LLP from 1993 to 2000, specializing in health care joint ventures, mergers and acquisitions. Before joining Sidley Austin, Mr. Williams was an equity partner in the Chicago-based law firm of Gardner, Carton & Douglas (now, Drinker Biddle) and was with the firm from 1981 to 1993.

Frank P. Lanuto has served as Senior Vice President and Corporate Controller since November 9, 2009. Prior to that, Mr. Lanuto served as Vice President and Corporate Controller since he joined the Company in June 2008. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Lanuto served as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Initiative Media Worldwide, a subsidiary of The Interpublic Group of Companies, Inc., from September 2005 to March 2008. Prior to that, Mr. Lanuto served as Chief Financial Officer of Publicis Healthcare Communications, from April 2003 to August 2005. Prior to that, he served as Executive Vice President, Corporate Finance of Bcom3 Group, Inc. from December 2001 to March 2003 and Senior Vice President and Director, Group Financial Reporting of Bcom3 Group from May 2000 to November 2001. Mr.

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Lanuto served in various positions for Omnicom Group Inc. from 1993 to 2000, including Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer of its Rapp Collins Worldwide (New York office) business.

Neil J. Funk has served as Vice President, Internal Audit since joining the Company in August 2003. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Funk was a Senior Manager at Deloitte & Touche LLP, a multi-national auditing and consulting firm, from September 2000 until July 2003. Before joining Deloitte & Touche, Mr. Funk was with Prudential Financial, Inc., a large insurance company, specializing in personal financial planning during 2000. Before joining Prudential Financial, Inc., Mr. Funk was District Audit Manager for PRG-Schultz, Inc., a recovery audit company, based in Atlanta, Georgia from September 1997 until February 2000.

Richard S. Gray has served as Senior Vice President, Marketing and Communications since February 2005. Prior to that, Mr. Gray served as Vice President, Marketing and Communications since joining the Company in May 2003. Mr. Gray will be leaving the Company on March 31, 2012. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Gray was Senior Vice President for Ogilvy Public Relations Worldwide, a large public relations firm, in Chicago, Illinois from September 2002 until May 2003. Before joining Ogilvy Public Relations Worldwide, Mr. Gray was Vice President, Marketing and Communications for Lante Corporation, an internet consulting boutique, in Chicago, Illinois from November 1998 until November 2001.

Margaretta R. Noonan has served as Senior Human Resources Officer since March 3, 2009. Prior to that, Ms. Noonan served as Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer since February 2005. Prior to that Ms. Noonan served as Executive Vice President, Human Resources since she joined the Company in April 2003. Ms. Noonan will be leaving the Company on March 31, 2012. Prior to joining the Company, Ms. Noonan served as Senior Vice President, Global Human Resources and corporate officer of Monster Worldwide, Inc. Prior to joining Monster in 1998, Ms. Noonan was Vice President, Human Resources Stores, for the Lord & Taylor division of May Department Stores Company, a large retail department store, from February 1997 to May 1998 and was Vice President, Human Resources, of Kohl's Corporation, a large retail department store, from November 1992 to February 1997.

Executive officers are elected by, and serve at the discretion of, the Board of Directors. There are no family relationships between any of our directors or executive officers.

TABLE OF CONTENTS**PART II****ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY,  
RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER  
PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES****MARKET FOR COMMON STOCK**

The Company's common stock was listed for trading on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol HHGP in 2011. On December 31, 2011, there were approximately 936 holders of record of the Company's common stock.

The following is a list by fiscal quarter of the market prices of the Company's common stock.

|                | Market Price |         |
|----------------|--------------|---------|
|                | High         | Low     |
| 2011           |              |         |
| Fourth quarter | \$ 5.48      | \$ 3.05 |
| Third quarter  | \$ 6.16      | \$ 3.17 |
| Second quarter | \$ 6.66      | \$ 4.39 |
| First quarter  | \$ 7.11      | \$ 4.87 |
| 2010           |              |         |
| Fourth quarter | \$ 6.01      | \$ 3.30 |
| Third quarter  | \$ 4.81      | \$ 2.93 |
| Second quarter | \$ 6.02      | \$ 4.30 |
| First quarter  | \$ 5.56      | \$ 4.00 |

We have never declared or paid cash dividends on our common stock, and we currently do not intend to declare or pay cash dividends on our common stock. Any payment of cash dividends will depend upon our financial condition, capital requirements, earnings and other factors deemed relevant by our Board of Directors. In addition, the terms of our credit agreement prohibit us from paying dividends and making other distributions.

**ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES**

The Company's purchases of its common stock during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2011 were as follows:

| Period | Total<br>Number<br>of Shares<br>Purchased | Average<br>Price<br>Paid per<br>Share | Total<br>Number of<br>Shares<br>Purchased<br>as Part of<br>Publicly<br>Announced<br>Plans | Approximate<br>Dollar Value<br>of<br>Shares that<br>May<br>Yet Be<br>Purchased<br>Under the |
|--------|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|
|--------|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|

|                  |                                  |       |         | or Programs | Plans or<br>Programs <sup>(a)</sup> |
|------------------|----------------------------------|-------|---------|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| October 1, 2011  | October 31, 2011 <sup>(b)</sup>  | 5,200 | \$ 4.18 |             | \$ 6,792,000                        |
| November 1, 2011 | November 30, 2011 <sup>(b)</sup> | 394   | \$ 4.17 |             | \$ 6,792,000                        |
| December 1, 2011 | December 31, 2011 <sup>(b)</sup> | 2,600 | \$ 4.71 |             | \$ 6,792,000                        |
| Total            |                                  | 8,194 | \$ 4.35 |             | \$ 6,792,000                        |

(a) On February 4, 2008, the Company announced that its Board of Directors authorized the repurchase of a maximum of \$15 million of the Company's common stock. The Company has repurchased 1,491,772 shares for a total cost of approximately \$8.2 million under this authorization. Repurchases of common stock are restricted under the Company's revolver agreement entered on August 5, 2010, as amended on February 22, 2012.

(b) Consisted of shares of restricted stock withheld from employees upon the vesting of such shares to satisfy employees' income tax withholding requirements.

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The following information in this Item 5 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K is not deemed to be soliciting material or to be filed with the SEC or subject to Regulation 14A or 14C under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or to the liabilities of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and will not be deemed to be incorporated by reference into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933 or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, except to the extent we specifically incorporate it by reference into such a filing.

**PERFORMANCE INFORMATION**

The following graph compares on a cumulative basis changes since December 31, 2006 in (a) the total stockholder return on the Company's common stock with (b) the total return on the Russell 2000 Index and (c) the total return on the companies in a peer group selected in good faith by the Company, in each case assuming reinvestment of dividends. Such changes have been measured by dividing (a) the difference between the price per share at the end of and the beginning of the measurement period by (b) the price per share at the beginning of the measurement period. The graph assumes \$100 was invested on December 31, 2006 in the Company's common stock, the Russell 2000 Index and the peer group consisting of Resources Connection, Inc., Kelly Services, Inc., Kforce, Inc., and CDI Corporation. The returns of each component company in the peer group have been weighted based on each company's relative market capitalization on December 31, 2011.

|                    | December 31, |          |          |          |          |          |
|--------------------|--------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|                    | 2006         | 2007     | 2008     | 2009     | 2010     | 2011     |
| HHGP               | \$ 100.00    | \$ 50.42 | \$ 20.08 | \$ 28.48 | \$ 34.95 | \$ 28.72 |
| RUSSELL 2000 INDEX | \$ 100.00    | \$ 97.25 | \$ 63.41 | \$ 79.40 | \$ 99.49 | \$ 94.07 |
| PEER GROUP         | \$ 100.00    | \$ 72.16 | \$ 53.04 | \$ 67.48 | \$ 84.01 | \$ 60.05 |

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The following table shows selected financial data of the Company that has been adjusted to reflect the classification of certain businesses as discontinued operations. The data has been derived from, and should be read together with, the Consolidated Financial Statements and corresponding notes and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations included in Items 7 and 8 of this Form 10-K.

|   | Year ended December 31,                       |            |            |             |             |
|---|---|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
|   | 2011  | 2010       | 2009       | 2008        | 2007        |
|   | (dollars in thousands, except per share data) |            |            |             |             |
| <b>SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS:</b>                                   |   |            |            |             |             |
| Revenue   | \$933,736                                     | \$794,542  | \$691,149  | \$1,079,085 | \$1,170,061 |
| Gross margin  | \$354,305                                     | \$298,573  | \$260,453  | \$454,986   | \$496,440   |
| Business reorganization and integration expense                 | \$720   | \$1,694    | \$18,180   | \$11,217    | \$3,575     |
| Goodwill and other impairment charges <sup>(a)</sup>            | \$  | \$         | \$1,549    | \$67,087    | \$          |
| Depreciation and amortization                                   | \$6,251                                       | \$8,184    | \$12,543   | \$14,662    | \$14,377    |
| Operating income (loss)   | \$17,435                                      | \$(5,618)  | \$(49,453) | \$(70,783)  | \$18,995    |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations                        | \$10,909                                      | \$(4,441)  | \$(42,953) | \$(73,096)  | \$5,528     |
| Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income taxes | \$  | \$(244)    | \$2,344    | \$(1,222)   | \$9,453     |
| Net income (loss)   | \$10,909                                      | \$(4,685)  | \$(40,609) | \$(74,318)  | \$14,981    |
| Basic income (loss) per share from continuing operations        | \$0.35  | \$(0.15)   | \$(1.65)   | \$(2.90)    | \$0.22      |
| Basic net income (loss) per share                               | \$0.35  | \$(0.16)   | \$(1.56)   | \$(2.95)    | \$0.59      |
| Diluted income (loss) per share from continuing operations      | \$0.34  | \$(0.15)   | \$(1.65)   | \$(2.90)    | \$0.21      |
| Diluted net income (loss) per share                             | \$0.34  | \$(0.16)   | \$(1.56)   | \$(2.95)    | \$0.58      |
| <b>OTHER FINANCIAL DATA:</b>                                    |   |            |            |             |             |
| Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities             | \$13,279                                      | \$(14,461) | \$(26,988) | \$11,860    | \$37,741    |
| Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities             | \$(6,467)                                     | \$(57)     | \$6,804    | \$4,196     | \$(50,837)  |
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities             | \$1,640                                       | \$7,578    | \$4,371    | \$(646)     | \$4,864     |
| <b>BALANCE SHEET DATA:</b>                                      |   |            |            |             |             |
| Current assets  | \$181,923                                     | \$172,087  | \$148,366  | \$194,149   | \$259,075   |
| Total assets  | \$216,546                                     | \$205,834  | \$181,944  | \$230,953   | \$374,206   |
| Current liabilities   | \$90,515                                      | \$93,760   | \$86,154   | \$104,581   | \$152,426   |
| Total stockholders' equity                                      | \$107,357                                     | \$93,278   | \$76,260   | \$107,992   | \$200,115   |
| <b>OTHER DATA:</b>  |   |            |            |             |             |
| EBITDA (loss) <sup>(b)</sup>                                    | \$23,642                                      | \$6,503    | \$(35,466) | \$(52,852)  | \$36,795    |

(a) The results for the year ended December 31, 2009 included an impairment charge of \$1,669 related to goodwill associated with the Tong Zhi (Beijing) Consulting Service Ltd. and Guangzhou Dong Li Consulting Service Ltd. (collectively, TKA) acquisition. The results for the year ended December 31, 2008 included impairment charges

related to goodwill of \$64,495, a write down of long-term assets of \$2,224 and impairment charges related to intangible assets of \$368.

SEC Regulation S-K 229.10(e)1(ii)(A) defines EBITDA as earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization. EBITDA is presented to provide additional information to investors about the Company's operations on a basis consistent with the measures that the Company uses to manage its operations and evaluate its (b) performance. Management also uses this measurement to evaluate working capital requirements. EBITDA should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for operating income and net income prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles or as a measure of the Company's profitability. See Note 15 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further EBITDA segment and reconciliation information.

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## ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

*This Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations ( MD&A ) should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and the notes thereto included in Item 8 of this Form 10-K. This MD&A contains forward-looking statements. Please see Regarding Forward-Looking Statements for a discussion of the uncertainties, risks and assumptions associated with these statements. This MD&A also uses the non-GAAP measure of earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization ( EBITDA ). See Note 15 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for EBITDA segment reconciliation information.*

This MD&A includes the following sections:

Executive Overview  
Results of Operations  
Liquidity and Capital Resources  
Critical Accounting Policies  
Recent Accounting Pronouncements

### Executive Overview

The Company has expertise in recruiting mid-level professional talent across all management disciplines in a wide range of industries. We match clients and candidates to address major client needs on a part time, full time, and interim basis. Part of that expertise is derived from research on hiring trends and clients' current successes and challenges with their staff. This research has helped enhance our understanding about the number of new hires that do not meet our clients' long term goals, the reasons why, and the cost to organizations. Our focus is to continually upgrade our service offerings, delivery capability and assessment tools to make our candidates more successful in achieving our clients' business requirements.

Over the past year, the Company has shifted and refined its focus from a traditional staffing vendor to providing solutions as a trusted business advisor and partner to both clients and candidates. The Company's proprietary frameworks, assessment tools and leadership development programs, coupled with our broad geographical footprint, has allowed us to design and implement regional and global recruitment solutions that greatly enhance the quality of hiring.

The Company's strategic initiatives for the near term include:

Leveraging the value of our global business as exemplified by the launch of the global practices in Legal eDiscovery and RPO.

Attracting, developing and retaining the right people to increase productivity and profitability.

Focusing on selected clients and services to provide higher value recruitment solutions to their businesses.  
Create a compelling digital presence to help attract both highly skilled candidates and new clients to grow our business.

### Current Market Conditions

Revenues in the fourth quarter of 2011 were essentially flat (growth of 1.7 percent) compared with the comparable period in 2010. The slowing in the rate of growth compared to earlier periods in the year was caused by several factors, including significantly lesser hiring in the banking sector due to persistent issues with European sovereign

debt, candidates' reluctance to move, and overall delays in client decision making.

These conditions and the swift economic slow down during the fourth quarter could give rise to longer periods of lesser growth. In addition, if the debt crisis in Europe is not resolved timely or if it spreads to other markets, the value of the Euro could deteriorate, which could negatively impact our business, operating results and financial condition. Notwithstanding these risks, our clients will continue to need the type of people in which we specialize, those able to advance the client's strategy regardless of economic conditions.

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**Financial Performance**

The following is a summary of the highlights for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009. These should be considered in the context of the additional discussion and disclosures in this MD&A.

Revenue was \$933.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, compared to \$794.5 million for 2010, an increase of \$139.2 million, or 17.5%. On a constant currency basis, the Company's revenue increased \$91.9 million or 10.9%. Of this increase, \$74.0 million, or a 12.0% increase compared to 2010, was in contracting and \$19.1 million, or an 11.2% increase compared to 2010, was in permanent recruitment revenue. Legal eDiscovery accounted for approximately 46% of the \$74.0 million increase in contracting revenue in 2011. RPO accounted for approximately 46% of the \$19.1 million increase in permanent recruitment revenue in 2011.

Revenue was \$794.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, compared to \$691.1 million for 2009, an increase of \$103.4 million, or 15.0%. On a constant currency basis, the Company's revenue increased \$71.9 million or 10.0%.

Of this increase, \$37.9 million, or a 6.9% increase compared to 2009, was in contracting and \$40.1 million, or a 33.6% increase compared to 2009, was in permanent recruitment revenue. The increase was partially offset by a \$6.1 million, or 12.3%, decline in talent management revenue compared to 2009 primarily from counter-cyclical outplacement services.

Gross margin was \$354.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, compared to \$298.6 million for 2010, an increase of \$55.7 million, or 18.7%. On a constant currency basis, the Company's gross margin increased \$37.5 million or 11.9%. Of this increase, \$19.8 million, or an 18.3% increase compared to 2010, was in contracting gross margin and \$18.4 million, or a 11.0% increase compared to 2010, was in permanent recruitment gross margin.

Gross margin was \$298.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, compared to \$260.5 million for 2009, an increase of \$38.1 million, or 14.6%. On a constant currency basis, the Company's gross margin increased \$28.8 million or 10.7%. Of this increase, \$38.7 million, or a 32.8% increase compared to 2009, was in permanent recruitment gross margin. The increase was partially offset by a \$5.7 million, or 13.5%, decline in talent management gross margin compared to 2009 and a \$3.7 million or 3.5% decline in contracting gross margin compared to 2009.

Selling, general and administrative expenses and other non-operating income (expense) ( SG&A and Non-Op ) were \$329.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to \$289.8 million for 2010, an increase of \$40.1 million, or 13.8%. On a constant currency basis, the Company's SG&A and Non-Op increased \$22.8 million or 7.4%. SG&A and Non-Op, as a percentage of revenue, was 35.3% for the year ended December 31, 2011 as compared to 36.5% in 2010.

SG&A and Non-Op was \$289.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to \$276.2 million for 2009, an increase of \$13.6 million, or 4.9%. On a constant currency basis, the Company's SG&A and Non-Op increased less than \$4.2 million or 1.5%. SG&A and Non-Op, as a percentage of revenue, was 36.5% for the year ended December 31, 2010 as compared to 39.5% for 2009.

Net income was \$10.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to a net loss of \$4.7 million for 2010. On a constant currency basis, the Company's net income increased \$16.0 million.

Net loss was \$4.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to a net loss of \$40.6 million for 2009. On a constant currency basis, the Company's net loss decreased \$37.2 million.

EBITDA was \$23.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to \$6.5 million for 2010. On a constant currency basis, the Company's EBITDA increased \$16.3 million.

EBITDA was \$6.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to an EBITDA loss of \$35.5 million for 2009. On a constant currency basis, the Company's EBITDA increased \$42.6 million.



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The Company operates on a global basis, with the majority of its gross margin generated outside of the U.S. Accordingly, fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates can affect our results of operations. For the discussion of reportable segment results of operations, the Company uses constant currency information. Constant currency compares financial results between periods as if exchange rates had remained constant period-over-period. The Company defines the term constant currency to mean that financial data for a previously reported period are translated into U.S. dollars using the same foreign currency exchange rates that were used to translate financial data for the current period. The Company's management reviews and analyzes business results in constant currency and believes these results better represent the Company's underlying business trends. Changes in foreign currency exchange rates generally impact only reported earnings.

Changes in revenue, gross margin, selling, general and administrative expenses and other non-operating income (expense), operating income (loss), net income (loss) and EBITDA (loss) include the effect of changes in foreign currency exchange rates. The tables below summarize the impact of foreign currency exchange adjustments on the Company's operating results for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009.

| \$ in thousands  | Year Ended December 31, |           |                      |                   | 2009        |                      |                   |  |
|--|-------------------------|-----------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------------|--|
|  | 2011                    | 2010      | Currency translation | Constant currency | As reported | Currency translation | Constant currency |  |
| <b>Revenue:</b>  |                         |           |                      |                   |             |                      |                   |  |
| Hudson Americas  | \$192,217               | \$162,432 | \$34                 | \$162,466         | \$161,872   | \$190                | \$162,062         |  |
| Hudson Asia Pacific  | 359,108                 | 303,619   | 33,731               | 337,350           | 252,302     | 37,966               | 290,268           |  |
| Hudson Europe  | 382,411                 | \$328,491 | 13,502               | 341,993           | 276,975     | (6,704)              | 270,271           |  |
| Total  | \$933,736               | \$794,542 | \$47,267             | \$841,809         | \$691,149   | \$31,452             | \$722,601         |  |
| <b>Gross margin:</b>   |                         |           |                      |                   |             |                      |                   |  |
| Hudson Americas  | \$50,778                | \$39,417  | \$34                 | \$39,451          | \$40,959    | \$175                | \$41,134          |  |
| Hudson Asia Pacific  | 146,917                 | 121,965   | 12,187               | 134,152           | 95,332      | 12,648               | 107,980           |  |
| Hudson Europe  | 156,610                 | 137,191   | 5,967                | 143,158           | 124,162     | (3,454)              | 120,708           |  |
| Total  | \$354,305               | \$298,573 | \$18,188             | \$316,761         | \$260,453   | \$9,369              | \$269,822         |  |
| <b>Selling, general and administrative expenses ( SG&amp;A ) and other non-operating income (expense):</b> |                         |           |                      |                   |             |                      |                   |  |
| Hudson Americas  | \$47,306                | \$37,308  | \$46                 | \$37,354          | \$47,310    | \$173                | \$47,483          |  |
| Hudson Asia Pacific  | 132,653                 | 113,134   | 11,331               | 124,465           | 91,241      | 12,282               | 103,523           |  |
| Hudson Europe  | 147,919                 | 134,817   | 5,928                | 140,745           | 124,270     | (3,018)              | 121,252           |  |
| Corporate  | 2,065                   | 4,554     |                      | 4,554             | 13,369      |                      | 13,369            |  |
| Total  | \$329,943               | \$289,813 | \$17,305             | \$307,118         | \$276,190   | \$9,437              | \$285,627         |  |
| <b>Operating income (loss):</b>  |                         |           |                      |                   |             |                      |                   |  |
| Hudson Americas  | \$5,351                 | \$(2,499) | \$(10)               | \$(2,509)         | \$(14,999)  | \$(51)               | \$(15,050)        |  |
| Hudson Asia Pacific  | 18,384                  | 10,822    | 850                  | 11,672            | (4,294)     | (903)                | (5,197)           |  |
| Hudson Europe  | 14,156                  | 5,050     | 308                  | 5,358             | (12,813)    | (288)                | (13,101)          |  |
| Corporate  | (20,456)                | (18,991)  |                      | (18,991)          | (17,347)    |                      | (17,347)          |  |
| Total  | \$17,435                | \$(5,618) | \$1,148              | \$(4,470)         | \$(49,453)  | \$(1,242)            | \$(50,695)        |  |
| Net income (loss), consolidated  | \$10,909                | \$(4,685) | \$(413)              | \$(5,098)         | \$(40,609)  | \$(1,294)            | \$(41,903)        |  |
| <b>EBITDA (loss)<sup>(b)</sup>:</b>  |                         |           |                      |                   |             |                      |                   |  |

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|                     |          |          |         |          |             |          |             |
|---------------------|----------|----------|---------|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|
| Hudson Americas     | \$3,482  | \$1,687  | \$(25 ) | \$1,662  | \$(11,349 ) | \$4      | \$(11,345 ) |
| Hudson Asia Pacific | 14,180   | 8,847    | 860     | 9,707    | (825 )      | (438 )   | (1,263 )    |
| Hudson Europe       | 8,071    | 1,086    | (4 )    | 1,082    | (9,787 )    | (154 )   | (9,941 )    |
| Corporate           | (2,091 ) | (5,117 ) | (1 )    | (5,118 ) | (13,505 )   |          | (13,505 )   |
| Total               | \$23,642 | \$6,503  | \$830   | \$7,333  | \$(35,466 ) | \$(588 ) | \$(36,054 ) |

- (a) SG&A and other non-operating income (expense) is a measure that the management uses to evaluate the segments expenses, which include the following captions on the Consolidated Statements of Operations: salaries and related, office and general, marketing and promotion and other income (expense), net. Corporate management service allocations are included in the segments other income (expense).
- (b) See EBITDA reconciliation in the following section.

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Management believes EBITDA is a meaningful indicator of the Company's performance that provides useful information to investors regarding the Company's financial condition and results of operations. EBITDA is also considered by management as the best indicator of operating performance and most comparable measure across the regions in which we operate. Management also uses this measurement to evaluate capital needs and working capital requirements. EBITDA should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for operating income, or net income prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America ( GAAP ) or as a measure of the Company's profitability. EBITDA is derived from net income (loss) adjusted for the provision for (benefit from) for income taxes, interest expense (income), and depreciation and amortization. The reconciliation of EBITDA to the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure is provided in the table below:

| \$ in thousands  | Year Ended December 31, |            |             |
|--|-------------------------|------------|-------------|
|  | 2011                    | 2010       | 2009        |
| Net income (loss)  | \$ 10,909               | \$(4,685 ) | \$(40,609 ) |
| Adjusted for income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income taxes     |                         | (244 )     | 2,344       |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations   | 10,909                  | (4,441 )   | (42,953 )   |
| <u>Adjustments to income (loss) from continuing operations</u>                   |                         |            |             |
| Provision for (benefit from) income taxes  | 5,339                   | 1,482      | (5,750 )    |
| Interest expense, net  | 1,143                   | 1,278      | 694         |
| Depreciation and amortization expense  | 6,251                   | 8,184      | 12,543      |
| Total adjustments from income (loss) from continuing operations to EBITDA (loss) | 12,733                  | 10,944     | 7,487       |
| EBITDA (loss)  | \$23,642                | \$6,503    | \$(35,466 ) |

TABLE OF CONTENTS**Temporary Contracting Data**

The following table sets forth the Company's temporary contracting revenue, temporary contracting gross margin, and gross margin as a percentage of revenue for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009. See Note 15 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for segment and reconciliation information.

| \$ in thousands   | Year Ended December 31, |           |                      |                   | 2009        |                      |                   |  |
|---|-------------------------|-----------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------------|--|
|   | 2011                    | 2010      | Currency translation | Constant currency | As reported | Currency translation | Constant currency |  |
| <b>TEMPORARY CONTRACTING DATA<sup>(a)</sup>:</b>                                  |                         |           |                      |                   |             |                      |                   |  |
| Temporary contracting revenue:  |                         |           |                      |                   |             |                      |                   |  |
| Hudson Americas   | \$181,272               | \$156,961 | \$1                  | \$156,962         | \$156,435   | \$22                 | \$156,457         |  |
| Hudson Asia Pacific   | 244,562                 | 208,267   | 24,695               | 232,962           | 182,632     | 29,627               | 212,259           |  |
| Hudson Europe   | 266,831                 | 220,093   | 8,634                | 228,727           | 182,713     | (4,024 )             | 178,689           |  |
| Total   | \$692,665               | \$585,321 | \$33,330             | \$618,651         | \$521,780   | \$25,625             | \$547,405         |  |
| Temporary contracting gross margin:   |                         |           |                      |                   |             |                      |                   |  |
| Hudson Americas   | \$40,202                | \$33,870  | \$2                  | \$33,872          | \$35,555    | \$5                  | \$35,560          |  |
| Hudson Asia Pacific   | 37,642                  | 32,168    | 3,754                | 35,922            | 29,635      | 4,880                | 34,515            |  |
| Hudson Europe   | 50,359                  | 37,108    | 1,510                | 38,618            | 37,601      | (840 )               | 36,761            |  |
| Total   | \$128,203               | \$103,146 | \$5,266              | \$108,412         | \$102,791   | \$4,045              | \$106,836         |  |
| Temporary contracting gross margin as a percent of temporary contracting revenue: |                         |           |                      |                   |             |                      |                   |  |
| Hudson Americas   | 22.18 %                 | 21.58 %   | N/A                  | 21.58 %           | 22.73 %     | N/A                  | 22.73 %           |  |
| Hudson Asia Pacific   | 15.39 %                 | 15.45 %   | N/A                  | 15.42 %           | 16.23 %     | N/A                  | 16.26 %           |  |
| Hudson Europe   | 18.87 %                 | 16.86 %   | N/A                  | 16.88 %           | 20.58 %     | N/A                  | 20.57 %           |  |
| Total   | 18.51 %                 | 17.62 %   | N/A                  | 17.52 %           | 19.70 %     | N/A                  | 19.52 %           |  |

Temporary contracting gross margin and gross margin as a percent of revenue are shown to provide additional information on the Company's ability to manage its cost structure and provide further comparability relative to the (a) Company's peers. Temporary contracting gross margin is derived by deducting the direct costs of temporary contracting from temporary contracting revenue. The Company's calculation of gross margin may differ from those of other companies.

**Results of Operations**

**The Year Ended December 31, 2011 Compared to the Year Ended December 31, 2010 and the Year Ended December 31, 2010 Compared to the Year Ended December 31, 2009**

*Hudson Americas (reported currency)*

## Revenue

|                         | Year Ended December 31, |             |             |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|                         | 2011                    | 2010        | 2009        |
| \$ in millions          | As reported             | As reported | As reported |
| Hudson Americas Revenue | \$ 192.2                | \$ 162.4    | \$ 161.9    |

Revenue was \$192.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to \$162.4 million for 2010, an increase of \$29.8 million or 18.3%. Contracting and permanent recruitment revenue increased \$24.3 million and \$5.5 million or 15.5% and 100.6%, respectively. Contracting revenue represented approximately 94% of Hudson Americas 2011 revenue. The increase in revenue reflected the Company's sale of higher-value recruitment services and solutions to new and existing clients.

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Contracting revenue in Legal, the segment's largest practice, increased \$24.2 million or 22.3%, primarily due to the eDiscovery offering, which provides information management solutions for large, complex transaction and regulatory actions. RPO, which allows clients to transfer all or part of their recruitment process to Hudson, accounted for the increase in permanent recruitment revenue. The revenue increase in this practice featured new client wins and achievement of incentive levels with certain existing clients.

Revenue was \$162.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to \$161.9 million for 2009, an increase of \$0.6 million or 0.3%. Of this increase, \$0.5 million or 0.3% was in contracting revenue. Permanent recruitment revenue remained flat as compared to 2009. Contracting revenue represents substantially all of Hudson Americas' 2010 revenue.

Revenue in Legal, the segment's largest practice, increased \$12.4 million or 12.8% and was due to projects resuming in litigation and antitrust, partially offset by lower average bill rates. The increase was partially offset by other contracting, which declined \$11.9 million or 19.8%. The decline in other contracting was largely driven by Financial Solutions due to a lack of a meaningful recovery in this practice and lower bill rates. IT contracting revenue declined slightly compared to 2009 but showed growth in the latter part of 2010 as demand for IT services improved.

**Gross margin**

| \$ in millions  | Year Ended December 31, |             |             |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|   | 2011                    | 2010        | 2009        |
|   | As reported             | As reported | As reported |
| Hudson Americas   |                         |             |             |
| Gross margin  | \$ 50.8                 | \$ 39.4     | \$ 41.0     |
| Gross margin as a % of revenue                                | 26.4 %                  | 24.3 %      | 25.3 %      |
| Contracting gross margin as a percent of contracting revenue: | 22.2 %                  | 21.6 %      | 22.7 %      |

Gross margin was \$50.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to \$39.4 million for 2010, an increase of \$11.4 million or 28.8%. Contracting and permanent recruitment gross margins increased \$6.3 million and \$5.1 million or 18.7% and 94.7%, respectively, as compared to 2010.

Almost the entire \$6.3 million increase in contracting gross margin was in Legal and was driven principally by eDiscovery as noted above. Almost the entire \$5.1 million increase in permanent recruitment gross margin was attributable to RPO as noted above.

Contracting gross margin as a percentage of revenue was 22.2% for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to 21.6% for 2010. The increase was driven by the higher margins in Legal eDiscovery. Total gross margin as a percentage of revenue increased to 26.4% from 24.3% in 2010 and resulted from the significant growth in RPO as well as the higher contracting gross margin as described above.

Gross margin was \$39.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to \$41.0 million for 2009, a decrease of \$1.5 million or 3.8%. Gross margin from permanent recruitment was flat as compared to 2009 with the entire gross margin decline occurring in contracting. The decline in contracting gross margin resulted from a change in mix, driven by lower margin Legal Services, which represented a greater proportion of the revenue as demand for higher margin Financial Solutions lagged.

Contracting gross margin as a percentage of contracting revenue was 21.6% as compared to 22.7% for 2009. The decrease was due to a mix shift toward Legal Services, which has lower average gross margins compared to Financial Solutions and IT contracting. Total gross margin, as a percentage of total revenue, was 24.3% compared to 25.3% for 2009, and the decrease was primarily due to the contracting gross margin percentage.

TABLE OF CONTENTS**Selling, general and administrative expenses and non-operating income (expenses)**

| \$ in millions  | Year Ended December 31, |                     |                     |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|   | 2011<br>As reported     | 2010<br>As reported | 2009<br>As reported |
| Hudson Americas   |                         |                     |                     |
| SG&A and other non-operating income (expense)                   | \$ 47.3                 | \$ 37.3             | \$ 47.3             |
| SG&A and other non-operating income (expense) as a % of revenue | 24.6 %                  | 23.0 %              | 29.2 %              |

SG&A and non-operating income (expense) was \$47.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2011 as compared to \$37.3 million for 2010, an increase of \$10.0 million or 26.7%. The increase was primarily due to greater staff compensation resulting from the higher gross margin, which increased 28.8%. SG&A and non-operating income (expense), as a percentage of revenue, was 24.6% as compared to 23.0% for 2010. The increase resulted from the non-recurrence of approximately \$3.9 million in gains from the collection of a note receivable, sale of warrants and recovery for unclaimed property. Excluding these gains, SG&A and non-operating income (expense) as a percentage of revenue was nearly flat as compared to 2010.

SG&A and non-operating income (expense) was \$37.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to \$47.3 million for 2009, a decrease of \$10.0 million or 21.1%. The decrease was primarily due to savings from the restructuring program completed in 2009, lower reorganization expenses and the realization of proceeds from the sale of warrants and settlement of a note receivable in connection with the sale of ETS division. SG&A and non-operating income (expense), as a percentage of revenue, was 23.0% as compared to 29.2% for 2009.

**Operating Income and EBITDA**

| \$ in millions                  | Year Ended December 31, |                     |                     |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|                                 | 2011<br>As reported     | 2010<br>As reported | 2009<br>As reported |
| Hudson Americas                 |                         |                     |                     |
| Operating income (loss):        | \$ 5.4                  | \$ (2.5 )           | \$ (15.0 )          |
| EBITDA (loss)                   | \$ 3.5                  | \$ 1.7              | \$ (11.3 )          |
| EBITDA (loss) as a % of revenue | 1.8 %                   | 1.0 %               | -7.0 %              |

EBITDA was \$3.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to \$1.7 million for 2010, an increase of \$1.8 million. EBITDA, as a percentage of revenue, was 1.8% as compared to 1.0% for 2010. The increase in EBITDA was primarily due to the growth in gross margin.

Operating income was \$5.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, compared to an operating loss of \$2.5 million for 2010, an increase in operating income of \$7.9 million. Operating income, as a percentage of revenue, was 2.8% for the year ended December 31, 2011, compared to an operating loss of 1.5% for 2010. The increase in operating income was primarily due to the factors affecting EBITDA.

EBITDA was \$1.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, compared to an EBITDA loss of \$11.3 million for 2009, an increase in EBITDA of \$13.0 million. EBITDA, as a percentage of revenue, was 1.0% for the year ended December 31, 2010, compared to an EBITDA loss as a percentage of revenue of 7.0% for 2009. The increase in EBITDA was primarily due to savings resulting largely from the prior years restructuring initiatives and gains from recovery of a note receivable, unclaimed property and sale of warrants in 2010.

Operating loss was \$2.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, compared to an operating loss of \$15.0 million for 2009, a decrease in operating loss of \$12.5 million. Operating loss, as a percentage of revenue, was 1.5% for the year ended December 31, 2010, compared to 9.3% for 2009.

TABLE OF CONTENTS*Hudson Asia Pacific (constant currency)***Revenue**

| \$ in millions              | Year Ended December 31, |             |                   |             |                   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|
|                             | 2011                    | 2010        |                   | 2009        |                   |
|                             | As reported             | As reported | Constant currency | As reported | Constant currency |
| Hudson Asia Pacific Revenue | \$ 359.1                | \$ 303.6    | \$ 337.4          | \$ 252.3    | \$ 290.3          |

Revenue was \$359.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to \$337.4 million for 2010, an increase of \$21.8 million or 6.4%. Permanent recruitment and contracting revenue accounted for the vast majority of the region's revenue, which grew \$12.2 million and \$11.6 million or 13.9% and 5.0%, respectively. Talent management revenue decreased \$1.6 million or 11.9% as compared to 2010.

Australia accounted for the vast majority of the increase, which was principally driven by growth in permanent recruitment and contracting revenue of \$11.6 million and \$6.7 million, or 24.0% and 3.4%, respectively. The increase in permanent recruitment revenue was led by RPO, which accounted for nearly one third of the growth, followed by the accounting & finance and IT&T practices. The revenue increase in contracting was led by the natural resources sector, which benefited almost all of our practices, particularly accounting & finance and marketing. In Mainland China, permanent recruitment revenue increased \$3.4 million or 22.1%, primarily in our industrial practice.

Revenue was \$303.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to \$290.3 million for 2009, an increase of \$13.4 million or 4.6%. Permanent recruitment revenue increased \$23.3 million or 40.4%. Talent management and contracting revenue decreased \$6.0 million and \$4.0 million, or 33.7% and 1.9%, respectively, as compared to 2009.

Australia and Mainland China accounted for the majority of the revenue increase, driven principally by permanent recruitment, with \$12.0 million or 38.3% in Australia and \$5.6 million or 60.8% in Mainland China. The increase in permanent recruitment revenue was driven by RPO and services in the natural resource sector. Talent management revenue decreased in Australia due to lesser outplacement services as the economy improved. The entire decline in contracting revenue was in Australia, where clients focused more on permanent hiring following the 2009 economic slowdown.

**Gross margin**

| \$ in millions  | Year Ended December 31, |             |                   |             |                   |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|
|   | 2011                    | 2010        |                   | 2009        |                   |
|   | As reported             | As reported | Constant currency | As reported | Constant currency |
| Hudson Asia Pacific Gross margin                              | \$ 146.9                | \$ 122.0    | \$ 134.2          | \$ 95.3     | \$ 108.0          |
| Gross margin as a % of revenue                                | 40.9 %                  | 40.2 %      | 39.8 %            | 37.8 %      | 37.2 %            |
| Contracting gross margin as a percent of contracting revenue: | 15.4 %                  | 15.4 %      | 15.4 %            | 16.2 %      | 16.3 %            |

Gross margin was \$146.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to \$134.2 million for 2010, an increase of \$12.8 million or 9.5%. Permanent recruitment and contracting gross margins grew \$12.1 million and \$1.7 million or 13.9% and 4.8%, respectively.

Australia accounted for the vast majority of the increase, with \$11.3 million in permanent recruitment and \$0.7 million in contracting, or 23.8% and 2.3%, respectively. RPO led the increase in permanent recruitment gross margin and accounted for nearly half the growth, followed by the accounting & finance and IT&T practices. The gross margin increase in contracting was led by the accounting and finance and engineering practices. In Mainland China, permanent recruitment gross margin increased \$3.5 million or 23.0%, primarily in the industrial practice.

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Contracting gross margin, as a percentage of revenue, was flat at 15.4% for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010. Total gross margin, as a percentage of revenue, was 40.9% compared to 39.8% for 2010 and resulted principally from the higher mix in permanent recruitment revenue.

Gross margin was \$122.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to \$108.0 million for 2009, an increase of \$14.0 million or 13.0%. Permanent recruitment gross margin increased \$22.3 million or 38.8%. Talent management and contracting gross margins decreased \$5.8 million and \$2.3 million, or 38.4% and 6.8%, respectively, as compared to 2009.

Australia and Mainland China accounted for the majority of the gross margin increase, driven principally by permanent recruitment, with \$11.3 million or 35.9% in Australia and \$5.5 million or 59.6% in Mainland China. The increase in permanent recruitment gross margin was due to the same reasons as discussed above with respect to revenue. Gross margin in talent management declined primarily due to lower demand for outplacement services as the economy recovered. Contracting gross margin declined primarily due to fewer contractors on billing and a shift in mix between office support and professional contract projects.

Contracting gross margin, as a percentage of revenue, was 15.5% compared to 16.2% for 2009, with the decrease in contracting gross margin percentage due principally to the shift in mix to lower margin business and pricing pressure. Total gross margin, as a percentage of total revenue, was 40.2% compared to 37.2% for 2009, with the increase primarily attributable to the proportionately greater increase in permanent recruitment revenue in 2010.

### **Selling, general and administrative expenses and non-operating income (expenses)**

|   | Year Ended December 31, |             |                   |             |                   |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|
|   | 2011                    | 2010        | 2009              |             |                   |
| \$ in millions  | As reported             | As reported | Constant currency | As reported | Constant currency |
| Hudson Asia Pacific SG&A and other non-operating income (expense)                   | \$ 132.7                | \$ 113.1    | \$ 124.5          | \$ 91.2     | \$ 103.5          |
| Hudson Asia Pacific SG&A and other non-operating income (expense) as a % of revenue | 36.9 %                  | 37.3 %      | 36.9 %            | 36.2 %      | 35.7 %            |

SG&A and non-operating income (expense) was \$132.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2011 as compared to \$124.5 million for 2010, an increase of \$8.2 million or 6.6%. The increase was primarily due to the salaries and costs related to the higher gross margin of 9.5% and higher corporate management fees. SG&A and non-operating income (expense), as a percentage of revenue, was flat at 36.9% for 2011 and 2010.

SG&A and non-operating income (expense) was \$113.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 as compared to \$103.5 million for the 2009, an increase of \$9.6 million or 9.3%. The increase was primarily due to increased staff to support the revenue demand and higher corporate management fees. SG&A and non-operating income (expense), as a percentage of revenue, was 37.3% in 2010 as compared to 35.7% in 2009.

## Operating Income and EBITDA

| \$ in millions                  | Year Ended December 31, |          |          |           |           |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
|                                 | 2011                    | 2010     | Constant | 2009      | Constant  |
|                                 | As                      | As       | currency | As        | Constant  |
|                                 | reported                | reported | reported | reported  | currency  |
| <b>Hudson Asia Pacific</b>      |                         |          |          |           |           |
| Operating income (loss):        | \$ 18.4                 | \$ 10.8  | \$ 11.7  | \$ (4.3 ) | \$ (5.2 ) |
| EBITDA (loss)                   | \$ 14.2                 | \$ 8.8   | \$ 9.7   | \$ (0.8 ) | \$ (1.3 ) |
| EBITDA (loss) as a % of revenue | 3.9 %                   | 2.9 %    | 2.9 %    | -0.3 %    | -0.4 %    |

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EBITDA was \$14.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to \$9.7 million for 2010, an increase of \$4.5 million. EBITDA, as a percentage of revenue, was 3.9% as compared to 2.9% for 2010. The increase in EBITDA was primarily from higher mix of permanent recruitment.

Operating income was \$18.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to \$11.7 million for 2010, an increase of \$6.7 million. Operating income, as a percentage of revenue, was 5.2% compared to 3.5% for 2010. The increase in operating income was primarily due to the factors affecting EBITDA.

EBITDA was \$8.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to an EBITDA loss of \$1.3 million for 2009, an increase in EBITDA of \$10.1 million. EBITDA, as a percentage of revenue, was 2.9% compared to an EBITDA loss as a percentage of revenue of 0.4% for 2009. The increase in EBITDA was primarily from higher permanent recruitment gross margins.

Operating income was \$10.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to an operating loss of \$5.2 million for 2009, an increase in operating income of \$16.0 million. Operating income, as a percentage of revenue, was 3.6% compared to an operating loss as a percentage of revenue of 1.8% for 2009. The increase in operating income was primarily due to the factors affecting EBITDA.

*Hudson Europe (constant currency)***Revenue**

| \$ in millions           | Year Ended December 31, |                        |                      |                        |                      |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
|                          | 2011<br>As<br>reported  | 2010<br>As<br>reported | Constant<br>currency | 2009<br>As<br>reported | Constant<br>currency |
| Hudson Europe<br>Revenue | \$ 382.4                | \$ 328.5               | \$ 342.0             | \$ 277.0               | \$ 270.3             |

Revenue was \$382.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to \$342.0 million for December 2010, an increase of \$40.4 million or 11.8%. Contracting, permanent recruitment and talent management revenue grew \$38.0 million, \$1.4 million and \$1.0 million or 16.6%, 1.8% and 3.0%, respectively.

The U.K. led the increase in contracting revenue with \$31.7 million or 17.0%. The increase was primarily in Legal, including eDiscovery, and Information Technology and Telecom ( IT&T ). Permanent recruitment revenue decreased \$2.8 million or 7.1%, largely due to a contraction of the banking and finance industry, which affected the majority of our practices.

In Continental Europe, revenue increased \$12.0 million or 10.9%. Contracting and permanent recruitment revenue increased \$6.3 million and \$4.5 million or 14.8% and 12.5%, respectively. Talent management revenue was flat as compared to 2010. The increase in contracting revenue was primarily driven by interim management, a practice which provides temporary senior management professionals, in Belgium, and the legal and finance practices in the Netherlands. Permanent recruitment revenue increased primarily from the retained placement practices in Belgium and France.

Revenue was \$328.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to \$270.3 million for 2009, an increase of \$58.2 million or 21.5%. Contracting and permanent recruitment revenue increased \$41.5 million and \$17.0

million or 23.2% and 30.1%, respectively. Talent management revenue was flat as compared to 2009.

The U.K. accounted for the entire revenue increase with contracting and permanent recruitment revenue increases of \$46.8 million and \$12.0 million, or 35.2% and 46.8%, respectively, as compared to 2009. These increases were driven primarily by improvement in the finance and banking and IT practices, partially offset by a reduction in revenue from the public sector.

In Continental Europe, overall revenue was largely flat as compared to 2009. However, permanent recruitment revenue increased \$4.2 million or 14.2%, primarily in the retained placement practices in France and Belgium.

Contracting revenue declined \$5.2 million, or 11.4%, primarily in the Netherlands and was

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attributed to contractions in government spending at all levels as well as increased competition. Conditions did however begin to improve during the fourth quarter of 2010 as revenue increased by approximately 16% as compared to the third quarter of 2010.

**Gross margin**

| \$ in millions  | Year Ended December 31, |                        |                      |                        |                      |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
|   | 2011<br>As<br>reported  | 2010<br>As<br>reported | Constant<br>currency | 2009<br>As<br>reported | Constant<br>currency |
| Hudson Europe   |                         |                        |                      |                        |                      |
| Gross margin  | \$156.6                 | \$137.2                | \$143.2              | \$124.2                | \$120.7              |
| Gross margin as a % of revenue                                | 41.0 %                  | 41.8 %                 | 41.9 %               | 44.8 %                 | 44.7 %               |
| Contracting gross margin as a percent of contracting revenue: | 18.9 %                  | 16.9 %                 | 16.9 %               | 20.6 %                 | 20.6 %               |

Gross margin was \$156.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to \$143.2 million for December 2010, an increase of \$13.5 million or 9.4%. Contracting and permanent recruitment gross margins increased by \$11.7 million and \$1.2 million or 30.4% and 1.6%, respectively, as compared to 2010. Talent management gross margin was flat as compared to 2010.

The U.K. led the increase in contracting gross margin with \$10.0 million or 35.2%. The increase was primarily in Legal, including eDiscovery, and IT&T. Permanent recruitment gross margin decreased \$3.0 million or 8.0%, largely due to a contraction of the banking and finance industry but was partially offset by an increase in the Legal practice.

In Continental Europe, the gross margin increased \$7.3 million or 10.1%. Permanent recruitment and contracting gross margins increased \$4.4 million and \$1.8 million or 12.5% and 17.2%, respectively. The increase in permanent recruitment and contracting gross margin was for the same reasons as described for revenue above.

Contracting gross margin as a percentage of contracting revenue was 18.9% for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to 16.9% for 2010. The increase was largely driven by the higher margins in our Legal eDiscovery business. Total gross margin, as a percentage of total revenue, was 41.0% as compared to 41.9% for 2010 and was primarily due to mix between contracting and permanent placement.

Gross margin was \$137.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to \$120.7 million for 2009, an increase of \$16.5 million or 13.7%. Permanent recruitment gross margin led the increase with \$16.5 million or 30.1%. Contracting and talent management gross margins were flat as compared to 2009.

The U.K. accounted for the majority of the increase in gross margin with permanent recruitment and contracting gross margins increasing \$11.6 million and \$3.9 million, or 47.4% and 16.6%, respectively. These increases were primarily driven by our services to the banking sector.

In Continental Europe, the overall gross margin was nearly flat as compared to 2009. Permanent recruitment gross margin increased \$4.2 million or 14.2%, primarily in France and Belgium for the same reasons as discussed for revenue. Contracting gross margin decreased \$3.5 million or 26.6% primarily in the Netherlands due to lower average bill rates from increased competition for public sector work, and adjustments for payroll taxes.

Contracting gross margin as a percentage of revenue was 16.9% as compared to 20.6% in 2009. The decline was partially driven by a shift in client mix towards clients with higher volume and lower margins, increased competition in the Netherlands and a shift in country mix. The shift in country mix was due to a revenue increase in the U.K., a country with historically lower gross margin percentages, combined with a decline of revenue in the Netherlands, a country with historically higher gross margin percentages. Total gross margin, as a percentage of total revenue, was 41.8% as compared to 44.7% for 2009, with the decline in total gross margin percentage primarily related to the contracting gross margin percentage.

TABLE OF CONTENTS**Selling, general and administrative expenses and non-operating income (expenses)**

| \$ in millions   | Year Ended December 31, |                        |                      |                        |                      |
|--|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
|  | 2011<br>As<br>reported  | 2010<br>As<br>reported | Constant<br>currency | 2009<br>As<br>reported | Constant<br>currency |
| Hudson Europe<br>SG&A and other non-operating income<br>(expense)                      | \$ 147.9                | \$ 134.8               | \$ 140.7             | \$ 124.3               | \$ 121.3             |
| Hudson Europe<br>SG&A and other non-operating income<br>(expense)<br>as a % of revenue | 38.7 %                  | 41.0 %                 | 41.2 %               | 44.9 %                 | 44.9 %               |

SG&A and non-operating income (expense) was \$147.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2011 as compared to \$140.7 million for the 2010, an increase of \$7.2 million or 5.1%. The increase was primarily due to higher performance-based compensation resulting from the higher gross margin, which increased 9.4%. SG&A and non-operating income (expense), as a percentage of revenue, was 38.7% as compared to 41.2% for 2010. The improvement was primarily due to proportionately lower support staff costs in relation to the increase in contracting revenue.

SG&A and non-operating income (expense) was \$134.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to \$121.3 million for 2009, an increase of \$13.6 million or 11.2%. The increase was primarily due to higher staff compensation resulting from the growth in gross margin of 13.7% and higher corporate management service allocations. SG&A and non-operating income (expense), as a percentage of revenue, was 41.0% as compared to 44.9% for 2009. The improvement was primarily due to savings resulting largely from the restructuring program completed in 2009.

**Operating Income and EBITDA**

| \$ in millions                            | Year Ended December 31, |                        |                      |                     |                      |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
|   | 2011<br>As<br>reported  | 2010<br>As<br>reported | Constant<br>currency | 2009<br>As reported | Constant<br>currency |
| Hudson Europe<br>Operating income (loss): | \$ 14.2                 | \$ 5.1                 | \$ 5.4               | \$ (12.8 )          | \$ (13.1 )           |
| EBITDA (loss)                             | \$ 8.1                  | \$ 1.1                 | \$ 1.1               | \$ (9.8 )           | \$ (9.9 )            |
| EBITDA (loss) as a % of revenue           | 2.1 %                   | 0.3 %                  | 0.3 %                | -3.5 %              | -3.7 %               |

EBITDA was \$8.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to \$1.1 million for 2010, an increase of \$7.0 million. EBITDA, as a percentage of revenue, was 2.1% as compared to 0.3% for 2010. The increase in EBITDA was primarily from higher contracting margins and higher productivity.

Operating income was \$14.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to \$5.4 million for 2010, an increase of \$8.8 million. Operating income, as a percentage of revenue, was 3.8% compared to 1.6% for 2010. The increase in operating income was primarily due to the factors affecting EBITDA.

EBITDA was \$1.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to an EBITDA loss of \$9.9 million for 2009, an increase in EBITDA of \$11.0 million. EBITDA, as a percentage of revenue, was 0.3% compared to an EBITDA loss as a percentage of revenue of 3.7% for 2009. The increase in EBITDA was primarily from higher permanent recruitment gross margins and savings resulting from the prior years restructuring initiatives, including the non-recurrence of the restructuring charges.

Operating income was \$5.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to an operating loss of \$13.1 million for 2009, an increase in operating income of \$18.2 million. Operating income, as a percentage of revenue, was 1.5% compared to an operating loss as a percentage of revenue of 4.9% for 2009. The increase in operating income was primarily due to the factors affecting EBITDA.

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**The following are discussed in reported currency**

**Corporate and Other**

Corporate expenses were \$2.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to \$4.6 million for 2010, a decrease of \$2.5 million or 54.6%. The decrease was primarily due to a larger allocation of corporate management fees charged to the reportable segments and decreased professional fees. These reductions were partially offset by increased staff costs for incentive compensation based on improved results for 2011 and costs incurred in connection with the change in the Company's Chief Executive Officer. Corporate EBITDA loss was \$2.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to an EBITDA loss of \$5.1 million for 2010, a decrease in EBITDA loss of \$3.0 million. The decrease in EBITDA loss was primarily due to the factors discussed above.

Corporate expenses were \$4.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to \$13.4 million for 2009, a decrease of \$8.8 million or 66.0%. The decrease was primarily due to the larger allocation of corporate management fees charged to the reportable segments of approximately \$10.6 million partially offset by higher performance based compensation of \$2.0 million resulting from the improvement in consolidated results. EBITDA loss was \$5.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to an EBITDA loss of \$13.5 million for 2009, a decrease in EBITDA loss of \$8.4 million. The decrease in EBITDA loss was primarily due to the factors discussed above.

**Depreciation and Amortization Expense**

Depreciation and amortization expense was \$6.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to \$8.2 million for 2010, a decrease of \$1.9 million or 23.6%. The decrease was primarily due to reduced capital expenditures in recent years.

Depreciation and amortization expense was \$8.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to \$12.5 million for 2009, a decrease of \$4.4 million or 34.7%. The decrease was primarily due to reduced capital expenditures in recent years.

**Interest Expense**

Interest expense, net of interest income was nearly flat at \$1.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2011 compared to \$1.3 million for 2010.

Interest expense, net of interest income was \$1.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to \$0.7 million for 2009, an increase of \$0.6 million. Interest expense for the year ended December 31, 2010 included a \$0.3 million write-off of unamortized deferred financing costs related to the early termination of the Company's credit agreement with Wells Fargo Capital Finance, Inc.

**Provision for (Benefit from) Income Taxes**

The provision for income taxes for the year ended December 31, 2011 was \$5.3 million on \$16.3 million of pre tax income, as compared to a provision for income taxes of \$1.5 million on a \$3.0 million pre tax loss for 2010. The effective tax rate for the year ended December 31, 2011 was 32.9%, as compared to negative 50.1% for 2010. The change in the Company's effective tax rate for the year ended December 31, 2011 as compared to 2010 resulted from an overall increase in worldwide pre tax income, including the U.S., Canada and New Zealand in which regions the

Company has historically been unable to record tax benefits on operating losses. The effective tax rate differed from the U.S. federal statutory rate of 35% primarily due to the utilization of U.S. net operating losses, partially offset by the inability to recognize tax benefits on net losses in certain foreign jurisdictions, state taxes, non-deductible expenses and foreign tax rates that vary from that in the U.S.

The provision for income taxes for the year ended December 31, 2010 was \$1.5 million on a \$3.0 million pre tax loss, as compared to a benefit from income taxes of \$5.8 million on a \$48.7 million pre tax loss for 2009. The effective tax rate for the year ended December 31, 2010 was negative 50.1%, as compared to 11.8% for 2009. The change in the Company's effective tax rate compared to 2009 resulted primarily from a reduction in the Company's pre-tax losses in jurisdictions where we obtain tax benefits and the inability to obtain benefits from losses incurred in other jurisdictions. The effective tax rate differs from

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the U.S. federal statutory rate of 35% due to the inability to recognize tax benefits on net losses in the U.S. and certain other foreign jurisdictions, state taxes, certain non-deductible expenses, and variations from the U.S. tax rate in foreign jurisdictions.

### **Net Income (Loss) from Continuing Operations**

Net income from continuing operations was \$10.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to a net loss from continuing operations of \$4.4 million for 2010, an increase in net income from continuing operations of \$15.4 million. Basic and diluted earnings per share from continuing operations were \$0.35 and 0.34, respectively, for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to a basic and diluted loss per share from continuing operations of \$0.15 for 2010.

Net loss from continuing operations was \$4.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to a net loss from continuing operations of \$43.0 million for 2009, a decrease in net loss from continuing operations of \$38.5 million. Basic and diluted loss per share from continuing operations were \$0.15 for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to a basic and diluted loss per share from continuing operations of \$1.65 for 2009.

### **Net Income (Loss) from Discontinued Operations**

Net income from discontinued operations was \$0 for year ended December 31, 2011.

Net loss from discontinued operations was \$0.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to net income from discontinued operations of \$2.3 million for 2009, a decrease in net income from discontinued operations of \$2.6 million. Net income from discontinued operations for the year ended December 31, 2009 included the receipt of the final earn-out payment of \$11.6 million as a result of the Company's former Highland reporting unit achieving certain 2008 revenue metrics as defined in the sales agreement, partially offset by operating losses from discontinued operations for Japan and Italy of \$2.7 million and \$2.2 million, respectively. Basic and diluted loss per share from discontinued operations was \$0.01 for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to basic and diluted earnings per share from discontinued operations of \$0.09 for 2009.

### **Net Income (Loss)**

Net income was \$10.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to a net loss of \$4.7 million for 2010, an increase in net income of \$15.6 million. Basic and diluted earnings per share were \$0.35 and \$0.34, respectively, for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to basic and diluted loss per share of \$0.16 for 2010.

Net loss was \$4.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to \$40.6 million for 2009, a decrease in net loss of \$35.9 million. Basic and diluted loss per share were \$0.16 for the year ended December 31, 2010, as compared to \$1.56 for 2009.

## **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

The Company's liquidity needs arise primarily from funding working capital requirements and capital investments in information technology and facilities.

## Cash flows

| (In millions)   | For The Year Ended December 31, |            |            |
|---|---------------------------------|------------|------------|
|   | 2011                            | 2010       | 2009       |
| Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities   | \$ 13.3                         | \$ (14.5 ) | \$ (27.0 ) |
| Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities   | (6.4 )                          | (0.1 )     | 6.8        |
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities   | 1.6                             | 7.6        | 4.4        |
| Effect of exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents | (0.7 )                          | 0.5        | 2.7        |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents  | \$ 7.8                          | \$ (6.5 )  | \$ (13.1 ) |

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## **Cash Flows Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities**

For the year ended December 31, 2011, net cash provided by operating activities was \$13.3 million as compared to net cash used in operating activities of \$14.5 million for 2010, an increase in net cash provided by operating activities of \$27.7 million. The improvement was driven by the increase in net income, lower payments for the prior years restructuring programs and improved accounts receivable collection in the current year.

For the year ended December 31, 2010, net cash used in operating activities was \$14.5 million, compared to \$27.0 million for 2009, a decrease in net cash used in operating activities of \$12.5 million. The decrease was primarily due to lower net operating losses from continuing operations and lower payments related to the 2009 restructuring program in 2010 offset principally by an increase in working capital as a result of the growth in contracting revenue in 2010.

## **Cash Flows Provided by (Used in) Investing Activities**

For the year ended December 31, 2011, net cash used in investing activities was \$6.4 million compared to less than \$0.1 million for 2010, an increase in net cash used in investing activities of \$6.4 million. The driver of the increase was higher capital expenditures, primarily for investments in information technology and the non-recurrence of the sale of warrants, partially offset by the final earn-out payment for the Tony Keith acquisition in the prior year.

For the year ended December 31, 2010, net cash used in investing activities was less than \$0.1 million compared to net cash provided by investing activities of \$6.8 million for 2009, a decrease in net cash provided by investing activities of \$6.9 million. The primary source of net cash from investing activities in 2010 was \$6.2 million of proceeds from instruments related to the sale of Hudson Americas ETS division offset by capital expenditures and a restricted deposit in support of a lease in Australia. The primary source of net cash from investing activities in 2009 was the receipt of the final earn out payment of \$11.6 million from the sale of Highland Partners partially offset by capital expenditures.

## **Cash Flows Provided by (Used in) Financing Activities**

For the year ended December 31, 2011, net cash provided by financing activities was \$1.6 million as compared to \$7.6 million for 2010, a decrease in net cash provided by financing activities of \$5.9 million. The decrease was primarily due to the non-recurrence of \$19.2 million from the issuance of common stock, partially offset by increased net borrowings of \$11.4 million for incremental working capital and the non-recurrence of \$2.1 million of payments in the prior year associated with the change in our credit facility.

For the year ended December 31, 2010, net cash provided by financing activities was \$7.6 million compared to \$4.4 million for 2009, an increase in net cash provided by financing activities of \$3.2 million. The increase was primarily due to \$19.2 million of proceeds from the issuance of common stock, partially offset by an increase in net repayments under the Company's credit facilities of \$14.5 million and payment of deferred financing costs of \$1.5 million.

## **Credit Agreements**

## Credit Agreement with RBS Citizens Business Capital

On August 5, 2010, the Company and certain of its North American and U.K. subsidiaries entered into a senior secured revolving credit facility with RBS Citizens Business Capital, a division of RBS Asset Finance, Inc. ( RBS ), and on February 22, 2012, the Company and certain of its North American and U.K. subsidiaries entered into an amendment to the senior secured revolving credit facility with RBS (as amended, the Revolver Agreement ). The Revolver Agreement provides the Company with the ability to borrow up to \$40.0 million, including the issuance of letters of credit. The Company may increase the maximum borrowing amount to \$50.0 million, subject to certain conditions including lender acceptance. Extensions of credit are based on a percentage of the eligible accounts receivable from the U.K. and North America operations, less required reserves. In connection with the Revolver Agreement, the Company incurred and capitalized approximately \$1.5 million of deferred financing costs, which are being amortized over the term of the agreement. The maturity date of the Revolver Agreement is August 5, 2014.

Prior to the amendment,

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borrowings could be made with an interest rate based on a base rate plus 2% or on the LIBOR rate for the applicable period plus 3%. The applicable margin for each rate is based on the Company's Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio (as defined in the Revolver Agreement). Borrowings under the Revolver Agreement are secured by substantially all of the assets of the Company.

The amendment, which was deemed to be effective on February 1, 2012, lowered the unused credit line fee, which is set at one of two rates depending upon the Company's credit line usage under the Revolver Agreement, from 0.625% per annum to 0.50% per annum and from 0.40% per annum to 0.375% per annum. The amendment also lowered the applicable margin for the interest rate on borrowings based on the Company's Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio (as defined in the Revolver Agreement) as follows:

| Level | Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio                              | Base Rate<br>Revolving<br>Loans | LIBOR<br>Revolving<br>Loans or Letter<br>of<br>Credit<br>Obligations |
|-------|--|---------------------------------|--|
| I     | Greater than or equal to 1.25:1.0                        | 1.25%                           | 2.25%  |
| II    | Less than 1.25:1.0 but greater than or equal to 1.10:1.0 | 1.50%                           | 2.50%  |
| III   | Less than 1.10:1.0                                       | 1.75%                           | 2.75%  |

The details of the Revolver Agreement as of December 31, 2011 were as follows:

| (In millions)                           | December<br>31,<br>2011 |
|---|-------------------------|
| Borrowing base                          | \$ 33.1                 |
| Less: adjustments to the borrowing base |                         |
| Minimum availability                    | (5.0 )                  |
| Outstanding letters of credits          | (2.7 )                  |
| Adjusted borrowing base                 | 25.4                    |
| Less: outstanding borrowing             |                         |
| Additional borrowing availability       | \$ 25.4                 |
| Interest rates on outstanding borrowing | 5.25 %                  |

The Revolver Agreement contains various restrictions and covenants including: (1) a requirement to maintain a minimum excess availability of \$10.0 million<sup>(a)</sup> until such time as for two consecutive fiscal quarters (i) the Company's Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio is at least 1.2x and (ii) the Company's North American and U.K. operations, for the four fiscal quarters then ending, have an EBITDA (as defined in the Revolver Agreement) for such twelve month period of not less than \$0.5 million as of the end of each fiscal quarter during the fiscal year 2011 and \$1.0 million at the end of each fiscal quarter thereafter; thereafter a requirement to maintain a minimum availability of \$5.0 million, a Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio of at least 1.1x and EBITDA (as defined in the Revolver Agreement) for the Company's North American and U.K. operations of at least \$0.5 million during the fiscal year 2011 and \$1.0 million thereafter; (2) a limit on the payment of dividends of not more than \$5.0 million per year and subject to certain conditions; (3) restrictions on the ability of the Company to make additional borrowings, acquire, merge or otherwise fundamentally change the ownership of the Company or repurchase the Company's stock; (4) a limit on investments, and a limit on acquisitions of not more than \$25.0 million in cash and \$25.0 million in non-cash consideration per year, subject to certain conditions set forth in the Revolver Agreement; and (5) a limit on dispositions of assets of not more than \$4.0

million per year. The Company was in compliance with all covenants under the Revolver Agreement as of December 31, 2011.

## **Credit Agreement with Westpac Banking Corporation**

On November 29, 2011, certain Australian and New Zealand subsidiaries of the Company entered into a Facility Agreement, dated November 29, 2011 (the Facility Agreement ), with Westpac Banking Corporation and Westpac New Zealand Limited (collectively, Westpac ).

(a) Effective July 1, 2011, the minimum excess availability was reduced to \$5.0 million as a result of the Company meeting the aforementioned requirements.

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The Facility Agreement provides three tranches: (a) an invoice discounting facility of up to \$20.4 million (AUD20.0 million) ( Tranche A ) for an Australian subsidiary of the Company, which is based on an agreed percentage of eligible accounts receivable; (b) an overdraft facility of up to \$2.7 million (NZD3.5 million) ( Tranche B ) for a New Zealand subsidiary of the Company; and (c) a financial guarantee facility of up to \$5.1 million (AUD5.0 million) ( Tranche C ) for the Australian subsidiary.

The Facility Agreement does not have a stated maturity date and can be terminated by Westpac upon 90 days written notice. Borrowings under Tranche A may be made with an interest rate based on the Invoice Finance 30-day Bank Bill Rate (as defined in the Facility Agreement) plus a margin of 0.75%, which was 6.47% as of December 31, 2011. Borrowings under Tranche B may be made with an interest rate based on the Commercial Lending Rate (as defined in the Facility Agreement) plus a margin of 0.83%, which was 6.03% as of December 31, 2011. Each of Tranche A and Tranche B bears a fee, payable monthly, equal to 0.65% of the size of Westpac's commitment under such tranche. Borrowings under Tranche C may be made incurring a fee equal to 1.10% of the face value of the financial guarantee requested. Amounts owing under the Facility Agreement are secured by substantially all of the assets of the Australian subsidiary, its Australian parent company and the New Zealand subsidiary (collectively, the Obligors ) and certain of their subsidiaries.

The details of the Facility Agreement as of December 31, 2011 were as follows:

| (In millions)                           | December<br>31,<br>2011 |
|---|-------------------------|
| Tranche A:                              |                         |
| Borrowing capacity                      | \$ 20.4                 |
| Less: outstanding borrowing             | (3.4 )                  |
| Additional borrowing availability       | \$ 17.0                 |
| Interest rates on outstanding borrowing | 6.47 %                  |
| Tranche B:                              |                         |
| Borrowing capacity                      | \$ 2.7                  |
| Less: outstanding borrowing             |                         |
| Additional borrowing availability       | \$ 2.7                  |
| Interest rates on outstanding borrowing | 6.03 %                  |
| Tranche C:                              |                         |
| Borrowing capacity                      | \$ 5.1                  |
| Less: outstanding borrowing             |                         |
| Additional borrowing availability       | \$ 5.1                  |
| Interest rates on outstanding borrowing | 1.10 %                  |

The Facility Agreement contains various restrictions and covenants applicable to the Obligors and certain of their subsidiaries, including (a) a requirement that the Obligors maintain (1) a minimum Tangible Net Worth (as defined in the Facility Agreement) as of the last day of each calendar quarter of not less than the higher of 85% of the Tangible Net Worth as of the last day of the previous calendar year and \$17.9 million (AUD17.5 million); (2) at all times, a minimum Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio (as defined in the Facility Agreement) of 1.5x for the trailing twelve month period; and (3) a maximum Borrowing Base Ratio (as defined in the Facility Agreement) as of the last day of each calendar quarter of not more than 0.8; and (b) a limitation on certain intercompany payments with permitted payments outside the Obligor group restricted to a defined amount derived from the net profits of the Obligors and their subsidiaries. The Company was in compliance with all covenants under the Facility Agreement as of December 31, 2011.

## Other Credit Agreements

The Company also has lending arrangements with local banks through its subsidiaries in Belgium, the Netherlands, Singapore and Mainland China. As of December 31, 2011, the Netherlands subsidiary could borrow up to \$3.5 million (€2.7 million) based on an agreed percentage of accounts receivable related to its operations. In May 2011, the Belgium subsidiary replaced its previous accounts receivable based lending arrangement with a \$1.3 million (€1.0 million) overdraft facility with the same financial institution effective

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July 1, 2011. Borrowings under the Belgium and the Netherlands lending arrangements may be made with an interest rate based on the one month EURIBOR plus a margin, and were 3.4% and 3.7%, respectively, as of December 31, 2011. The lending arrangement in the Netherlands expires annually each June, but can be renewed for one year periods at that time. The lending arrangement in Belgium has no expiration date and can be terminated with a 15 day notice period. In Singapore, the Company's subsidiary can borrow up to \$0.7 million (SGD1.0 million) for working capital purposes effective January 28, 2011. Interest on borrowings under this overdraft facility is based on the Singapore Prime Rate, plus 1.75%, and was 6% on December 31, 2011. The Singapore overdraft facility expires annually each August, but can be renewed for one year periods at that time. In Mainland China, the Company's subsidiary can borrow up to \$1.0 million for working capital purposes. Interest on borrowings under this overdraft facility is based on the People's Republic of China's six month rate, plus 200 basis points, and was 8.1% on December 31, 2011. This overdraft facility expires annually each September, but can be renewed for one year periods at that time. There were no outstanding borrowings under the Belgium, the Netherlands, Singapore and Mainland China lending agreements as of December 31, 2011.

The average outstanding borrowings for the Revolver Agreement, Facility Agreement and the various credit agreements in Belgium, the Netherlands, Singapore and Mainland China was \$12.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. The weighted average interest rate on all outstanding borrowings for the year ended December 31, 2011 was 6.25%.

The Company continues to use the aforementioned credit to support its ongoing global working capital requirements, capital expenditures and other corporate purposes and to support letters of credit. Letters of credit and bank guarantees are used primarily to support office leases.

## **Shelf Registration and Common Stock Offering**

In December 2009, the Company filed a shelf registration statement (the 2009 Shelf Registration) with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to enable it to issue up to \$30.0 million equivalent of securities or combinations of securities. The types of securities permitted for issuance under the 2009 Shelf Registration are debt securities, common stock, preferred stock, warrants, stock purchase contracts and stock purchase units.

On April 6, 2010, the Company issued, in a registered public offering under the 2009 Shelf Registration, 4,830,000 shares (which share number includes the exercise of the underwriter's overallotment option of 630,000 shares) of common stock at \$4.35 per share. Net proceeds to the Company after underwriting discounts and expenses of the public offering were approximately \$19.2 million.

After this offering, the Company may issue up to \$9.0 million equivalent of securities or combinations of securities under the 2009 Shelf Registration.

## **Liquidity Outlook**

The Company had a total liquidity of \$89.1 million as of December 31, 2011, which included \$37.3 million of cash and cash equivalents on hand and \$51.8 million of additional borrowings availability under the Revolver Agreement, the Facility Agreement with Westpac and other lending arrangements in Belgium, the Netherlands, Singapore and Mainland China. The Company believes that it has sufficient liquidity to satisfy its needs through at least the next 12 months, based on the Company's total liquidity as of December 31, 2011. The Company's near-term cash requirements during 2012 are primarily related to funding operations and capital expenditures. In 2012, the Company expects to make capital expenditures of approximately \$7.0 million to \$9.0 million. The Company is closely managing its capital

spending and will perform capital additions where economically prudent, while continuing to invest strategically for future growth.

At December 31, 2011, \$13.6 million of the Company's cash and cash equivalents noted above was held in the United States and the remainder was held internationally, primarily in the United Kingdom, Mainland China, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Singapore. The majority of the Company's offshore cash is available to it as a source of funds, net of any tax obligations or assessments.

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Unrepatriated cumulative earnings of certain foreign subsidiaries are considered to be invested indefinitely outside the United States except where the Company is able to repatriate these earnings to the United States without a material incremental tax provision. In managing its day-to-day liquidity and its capital structure, the Company does not rely on the unrepatriated earnings as a source of funds. The Company has not provided for federal income or foreign withholding taxes on these undistributed foreign earnings. The Company has not done so because this situation is unlikely to occur in the foreseeable future. Accordingly, it is not practicable to determine the amount of tax associated with such undistributed earnings.

Although operating results in 2011 improved over 2010 in the key markets in which the Company operates, there remains concern about the strength and sustainability of the economic recovery and the solvency of certain European sovereign nations. The Company believes that future external market conditions remain uncertain particularly the access to credit, rates of near-term projected economic growth and levels of unemployment in the markets in which it operates. Due to these uncertain external market conditions, the Company cannot provide assurance that its actual cash requirements will not be greater in the future than those currently expected, especially if market conditions deteriorate substantially. If sources of liquidity are not available or if the Company cannot generate sufficient cash flow from operations, the Company might be required to obtain additional sources of funds through additional operating improvements, capital market transactions, asset sales or financing from third parties, or a combination of those sources. The Company cannot provide assurance that these additional sources of funds will be available or, if available, would have reasonable terms.

**Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements.**

As of December 31, 2011, the Company had no off-balance sheet arrangements.

**Contractual Obligations.**

The Company has entered into various commitments that will affect its cash generation capabilities going forward. Particularly, it has entered into several non-cancelable operating leases for facilities and equipment worldwide. Future contractual obligations as of December 31, 2011 were as follows (dollars in thousands) (commitments based in currencies other than U.S. dollars were translated using exchange rates as of December 31, 2011):

| Contractual Obligation <sup>(a)</sup> | Less than<br>1 year | 1 to 3 years | 3 to 5 years | More than<br>5 years | Total      |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|------------|
| Operating lease obligations           | \$ 26,819           | \$ 41,023    | \$ 29,018    | \$ 31,254            | \$ 128,114 |
| Other long term liabilities:          |                     |              |              |                      |            |
| Reorganization expenses               | 858                 | 531          |              |                      | 1,389      |
| Total                                 | \$ 27,677           | \$ 41,554    | \$ 29,018    | \$ 31,254            | \$ 129,503 |

The Company's other non-current liabilities and non-current income tax payable of \$18.1 million in the Consolidated Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2011 are primarily comprised of income taxes, unrecognized tax benefits, deferred rent, and other various accruals. As the timing and/or amounts of any cash payment is uncertain, the related amounts have not been reflected in the table above.

**Contingencies**

From time to time in the ordinary course of business, the Company is subject to compliance audits by federal, state, local and foreign government regulatory, tax, and other authorities relating to a variety of regulations, including wage

and hour laws, unemployment taxes, workers compensation, immigration, and income, value-added and sales taxes.

The Company is also subject to, from time to time in the ordinary course of business, various claims, lawsuits, and other complaints from, for example, clients, candidates, suppliers, landlords for both leased and subleased properties, and former and current employees. Periodic events can change the number and type of audits, claims, lawsuits or complaints asserted against the Company. Events can also change the likelihood of assertion and the behavior of third parties to reach resolution regarding such matters.

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The economic circumstances in the recent past have given rise to many news reports and bulletins from clients, tax authorities and other parties about changes in their procedures for audits, payment, plans to challenge existing contracts and other such matters aimed at being more aggressive in the resolution of such matters in their own favor. The Company believes that it has appropriate procedures in place for identifying and communicating any matters of this type, whether asserted or likely to be asserted, and it evaluates its liabilities in light of the prevailing circumstances. Changes in the behavior of third parties could cause the Company to change its view of the likelihood of a claim and what might constitute a trend. In the last twelve months, the Company has not seen a marked difference in employee or client disputes.

For matters that have reached the threshold of probable and estimable, the Company has established reserves for legal, regulatory and other contingent liabilities. The Company's reserves were \$0.3 million as of December 31, 2011. Although the outcome of these matters cannot be determined, the Company believes that none of the currently pending matters, individually or in the aggregate, will have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, results of operations or liquidity.

During January 2011, significant rainfall caused widespread flooding throughout much of Queensland, Australia. On February 22, 2011, a major earthquake caused severe damage in Christchurch, New Zealand. The Company maintains insurance for such matters and recorded \$0.5 million for estimated insurance recoveries for the year ended December 31, 2011.

The Company is currently appealing a decision by the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue related to its 2004 and 2005 state income tax returns. Under the appeals process, the State has filed a routine tax lien in the amount of \$3.5 million on the Company's U.S. operating subsidiary. The Company has posted a security bond amounting to 120 percent of the lien. The Company does not expect this bond to be drawn. In January 2012, the Company initiated settlement discussions with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. These discussions could potentially lead to a settlement within the next twelve months. A settlement might result in a reduction in the future provision for income taxes. Management believes its reserves for this matter are adequate.

## **Critical Accounting Policies**

Our discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations are based upon our Consolidated Financial Statements, which have been prepared in accordance with GAAP. The preparation of financial statements in accordance with GAAP requires our management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. GAAP provides the framework from which to make these estimates, assumptions and disclosures. We choose accounting policies within GAAP that our management believes are appropriate to accurately and fairly report our operating results and financial position in a consistent manner. Our management regularly assesses these policies in light of current and forecasted economic conditions. Our accounting policies are stated in Note 2 to our Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8. We believe the following accounting policies are critical to understanding our results of operations and affect the more significant judgments and estimates used in the preparation of our Consolidated Financial Statements that are inherently uncertain:

### **Revenue Recognition**

The Company recognizes revenue for temporary services at the time services are provided and revenue is recorded on a time and materials basis. Temporary contracting revenue is reported on a gross basis when the Company acts as the principal in the transaction and is at risk for collection in accordance with ASC 605-45, *Overall Considerations of*

*Reporting Revenue Gross as a Principal versus Net as an Agent* . The Company's revenues are derived from its gross billings, which are based on (i) the payroll cost of its worksite employees; and (ii) a markup computed as a percentage of the payroll cost.

The Company recognizes revenue for permanent placements based on the nature of the fee arrangement. Revenue generated when the Company permanently places an individual with a client on a contingent basis is recorded at the time of acceptance of employment, net of an allowance for estimated fee reversals. Revenue generated when the Company permanently places an individual with a client on a retained basis is recorded ratably over the period services are rendered, net of an allowance for estimated fee reversals.

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ASC 605-45-50-3 and ASC 605-45-50-4, *Taxes Collected from Customers and Remitted to Governmental Authorities* provide that the presentation of taxes on either a gross or net basis is an accounting policy decision. The Company collects various taxes assessed by governmental authorities and records these amounts on a net basis.

### **Accounts Receivable**

The Company's accounts receivable balances are composed of trade and unbilled receivables. The Company maintains an allowance for doubtful accounts and makes ongoing estimates as to the collectability of the various receivables. If the Company determines that the allowance for doubtful accounts is not adequate to cover estimated losses, an expense to provide for doubtful accounts is recorded in selling, general and administrative expenses. If an account is determined to be uncollectible, it is written off against the allowance for doubtful accounts. Management's assessment and judgment are vital requirements in assessing the ultimate realization of these receivables, including the current credit-worthiness, financial stability and effect of market conditions on each customer.

### **Income Taxes**

We account for income taxes using the asset and liability method in accordance with ASC 740, *Income Taxes*. This standard establishes financial accounting and reporting standards for the effects of income taxes that result from an enterprise's activities. It requires an asset and liability approach for financial accounting and reporting of income taxes.

The calculation of net deferred tax assets assumes sufficient future earnings for the realization of such assets as well as the continued application of currently anticipated tax rates. Included in net deferred tax assets is a valuation allowance for deferred tax assets where management believes it is more likely than not that the deferred tax assets will not be realized in the relevant jurisdiction. If we determine that a deferred tax asset will not be realizable, an adjustment to the deferred tax asset will result in a reduction of earnings at that time. See Note 10 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information regarding deferred tax assets and valuation allowance.

ASC 740-10-55-3 *Recognition and Measurement of Tax Positions – a Two Step Process* provides implementation guidance related to the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in an enterprise's financial statements and prescribes a two-step evaluation process for a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. The first step is recognition and the second is measurement. ASC 740 also provides guidance on derecognition, measurement, classification, disclosures, transition and accounting for interim periods. In addition, ASC 740-10-25-9 provides guidance on how to determine whether a tax position is effectively settled for the purpose of recognizing previously unrecognized tax benefits.

The Company's unrecognized tax benefits, if recognized in the future, would affect the annual effective income tax rate. See Note 10 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information regarding unrecognized tax benefits. We elected to continue our historical practice of classifying applicable interest and penalties as a component of the provision for income taxes.

We provide tax reserves for federal, state, local and international exposures relating to periods subject to audit. The development of reserves for these exposures requires judgments about tax issues, potential outcomes and timing, and is a subjective critical estimate. We assess our tax positions and record tax benefits for all years subject to examination based upon management's evaluation of the facts, circumstances and information available at the reporting dates. For those tax positions where it is more likely than not that a tax benefit will be sustained, we have recorded the largest amount of tax benefit with greater than 50% likelihood of being realized upon settlement with a tax authority that has full knowledge of all relevant information. For those tax positions where it is not more likely than not that a tax

benefit will be sustained, no tax benefit has been recognized in the Consolidated Financial Statements. Where applicable, associated interest and penalties have also been recognized. Although the outcome relating to these exposures are uncertain, we believe that our reserves reflect the probable outcome of known tax contingencies. In certain circumstances, the ultimate outcome of exposures and risks involves significant uncertainties which render them inestimable. If actual outcomes differ materially from these estimates, including those that cannot be quantified, they could have a material impact on our results of operations.

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### **Goodwill**

Under ASC 350-20-35 *Intangibles-Goodwill and Other, Goodwill Subsequent Measurement*, the Company is required to test goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets for impairment on an annual basis as of October 1, or more frequently if circumstances indicate that its carrying value might exceed its current fair value.

Per the provisions of ASC 350, the Company elected to perform a qualitative assessment to determine whether goodwill impairment existed at October 1, 2011. At the conclusion of its assessment, the Company determined that no impairment of goodwill existed at October 1, 2011.

In the third quarter of 2010, based on the existing economic conditions at that time, the Company performed an interim test for impairment of the \$1.9 million of goodwill that was recorded at June 30, 2010. At the conclusion of its testing, the Company determined that no impairment of goodwill existed at June 30, 2010. Management updated its testing for impairment as of October 1, 2010 (annual impairment date) and confirmed its earlier determination that no impairment of goodwill existed as of October 1, 2010.

### **Intangibles and Long-lived Assets**

The Company evaluates the recoverability of the carrying value of its long-lived assets, excluding goodwill, whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. Under such circumstances, the Company assesses whether the projected undiscounted cash flows of its businesses are sufficient to recover the existing unamortized cost of its long-lived assets. If the undiscounted projected cash flows are not sufficient, the Company calculates the impairment amount by discounting the cash flows using its weighted average cost of capital.

The amount of the impairment is written-off against earnings in the period in which the impairment has been determined in accordance with ASC 360-10-35, *Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets*.

### **Business Reorganization and Merger and Integration Plans**

In the fiscal years 2006, 2008 and 2009, the Company recorded significant charges and accruals in connection with its business reorganization, merger and integration plans. These reserves included estimates pertaining to lease termination payments, employee termination benefits and contract cancellation costs resulting from its actions. Although the Company does not anticipate significant changes, the actual costs may differ from these estimates, particularly pertaining to estimates for future lease obligations.

### **Foreign Currency Translation**

The financial position and results of operations of the Company's international subsidiaries are determined using local currency as the functional currency. Assets and liabilities of these subsidiaries are translated at the exchange rate in effect at each year-end. Statements of Operations accounts are translated at the average rate of exchange prevailing during each period. Translation adjustments arising from the use of differing exchange rates from period to period are included in the other comprehensive income (loss) account in stockholders' equity, other than translation adjustments on short-term inter-company balances, which are included in other income (expense). Gains and losses resulting from other foreign currency transactions are included in other income (expense). Inter-company receivable balances of a long-term investment nature are considered part of the Company's permanent investment in a foreign jurisdiction and the gains or losses on these balances are reported in other comprehensive income.

## Self-Insurance Liabilities

In the Company's U.S. operation, the Company utilizes a combination of insurance and self-insurance for employee related health care benefits (a portion of which is paid by its employees). Self-insurance claims filed and claims incurred but not reported are accrued based upon our estimates of ultimate cost for self-insured claims incurred using actuarial assumptions followed in the insurance industry and historical experience. Liabilities associated with the risks that the Company retains are estimated by considering historical claims experience, demographic factors, severity factors and other actuarial assumptions. Although the Company's claims experience has not displayed substantial volatility in the past, actual experience could materially vary from its historical experience in the future. Factors that affect these estimates include, but are not limited to, inflation, the number and severity of claims and regulatory changes. In the future, if the Company concludes an adjustment to self insurance accruals is required, the liability will be adjusted accordingly.

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### **Stock-Based Compensation**

Under ASC 718 *Compensation - Stock Compensation*, the Company uses the Black-Scholes option pricing model to determine the fair value of its stock options. The Black-Scholes model includes various assumptions, including the expected life of stock options, the expected risk free interest rate and the historic volatility of the Company's stock price. These assumptions reflect the Company's best estimates, but they involve inherent uncertainties based on market conditions generally outside the control of the Company. As a result, if other assumptions had been used, total stock-based compensation cost, as determined in accordance with ASC 718 could have been materially impacted. Furthermore, if the Company uses different assumptions for future grants, stock-based compensation cost could be materially impacted in future periods.

For awards with graded vesting conditions, the values of the awards are determined by valuing each tranche separately and expensing each tranche over the required service period. The Company is required to record stock-based compensation expense net of estimated forfeitures. The Company estimated its forfeiture rate based on historical data. The future forfeiture rate could differ from these estimates.

### **Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

In September 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) issued Accounting Standards Update ( ASU ) ASU 2011-08, *Testing Goodwill for Impairment*. This standard permits an entity to first perform a qualitative assessment to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying value. If it is concluded that this is the case, it is necessary to perform the currently prescribed two-step goodwill impairment test. Otherwise, the two-step goodwill impairment test is not required. The new standard is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2011. Early adoption is permitted. The Company elected to early adopt the standard for its annual test of goodwill impairment at its China reporting unit as of October 1, 2011. The adoption did not impact the Company's results of operations or financial position.

In June 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-05, *Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Presentation of Comprehensive Income*. This standard requires an entity to present the total of comprehensive income, the components of net income, and the components of other comprehensive income either in a single continuous statement of comprehensive income or in two separate but consecutive statements. This standard does not change the items that must be reported in other comprehensive income, how such items are measured or when they must be reclassified to net income. Additionally, the standard does not affect the calculation or reporting of net income and earnings per share. In December 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-12 *Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Deferral of the Effective Date for Amendments to the Presentation of Reclassifications of Items Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income in Accounting Standards Update No. 2011-05*. ASU 2011-12 deferred certain aspects of ASU 2011-05. Among the new provisions in ASU 2011-05 was a requirement for entities to present reclassification adjustments out of accumulated other comprehensive income by component in both the statement in which net income is presented and the other comprehensive income is presented. This requirement is indefinitely deferred by ASU 2011-12 and will be further deliberated by the FASB at a future date. The standard is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011 and should be applied retrospectively. The only component of other comprehensive income currently applicable to the Company is currency translation adjustments, which are presently included in the Consolidated Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity. The adoption of this standard will change the order in which certain financial statements are presented and will not have any impact on the Company's results of operations or financial position.

In May 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-04, *Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRSs*, which amends Accounting Standards Codification ( ASC ) 820,

*Fair Value Measurement.* The amended guidance changes the wording used to describe many requirements in GAAP for measuring fair value and for disclosing information about fair value measurements. Currently, the Company primarily applies the non-recurring fair value measurements for new asset retirement obligations and revisions of restructuring reserves. The standard is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011 and is applied prospectively. The Company does not expect the adoption of the standard to have a material impact on the Company's results of operations or financial position.

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## **REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This Form 10-K contains statements that the Company believes to be forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All statements other than statements of historical fact included in this Form 10-K, including statements regarding the Company's future financial condition, results of operations, business operations and business prospects, are forward-looking statements. Words such as anticipate, estimate, expect, project, intend, plan, predict, believe and similar words, expressions and variations of them and expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements are subject to important factors, risks, uncertainties and assumptions, including industry and economic conditions that could cause actual results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements. Such factors, risks, uncertainties and assumptions include, but are not limited to, (1) global economic fluctuations, (2) risks related to fluctuations in the Company's operating results from quarter to quarter, (3) the ability of clients to terminate their relationship with the Company at any time, (4) competition in the Company's markets, (5) risks associated with the Company's investment strategy, (6) risks related to international operations, including foreign currency fluctuations, (7) the Company's dependence on key management personnel, (8) the Company's ability to attract and retain highly skilled professionals, (9) the Company's ability to collect its accounts receivable, (10) the Company's history of negative cash flows and operating losses may reoccur in the future, (11) restrictions on the Company's operating flexibility due to the terms of its credit facilities, (12) the Company's ability to achieve anticipated cost savings through the Company's cost reduction initiatives, (13) the Company's heavy reliance on information systems and the impact of potentially losing or failing to develop technology, (14) risks related to providing uninterrupted service to clients, (15) the Company's exposure to employment-related claims from clients, employers and regulatory authorities and limits on related insurance coverage, (16) the Company's ability to utilize net operating loss carry-forwards, (17) volatility of the Company's stock price, (18) the impact of government regulations, and (19) restrictions imposed by blocking arrangements. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this Form 10-K. The Company assumes no obligation, and expressly disclaims any obligation, to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

## **ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK**

The Company conducts operations in various countries and faces both translation and transaction risks related to foreign currency exchange. For the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company earned approximately 86% of its gross margin outside of the United States, and it collected payments in local currency and related operating expenses were paid in such corresponding local currency. Revenues and expenses in foreign currencies translate into higher or lower revenues and expenses in U.S. dollars as the U.S. dollar weakens or strengthens against other currencies. Therefore, changes in exchange rates may affect our consolidated revenues and expenses (as expressed in U.S. dollars) from foreign operations.

Amounts invested in our foreign operations are translated into U.S. dollars at the exchange rates in effect at the balance sheet date. The resulting translation adjustments are recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) in the stockholders' equity section of the Consolidated Balance Sheets. The translation of foreign currency into the U.S. dollar is reflected as a component of stockholders' equity and it does not impact our operating results.

As more fully described in Item 7 Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, the Company has credit agreements with RBS Business Capital and Westpac Banking Corporation. The

Company also has other credit agreements with lenders in Belgium, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Singapore and Mainland China. The Company does not hedge the interest risk on borrowings under any such credit agreements, and accordingly, it is exposed to interest rate risk on the borrowings under such credit agreements. Based on our annual average borrowings, a 1% increase or decrease in interest rates on our borrowings would not have a material impact on our earnings.

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**ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY  
DATA**

**Management's Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial  
Reporting**

The management of the Company is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as such term is defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15(d)-15(f) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

The Company's internal control over financial reporting is 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.

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 risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

The Company's management assessed the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011 using the criteria set forth in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Based on this assessment, the Company's management believes that, as of December 31, 2011, the Company's internal control over financial reporting was effective based on those criteria.

The Company's independent registered public accounting firm, KPMG LLP, has issued a report on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. That report is set forth immediately following the report of KPMG LLP on the financial statements included herein.

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# Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Stockholders  
Hudson Highland Group, Inc.:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Hudson Highland Group, Inc. and subsidiaries (Hudson Highland Group, Inc.) as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the related consolidated statements of operations, changes in stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2011. In connection with our audit of the consolidated financial statements, we also have audited the financial statement schedules included in Item 15 of Form 10-K. These consolidated financial statements and the financial statement schedules are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements and the financial statement schedules based on our audits.

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

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Hudson Highland Group, Inc. as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2011, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Also in our opinion, the related financial statement schedules, when considered in relation to the basic consolidated financial statements taken as a whole, presents fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the effectiveness of Hudson Highland Group, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011, based on criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO), and our report dated February 28, 2012 expressed an unqualified opinion on the effective operation of internal control over financial reporting.

/s/ KPMG LLP

New York, New York  
February 28, 2012

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# Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Stockholders  
Hudson Highland Group, Inc.:

We have audited Hudson Highland Group Inc. s and subsidiaries (Hudson Highland Group, Inc.) internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011, based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). Hudson Highland Group, Inc. s management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management s Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting . Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company s internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

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

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

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

In our opinion, Hudson Highland Group, Inc. maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011, based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheets of Hudson Highland Group, Inc. as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the related consolidated statements of operations, changes in stockholders equity and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2011, and our report dated February 28, 2012 expressed an unqualified

opinion on those consolidated financial statements.

/s/ KPMG LLP

New York, New York  
February 28, 2012

TABLE OF CONTENTS**HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**  
**(in thousands, except per share amounts)**

|  | Year Ended December 31, |            |             |
|--|-------------------------|------------|-------------|
|  | 2011                    | 2010       | 2009        |
| Revenue  | \$933,736               | \$794,542  | \$691,149   |
| Direct costs   | 579,431                 | 495,969    | 430,696     |
| Gross margin   | 354,305                 | 298,573    | 260,453     |
| Operating expenses:  |                         |            |             |
| Salaries and related   | 252,785                 | 222,185    | 204,097     |
| Office and general   | 69,298                  | 65,185     | 66,713      |
| Marketing and promotion  | 7,816                   | 6,943      | 6,824       |
| Depreciation and amortization  | 6,251                   | 8,184      | 12,543      |
| Business reorganization and integration expenses                           | 720                     | 1,694      | 18,180      |
| Goodwill and other impairment charges                                      |                         |            | 1,549       |
| Total operating expenses   | 336,870                 | 304,191    | 309,906     |
| Operating income (loss)  | 17,435                  | (5,618 )   | (49,453 )   |
| Other non-operating income (expense):                                      |                         |            |             |
| Interest income (expense), net   | (1,143 )                | (1,278 )   | (694 )      |
| Other income (expense), net  | (44 )                   | 4,500      | 1,444       |
| Fee for early extinguishment of credit facility                            |                         | (563 )     |             |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations before provision for income taxes | 16,248                  | (2,959 )   | (48,703 )   |
| Provision for (benefit from) income taxes                                  | 5,339                   | 1,482      | (5,750 )    |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations                                   | 10,909                  | (4,441 )   | (42,953 )   |
| Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income taxes            |                         | (244 )     | 2,344       |
| Net income (loss)  | \$10,909                | \$(4,685 ) | \$(40,609 ) |
| Earnings (loss) per share:   |                         |            |             |
| Basic  |                         |            |             |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations                                   | \$0.35                  | \$(0.15 )  | \$(1.65 )   |
| Income (loss) from discontinued operations                                 |                         | (0.01 )    | 0.09        |
| Net income (loss)  | \$0.35                  | \$(0.16 )  | \$(1.56 )   |
| Diluted  |                         |            |             |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations                                   | \$0.34                  | \$(0.15 )  | \$(1.65 )   |
| Income (loss) from discontinued operations                                 |                         | (0.01 )    | 0.09        |
| Net income (loss)  | \$0.34                  | \$(0.16 )  | \$(1.56 )   |
| Basic weighted average shares outstanding:                                 | 31,566                  | 29,931     | 26,036      |
| Diluted weighted average shares outstanding:                               | 31,989                  | 29,931     | 26,036      |

**See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.**

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# HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

### (in thousands)

|   | December 31, |           |
|---|--------------|-----------|
|   | 2011         | 2010      |
| <b>ASSETS</b>   |              |           |
| Current assets:   |              |           |
| Cash and cash equivalents   | \$37,302     | \$29,523  |
| Accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$1,772 and \$2,145, respectively            | 131,489      | 128,576   |
| Prepaid and other   | 13,132       | 13,988    |
| Total current assets  | 181,923      | 172,087   |
| Property and equipment, net   | 17,838       | 16,593    |
| Other assets  | 16,785       | 17,154    |
| Total assets  | \$216,546    | \$205,834 |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>  |              |           |
| Current liabilities:  |              |           |
| Accounts payable  | \$12,025     | \$14,812  |
| Accrued expenses and other current liabilities  | 74,248       | 74,990    |
| Short-term borrowings   | 3,384        | 1,339     |
| Accrued business reorganization expenses  | 858          | 2,619     |
| Total current liabilities   | 90,515       | 93,760    |
| Other non-current liabilities   | 10,867       | 10,493    |
| Income tax payable, non-current   | 7,807        | 8,303     |
| Total liabilities   | 109,189      | 112,556   |
| Commitments and contingencies   |              |           |
| Stockholders equity:  |              |           |
| Preferred stock, \$0.001 par value, 10,000 shares authorized; none issued or outstanding                  |              |           |
| Common stock, \$0.001 par value, 100,000 shares authorized; issued 32,776 and 32,181 shares, respectively | 33           | 32        |
| Additional paid-in capital  | 470,786      | 466,582   |
| Accumulated deficit   | (397,290)    | (408,199) |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income translation adjustments  | 34,255       | 34,902    |
| Treasury stock, 79 and 9 shares, respectively, at cost  | (427 )       | (39 )     |
| Total stockholders equity   | 107,357      | 93,278    |
| Total liabilities and stockholders equity   | \$216,546    | \$205,834 |

**See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.**



TABLE OF CONTENTS**HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS  
(in thousands)**

|  | Year Ended December 31, |             |              |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|--------------|
|  | 2011                    | 2010        | 2009         |
| Cash flows from operating activities:  |                         |             |              |
| Net income (loss)  | \$ 10,909               | \$ (4,685 ) | \$ (40,609 ) |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities: |                         |             |              |
| Depreciation and amortization  | 6,251                   | 8,184       | 12,630       |
| Goodwill and other impairment charges  |                         |             | 1,549        |
| Provision (recovery) for doubtful accounts   | 132                     | 392         | (290 )       |
| Provision for (benefit from) deferred income taxes   | 1,272                   | (223 )      | (3,542 )     |
| Stock-based compensation   | 3,221                   | 1,724       | 973          |
| Gains on disposal of assets  |                         |             | (11,625 )    |
| Fee for early extinguishment of credit facility  |                         | 563         |              |
| Gains on note and warrants from asset sale   |                         | (3,369 )    |              |
| Other, net   | 131                     | 462         | (625 )       |
| Changes in assets and liabilities:   |                         |             |              |
| Decrease (increase) in accounts receivable   | (3,983 )                | (27,252 )   | 39,147       |
| Decrease (increase) in prepaid and other assets  | (319 )                  | (1,592 )    | 5,635        |
| Increase (decrease) in accounts payable, accrued expenses and other liabilities                    | (2,534 )                | 17,366      | (31,523 )    |
| Increase (decrease) in accrued business reorganization expenses                                    | (1,801 )                | (6,031 )    | 1,292        |
| Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities  | 13,279                  | (14,461 )   | (26,988 )    |
| Cash flows from investing activities:  |                         |             |              |
| Capital expenditures   | (6,832 )                | (3,264 )    | (3,666 )     |
| Proceeds from sale of assets   | 248                     | 81          | 11,625       |
| Proceeds from note and sale of warrants  |                         | 6,179       |              |
| Change in restricted cash  | 117                     | (1,197 )    | 514          |
| Payment for acquisitions   |                         | (1,856 )    | (1,669 )     |
| Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities  | (6,467 )                | (57 )       | 6,804        |
| Cash flows from financing activities:  |                         |             |              |
| Borrowings under credit facility and other short term financing                                    | 237,779                 | 99,914      | 51,985       |
| Repayments under credit facility and other short term financing                                    | (235,752)               | (109,304)   | (46,836 )    |
| Payment for early extinguishment of credit facility  |                         | (563 )      |              |
| Payment of deferred financing costs  |                         | (1,565 )    |              |
| Proceeds from issuance of common stock, net  |                         | 19,167      |              |
| Purchase of treasury stock, including fees   |                         |             | (703 )       |
| Purchase of restricted stock from employees  | (388 )                  | (71 )       | (75 )        |

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|   |          |          |            |
|---|----------|----------|------------|
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities                 | 1,639    | 7,578    | 4,371      |
| Effect of exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents               | (672 )   | 399      | 2,668      |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents                | 7,779    | (6,541 ) | (13,145 )  |
| Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of the period                  | 29,523   | 36,064   | 49,209     |
| Cash and cash equivalents, end of the period                        | \$37,302 | \$29,523 | \$ 36,064  |
| Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:                  |          |          |            |
| Cash paid during the period for interest                            | \$1,059  | \$1,098  | \$999      |
| Cash payments during the period for income taxes,<br>net of refunds | \$4,046  | \$1,905  | \$(1,215 ) |

**See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.**

TABLE OF CONTENTS**HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN  
STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY  
(in thousands)**

|  | Common stock<br>Shares | Value | Additional<br>paid-in<br>capital | Accumulated<br>deficit | Accumulated<br>other<br>comprehensive<br>income<br>(loss) | Treasury<br>stock | Total     | Total<br>Comprehensive<br>Income<br>(loss) |
|--|------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|------------------------|---|-------------------|-----------|--|
| Balance at January 1, 2009                                 | 25,354                 | \$ 26 | \$450,739                        | \$(362,905)            | \$27,054  | \$(6,922)         | \$107,992 |  |
| Net income (loss)  |                        |       |                                  | (40,609 )              |   |                   | (40,609 ) | \$(40,609)                                 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss), translation adjustments |                        |       |                                  |                        | 7,455   |                   | 7,455     | 7,455                                      |
| Purchase of treasury stock                                 | (243 )                 |       |                                  |                        |   | (703 )            | (703 )    |  |
| Purchase of restricted stock from employees                | (29 )                  |       |                                  |                        |   | (75 )             | (75 )     |  |
| Issuance of shares for 401(k) plan contribution            | 1,318                  | 1     | (6,171 )                         |                        |   | 7,397             | 1,227     |  |
| Stock-based compensation                                   | 322                    |       | 973                              |                        |   |                   | 973       |  |
| Balance at December 31, 2009                               | 26,722                 | \$27  | \$445,541                        | \$(403,514)            | \$34,509  | \$(303 )          | \$76,260  | \$(33,154)                                 |
| Net income (loss)  |                        |       |                                  | (4,685 )               |   |                   | (4,685 )  | (4,685 )                                   |
| Other comprehensive income (loss), translation adjustments |                        |       |                                  |                        | 393   |                   | 393       | 393  |
| Issuance of shares   | 4,830                  | 5     | 19,111                           |                        |   |                   | 19,116    |  |
| Purchase of treasury stock                                 | (16 )                  |       |                                  |                        |   | (71 )             | (71 )     |  |
| Issuance of shares for 401(k) plan                         | 121                    |       | 206                              |                        |   | 335               | 541       |  |

|  |        |      |           |             |          |          |           |            |  |
|--|--------|------|-----------|-------------|----------|----------|-----------|------------|--|
| contribution   |        |      |           |             |          |          |           |            |  |
| Stock-based compensation                                   | 514    |      | 1,724     |             |          |          | 1,724     |            |  |
| Balance at December 31, 2010                               | 32,171 | \$32 | \$466,582 | \$(408,199) | \$34,902 | \$(39 )  | \$93,278  | \$(4,292 ) |  |
| Net income (loss)  |        |      |           | 10,909      |          |          | 10,909    | 10,909     |  |
| Other comprehensive income (loss), translation adjustments |        |      |           |             | (647 )   |          | (647 )    | (647 )     |  |
| Purchase of restricted stock from employees                | (70 )  |      |           |             |          | (388 )   | (388 )    |            |  |
| Issuance of shares for 401(k) plan contribution            | 92     |      | 602       |             |          |          | 602       |            |  |
| Stock-based compensation                                   | 504    | 1    | 3,602     |             |          |          | 3,603     |            |  |
| Balance at December 31, 2011                               | 32,697 | \$33 | \$470,786 | \$(397,290) | \$34,255 | \$(427 ) | \$107,357 | \$10,262   |  |

**See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.**

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## HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.

# NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (in thousands, except share and per share amounts)

## 1. DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS

Hudson Highland Group, Inc. and its subsidiaries (the Company) are comprised of the operations, assets and liabilities of the three Hudson regional businesses of Hudson Americas, Hudson Asia Pacific, and Hudson Europe (Hudson regional businesses or Hudson). The Company provides highly specialized professional-level recruitment and related talent solutions worldwide. Core service offerings include Permanent Recruitment, Contract Consulting, Legal eDiscovery, Recruitment Process Outsourcing (RPO) and Talent Management solutions.

The Company has operated as an independent publicly-held company since April 1, 2003 (the Distribution Date) when the eResourcing division of Monster Worldwide, Inc. (Monster), formerly TMP Worldwide, Inc., comprised of 67 acquisitions made between 1999 and 2001, was spun off. As of December 31, 2011, The Company had more than 2,000 employees operating in 20 countries with three reportable geographic business segments: Hudson Americas, Hudson Asia Pacific, and Hudson Europe. These reportable segments constituted approximately 14%, 42%, and 44% of the Company's gross margin, respectively, for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Offered on both a retained and contingent basis, Hudson's Permanent Recruitment services leverage more than 1,200 consultants, 150 psychologists and other scientific specialists in the development and delivery of its proprietary methods to identify, select and engage the best-fit talent for critical client roles.

In Contract Consulting, the Company provides a range of project management, interim management and professional contract staffing services. These services draw upon a combination of specialized recruiting and project management competencies to deliver a wide range of solutions. Hudson-employed professionals either individually or as a team are placed with client organizations for a defined period of time based on specific business need.

The Company's Legal eDiscovery services comprise eDiscovery solutions, managed document review (encompassing logistical deployment, project management, process design and productivity management), and contract attorney staffing. The most comprehensive of these is the firm's full-service eDiscovery solution, providing an integrated system of discovery management and review technology deployment for both corporate and law firm clients.

Hudson RPO delivers outsourced recruitment solutions tailored to the individual needs of mid- to large-cap multinational companies. Hudson RPO's delivery teams utilize state-of-the-art recruitment process methodologies and project management expertise in their flexible, turnkey solutions to meet clients' ongoing business needs. Hudson RPO services include complete recruitment outsourcing, project-based outsourcing, contingent workforce solutions and recruitment consulting.

Featuring embedded proprietary talent assessment and selection methodologies, the Company's Talent Management capability encompasses services such as talent assessment (utilizing a variety of competency, attitude and experiential testing), interview training, executive coaching, employee development and outplacement.

## Reporting Segments

In the fourth quarter of 2011, the Company reorganized its leadership team to align the Company's operations with its business strategy to run its global operations in three regions. As a result, the Company revised its reportable segments by aggregating the segments of Hudson Australia New Zealand and Hudson Asia into one segment, Hudson Asia Pacific. The Company has reclassified information for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009 to reflect this change to the segment reporting in accordance with the requirements of ASC 280-10-50-1 to 9 *Operating Segments* and ASC 280-10-50-10 *Reportable Segments*. See Note 15 for further details.

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## **HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.**

### **NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (in thousands, except share and per share amounts)**

#### **2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

##### **Basis of Presentation**

The Consolidated Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ( GAAP ). Unless otherwise stated, amounts are presented in United States of America ( U.S. ) dollars and all amounts are in thousands, except for number of shares and per share amounts.

Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current period presentation.

##### **Principles of Consolidation**

The Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of the Company and all of its wholly-owned and majority-owned subsidiaries. All significant inter-company accounts and transactions between and among the Company and its subsidiaries have been eliminated in consolidation.

##### **Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions about future events. These estimates and the underlying assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosures about contingent assets and liabilities, and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses. Such estimates include the value of purchase consideration, allowances for doubtful accounts, insurance recovery receivable, goodwill, intangible assets, and other long-lived assets, legal reserve and provision, estimated self-insured liabilities, assumptions used in the fair value of stock-based compensation and the valuation of deferred tax assets. These estimates and assumptions are based on management's best estimates and judgment. Management evaluates the estimates and assumptions on an ongoing basis using historical experience and other factors, including the current economic environment, which management believes to be reasonable under the circumstances. The Company adjusts such estimates and assumptions when facts and circumstances dictate. As future events and their effects cannot be determined with precision, actual results could differ significantly from those estimates.

Instability in the global credit markets, including the recent European economic and financial turmoil related to sovereign debt issues in certain countries, the instability in the geopolitical environment in many parts of the world and other factors may continue to put pressure on global economic conditions and may in turn impact the aforementioned estimates and assumptions.

## **Nature of Business and Credit Risk**

The Company's revenue is earned from professional placement services, mid-level employee professional staffing and temporary contracting services and human capital services. These services are provided to a large number of customers in many different industries. The Company operates throughout North America, the United Kingdom, Continental Europe, Australia, New Zealand and Asia. During 2011, no single client accounted for more than 10% of the Company's revenue. As of December 31, 2011, no single client accounted for more than 10% of the Company's outstanding accounts receivable.

Financial instruments, which potentially subject the Company to concentrations of credit risk, are primarily cash and accounts receivable. The Company performs continuing credit evaluations of its customers and does not require collateral. The Company has not experienced significant losses related to receivables.

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**HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)**

**2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES  
(continued)**

**Revenue Recognition**

The Company recognizes revenue for temporary services at the time services are provided and revenue is recorded on a time and materials basis. Temporary contracting revenue is reported on a gross basis when the Company acts as the principal in the transaction and is at risk for collection in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) Accounting Standards Codification Topic ( ASC ) 605-45, *Overall Considerations of Reporting Revenue Gross as a Principal versus Net as an Agent* . The Company's revenues are derived from its gross billings, which are based on (i) the payroll cost of its worksite employees; and (ii) a markup computed as a percentage of the payroll cost.

The Company recognizes revenue for permanent placements based on the nature of the fee arrangement. Revenue generated when the Company permanently places an individual with a client on a contingent basis is recorded at the time of acceptance of employment, net of an allowance for estimated fee reversals. Revenue generated when the Company permanently places an individual with a client on a retained basis is recorded ratably over the period services are rendered, net of an allowance for estimated fee reversals.

The ASC 605-45-50-3 and ASC 605-45-50-4, *Taxes Collected from Customers and Remitted to Governmental Authorities* provide that the presentation of taxes on either a gross or net basis is an accounting policy decision. The Company collects various taxes assessed by governmental authorities and records these amounts on a net basis.

**Direct Costs and Gross Margin**

Direct costs include the direct staffing costs of salaries, payroll taxes, employee benefits, travel expenses and insurance costs for the Company's temporary contractors as well as reimbursed out-of-pocket expenses and other direct costs. Other direct costs include out-of-pocket expenses associated with search, permanent placement and other talent management services. Gross margin represents revenue less direct costs. The region where services are provided, the mix of temporary and permanent placements, and the functional nature of the staffing services provided can affect gross margin.

Revenue, direct costs and gross margin of the Company were as follows:

| For The Year Ended<br>December 31, 2011 |       | For The Year Ended<br>December 31, 2010 |           | For The Year Ended<br>December 31, 2009 |       |
|---|-------|---|-----------|---|-------|
| Temporary                               | Other | Total                                   | Temporary | Other                                   | Total |
|   |       |   |           |   |       |

|              |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Revenue      | \$692,665 | \$241,071 | \$933,736 | \$585,321 | \$209,221 | \$794,542 | \$521,780 | \$169,369 | \$691,149 |
| Direct costs | 564,462   | 14,969    | 579,431   | 482,175   | 13,794    | 495,969   | 418,989   | 11,707    | 430,696   |
| Gross margin | \$128,203 | \$226,102 | \$354,305 | \$103,146 | \$195,427 | \$298,573 | \$102,791 | \$157,662 | \$260,453 |

## Operating Expenses

Salaries and related expenses include the salaries, commissions, payroll taxes and employee benefits related to recruitment professionals, executive level employees, administrative staff and other employees of the Company who are not temporary contractors. Office and general expenses include occupancy, equipment leasing and maintenance, utilities, travel expenses, professional fees and provision for doubtful accounts. The Company expenses the costs of advertising as incurred.

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## HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.

### NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (in thousands, except share and per share amounts)

#### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

##### Stock-Based Compensation

The Company applies the fair value recognition provisions of ASC 718 *Compensation - Stock Compensation*. ASC 718 requires companies to estimate the fair value of share-based payment awards on the date of grant using an option-pricing model. The Company determines the fair value as of the grant date. For awards with graded vesting conditions, the values of the awards are determined by valuing each tranche separately and expensing each tranche over the required service period. For stock options, the Black-Scholes option pricing model considers, among other factors, the expected life of the award and the expected volatility of the Company's stock price. The Company is required to record stock-based compensation expense net of estimated forfeitures. The Company estimates its forfeiture rate based on historical data.

The Company determines its assumptions for the Black-Scholes option-pricing model in accordance with ASC 718 and Staff Accounting Bulletin (SAB) No. 107, *Interaction between Statement of Financial Accounting Standards Statement No. 123 (revised 2004), Share-Based Payment and certain Securities and Exchange Commission rules and regulations and provides the staff's views regarding the valuation of share-based payment arrangements for public companies*.

The expected term of stock options is estimated using the simplified method since the Company currently does not have sufficient stock option exercise history.

The expected risk free interest rate is based on the U.S. Treasury constant maturity interest rate which term is consistent with the expected term of the stock options.

The expected volatility is based on the historic volatility.

In December 2007, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) staff issued SAB No. 110, *Certain Assumptions Used In Valuation Methods - Expected Term*. SAB No. 110 allows companies to continue to use the simplified method, as defined in SAB No. 107, to estimate the expected term of stock options under certain circumstances. The simplified method for estimating expected term uses the mid-point between the vesting term and the contractual term of the stock option. The Company has analyzed the circumstances in which the use of the simplified method is allowed. The Company has opted to use the simplified method for stock options the Company granted in 2008 because management believes that the Company does not have sufficient historical exercise data to provide a reasonable basis upon which to estimate the expected term.

##### Income Taxes

The Company accounts for income taxes in accordance with ASC 740, *Income Taxes*. This standard establishes financial accounting and reporting standards for the effects of income taxes that result from an enterprise's activities. It requires an asset and liability approach for financial accounting and reporting of income taxes.

ASC 740-10-55-3 *Recognition and Measurement of Tax Positions - a Two Step Process* provides implementation guidance related to the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in an enterprise's financial statements and prescribes a two-step evaluation process for a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. The first step is recognition and the second is measurement. ASC 740 also provides guidance on derecognition, measurement, classification, disclosures, transition and accounting for interim periods.

## **Discontinued Operations**

The Company has designated certain of its operations as discontinued operations in the accompanying Consolidated Financial Statements, as further discussed in Note 3.

TABLE OF CONTENTS**HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)****2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES  
(continued)****Earnings (Loss) Per Share**

Basic earnings (loss) per share ( EPS ) are computed by dividing the Company's net income (loss) by the weighted average number of shares outstanding during the period. When the effects are not anti-dilutive, diluted earnings (loss) per share are computed by dividing the Company's net income (loss) by the weighted average number of shares outstanding and the impact of all dilutive potential common shares, primarily stock options in-the-money and unvested restricted stock. The dilutive impact of stock options and unvested restricted stock is determined by applying the treasury stock method. Performance-based restricted stock awards are included in the computation of diluted earnings per share only to the extent that the underlying performance conditions: (a) are satisfied prior to the end of the reporting period, or (b) would be satisfied if the end of the reporting period were the end of the related contingency period and the result would be dilutive under the treasury stock method. Stock awards subject to vesting or exercisability based on the achievement of market conditions are included in the computation of diluted earnings per share only when the target stock price is met.

Income (loss) per share calculations for each quarter include the weighted average effect for the quarter; therefore, the sum of quarterly income (loss) per share amounts may not equal year-to-date income (loss) per share amounts, which reflect the weighted average effect on a year-to-date basis.

A reconciliation of the numerators and denominators of the basic and diluted earnings (loss) per share calculations follows:

|  | Year Ended December 31, |           |            |
|--|-------------------------|-----------|------------|
|  | 2011                    | 2010      | 2009       |
| Earnings (loss) per share ( EPS ):         |                         |           |            |
| Basic                                      |                         |           |            |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations   | \$0.35                  | \$(0.15)  | \$(1.65)   |
| Income (loss) from discontinued operations |                         | (0.01)    | 0.09       |
| Net income (loss)                          | \$0.35                  | \$(0.16)  | \$(1.56)   |
| Diluted                                    |                         |           |            |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations   | \$0.34                  | \$(0.15)  | \$(1.65)   |
| Income (loss) from discontinued operations |                         | (0.01)    | 0.09       |
| Net income (loss)                          | \$0.34                  | \$(0.16)  | \$(1.56)   |
| EPS numerator basic and diluted:           |                         |           |            |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations   | \$10,909                | \$(4,441) | \$(42,953) |

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|   |            |            |   |              |
|---|------------|------------|---|--------------|
| Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income taxes                     |            | (244       | ) | 2,344        |
| Net income (loss)   | \$ 10,909  | \$ (4,685  | ) | \$ (40,609 ) |
| EPS denominator:  |            |            |   |              |
| Weighted-average common stock outstanding basic                                     | 31,566,403 | 29,930,882 |   | 26,036,249   |
| Common stock equivalents: stock options and other stock-based awards <sup>(a)</sup> | 423,058    |            |   |              |
| Weighted-average number of common stock outstanding diluted                         | 31,989,461 | 29,930,882 |   | 26,036,249   |

For the periods in which net losses are presented, the diluted weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding did not differ from the basic weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding because (a) the effects of any potential common stock equivalents (see Note 9 below for further details on outstanding stock options, non-vested restricted stock units and non-vested restricted stock) were anti-dilutive and therefore not included in the calculation of the denominator of dilutive earnings per share.

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(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)****2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES  
(continued)**

The weighted average number of shares outstanding used in the computation of diluted net income (loss) per share for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 does not include the effect of the following potentially outstanding shares of common stock because the effect would have been anti-dilutive:

|                           | Year Ended December 31, |           |           |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|                           | 2011                    | 2010      | 2009      |
| Unvested restricted stock | 104,175                 | 1,034,597 | 587,123   |
| Restricted stock units    |                         |           |           |
| Stock options             | 1,396,350               | 1,548,300 | 1,763,250 |
| Total                     | 1,500,525               | 2,582,897 | 2,350,373 |

For the year ended December 31, 2011, 51,506 shares of performance-based restricted stock awards were excluded from the calculation of the computation of the diluted earnings per shares because the underlying performance conditions had not been satisfied prior to the end of the reporting period. In addition, 52,669 shares of market-condition-based restricted stock awards were excluded from the calculation of the computation of the diluted earnings per shares because the underlying the target stock price had not been achieved.

**Fair Value of Financial Instruments**

The carrying amounts reported in the Consolidated Balance Sheets for cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable and short-term borrowings approximate fair value because of the immediate or short-term maturity of these financial instruments. See Note 6 Fair Value Measurements for further information on the Company's fair value measurements.

**Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents, which consist primarily of money market funds, are stated at cost, which approximates fair value. For financial statement presentation purposes, the Company considers all highly liquid investments having an original maturity of three months or less as cash equivalents. Outstanding checks in excess of cash account balances that are included in accounts payable on the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheets were insignificant as of December 31, 2011 and 2010.

## Restricted Cash

The Company had approximately \$3,641 and \$3,786 of restricted cash included in the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. A summary of the Company's restricted cash is as follows.

|  | December 31, |          |
|--|--------------|----------|
|  | 2011         | 2010     |
| Included under the caption Other assets :      |              |          |
| Collateral accounts                            | \$ 3,120     | \$ 3,105 |
| Rental deposits                                | 268          | 143      |
|  | \$ 3,388     | \$ 3,248 |
| Included under the caption Prepaid and other : |              |          |
| Social tax payment reserves                    | \$ 3         | \$ 69    |
| Rental deposits                                |              | 276      |
| Client guarantees                              | 133          | 193      |
| Collateral accounts                            | 117          |          |
|  | \$ 253       | \$ 538   |

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## HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.

### NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (in thousands, except share and per share amounts)

#### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Collateral accounts primarily included deposits held under a collateral trust agreement, which supports the Company's workers' compensation policy and a restricted term deposit with Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) held as collateral. The CBA restricted term deposit supports the issuance of bank guarantees for certain leases in the Company's Australia operation. The rental deposits with banks were held as guarantees for the rent on the Company's offices in the Netherlands and Spain. Social tax payment reserves were held with banks for employee social tax payments required by law in the Netherlands. The client guarantees were held in banks in Belgium as deposits for various client projects.

#### Accounts Receivable

The Company's accounts receivable balances are composed of trade and unbilled receivables. The Company maintains an allowance for doubtful accounts and makes ongoing estimates as to the ability to collect on the various receivables.

If the Company determines that the allowance for doubtful accounts is not adequate to cover estimated losses, an expense to provide for doubtful accounts is recorded in office and general expenses. If an account is determined to be uncollectible, it is written off against the allowance for doubtful accounts. Management's assessment and judgment are vital requirements in assessing the ultimate realization of these receivables, including the current credit-worthiness, financial stability and effect of market conditions on each customer.

#### Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are stated at cost. Depreciation is computed primarily using the straight line method over the following estimated useful lives:

|                            | Years |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Furniture and equipment    | 3 - 8 |
| Capitalized software costs | 3 - 5 |
| Computer equipment         | 2 - 5 |

Leasehold improvements are amortized over the shorter of their estimated useful lives or the lease term. The amortization periods of material leasehold improvements are estimated at the inception of the lease term.

## Capitalized Software Costs

Capitalized software costs consist of costs to purchase and develop software for internal use. The Company capitalizes certain incurred software development costs in accordance with the ASC 350-40, *Intangibles Goodwill and Other: Internal-Use Software*. Costs incurred during the application-development stage for software bought and further customized by outside vendors for the Company's use and software developed by a vendor for the Company's proprietary use have been capitalized. Costs incurred for the Company's own personnel who are directly associated with software development are capitalized as appropriate. Capitalized software costs are included in property and equipment.

## Long-Lived Assets and Amortizable Intangibles

Intangible assets are amortized on straight line basis over the estimated useful life. The Company evaluates the recoverability of the carrying value of its long-lived assets, excluding goodwill, whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. Under such circumstances, the Company assesses whether the projected undiscounted cash flows of its businesses are sufficient to recover the existing unamortized cost of its long-lived assets. If the undiscounted projected cash flows are not sufficient, the Company calculates the impairment amount by discounting the cash flows using its weighted average cost of capital. The amount of the impairment is written-off against earnings in the period in which the impairment has been determined in accordance with ASC 360-10-35, *Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets*.

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## **HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.**

### **NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (in thousands, except share and per share amounts)**

#### **2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

##### **Goodwill**

ASC 350-20-35 *Intangibles-Goodwill and Other, Goodwill Subsequent Measurement* requires that goodwill not be amortized but be tested for impairment on an annual basis, or more frequently if circumstances warrant. The Company tests goodwill for impairment annually as of October 1, or more frequently if circumstances indicate that its carrying value might exceed its current fair value. Per the provisions of ASC 350, the Company elects to first perform a qualitative assessment to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying value. If it is concluded that this is the case, it is necessary to perform the currently prescribed two-step goodwill impairment test. Otherwise, the two-step goodwill impairment test is not required. The first step of the goodwill impairment test, used to identify potential impairment, compares the fair value of a reporting unit with its carrying amount, including goodwill. The Company's reporting units are the components within the reportable segments identified in Note 15. If the fair value of a reporting unit exceeds its carrying amount, the second step of the impairment test is unnecessary. If the carrying amount of a reporting unit exceeds its fair value, the second step of the goodwill impairment test is performed to measure the amount of impairment loss, if any. Step two compares the implied fair value of the reporting unit's goodwill with the current carrying amount of that goodwill. If the carrying value of a reporting unit's goodwill exceeds its implied fair value, an impairment amount equal to the difference is recorded.

##### **Foreign Currency Translation**

The financial position and results of operations of the Company's international subsidiaries are determined using local currency as the functional currency. Assets and liabilities of these subsidiaries are translated at the exchange rate in effect at each year-end. Statements of Operations accounts are translated at the average rate of exchange prevailing during each period. Translation adjustments arising from the use of differing exchange rates from period to period are included in the other comprehensive income (loss) account in stockholders' equity, other than translation adjustments on short-term intercompany balances, which are included in other income (expense). Gains and losses resulting from other foreign currency transactions are included in other income (expense). Intercompany receivable balances of a long-term investment nature are considered part of the Company's permanent investment in a foreign jurisdiction and the gains or losses on these balances are reported in other comprehensive income.

##### **Comprehensive Income (Loss)**

Comprehensive income (loss) is defined to include all changes in equity except those resulting from investments by owners and distributions to owners. The Company's other comprehensive income (loss) is solely comprised of foreign

currency translation adjustments, which relate to investments that are permanent in nature. To the extent that such amounts relate to investments that are permanent in nature, no adjustments for income taxes are made.

## Effect of Recently Issued Accounting Standards

In September 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) issued Accounting Standards Update ( ASU ) ASU 2011-08, *Testing Goodwill for Impairment* . This standard permits an entity to first perform a qualitative assessment to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying value. If it is concluded that this is the case, it is necessary to perform the currently prescribed two-step goodwill impairment test. Otherwise, the two-step goodwill impairment test is not required. The new standard is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2011. Early adoption is permitted. The Company elected to early adopt the standard for its annual test of goodwill impairment at its China reporting unit as of October 1, 2011. The adoption did not impact the Company's results of operations or financial position.

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## HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.

### NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (in thousands, except share and per share amounts)

#### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

In June 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-05, *Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Presentation of Comprehensive Income*. This standard requires an entity to present the total of comprehensive income, the components of net income, and the components of other comprehensive income either in a single continuous statement of comprehensive income or in two separate but consecutive statements. This standard does not change the items that must be reported in other comprehensive income, how such items are measured or when they must be reclassified to net income. Additionally, the standard does not affect the calculation or reporting of net income and earnings per share. In December 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-12 *Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Deferral of the Effective Date for Amendments to the Presentation of Reclassifications of Items Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income in Accounting Standards Update No. 2011-05*. ASU 2011-12 deferred certain aspects of ASU 2011-05. Among the new provisions in ASU 2011-05 was a requirement for entities to present reclassification adjustments out of accumulated other comprehensive income by component in both the statement in which net income is presented and the other comprehensive income is presented. This requirement is indefinitely deferred by ASU 2011-12 and will be further deliberated by the FASB at a future date. The standard is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011 and should be applied retrospectively. The only component of other comprehensive income currently applicable to the Company is currency translation adjustments, which are presently included in the Consolidated Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity. The adoption of this standard will change the order in which certain financial statements are presented and will not have any impact on the Company's results of operations or financial position.

In May 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-04, *Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRSs*, which amends Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 820, *Fair Value Measurement*. The amended guidance changes the wording used to describe many requirements in GAAP for measuring fair value and for disclosing information about fair value measurements. Currently, the Company primarily applies the non-recurring fair value measurements for new asset retirement obligations and revisions of restructuring reserves. The standard is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011 and is applied prospectively. The Company does not expect the adoption of the standard to have a material impact on the Company's results of operations or financial position.

#### 3. DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS

In the first half of 2009, the Company exited Italy and Japan. In accordance with the provision of ASC 205-20-45 *Reporting Discontinued Operations* the assets, liabilities, and results of operations of the Italy and Japan operations were reclassified as discontinued operations.

In the first quarter of 2008, the Company sold substantially all of the assets of Hudson Americas' energy, engineering and technical staffing division (ETS) to System One Holdings LLC (System One).

In the fourth quarter of 2006, the Company sold its Highland Partners executive search business ( Highland ) to Heidrick & Struggles International, Inc. As a result of Highland achieving certain revenue metrics in 2008, the Company received an additional and final earn-out payment of \$11,625 on April 9, 2009, which was reflected within discontinued operations as a gain from sale of discontinued operations for the year ended December 31, 2009.

Italy was part of the Hudson Europe reportable segment, Japan and T&I were part of the Hudson Asia Pacific reportable segment and ETS was part of the Hudson Americas reportable segment. Highland was a separate reportable segment of the Company at the time of its sale. The gain or loss on sale and results of operations of the disposed businesses were reported in discontinued operations in the relevant periods.

TABLE OF CONTENTS**HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)****3. DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS (continued)**

There were no reported results for the discontinued operations for the year ended December 31, 2011 and the reported results for the discontinued operations were insignificant for the year ended December 31, 2010. The reported results for the discontinued operations for the year ended December 31, 2009 were as follows:

|  | For The Year Ended December 31, 2009 |           |        |        |          |            |
|--|--------------------------------------|-----------|--------|--------|----------|------------|
|  | Italy                                | Japan     | ETS    | T&I    | Highland | Total      |
| Revenue                                    | \$432                                | \$1,022   | \$     | \$     | \$       | \$1,454    |
| Gross margin                               | \$338                                | \$986     | \$ 383 | \$     | \$       | \$1,707    |
| Operating (loss) income                    | \$(2,179)                            | \$(2,624) | \$ 237 | \$     | \$(104 ) | \$(4,670 ) |
| Other (expense) income                     | 699                                  | (247 )    |        | 201    | (1,111 ) | (458 )     |
| Gain from sale of discontinued operations  |                                      |           |        |        | 11,625   | 11,625     |
| Provision for income taxes <sup>(a)</sup>  | 126                                  |           |        | 60     | 3,967    | 4,153      |
| (Loss) income from discontinued operations | \$(1,606)                            | \$(2,871) | \$ 237 | \$ 141 | \$6,443  | \$2,344    |

Income tax expense (benefit) is provided at the effective tax rate by taxing jurisdiction and differs from the U.S. (a)statutory tax rate of 35% for differences in the foreign statutory tax rates, as well as the ability to offset net operating loss carry forwards ( NOLs ) against taxable profits.

Amounts related to assets and liabilities of discontinued operations were insignificant as of December 31, 2011 and 2010.

**4. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT**

Property and equipment consisted of the following:

|   | December 31, |           |
|---|--------------|-----------|
|   | 2011         | 2010      |
| Computer equipment                              | \$ 13,666    | \$ 17,510 |
| Furniture and equipment                         | 9,692        | 13,762    |
| Capitalized software costs                      | 30,920       | 31,800    |
| Leasehold and building improvements             | 21,650       | 23,265    |
|   | 75,928       | 86,337    |
| Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization | 58,090       | 69,744    |
| Property and equipment, net                     | \$ 17,838    | \$ 16,593 |

The Company had expenditures of approximately \$1,137 and \$343 for acquired property and equipment, mainly consisting of computer equipment, leasehold improvements and software development, which had not been placed in service as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Depreciation expense is not recorded for such assets until they are placed in service.

TABLE OF CONTENTS**HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)****4. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT (continued)****Non-Cash Capital Expenditures**

During the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company acquired certain computer equipment under capital lease agreements. The current portion of the capital lease obligations are included under the caption *Accrued expense and other current liabilities* in the Consolidated Balance Sheets and the non-current portion of the capital lease obligations included under the caption *Other non-current liabilities* in the Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2011.

The Company did not have property and equipment acquired under capital lease agreements for the year ended December 31, 2010. A summary of the Company's equipment acquired under capital lease agreements is as follows.

|  | December 31, |      |
|--|--------------|------|
|  | 2011         | 2010 |
| Equipment acquired under capital lease agreements for the year ended | \$ 1,318     | \$   |
| Capital lease obligation, current                                    | 420          |      |
| Capital lease obligation, non-current                                | 720          |      |

**5. GOODWILL**

A summary of changes in the Company's goodwill by reportable segment follows.

|                     | December 31, 2010 | Additions and adjustments | Impairments | Currency translation | December 31, 2011 |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Hudson Asia Pacific | \$ 1,909          | \$                        | \$          | \$ 83                | \$ 1,992          |
|                     | \$ 1,909          | \$                        | \$          | \$ 83                | \$ 1,992          |

|                     | December 31, 2009 | Additions and adjustments | Impairments | Currency translation | December 31, 2010 |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Hudson Asia Pacific | \$                | \$ 1,856                  | \$          | \$ 53                | \$ 1,909          |
|                     | \$                | \$ 1,856                  | \$          | \$ 53                | \$ 1,909          |

The Company tests goodwill for impairment at the reporting unit level. A reporting unit is an operating segment or one level below an operating segment (referred to as a component). A component of an operating segment is a reporting unit if the component constitutes a business for which discrete financial information is available and segment management regularly reviews the operating results of that component.

On October 1, 2011, the Company applied ASU 2011-08, *Testing Goodwill for Impairment* and performed a qualitative assessment to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying value to its China reporting unit where the goodwill was recorded. In the qualitative assessment, the Company considered events and circumstances such as macroeconomic conditions, industry and market considerations, cost factors, overall financial performance and the trend of cash flows, other relevant company-specific events and the cushion between a reporting unit's fair value and carrying amount in the recent fair value calculation. At the conclusion of its assessment, the Company determined that no impairment of goodwill existed as of October 1, 2011.

For the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, to estimate the fair value of a reporting unit, the Company utilized the income approach, a valuation technique which indicates the fair value of the invested capital of a reporting unit based on the value of the cash flows that it is expected to generate in the future. The discounted cash flow method, an application of the income approach, estimates the future cash flows of the reporting unit and discounts these cash flows to their present value equivalents at a rate of return that considers the relative risk of achieving the cash flows and the time value of money. These cash flows indicate the fair value of the invested capital of the reporting unit on a marketable, controlling basis.

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## HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.

### NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (in thousands, except share and per share amounts)

#### 5. GOODWILL (continued)

The Company also considers the market approach, which indicates the fair value of the invested capital of the Company based on the Company's market capitalization. We use the quoted market price method to estimate the fair value of the Company based on the quoted market price in the active markets (NASDAQ). We estimate the Company's market capitalization by multiplying the quoted per share market price multiplied by the number of shares outstanding. As an additional measure, the Company reconciles the aggregate fair value of all of its reporting units, as determined by the discounted cash flow method, with its total market capitalization to determine the reasonableness of the fair value calculations.

In 2010, the Company's financial results continued the improvement which began in the latter half of 2009. However, business and economic conditions remained mixed. As a result, the Company performed an interim test for impairment of the \$1,856 final purchase price payment for its Tong Zhi (Beijing) Consulting Service Ltd. and Guangzhou Dong Li Consulting Ltd. (collectively, TKA) acquisition, which was recorded as goodwill at June 30, 2010. At the conclusion of its testing, the Company determined that no impairment of goodwill existed at June 30, 2010. Management updated its testing for impairment as of October 1 (annual impairment date) and confirmed its earlier determination that no impairment of goodwill existed as of October 1, 2010.

In July 2009, the Company paid a \$1,669 earn-out payment related to the TKA acquisition, which represented additional purchase price and was recorded as goodwill at June 30, 2009. The prevailing economic conditions at year end 2008 had not sufficiently improved during the first-half of 2009 so the Company updated its step one and step two procedures for the China reporting unit as of June 30, 2009. The Company concluded that the entire amount of recorded goodwill was impaired and consequently recorded an impairment charge of \$1,669, which is included in the results for the year ended December 31, 2009 in the accompanying Consolidated Statements of Operations.

The foregoing impairment tests in the determination of the fair value of a reporting unit is judgmental in nature and involves the use of significant estimates and assumptions that the Company believes to be reasonable based on the existing circumstances. Therefore, any value ultimately derived may differ from the Company's estimate of fair value.

#### 6. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The Company did not have derivative instruments as of December 31, 2011 and 2010. In connection with the sale of the assets of Hudson Americas' ETS business in 2008, the Company received warrants, which under certain circumstances, were convertible into cash. These warrants are considered derivative instruments which required fair value measurement. As per ASC 815 *Derivatives and Hedging*, these derivative instruments were considered undesignated derivative instruments. The Company determined the fair value of these instruments using significant unobservable inputs (level 3) as defined in ASC 820 *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*.

For the year ended December 31, 2010, the Company received \$1,650 of cash from the sale of the warrants, which were reported under the caption Proceeds from note and sales of warrants in the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows. The changes in the fair value of the warrants of \$0, \$1,165 and \$488 for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively, are included in the Consolidated Statements of Operations under the caption Other income (expense), net .

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(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)****7. BUSINESS REORGANIZATION EXPENSES**

The Company's Board of Directors (the Board) approved reorganization plans in 2009 (2009 Plan), 2008 (2008 Plan) and 2006 (2006 Plan) to streamline the Company's support operations and included actions to reduce support functions to match them to the scale of the business, to exit underutilized properties and to eliminate contracts for certain discontinued services. These actions resulted in costs for lease termination payments, employee termination benefits and contract cancellations. The 2009 Plan provided for up to \$19,000 for restructuring actions. Business reorganization expense for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 by plan was as follows:

|           | For the year ended December 31, |          |           |
|-----------|---------------------------------|----------|-----------|
|           | 2011                            | 2010     | 2009      |
| 2006 Plan | \$ 739                          | \$ 1,393 | \$ 69     |
| 2008 Plan |                                 | 74       | 1,138     |
| 2009 Plan | (19 )                           | 227      | 16,973    |
| Total     | \$ 720                          | \$ 1,694 | \$ 18,180 |

In the following tables, amounts in the Changes in Estimate and Additional Charges columns represent modifications to amounts charged or recovered for business reorganization expenses in the Company's Consolidated Statements of Operations. Amounts in the Payments column represent the cash payments associated with the reorganization programs. Changes in the accrued business reorganization expenses for the year ended December 31, 2011 were as follows:

| For the Year Ended December 31, 2011 | December 31, 2010 | Changes in Estimate | Additional Charges | Payments    | December 31, 2011 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Lease termination payments           | \$ 2,376          | \$ 708              | \$                 | \$ (1,775 ) | \$ 1,309          |
| Employee termination benefits        | 650               |                     |                    | (575 )      | 75                |
| Contract cancellation costs          | 103               | 12                  |                    | (110 )      | 5                 |
| Total                                | \$ 3,129          | \$ 720              | \$                 | \$ (2,460 ) | \$ 1,389          |

**Lease Termination Payments**

The business reorganization expenses incurred for lease termination payments for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 by segments were as follows:

Lease termination payments for the years ended Hudson Hudson Hudson Corporate Total

| December 31, | America  | Asia<br>Pacific | Europe   |    |          |
|--------------|----------|-----------------|----------|----|----------|
| 2011         | \$       | \$              | \$ 708   | \$ | \$ 708   |
| 2010         | \$ 134   | \$(18 )         | \$ 1,348 | \$ | \$ 1,464 |
| 2009         | \$ 1,086 | \$ 1,450        | \$ 2,685 | \$ | \$ 5,221 |

As of December 31, 2011, the remaining accrual related to approximately four locations and will be paid over the remaining lease terms, which have various expiration dates through 2013. The estimated payments for 2012 are \$780.

## Employee Termination Benefits

The business reorganization expenses incurred for employee termination benefits for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 by segments were as follows:

| Employees termination benefits for the years ended<br>December 31, | Hudson<br>America | Hudson<br>Asia<br>Pacific | Hudson<br>Europe | Corporate | Total     |
|--|-------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 2011   | \$                | \$                        | \$               | \$        | \$        |
| 2010   | \$ 173            | \$(17 )                   | \$ 67            | \$        | \$ 223    |
| 2009   | \$ 4,047          | \$ 1,638                  | \$ 6,724         | \$ 123    | \$ 12,532 |

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TABLE OF CONTENTS**HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)****7. BUSINESS REORGANIZATION EXPENSES (continued)****Contract Cancellation Costs**

The business reorganization expenses incurred for contract cancellation costs for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 by segments were as follows:

| Contract cancellation costs for the years ended<br>December 31, | Hudson<br>America | Hudson<br>Asia<br>Pacific | Hudson<br>Europe | Corporate | Total  |
|---|-------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-----------|--------|
| 2011  | \$                | \$                        | \$ 12            | \$        | \$ 12  |
| 2010  | \$                | \$ 20                     | \$ (13 )         | \$        | \$ 7   |
| 2009  | \$                | \$ 141                    | \$ 273           | \$ 14     | \$ 428 |

**8. ACCRUED EXPENSES AND OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES**

Accrued expenses and other current liabilities consisted of the following:

|                                    | December 31, |           |
|------------------------------------|--------------|-----------|
|                                    | 2011         | 2010      |
| Salaries, commissions and benefits | \$ 44,625    | \$ 43,580 |
| Sales, use and income taxes        | 13,119       | 13,244    |
| Fees for professional services     | 1,635        | 2,149     |
| Rent                               | 1,806        | 1,897     |
| Other accruals                     | 13,063       | 14,120    |
|                                    | \$ 74,248    | \$ 74,990 |

**9. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION AND STOCK  
COMPENSATION PLANS****Incentive Compensation Plan**

The Company maintains the Hudson Highland Group, Inc. 2009 Incentive Stock and Awards Plan (the "ISAP") pursuant to which it can issue equity-based compensation incentives to eligible participants. The ISAP permits the granting of stock options and restricted stock as well as other types of equity-based awards. The Compensation Committee of the Company's Board of Directors (the "Compensation Committee") will establish such conditions as it

deems appropriate on the granting or vesting of stock options or restricted stock. While the Company historically granted both stock options and restricted stock to its employees, since 2008 the Company has granted primarily restricted stock to its employees.

The ISAP provides that an aggregate of 1,600,000 shares of the Company's common stock are reserved for issuance to participants. On December 31, 2011, there were 426,425 shares of the Company's common stock available for future issuance. The Compensation Committee administers the ISAP and may designate any of the following as a participant under the ISAP: any officer or other employee of the Company or its affiliates or individuals engaged to become an officer or employee, consultants or other independent contractors who provide services to the Company or its affiliates and non-employee directors of the Company. On February 24, 2012, the Company's Board of Directors amended the ISAP to increase Company's common stock that are reserved for issuance to participants by 2,500,000 shares, which is subject to approval by the Company's stockholders at the Company's annual meeting to be held on April 26, 2012.

The Company also maintains the Director Deferred Share Plan (the Director Plan) pursuant to which it can issue restricted stock units to its non-employee directors. A restricted stock unit is equivalent to one share of the Company's common stock and is payable only in common stock issued under the ISAP upon a director ceasing service as a member of the Board of Directors of the Company.

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**HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)**

**9. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION AND STOCK  
COMPENSATION PLANS (continued)**

**Stock-based Compensation**

The Company recognized expenses of \$3,221, \$1,724 and \$999 in the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009 respectively, for stock options, restricted stock and restricted stock unit awards. These expenses are included under the caption "Salaries and related" in the accompanying Consolidated Statements of Operations. In accordance with ASC 718, the Company reflects the tax savings resulting from tax deductions in excess of income tax benefits as a financing cash flow in its Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows rather than as an operating cash flow as in prior periods. The Company recognized a current tax benefit for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009, of \$285, \$132 and \$100, respectively, in certain foreign jurisdictions where the Company has taxable income. As of December 31, 2011, unrecognized compensation expense related to the unvested portion of the Company's stock options and restricted stock, and restricted stock unit awards, based on the Company's historical valuation treatment, was \$3,851, \$2,426 and \$387, respectively, and was expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 1.7 years, 1.5 years and 2.2 years, respectively. All share issuances related to stock compensation plans are issued from unissued shares of stockholder approved compensation plans.

**Stock Options**

The fair value of stock options granted is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model. Expected volatilities are calculated based on the historical volatility of the Company's common stock. Management monitors stock option exercise and employee termination patterns to estimate forfeiture rates. The Company analyzed its historical forfeiture rate, the remaining lives of unvested options and the amount of vested options as a percentage of total options outstanding. If the Company's actual forfeiture rate is materially different from its estimate, or if the Company reevaluates the forfeiture rate in the future, the stock-based compensation expense could be significantly different from what was recorded in the current periods. The risk-free interest rate is based on the U.S. Treasury, the term of which is consistent with the expected term of the option. Volatility is determined using historical prices to estimate the expected future fluctuations in the Company's share price. The dividend rate is assumed to be zero as the Company has never paid dividends on its common stock and does not anticipate paying dividends in the foreseeable future. For awards with graded vesting conditions, the values of the awards are determined by valuing each tranche separately and expensing each tranche over the required service period.

In December 2007, the SEC staff issued SAB 110, which allows companies to continue to use the simplified method, as defined in SAB 107, to estimate the expected term of stock options under certain circumstances. The simplified method for estimating expected term uses the mid-point between the vesting term and the contractual term of the stock option. The Company has analyzed the circumstances in which the use of the simplified method is allowed. The

Company has opted to use the simplified method for stock options the Company granted in 2011 because management believes that the Company does not have sufficient historical exercise data to provide a reasonable basis for a better estimate of the expected term of stock options. There was only one stock option award in 2011 and there were no stock options granted in 2010 or 2009.

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(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)****9. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION AND STOCK  
COMPENSATION PLANS (continued)**

The following were the weighted average assumptions used to determine the fair value of stock options granted by the Company and the details of option activity as of and for the respective periods:

|  | For the years ended |        |        |
|--|---------------------|--------|--------|
|  | December 31,        |        |        |
|  | 2011                | 2010   | 2009   |
| Risk free interest rate  | 2.3 %               | (a)    | (a)    |
| Volatility   | 75.1 %              | (a)    | (a)    |
| Expected life (years)  | 6.25                | (a)    | (a)    |
| Dividends  | 0.0 %               | (a)    | (a)    |
| Weighted average fair value of options granted during the period | \$3.5 %             | \$ (a) | \$ (a) |

(a) Stock option assumptions are not provided above because there were no options granted during the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009.

During the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company granted to its Chairman and Chief Executive Officer 400,000 stock options with service-based vesting conditions that will vest (i) 50% on the second anniversary of the date of grant, and (ii) 50% on the third anniversary of the date of grant. The stock options were granted outside of the Company's ISAP in connection with the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer's commencement of employment with the Company in May 2011.

Changes in the Company's stock options for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 were as follows:

|  | Number of<br>Options<br>Outstanding | Weighted<br>Average<br>Exercise<br>Price<br>per Share |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| Options outstanding at January 1, 2011   | 1,548,300                           | \$ 12.64  |
| Granted                                  | 400,000                             | 5.18  |
| Expired                                  | (551,950 )                          | 10.47   |
| Options outstanding at December 31, 2011 | 1,396,350                           | 11.36   |
| Options exercisable at December 31, 2011 | 983,850                             | \$ 13.96  |

The weighted average remaining contractual term and the aggregated intrinsic value for stock options outstanding as

of December 31, 2011 was approximately 5.1 years and \$0, respectively. The weighted average remaining contractual term and the aggregated intrinsic value for options exercisable as of December 31, 2011 was 3.4 years and \$0, respectively. The total intrinsic value for stock options exercised, based on the closing price of the Company's common stock during the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009 was \$0, \$0, and \$0, respectively.

There were no cash proceeds from the exercise of stock options for the year ended December 31, 2011, and there were no associated income tax benefits. The total fair value of stock options vested during the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009, was \$411, \$862, and \$3,793, respectively.

## Restricted Stock

During the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company granted 743,625 shares of restricted stock to various employees. Shares of restricted stock with only service-based vesting conditions and shares of restricted stock with performance-based vesting conditions are valued at the closing market value of the Company's common stock on the date of grant. The Company recognizes compensation cost for the awards with performance conditions if and when the Company concludes that it is probable that the performance conditions will be achieved. Of the 743,625 shares granted, (i) 14,000 shares vested immediately,

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(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)****9. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION AND STOCK  
COMPENSATION PLANS (continued)**

(ii) 381,625 shares vest ratably over a three year period from the date of grant, (iii) 3,000 shares vest ratably over a four year period from the date of grant (iv) 316,000 shares vest ratably over a three year period from the date of grant based on the Company's gross margin and earnings before interest, income taxes, depreciation and amortization ( EBITDA ) for the year ending December 31, 2011, (v) 15,000 shares vest one-third on December 1 in each of 2011, 2012 and 2013, (vi) 10,000 shares vest one-third on February 16 in each of 2012, 2013 and 2014, and (vii) 4,000 shares vest one-fourth on April 1 in each of 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015.

The Company treated its restricted stock awards to employees as having been issued and measured at the fair market value on the date of grant. The Company may grant restricted stock to employees under the ISAP. These shares are provided at no cost to the employee.

Changes in the Company's restricted stock for the year ended December 31, 2011 were as follows:

|  | Number of<br>Shares of<br>Restricted<br>Stock | Weighted<br>Average<br>Grant Date<br>Fair Value |
|--|---|---|
| Non-vested restricted stock at January 1, 2011   | 953,037                                       | \$ 3.64   |
| Granted  | 743,625                                       | 6.22  |
| Vested   | (295,065 )                                    | 4.09  |
| Forfeited  | (235,515 )                                    | 3.86  |
| Non-vested restricted stock at December 31, 2011 | 1,166,082                                     | \$ 5.12   |

The total fair value of restricted shares vested during the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009, was \$1,207, \$481 and \$1,496, respectively.

**Restricted Stock Units**

During the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company granted 27,376 restricted stock units to its non-employee directors pursuant to the Director Plan. The restricted stock units vest immediately upon grant and are credited to each of the non-employee director's retirement accounts under the Director Plan.

In addition, during the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company granted 100,000 restricted stock units to its Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. The restricted stock units will vest (i) 50% on the second anniversary of the date of grant, (ii) 25% on the third anniversary of the date of grant, and (iii) 25% on the fourth anniversary of the date

of grant. Restricted stock units are valued at the closing market value of the Company's common stock on the date of grant. The 100,000 restricted stock units were granted outside of the ISAP in connection with the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer's commencement of employment with the Company in May 2011.

|  | Number of<br>Shares of<br>Restricted<br>Stock Unit | Weighted<br>Average<br>Grant-Date<br>Fair Value<br>\$ |
|--|--|---|
| Non-vested restricted stock units, beginning of year   |  |   |
| Granted  | 127,376  | 5.37  |
| Vested   | (27,376 )  | 6.05  |
| Non-vested restricted stock units at December 31, 2011 | 100,000  | \$ 5.18   |

The total fair value of restricted stock units vested during the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009, was \$166, \$147 and \$92, respectively.

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(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)****9. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION AND STOCK  
COMPENSATION PLANS (continued)****Defined Contribution Plans**

The Company maintains the Hudson Highland Group, Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan (the 401(k) plan). The 401(k) plan allows eligible employees to contribute up to 15% of their earnings to the 401(k) plan subject to the limitations of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. The Company matches employees' contributions up to 3% through a contribution of the Company's common stock. Vesting of the Company's contribution occurs over a five-year period. Expense for this plan for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 was \$686, \$610, and \$622, respectively. In March 2011, the Company issued 91,944 shares of its common stock with a value of \$602 to satisfy the 2010 contribution liability to the 401(k) plan. In March 2010, the Company issued 121,016 shares of its common stock with a value of \$541 plus cash of \$111 to satisfy the 2009 contribution liability to the 401(k) plan. In March 2009, the Company issued 1,318,161 shares of its common stock with a value of \$1,226 to satisfy the 2008 contribution liability to the 401(k) plan.

**10. PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES****Income Tax Provision**

The domestic and foreign components of income (loss) before income taxes from continuing operations were as follows:

|  | Year ended December 31, |           |            |
|--|-------------------------|-----------|------------|
|  | 2011                    | 2010      | 2009       |
| Domestic   | \$6,313                 | \$1,821   | \$(21,843) |
| Foreign  | 9,935                   | (4,780)   | (26,860)   |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations before provision for income taxes | \$16,248                | \$(2,959) | \$(48,703) |

The provision for (benefit from) income taxes from continuing operations was as follows:

|                                  | Year ended December 31, |      |           |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|------|-----------|
|                                  | 2011                    | 2010 | 2009      |
| Current tax provision (benefit): |                         |      |           |
| U.S. Federal                     | \$                      | \$   | \$(3,700) |

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|                                  |          |          |             |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|-------------|
| State and local                  | 239      | (819 )   | 115         |
| Foreign                          | 3,828    | 2,524    | 1,376       |
| Total current                    | 4,067    | 1,705    | (2,209 )    |
| Deferred tax (benefit) provision |          |          |             |
| U.S. Federal                     |          |          |             |
| State and local                  |          |          |             |
| Foreign                          | 1,272    | (223 )   | (3,541 )    |
| Total deferred                   | 1,272    | (223 )   | (3,541 )    |
| Total provision                  | \$ 5,339 | \$ 1,482 | \$ (5,750 ) |

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(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)****10. PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES (continued)****Deferred Taxes**

Deferred income taxes are provided for the tax effect of temporary differences between the financial reporting basis and the tax basis of assets and liabilities. Significant temporary differences at December 31, 2011 and 2010 were:

|   | December 31, |            |
|---|--------------|------------|
|   | 2011         | 2010       |
| Current deferred tax assets (liabilities):                  |              |            |
| Allowance for doubtful accounts                             | \$ 362       | \$ 572     |
| Prepaid expenses  | (543 )       | (428 )     |
| Accrued and other current liabilities                       | 1,077        | 2,162      |
| Accrued compensation liabilities                            | 3,763        | 3,597      |
| Tax loss carry-forwards                                     |              | 152        |
|   | 4,659        | 6,055      |
| Valuation allowance   | (566 )       | (739 )     |
| Total current deferred tax asset                            | 4,093        | 5,316      |
| Non-current deferred tax assets (liabilities):              |              |            |
| Property and equipment                                      | 2,093        | 2,540      |
| Goodwill and intangibles                                    | 18,467       | 22,584     |
| Accrued and other current liabilities and other liabilities | 1,062        | 1,342      |
| Deferred compensation                                       | 3,735        | 4,238      |
| Other   | 1,873        | 1,786      |
| Tax loss carry-forwards                                     | 132,298      | 130,155    |
|   | 159,528      | 162,645    |
| Valuation allowance   | (151,217 )   | (154,329 ) |
| Total non-current deferred tax asset (liability)            | 8,311        | 8,316      |
| Net deferred tax assets                                     | \$ 12,404    | \$ 13,632  |

Net deferred tax assets were included in other current assets and other assets in the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheets.

**Net Operating Losses ( NOLs ) and Valuation Allowance**

At December 31, 2011, the Company had net NOLs for U.S. Federal tax purposes of approximately \$285,388. This total includes approximately \$16,584 of tax losses that were not absorbed by Monster on its consolidated U.S. Federal tax returns through the Distribution Date. NOLs expire at various dates through 2031. The NOL balance does not

include a deduction in the amount of \$4,845 attributable to stock options and restricted stock until such time as the Company recognizes the deferred tax asset associated with such deduction. The Company's utilization of NOLs is subject to an annual limitation imposed by Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code, which may limit our ability to utilize all of the existing NOLs before the expiration dates. As of December 31, 2011, certain international subsidiaries had NOLs for local tax purposes of \$80,470. With the exception of \$73,439 of NOLs with an indefinite carry forward period as of December 31, 2011, these losses will expire at various dates through 2031, with \$174 scheduled to expire during 2012.

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**HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)**

**10. PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES (continued)**

ASC 740-10-30-5 requires that a valuation allowance be established when it is more likely than not that all or a portion of a deferred tax asset will not be realized. In making this assessment, management considers the level of historical taxable income, scheduled reversal of deferred tax liabilities, tax planning strategies, and projected future taxable income. The valuation allowance of \$126,348 relates to the deferred tax asset for NOLs, \$108,447 of which is U.S. Federal and state, and \$17,901 of which is foreign, that management has determined will more likely than not expire prior to realization, and \$25,435 which relates to deferred tax assets on U.S. and foreign temporary differences that management estimates will not be realized due to the Company's U.S. and foreign tax losses.

Tax years with NOLs remain open until the losses expire or the statutes of limitations for those years expire. The open tax years are 2008 through 2011 for the U.S. Federal and 2005 through 2011 for most state and local jurisdictions, 2009 through 2011 for the U.K., 2007 through 2011 for Australia and 2003 through 2011 for most other jurisdictions.

The Company is currently under income tax examination in the State of Pennsylvania (2004-2009), Illinois (2008-2009) and New Zealand (2009). The Company believes that its tax reserves are adequate for all years subject to examination.

**Uncertain Tax Positions**

Earnings from the Company's global operations are subject to tax in various jurisdictions both within and outside the United States. The Company provides tax reserves for U.S. Federal, state, local and international unrecognized tax benefits for all periods subject to audit. The development of reserves for these exposures requires judgments about tax issues, potential outcomes and timing, and is a subjective critical estimate. The Company assesses its tax positions and records tax benefits for all years subject to examination based upon management's evaluation of the facts, circumstances, and information available at the reporting dates. For those tax positions where it is more-likely-than-not that a tax benefit will be sustained, the Company has recorded the largest amount of tax benefit with a greater than 50% likelihood of being realized upon settlement with a tax authority that has full knowledge of all relevant information. For those tax positions where it is not more-likely-than-not that a tax benefit will be sustained, no tax benefit has been recognized in the financial statements. Where applicable, associated interest and penalties have also been recognized. Although the outcome related to these exposures is uncertain, in management's opinion, adequate provisions for income taxes have been made for estimable potential liabilities emanating from these exposures. In certain circumstances, the ultimate outcome for exposures and risks involve significant uncertainties which render them inestimable. If actual outcomes differ materially from these estimates, including those that cannot be quantified, they could have material impact on the Company's results of operations.

The Company had \$7,807 and \$8,303 of unrecognized tax benefits, including interest and penalties, at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. If these amounts were recognized, they would affect the Company's effective tax rate. These unrecognized tax benefits are related to tax positions in jurisdictions in which the Company does not have tax

losses to offset the tax liability with respect to the uncertain tax positions. During 2011, the income tax audits and examinations noted above remained pending. On the basis of the information available in this regard as of December 31, 2011, it is reasonably possible that a reduction in the range of \$200 to \$3,700 of unrecognized tax benefits may occur in 2012 as a result of projected resolutions of global tax examinations and controversies or by lapsing statutes of limitations.

The Company recognizes interest accrued and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits in tax expense. The Company recognized a net benefit of approximately \$230, a net benefit of approximately \$93, and an expense of approximately \$320 in interest and penalties for 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. At December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company had accrued approximately \$1,644 and \$1,895 for the payment of interest and penalties, respectively which if recognized in the future, would affect the annual effective income tax rate as of December 31, 2011 and 2010.

TABLE OF CONTENTS**HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)****10. PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES (continued)**

The following table shows a reconciliation of the beginning and ending amounts of unrecognized tax benefits, exclusive of interest and penalties:

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Balance at January 1, 2011                                   | \$ 6,408 |
| Additions based on tax positions related to the current year | 302      |
| Additions for tax positions of prior years                   | 239      |
| Reductions for tax positions of prior years                  | (59 )    |
| Settlements  | (198 )   |
| Lapse of statute of limitations                              | (568 )   |
| Currency Translation   | 39       |
| Balance at December 31, 2011                                 | \$ 6,163 |

**Tax Rate Reconciliation:**

The effective tax rate differs from the U.S. Federal statutory rate of 35% due to the inability to recognize tax benefits on net U.S. losses, state taxes, non-deductible expenses such as certain acquisition related payments, variations from the U.S. tax rate in foreign jurisdictions and taxes on repatriations of foreign profits. The following is a reconciliation of the effective tax rate from continuing operations for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 to the U.S. Federal statutory rate of 35%:

|   | Year ended December 31, |           |            |
|---|-------------------------|-----------|------------|
|   | 2011                    | 2010      | 2009       |
| Provision for (benefit from) continuing operations at Federal statutory rate of 35% | \$5,687                 | \$(1,036) | \$(17,046) |
| State income taxes, net of Federal income tax effect                                | 155                     | (532 )    | 75         |
| Change in valuation allowance   | (3,284)                 | 2,970     | 8,060      |
| Non-deductible goodwill impairment charges  |                         |           | 600        |
| Taxes related to foreign income   | (112 )                  | (467 )    | 1,004      |
| Nondeductible expenses and others   | 2,893                   | 547       | 1,557      |
| Provision for (benefit from) income tax   | \$5,339                 | \$1,482   | \$(5,750 ) |

Federal income and foreign withholding taxes have not been provided on the undistributed earnings of foreign subsidiaries at December 31, 2011. The Company intends to reinvest these earnings in its foreign operations indefinitely, except where it is able to repatriate these earnings to the United States without a material incremental tax provision. The determination and estimation of the future income tax consequences in all relevant taxing jurisdictions involves the application of highly complex tax laws in the countries involved, particularly in the United States, and is

based on the tax profile of the Company in the year of earnings repatriation. Accordingly, it is not practicable to determine the amount of tax associated with such undistributed earnings.

The Company had a net current income tax payable of \$1,136 and \$698 at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

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**HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)**

**11. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

**Leases**

The Company leases facilities and equipment under operating leases that expire at various dates through 2027. Some of the operating leases provide for increasing rents over the term of the lease. Total rent expense under these leases is recognized ratably over the lease terms. As of December 31, 2011, future minimum lease commitments under non-cancelable operating leases, which will be expensed as direct costs (for contractor project space) and office and general expenses, were as follows:

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| 2012       | \$ 26,819  |
| 2013       | 22,432     |
| 2014       | 18,591     |
| 2015       | 15,592     |
| 2016       | 13,426     |
| Thereafter | 31,254     |
|            | \$ 128,114 |

Rent and related expenses for operating leases of facilities and equipment recorded under the caption Office and general in the accompanying Consolidated Statements of Operations were \$20,193, \$19,285, and \$21,397 for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009, respectively. Commitments based in currencies other than U.S. dollars were translated using exchange rates as of December 31, 2011.

The Company has certain asset retirement obligations that are primarily the result of legal obligations for the removal of leasehold improvements and restoration of premises to their original condition upon termination of leases. As of December 31, 2011 and 2010, \$2,808 and \$2,825, respectively, of asset retirement obligations were included in the Consolidated Balance Sheets, of which \$2,507 and \$2,627, respectively, were included under the caption other non-current liabilities.

**Consulting, Employment and Non-compete Agreements**

The Company has entered into various consulting, employment and non-compete agreements with certain key management personnel and former owners of acquired businesses. Agreements with key members of management are generally one year in length, on an at-will basis, provide for compensation and severance payments under certain circumstances and are automatically renewed annually unless either party gives sufficient notice of termination. Agreements with certain consultants and former owners of acquired businesses are generally two to five years in length.

## Litigation and Complaints

The Company is subject, from time to time, to various claims, lawsuits, and other complaints from, for example, clients, candidates, suppliers, landlords, regulators or tax authorities arising in the ordinary course of business. The Company routinely monitors claims such as these, and records provisions for losses when the claim becomes probable and the amount due is estimable. Although the outcome of these claims cannot be determined, the Company believes that the final resolution of these matters will not have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, results of operations or liquidity.

For matters that have reached the threshold of probable and estimable, the Company has established reserves for legal, regulatory and other contingent liabilities. The Company's reserves were not significant as of December 31, 2011 and 2010.

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## **HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.**

### **NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (in thousands, except share and per share amounts)**

#### **11. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (continued)**

##### **Matters Under Appeal**

The Company has an appeal underway with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania regarding income tax. All appeals in Pennsylvania carry statutory automatic liens in the amount of the matter. The lien is \$3,508 on the U.S. operating company for which the Company has posted a security bond amounting to 120 percent of the lien. The Company does not expect this bond to be drawn.

#### **12. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

After the Distribution Date, the Company was no longer included in Monster's consolidated group for U.S. Federal income tax purposes. The Company and Monster entered into a tax separation agreement to reflect the Company's separation from Monster with respect to tax matters. The primary purpose of the tax separation agreement is to reflect each party's rights and obligations relating to payments and refunds of taxes that are attributable to periods before and including the Distribution date and any taxes resulting from transactions in connection with the Distribution. The Company has agreed to indemnify Monster for any tax liability attributable to the Distribution resulting from any action taken by the Company.

#### **13. CREDIT AGREEMENTS**

##### **Credit Agreement with RBS Citizens Business Capital**

On August 5, 2010, the Company and certain of its North American and U.K. subsidiaries entered into a senior secured revolving credit facility with RBS Citizens Business Capital, a division of RBS Asset Finance, Inc. ( "RBS" ), and on February 22, 2012, the Company and certain of its North American and U.K. subsidiaries entered into an amendment to the senior secured revolving credit facility with RBS (as amended, the "Revolver Agreement" ). The Revolver Agreement provides the Company with the ability to borrow up to \$40,000, including the issuance of letters of credit. The Company may increase the maximum borrowing amount to \$50,000, subject to certain conditions including lender acceptance. Extensions of credit are based on a percentage of the eligible accounts receivable from the U.K. and North America operations, less required reserves. In connection with the Revolver Agreement, the Company incurred and capitalized approximately \$1,457 of deferred financing costs, which are being amortized over the term of the agreement. The maturity date of the Revolver Agreement is August 5, 2014. Prior to the amendment, borrowings could be made with an interest rate based on a base rate plus 2% or on the LIBOR rate for the applicable period plus 3%. The applicable margin for each rate is based on the Company's Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio (as defined in the Revolver Agreement). Borrowings under the Revolver Agreement are secured by substantially all of the assets of the Company.

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The amendment, which was deemed to be effective on February 1, 2012, lowered the unused credit line fee, which is set at one of two rates depending upon the Company's credit line usage under the Revolver Agreement, from 0.625% per annum to 0.50% per annum and from 0.40% per annum to 0.375% per annum. The amendment also lowered the applicable margin for the interest rate on borrowings based on the Company's Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio (as defined in the Revolver Agreement) as follows:

| Level | Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio                              | Base Rate<br>Revolving<br>Loans | LIBOR<br>Revolving<br>Loans or Letter<br>of<br>Credit<br>Obligations |
|-------|--|---------------------------------|--|
| I     | Greater than or equal to 1.25:1.0                        | 1.25%                           | 2.25%  |
| II    | Less than 1.25:1.0 but greater than or equal to 1.10:1.0 | 1.50%                           | 2.50%  |
| III   | Less than 1.10:1.0                                       | 1.75%                           | 2.75%  |

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(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)****13. CREDIT AGREEMENTS (continued)**

The details of the Revolver Agreement as of December 31, 2011 were as follows:

|   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
|   | December<br>31,<br>2011 |
| Borrowing base                          | \$ 33,080               |
| Less: adjustments to the borrowing base |                         |
| Minimum availability                    | (5,000 )                |
| Outstanding letters of credits          | (2,655 )                |
| Adjusted borrowing base                 | 25,425                  |
| Less: outstanding borrowing             |                         |
| Additional borrowing availability       | \$ 25,425               |
| Interest rates on outstanding borrowing | 5.25 %                  |

The Revolver Agreement contains various restrictions and covenants including: (1) a requirement to maintain a minimum excess availability of \$10,000<sup>(a)</sup> until such time as for two consecutive fiscal quarters (i) the Company's Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio is at least 1.2x and (ii) the Company's North American and U.K. operations, for the four fiscal quarters then ending, have an EBITDA (as defined in the Revolver Agreement) for such twelve month period of not less than \$500 as of the end of each fiscal quarter during the fiscal year 2011 and \$1,000 at the end of each fiscal quarter thereafter; thereafter a requirement to maintain a minimum availability of \$5,000, a Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio of at least 1.1x and EBITDA (as defined in the Revolver Agreement) for the Company's North American and U.K. operations of at least \$500 during the fiscal year 2011 and \$1,000 thereafter; (2) a limit on the payment of dividends of not more than \$5,000 per year and subject to certain conditions; (3) restrictions on the ability of the Company to make additional borrowings, acquire, merge or otherwise fundamentally change the ownership of the Company or repurchase the Company's stock; (4) a limit on investments, and a limit on acquisitions of not more than \$25,000 in cash and \$25,000 in non-cash consideration per year, subject to certain conditions set forth in the Revolver Agreement; and (5) a limit on dispositions of assets of not more than \$4,000 per year. The Company was in compliance with all financial covenants under the Revolver Agreement as of December 31, 2011.

**Credit Agreement with Westpac Banking Corporation**

On November 29, 2011, certain Australian and New Zealand subsidiaries of the Company entered into a Facility Agreement, dated November 29, 2011 (the Facility Agreement), with Westpac Banking Corporation and Westpac New Zealand Limited (collectively, Westpac).

The Facility Agreement provides three tranches: (a) an invoice discounting facility of up to \$20,416 (AUD20,000)

( Tranche A ) for an Australian subsidiary of the Company, which is based on an agreed percentage of eligible accounts receivable; (b) an overdraft facility of up to \$2,722 (NZD3,500) ( Tranche B ) for a New Zealand subsidiary of the Company; and (c) a financial guarantee facility of up to \$5,104 (AUD5,000) ( Tranche C ) for the Australian subsidiary.

The Facility Agreement does not have a stated maturity date and can be terminated by Westpac upon 90 days written notice. Borrowings under Tranche A may be made with an interest rate based on the Invoice Finance 30-day Bank Bill Rate (as defined in the Facility Agreement) plus a margin of 0.75%, which was 6.47% as of December 31, 2011. Borrowings under Tranche B may be made with an interest rate based on the Commercial Lending Rate (as defined in the Facility Agreement) plus a margin of 0.83%, which was 6.03% as of December 31, 2011. Each of Tranche A and Tranche B bears a fee, payable monthly, equal to 0.65% of the size of Westpac's commitment under such tranche. Borrowings under Tranche C may be made incurring a fee equal to 1.10% of the face value of the financial guarantee requested. Amounts owing under the Facility

(a) Effective July 1, 2011, the minimum excess availability was reduced to \$5,000 as a result of the Company meeting the aforementioned requirements.

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(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)****13. CREDIT AGREEMENTS (continued)**

Agreement are secured by substantially all of the assets of the Australian subsidiary, its Australian parent company and the New Zealand subsidiary (collectively, the Obligors ) and certain of their subsidiaries.

The details of the Facility Agreement as of December 31, 2011 were as follows:

|   | December<br>31,<br>2011 |
|---|-------------------------|
| Tranche A:                              |                         |
| Borrowing capacity                      | \$ 20,416               |
| Less: outstanding borrowing             | (3,384 )                |
| Additional borrowing availability       | \$ 17,032               |
| Interest rates on outstanding borrowing | 6.47 %                  |
| Tranche B:                              |                         |
| Borrowing capacity                      | \$ 2,722                |
| Less: outstanding borrowing             |                         |
| Additional borrowing availability       | \$ 2,722                |
| Interest rates on outstanding borrowing | 6.03 %                  |
| Tranche C:                              |                         |
| Borrowing capacity                      | \$ 5,104                |
| Less: outstanding borrowing             |                         |
| Additional borrowing availability       | \$ 5,104                |
| Interest rates on outstanding borrowing | 1.10 %                  |

The Facility Agreement contains various restrictions and covenants applicable to the Obligors and certain of their subsidiaries, including (a) a requirement that the Obligors maintain (1) a minimum Tangible Net Worth (as defined in the Facility Agreement) as of the last day of each calendar quarter of not less than the higher of 85% of the Tangible

Net Worth as of the last day of the previous calendar year and \$ 17,864 (AUD17,500); (2) at all times, a minimum Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio (as defined in the Facility Agreement) of 1.5x for the trailing twelve month period; and

(3) a maximum Borrowing Base Ratio (as defined in the Facility Agreement) as of the last day of each calendar quarter of not more than 0.8; and (b) a limitation on certain intercompany payments with permitted payments outside the Obligor group restricted to a defined amount derived from the net profits of the Obligors and their subsidiaries.

The Company was in compliance with all financial covenants under the Facility Agreement as of December 31, 2011.

**Other Credit Agreements**

The Company also has lending arrangements with local banks through its subsidiaries in Belgium, the Netherlands,

Singapore and Mainland China. As of December 31, 2011, the Netherlands subsidiary could borrow up to \$3,515 (€2,712) based on an agreed percentage of accounts receivable related to its operations. In May 2011, the Belgium subsidiary replaced its previous accounts receivable based lending arrangement with a \$1,296 (€1,000) overdraft facility with the same financial institution effective July 1, 2011. Borrowings under the Belgium and the Netherlands lending arrangements may be made with an interest rate based on the one month EURIBOR plus a margin, and were 3.4% and 3.7%, respectively, as of December 31, 2011. The lending arrangement in the Netherlands expires annually each June, but can be renewed for one year periods at that time. The lending arrangement in Belgium has no expiration date and can be terminated with a 15 day notice period. In Singapore, the Company's subsidiary can borrow up to \$771 (SGD 1,000) for working capital purposes effective January 28, 2011. Interest on borrowings under this overdraft facility is based on the Singapore Prime Rate, plus 1.75%, and was 6% on December 31, 2011. The Singapore overdraft facility expires annually each August, but can be renewed for one year periods at that time. In Mainland China, the

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**HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)**

**13. CREDIT AGREEMENTS (continued)**

Company's subsidiary can borrow up to \$1,000 for working capital purposes. Interest on borrowings under this overdraft facility is based on the People's Republic of China's six month rate, plus 200 basis points, and was 8.1% on December 31, 2011. This overdraft facility expires annually each September, but can be renewed for one year periods at that time. There were no outstanding borrowings under the Belgium, the Netherlands, Singapore and Mainland China lending agreements as of December 31, 2011.

The average outstanding borrowings for the Revolver Agreement, Facility Agreement and the various credit agreements in Belgium, the Netherlands, Singapore and Mainland China was \$12,489 for the year ended December 31, 2011. The weighted average interest rate on all outstanding borrowings for the year ended December 31, 2011 was 6.25%.

The Company continues to use the aforementioned credit to support its ongoing global working capital requirements, capital expenditures and other corporate purposes and to support letters of credit. Letters of credit and bank guarantees are used primarily to support office leases.

**14. SHELF REGISTRATION AND STOCKHOLDER RIGHTS PLAN**

**Acquisition Shelf Registration Statement**

The Company has a shelf registration on file with the SEC to enable it to issue up to 1,350,000 shares of its common stock from time to time in connection with acquisitions of businesses, assets or securities of other companies, whether by purchase, merger or any other form of acquisition or business combination. If any shares are issued using this shelf registration, the Company will not receive any proceeds from these offerings other than the assets, businesses or securities acquired. As of December 31, 2011, all of the 1,350,000 shares were available for issuance.

**Shelf Registration and Common Stock Offering**

In December 2009, the Company filed a shelf registration statement (the 2009 Shelf Registration) with the SEC to enable it to issue up to \$30,000 equivalent of securities or combinations of securities. The types of securities permitted for issuance under the 2009 Shelf Registration are debt securities, common stock, preferred stock, warrants, stock purchase contracts and stock purchase units.

On April 6, 2010, the Company issued in a registered public offering under the 2009 Shelf Registration 4,830,000 shares (which includes the exercise of the underwriter's overallotment option of 630,000 shares) of common stock at \$4.35 per share. Net proceeds to the Company after underwriting discounts and expenses of the public offering were

approximately \$19,167.

After this offering, the Company may issue up to \$8,990 equivalent of securities or combinations of securities under the 2009 Shelf Registration.

## Stockholder Rights Plan

On February 2, 2005, the Board declared a dividend of one preferred share purchase right (a Right ) for each outstanding share of common stock of the Company. The dividend was paid upon the close of business on February 28, 2005 to the stockholders of record on that date. Each Right entitles the registered holder to purchase from the Company one one-hundredth of a share of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock, par value \$.001 ( Preferred Shares ), of the Company, at a price of \$60 per one one-hundredth of a Preferred Share, subject to adjustment. If any person becomes a 15% or more stockholder of the Company, then each Right (subject to certain limitations) will entitle its holder to purchase, at the Right s then current exercise price, a number of shares of common stock of the Company or of the acquirer having a market value at the time of twice the Right s per share exercise price. The Company s Board of Directors may redeem the Rights for \$.001 per Right at any time prior to the time when the Rights become exercisable. Unless the Rights are redeemed, exchanged or terminated earlier, they will expire on February 28, 2015.

TABLE OF CONTENTS**HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)****15. SEGMENT AND GEOGRAPHIC DATA**

In the fourth quarter of 2011, the Company reorganized its leadership team to align the Company's operations with its business strategy to run its global operations in three regions. As a result, the Company revised its reportable segments by aggregating the segments of Hudson Australia New Zealand and Hudson Asia into one segment, Hudson Asia Pacific. The Company has reclassified information for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009 to reflect this change to the segment reporting in accordance with the requirements of ASC 280-10-50-1 to 9 *Operating Segments* and ASC 280-10-50-10 *Reportable Segments*.

The Company operates in three reportable segments: the Hudson regional businesses of Hudson Americas, Hudson Asia Pacific, and Hudson Europe. Corporate expenses are reported separately from the three reportable segments and pertain to certain functions, such as executive management, corporate governance, human resources, accounting, administration, tax and treasury, the majority of which are attributable to and have been allocated to the reportable segments. Segment information is presented in accordance with ASC 280, *Segments Reporting*. This standard is based on a management approach that requires segmentation based upon the Company's internal organization and disclosure of revenue and certain expenses based upon internal accounting methods. The Company's financial reporting systems present various data for management to run the business, including internal profit and loss statements prepared on a basis not consistent with generally accepted accounting principles. Accounts receivable, net and long-lived assets are the only significant assets separated by segment for internal reporting purposes.

|  | Hudson<br>Americas | Hudson<br>Asia<br>Pacific <sup>(b)</sup> | Hudson<br>Europe | Corporate  | Inter-<br>segment<br>elimination | Total     |
|--|--------------------|--|------------------|------------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| For The Year Ended December 31,<br>2011                        |                    |  |                  |            |                                  |           |
| Revenue, from external customers                               | \$192,217          | \$359,108                                | \$382,411        | \$         | \$                               | \$933,736 |
| Inter-segment revenue  | 20                 | 39                                       | 135              |            | (194)                            |           |
| Total revenue  | \$192,237          | \$359,147                                | \$382,546        | \$         | \$(194)                          | \$933,736 |
| Gross margin, from external customers                          | \$50,778           | \$146,917                                | \$156,610        | \$         | \$                               | \$354,305 |
| Inter-segment gross margin                                     | (1 )               | (83 )                                    | 107              |            | (23 )                            |           |
| Total gross margin   | \$50,777           | \$146,834                                | \$156,717        | \$         | \$(23 )                          | \$354,305 |
| Business reorganization and integration<br>expenses (recovery) | \$                 | \$                                       | \$720            | \$         | \$                               | \$720     |
| EBITDA (loss) <sup>(a)</sup>                                   | \$3,482            | \$14,180                                 | \$8,071          | \$(2,091 ) | \$                               | \$23,642  |
| Depreciation and amortization                                  | 1,092              | 2,922                                    | 1,642            | 595        |                                  | 6,251     |
| Intercompany interest income<br>(expense), net                 |                    | (7,339 )                                 | (523 )           | 7,864      | (2 )                             |           |
| Interest income (expense), net                                 | (42 )              | (659 )                                   | 55               | (497 )     |                                  | (1,143 )  |

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|   |          |          |          |          |        |           |
|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|--------|-----------|
| Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes        | \$2,348  | \$3,260  | \$5,961  | \$4,681  | \$(2 ) | \$16,248  |
| Provision for (benefit from) income taxes                           | \$500    | \$900    | \$3,214  | \$725    | \$     | \$5,339   |
| As of December 31, 2011   |          |          |          |          |        |           |
| Accounts receivable, net  | \$24,750 | \$49,918 | \$56,821 | \$       | \$     | \$131,489 |
| Long-lived assets, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization | \$2,557  | \$9,997  | \$4,939  | \$2,536  | \$     | \$20,029  |
| Total assets  | \$29,818 | \$81,161 | \$86,156 | \$19,411 | \$     | \$216,546 |

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TABLE OF CONTENTS**HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)****15. SEGMENT AND GEOGRAPHIC DATA (continued)**

|   | Hudson<br>Americas | Hudson<br>Asia<br>Pacific | Hudson<br>Europe | Corporate  | Inter-<br>segment<br>elimination | Total      |
|---|--------------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------|----------------------------------|------------|
| For The Year Ended December 31,<br>2010                                   |                    |                           |                  |            |                                  |            |
| Revenue, from external customers  | \$162,432          | \$303,619                 | \$328,491        | \$         | \$                               | \$794,542  |
| Inter-segment revenue   | (3 )               | 70                        | 195              |            | (262)                            |            |
| Total revenue   | \$162,429          | \$303,689                 | \$328,686        | \$         | \$(262)                          | \$794,542  |
| Gross margin, from external<br>customers                                  | \$39,417           | \$121,965                 | \$137,191        | \$         | \$                               | \$298,573  |
| Inter-segment gross margin  | (116 )             | (1 )                      | 125              |            | (8 )                             |            |
| Total gross margin  | \$39,301           | \$121,964                 | \$137,316        | \$         | \$(8 )                           | \$298,573  |
| Business reorganization and<br>integration expenses (recovery)            | \$307              | \$(15 )                   | \$1,402          | \$         | \$                               | \$1,694    |
| EBITDA (loss) <sup>(a)</sup>  | \$1,687            | \$8,847                   | \$1,086          | \$(5,117 ) | \$                               | \$6,503    |
| Depreciation and amortization   | 2,356              | 2,887                     | 2,789            | 152        |                                  | 8,184      |
| Intercompany interest income<br>(expense), net                            |                    | (8,198 )                  | (290 )           | 8,487      | 1                                |            |
| Interest (expense) income, net  | (7 )               | (36 )                     | (16 )            | (1,219 )   |                                  | (1,278 )   |
| Income (loss) from continuing<br>operations before income taxes           | \$(676 )           | \$(2,274 )                | \$(2,009 )       | \$1,999    | \$1                              | \$(2,959 ) |
| Provision for (benefit from) income<br>taxes                              | \$(504 )           | \$(120 )                  | \$1,266          | \$840      | \$                               | \$1,482    |
| As of December 31, 2010   |                    |                           |                  |            |                                  |            |
| Accounts receivable, net  | \$26,388           | \$45,913                  | \$56,275         | \$         | \$                               | \$128,576  |
| Long-lived assets, net of<br>accumulated depreciation and<br>amortization | \$1,487            | \$10,271                  | \$4,819          | \$2,248    | \$                               | \$18,825   |
| Total assets  | \$30,130           | \$77,204                  | \$86,133         | \$12,367   | \$                               | \$205,834  |

|   | Hudson<br>Americas | Hudson<br>Asia<br>Pacific | Hudson<br>Europe | Corporate | Inter-<br>segment<br>elimination | Total |
|---|--------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|-------|
| For The Year Ended December 31,<br>2009 |                    |                           |                  |           |                                  |       |

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|   |             |             |             |             |        |             |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------|-------------|
| Revenue, from external customers                                    | \$161,872   | \$252,302   | \$276,975   | \$          | \$     | \$691,149   |
| Inter-segment revenue   | 3           | 44          | 21          |             | (68)   |             |
| Total revenue   | \$161,875   | \$252,346   | \$276,996   | \$          | \$(68) | \$691,149   |
| Gross margin, from external customers                               | \$40,959    | \$95,332    | \$124,162   | \$          | \$     | \$260,453   |
| Inter-segment gross margin  | 15          | (17 )       | 2           |             |        |             |
| Total gross margin  | \$40,974    | \$95,315    | \$124,164   | \$          | \$     | \$260,453   |
| Business reorganization and integration expenses (recovery)         | \$5,133     | \$3,228     | \$9,682     | \$137       | \$     | \$18,180    |
| EBITDA (loss) <sup>(a)</sup>  | \$(11,349 ) | \$(825 )    | \$(9,787 )  | \$(13,505 ) | \$     | \$(35,466 ) |
| Depreciation and amortization                                       | 4,418       | 3,391       | 4,553       | 181         |        | 12,543      |
| Intercompany interest income (expense), net                         |             | (6,893 )    | (470 )      | 7,375       | (12)   |             |
| Interest income (expense), net                                      | 13          | 236         | 49          | (992 )      |        | (694 )      |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes        | \$(15,754 ) | \$(10,873 ) | \$(14,761 ) | \$(7,303 )  | \$(12) | \$(48,703 ) |
| Provision for (benefit from) income taxes                           | \$415       | \$(129 )    | \$(2,690 )  | \$(3,346 )  | \$     | \$(5,750 )  |
| As of December 31, 2009   |             |             |             |             |        |             |
| Accounts receivable, net  | \$20,433    | \$31,726    | \$46,834    | \$          | \$     | \$98,993    |
| Long-lived assets, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization | \$2,957     | \$7,496     | \$6,801     | \$2,682     | \$     | \$19,936    |
| Total assets  | \$28,509    | \$57,437    | \$79,222    | \$16,776    | \$     | \$181,944   |

SEC Regulation S-K 229.10(e)1(ii)(A) defines EBITDA as earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and (a) amortization. EBITDA is presented to provide additional information to investors about the Company's operations on a basis consistent with the measures that the Company uses to manage its

TABLE OF CONTENTS**HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)****15. SEGMENT AND GEOGRAPHIC DATA (continued)**

operations and evaluate its performance. Management also uses this measurement to evaluate working capital requirements. EBITDA should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for operating income and net income prepared in accordance with GAAP or as a measure of the Company's profitability.

During January 2011, significant rainfall caused widespread flooding throughout much of Queensland, Australia. On February 22, 2011, a major earthquake caused severe damage in Christchurch, New Zealand. The Company incurred losses related to these events primarily for business interruption and property damage. The Company maintains insurance for such matters and recorded \$500 for estimated insurance recoveries under the caption Office and general expense in the accompanying Consolidated Statement of Operations for the year ended December 31, 2011 in accordance with ASC 225-30, *Business Interruption Insurance*.

A summary of revenues for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 and long-lived assets and net assets by geographic area as of December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 is as follows:

| Information by geographic region   | United Kingdom | Australia | United States | Continental Europe | Other Asia Pacific | Other Americas | Total     |
|--|----------------|-----------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------|
| For The Year Ended December 31, 2011   |                |           |               |                    |                    |                |           |
| Revenue <sup>(c)</sup>   | \$258,766      | \$277,646 | \$190,094     | \$121,935          | \$83,172           | \$2,123        | \$933,736 |
| For The Year Ended December 31, 2010   |                |           |               |                    |                    |                |           |
| Revenue <sup>(c)</sup>   | \$221,538      | \$232,936 | \$161,241     | \$104,984          | \$72,652           | \$1,191        | \$794,542 |
| For The Year Ended December 31, 2009   |                |           |               |                    |                    |                |           |
| Revenue <sup>(c)</sup>   | \$164,947      | \$194,976 | \$160,281     | \$110,853          | \$58,501           | \$1,591        | \$691,149 |
| As of December 31, 2011  |                |           |               |                    |                    |                |           |
| Long-lived assets, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization <sup>(d)</sup> | \$3,122        | \$5,972   | \$5,067       | \$1,805            | \$4,029            | \$34           | \$20,029  |
| Net assets   | \$29,290       | \$30,521  | \$22,223      | \$10,933           | \$14,028           | \$362          | \$107,357 |
| As of December 31, 2010  |                |           |               |                    |                    |                |           |
| Long-lived assets, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization <sup>(d)</sup> | \$3,086        | \$6,841   | \$3,743       | \$1,725            | \$3,430            | \$             | \$18,825  |
| Net assets   | \$27,636       | \$23,348  | \$16,947      | \$13,099           | \$11,774           | \$474          | \$93,278  |
| As of December 31, 2009  |                |           |               |                    |                    |                |           |
|  | \$4,219        | \$5,398   | \$5,094       | \$3,125            | \$2,100            | \$             | \$19,936  |

Long-lived assets, net of  
accumulated depreciation and  
amortization<sup>(d)</sup>

|            |          |          |         |          |         |      |          |
|------------|----------|----------|---------|----------|---------|------|----------|
| Net assets | \$24,458 | \$17,184 | \$9,456 | \$17,251 | \$7,814 | \$97 | \$76,260 |
|------------|----------|----------|---------|----------|---------|------|----------|

(c) Revenue is generally recorded on a geographic basis according to the location of the operating subsidiary.

(d) Comprised of property and equipment and intangibles. Corporate assets are included in the United States.

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(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)****16. SELECTED QUARTERLY FINANCIAL DATA (unaudited)**

|   | First quarter | Second quarter | Third quarter | Fourth quarter |
|---|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Year Ended December 31, 2011  |               |                |               |                |
| Revenue   | \$ 218,539    | \$ 247,378     | \$ 245,081    | \$ 222,738     |
| Gross margin  | \$ 81,198     | \$ 95,467      | \$ 92,992     | \$ 84,648      |
| Operating income (loss)   | \$ 463        | \$ 6,030       | \$ 6,150      | \$ 4,792       |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations                                      | \$ (6 )       | \$ 4,224       | \$ 3,382      | \$ 3,309       |
| Net income (loss)   | \$ (6 )       | \$ 4,224       | \$ 3,382      | \$ 3,309       |
| Basic earnings (loss) per share from continuing operations                    | \$ (0.00 )    | \$ 0.13        | \$ 0.11       | \$ 0.10        |
| Basic earnings (loss) per share from discontinued operations                  | \$ 0.00       | \$ 0.00        | \$ 0.00       | \$ 0.00        |
| Basic earnings (loss) per share   | \$ (0.00 )    | \$ 0.13        | \$ 0.11       | \$ 0.10        |
| Diluted earnings (loss) per share from continuing operations <sup>(a)</sup>   | \$ (0.00 )    | \$ 0.13        | \$ 0.11       | \$ 0.10        |
| Diluted earnings (loss) per share from discontinued operations <sup>(a)</sup> | \$ 0.00       | \$ 0.00        | \$ 0.00       | \$ 0.00        |
| Diluted earnings (loss) per share   | \$ (0.00 )    | \$ 0.13        | \$ 0.11       | \$ 0.10        |
| Basic weighted average shares outstanding                                     | 31,325        | 31,593         | 31,620        | 31,639         |
| Diluted weighted average shares outstanding                                   | 31,325        | 32,039         | 32,085        | 32,118         |

|  | First quarter | Second quarter | Third quarter | Fourth quarter |
|--|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Year Ended December 31, 2010                                 |               |                |               |                |
| Revenue  | \$ 180,118    | \$ 194,969     | \$ 200,394    | \$ 219,061     |
| Gross margin   | \$ 66,420     | \$ 74,237      | \$ 74,991     | \$ 82,925      |
| Operating income (loss)                                      | \$ (4,312 )   | \$ 89          | \$ (1,409 )   | \$ 14          |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations                     | \$ (4,138 )   | \$ 177         | \$ (1,883 )   | \$ 1,403       |
| Net income (loss)  | \$ (4,207 )   | \$ 229         | \$ (1,897 )   | \$ 1,190       |
| Basic earnings (loss) per share from continuing operations   | \$ (0.16 )    | \$ 0.01        | \$ (0.06 )    | \$ 0.04        |
| Basic earnings (loss) per share from discontinued operations | \$ (0.00 )    | \$ 0.00        | \$ (0.00 )    | \$ (0.00 )     |
| Basic earnings (loss) per share                              | \$ (0.16 )    | \$ 0.01        | \$ (0.06 )    | \$ 0.04        |
|  | \$ (0.16 )    | \$ 0.01        | \$ (0.06 )    | \$ 0.04        |

Diluted earnings (loss) per share from continuing operations<sup>(a)</sup>

|   |            |         |            |            |
|---|------------|---------|------------|------------|
| Diluted earnings (loss) per share from discontinued operations <sup>(a)</sup> | \$ (0.00 ) | \$ 0.00 | \$ (0.00 ) | \$ (0.00 ) |
| Diluted earnings (loss) per share   | \$ (0.16 ) | \$ 0.01 | \$ (0.06 ) | \$ 0.04    |
| Basic weighted average shares outstanding                                     | 26,257     | 30,947  | 31,225     | 31,234     |
| Diluted weighted average shares outstanding                                   | 26,257     | 31,311  | 31,225     | 31,754     |

Diluted earnings (loss) per share reflect the potential dilution from the assumed exercise of all potentially dilutive potential common shares, primarily stock options. For the first quarter of 2011 and the first and third quarters of 2010, the effect of approximately 2,928,000, 2,771,000 and 2,646,000, respectively, of common stock equivalents (a) and outstanding stock options was excluded from the calculation of diluted earnings (loss) per share because the effect was anti-dilutive. For the second third and fourth quarters of 2011 and the second and fourth quarters of 2010, the effect of approximately 2,224,000, 1,717,000, 1,396,350, 1,588,000 and 1,548,000, respectively, of common stock equivalents and outstanding stock

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**HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)**

**16. SELECTED QUARTERLY FINANCIAL DATA (unaudited)  
(continued)**

options with exercise prices greater than the average market prices for the Company's common stock was excluded from the calculation of diluted earnings and loss per share because the effect was anti-dilutive.

Income from continuing operations for the quarter ended December 31, 2010 includes a pretax adjustment of \$1,172 and associated tax benefit of \$299 for previously unrecorded employer payroll taxes in the Netherlands.

(b) The adjustment relates to 2009 and the first three quarters of 2010. The pretax impact arising in 2009 and the first three quarters of 2010 was \$667 and \$505, respectively, with associated tax benefits of \$170 and \$129, respectively. The Company does not believe these adjustments are material to either period.

Earnings (loss) per share calculations for each quarter include the weighted average effect for the quarter; therefore, the sum of quarterly earnings (loss) per share amounts may not equal year-to-date earnings (loss) per share amounts, which reflect the weighted average effect on a year-to-date basis.

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**ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE**

Not applicable.

**ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

**Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

The Company's management, with the participation of the Company's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and its Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, has conducted an evaluation of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures, as such term is defined under Rule 13a-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Based on this evaluation, the Company's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and its Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of December 31, 2011.

**Management's Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

The report of management required under this Item 9A is contained in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K under the caption "Management's Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting" on page 39.

**Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

The audit report required under this Item 9A is contained in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K under the caption "Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm" on page 40.

**Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

There were no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the quarter ended December 31, 2011 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

TABLE OF CONTENTS**ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION****Amendment to Incentive Compensation Plan**

On February 21, 2012, the Compensation Committee (the Committee) of the Board of Directors of the Company approved an amendment to the definition of performance goals in the Hudson Highland Group, Inc. 2009 Incentive Stock and Awards Plan (the Plan) to include employee engagement as an eligible performance goal for incentive awards under the Plan. The Committee also approved incentive compensation awards for the Company's officers under the Plan, including performance-based restricted stock for the Company's named executive officers using a new form of award agreement. The performance-based restricted stock had both performance conditions and service conditions, as described below.

The performance conditions with respect to the restricted stock may be satisfied as follows:

- 50% of the shares of restricted stock may be earned on the basis of performance as measured by a
  - (a) Take-out Ratio, defined as the percentage of the direct, front line costs incurred for the year ending December 31, 2012 divided by the gross margin for the year ending December 31, 2012;
  - (b) 25% of the shares of restricted stock may be earned on the basis of performance as measured by an employee engagement score for the year ending December 31, 2012 based on a survey;
  - (c) 25% of the shares of restricted stock may be earned on the basis of performance as measured by Cash Efficiency, defined as (1) cash flow from operations for the year ending December 31, 2012 divided by (2) gross margin minus selling, general and administrative expenses for the year ending December 31, 2012.

To the extent shares are earned on the basis of performance, such shares will become vested on the basis of service as follows:

- (a) 33% of the shares vest on the later of the first anniversary of the grant date or the determination the performance conditions have been satisfied;
  - (b) 33% of the shares vest on the second anniversary of the grant date;
  - (c) 34% of the shares vest on the third anniversary of the grant date; provided that, in each case, the named executive officer remains employed by the Company from the grant date through the applicable service vesting date.

The number of shares of performance-based restricted stock granted to each of the Company's named executive officers was as follows:

| Named Executive Officer | Total Number of Shares of Restricted Stock |        |         |
|-------------------------|--|--------|---------|
|                         | Minimum                                    | Target | Maximum |
| Mary Jane Raymond       | 45,000                                     | 56,250 | 67,500  |
| Frank P. Lanuto         | 10,000                                     | 12,500 | 15,000  |
| Latham Williams         | 24,000                                     | 30,000 | 36,000  |
| Neil J. Funk            | 8,000                                      | 10,000 | 12,000  |

**Bonus to Chief Executive Officer**

On February 21, 2012, the Committee also awarded a discretionary cash bonus of \$200,000 to Manuel Marquez in recognition of his performance as Chief Executive Officer during 2011.

## **Amendment to Credit Agreement with RBS Citizens Business Capital**

On February 22, 2012, the Company and certain of its North American and U.K. subsidiaries entered into Amendment No. 1 (the Amendment) to the senior secured revolving credit facility (the Revolver Agreement) with RBS Citizens Business Capital, a division of RBS Asset Finance, Inc. The Amendment, which was deemed to be effective on February 1, 2012, lowered the unused credit line fee, which is set at one of two rates depending upon the Company's credit line usage under the Revolver Agreement, from 0.625% per annum to 0.50% per annum and from 0.40% per annum to 0.375% per annum. The Amendment also

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lowered the applicable margin for the interest rate on borrowings based on the Company's Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio (as defined in the Revolver Agreement) as follows:

| Level | Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio                              | Base Rate<br>Revolving<br>Loans | LIBOR<br>Revolving<br>Loans or Letter<br>of<br>Credit<br>Obligations |
|-------|--|---------------------------------|--|
| I     | Greater than or equal to 1.25:1.0                        | 1.25%                           | 2.25%  |
| II    | Less than 1.25:1.0 but greater than or equal to 1.10:1.0 | 1.50%                           | 2.50%  |
| III   | Less than 1.10:1.0                                       | 1.75%                           | 2.75%  |

The foregoing description of the Amendment is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the Amendment, which is attached to this Annual Report on Form 10-K as Exhibit 4.4 and incorporated herein by reference.

## **Amended and Restated By-laws of Hudson Highland Group, Inc.**

Effective February 24, 2012, the Board of Directors of the Company approved amendments (the By-law Amendments) to the Amended and Restated By-laws of the Company (the By-laws). The Amendments generally consist of immaterial changes to certain provisions of the By-laws necessary to make such provisions consistent with the administrative practices of the Company.

The foregoing description of the By-law Amendments is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the By-laws, including the By-law Amendments, which is attached to this Annual Report on Form 10-K as Exhibit 3.3 and incorporated herein by reference.

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**PART III**

**ITEM 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

The information included under the captions Election of Directors, Board of Directors and Corporate Governance and Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance in the Company's definitive proxy statement, which is expected to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A within 120 days following the end of the fiscal year covered by this report (the Proxy Statement), is hereby incorporated by reference. The information required by Item 10 with respect to our Executive Officers is included in Part I of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

We have adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to all of our employees and a Code of Ethics for the Chief Executive Officer and the Senior Financial and Accounting Officers. We have posted a copy of the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics and the Code of Ethics on our Web site at [www.hudson.com](http://www.hudson.com). The Code of Business Conduct and Ethics and the Code of Ethics are also available in print to any stockholder who requests them in writing from the Corporate Secretary at 560 Lexington Avenue, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, New York 10022. We intend to satisfy the disclosure requirements under Item 5.05 of Form 8-K regarding amendments to, or waivers from, our Code of Ethics by posting such information on our Web site at [www.hudson.com](http://www.hudson.com). We are not including the information contained on our Web site as part of, or incorporating it by reference into, this report.

**ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

The information required in Item 11 is incorporated by reference to the information in the Proxy Statement under the captions Director Compensation, Compensation Discussion and Analysis, Compensation Committee Report, Executive Compensation and Compensation Policies and Practices and Risk.

**ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS**

The information required in Item 12 is incorporated by reference to the information in the Proxy Statement under the caption Principal Stockholders.

**Equity Compensation Plan Information**

The following table presents information on the Company's equity compensation plans as of December 31, 2011.

| Number of shares to be issued upon exercise of | Weighted average exercise price of outstanding | Number of shares remaining available for future issuance |
|--|--|--|
|--|--|--|

|  | outstanding<br>options | options  | under equity<br>compensation<br>plans<br>(excluding shares<br>reflected in<br>Column A) |
|--|------------------------|----------|---|
|  | A                      | B        | C   |
| Equity Compensation Plans approved by stockholders:        |                        |          |   |
| Long Term Incentive Plan                                   | 996,350                | \$ 13.85 | (1)   |
| 2009 Incentive Stock and Awards Plan                       |                        |          | 426,425 (1)   |
| Employee Stock Purchase Plan                               |                        |          | 116,329 (2)   |
| Equity Compensation Plans not approved by<br>stockholders: | 400,000 (3)            | 5.18     | (4)   |
| Total  | 1,396,350              | \$ 11.36 | 542,754   |

(1) Excludes 1,166,082 shares of unvested restricted common stock previously issued under the Hudson Highland Group, Inc. Long Term Incentive Plan and 2009 Incentive Stock and Awards Plan.

(2) The Company suspended the Hudson Highland Group, Inc. Employee Stock Purchase Plan effective January 1, 2009.

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- (3) Represents stock options granted to Manuel Marquez on May 13, 2011 pursuant to the terms of his employment agreement as an inducement to him to join the Company as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.  
Excludes 100,000 unvested restricted stock units granted to Manuel Marquez on May 13, 2011 pursuant to the
- (4) terms of his employment agreement as an inducement to him to join the Company as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

## **ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE**

The information required in Item 13 is incorporated by reference to the information in the Proxy Statement under the captions Board of Directors and Corporate Governance Independent Directors and Board of Directors and Corporate Governance Policies and Procedures Regarding Related Person Transactions.

## **ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING FEES AND SERVICES**

The information required in Item 14 is incorporated by reference to the information in the Proxy Statement under the caption Ratification of the Appointment of KPMG LLP as Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.

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**PART IV**

**ITEM 15. EXHIBITS, FINANCIAL STATEMENTS SCHEDULES**

- (a) 1. Financial statements The following financial statements and the reports of independent registered public accounting firm are contained in Item 8.

|  | Page      |
|--|-----------|
| <u>Reports of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>  | <u>40</u> |
| <u>Consolidated Statements of Operations for the Years Ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009</u>                      | <u>42</u> |
| <u>Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2011 and 2010</u>  | <u>43</u> |
| <u>Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the Years Ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009</u>                      | <u>44</u> |
| <u>Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity for the Years Ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009</u> | <u>45</u> |
| <u>Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements</u>  | <u>46</u> |

2. Financial statement schedules

Schedule I Condensed Financial Information of Registrant

Schedule II Valuation and qualifying accounts and reserves

All other schedules are omitted since the required information is not present, or is not present in amounts sufficient to require submission of the schedule, or because the information required is included in the consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto.

3. Exhibits The exhibits listed in the accompanying index to exhibits are filed as part of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

TABLE OF CONTENTS**HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.**

**SCHEDULE I CONDENSED FINANCIAL INFORMATION  
OF THE REGISTRANT  
CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS  
(PARENT COMPANY ONLY)  
(in thousands)**

|  | Year Ended December 31, |            |            |
|--|-------------------------|------------|------------|
|  | 2011                    | 2010       | 2009       |
| Operating expenses:  |                         |            |            |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses                               | \$19,860                | \$18,848   | \$17,028   |
| Depreciation and amortization  | 595                     | 152        | 181        |
| Business reorganization and integration expenses                           |                         |            | 137        |
| Operating loss   | (20,455)                | (19,000)   | (17,346)   |
| Other (expense) income:  |                         |            |            |
| Interest, net  | 28                      | 3,084      | 3,135      |
| Corporate costs allocation and other, net                                  | 17,770                  | 14,293     | 3,661      |
| Equity in earnings (losses) of subsidiaries, net of income taxes           | 13,557                  | (1,833 )   | (36,047)   |
| Fee for early extinguishment of credit facility                            |                         | (563 )     |            |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations before provision for income taxes | 10,900                  | (4,019 )   | (46,597)   |
| Provision for (benefit from) income taxes                                  | (9 )                    | 422        | (3,645 )   |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations                                   | 10,909                  | (4,441 )   | (42,952)   |
| Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income taxes            |                         | (244 )     | 2,343      |
| Net income (loss)  | \$10,909                | \$(4,685 ) | \$(40,609) |

See notes to condensed financial statements.

TABLE OF CONTENTS**HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.**

**SCHEDULE I CONDENSED FINANCIAL INFORMATION  
OF THE REGISTRANT  
CONDENSED BALANCE SHEETS (PARENT COMPANY  
ONLY)  
(in thousands, except per share amounts)**

|  | December 31, |           |
|--|--------------|-----------|
|  | 2011         | 2010      |
| <b>ASSETS</b>  |              |           |
| Current assets:  |              |           |
| Cash and cash equivalents  | \$13,628     | \$6,424   |
| Prepaid and other  | 869          | 961       |
| Total current assets   | 14,497       | 7,385     |
| Property and equipment, net                                      | 2,536        | 2,248     |
| Investment in and advances to/from subsidiaries                  | 95,755       | 90,190    |
| Other assets   | 2,377        | 2,179     |
| Total assets   | \$115,165    | \$102,002 |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>                       |              |           |
| Current liabilities:   |              |           |
| Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other current liabilities | \$5,417      | \$6,457   |
| Total current liabilities  | 5,417        | 6,457     |
| Deferred rent and other non-current liabilities                  | 2,391        | 2,267     |
| Total liabilities  | 7,808        | 8,724     |
| Stockholders equity  | 107,357      | 93,278    |
| Total liabilities and stockholders equity                        | \$115,165    | \$102,002 |

**See notes to condensed financial statements.**

TABLE OF CONTENTS**HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.**

**SCHEDULE I CONDENSED FINANCIAL INFORMATION  
OF THE REGISTRANT  
CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS  
(PARENT COMPANY ONLY)  
(in thousands)**

|  | For the Years Ended December 31, |          |          |
|--|----------------------------------|----------|----------|
|  | 2011                             | 2010     | 2009     |
| Cash flows from operating activities:  |                                  |          |          |
| Net income (loss)  | \$10,909                         | (4,685 ) | (40,609) |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities: |                                  |          |          |
| Dividend received from subsidiaries  | 4,515                            | 3,123    |          |
| Non-cash (income) losses from subsidiaries, net of taxes   | (13,557)                         | 5,599    | 38,960   |
| Depreciation and amortization  | 595                              | 152      | 181      |
| Stock-based compensation   | 1,292                            | 693      | 638      |
| Net gain on disposal of assets   |                                  |          | (11,628) |
| Fee for early extinguishment of credit facility  |                                  | 563      |          |
| Other, net   | 365                              | 460      |          |
| Changes in assets and liabilities, net of effects of business acquisitions:                        |                                  |          |          |
| (Increase) decrease in prepaid and other assets  | (1,720 )                         | 1,120    | 437      |
| (Increase) decrease in due from subsidiaries   | 7,093                            | (13,200) | (4,624 ) |
| Increase (decrease) in accounts payable, accrued expenses and other liabilities                    | (828 )                           | 2,696    | (3,071 ) |
| Increase (decrease) in accrued business reorganization expenses                                    |                                  | (210 )   | (790 )   |
| Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities  | 8,664                            | (3,689 ) | (20,506) |
| Cash flows from investing activities:  |                                  |          |          |
| Capital expenditures   | 367                              | 16       | 73       |
| Proceeds from sale of assets   |                                  |          | 11,628   |
| Change in restricted cash  | (1 )                             | 599      | 515      |
| Payment for acquisitions   |                                  | (2,438 ) | (1,669 ) |
| Advances to and investments in subsidiaries, net   | (1,438 )                         | (5,667 ) | (3,356 ) |
| Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities  | (1,072 )                         | (7,490 ) | 7,191    |
| Cash flows from financing activities:  |                                  |          |          |
| Borrowings under credit facility   | 37,963                           | 10,869   | 51,985   |
| Repayments under credit facility   | (37,963)                         | (21,325) | (46,836) |
| Payment for early extinguishment of credit facility  |                                  | (563 )   |          |
| Payment of deferred financing costs  |                                  | (1,565 ) |          |

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|  |          |          |          |
|--|----------|----------|----------|
| Proceeds from issuance of common stock, net          |          | 19,116   |          |
| Purchase of treasury stock, including fees           |          |          | (703 )   |
| Purchase of restricted stock from employees          | (388 )   | (71 )    | (75 )    |
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities  | (388 )   | 6,461    | 4,371    |
| Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents | 7,204    | (4,718 ) | (8,944 ) |
| Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of the period   | 6,424    | 11,142   | 20,086   |
| Cash and cash equivalents, end of the period         | \$13,628 | \$6,424  | \$11,142 |

**See notes to condensed financial statements.**

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**HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.**

**SCHEDULE I CONDENSED FINANCIAL INFORMATION  
OF THE REGISTRANT  
NOTES TO CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(in thousands)**

**NOTE 1 BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

Hudson Highland Group, Inc. (the "Parent Company") is a holding company that conducts substantially all of its business through its subsidiaries. As specified in certain of its subsidiaries' credit agreements in The Netherlands, Australia and New Zealand, there are restrictions on the Parent Company's ability to obtain funds from certain of its subsidiaries through dividends, intercompany expenses or interest (refer to Note 13, "Credit Agreements", to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements). As of December 31, 2011, the Company was in a stockholders' equity position of \$107,357, and approximately \$35,478 constituted restricted net assets as defined in Rule 4-08(e)(3) of Regulation S-X. The restricted net assets of the Company's subsidiaries exceeded 25% of the consolidated net assets of the Company and its subsidiaries, thus requiring this Schedule I, "Condensed Financial Information of the Registrant." Accordingly, the results of operations and cash flows for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, and the balance sheets as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 have been presented on a "Parent-only" basis. In these statements, the Company's investments in its consolidated subsidiaries are presented under the equity method of accounting. The Parent-only financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Company's audited Consolidated Financial Statements included elsewhere herein.

Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current period presentation. For the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, the Company reclassified interest income of \$4,184 and \$3,237, respectively, and provision for income taxes of \$418 and \$324, respectively, to the equity earnings of subsidiaries. The reclassified amounts related to the interest income earned from the Company's Australian subsidiary and its withholding tax that were distributed to the Company's holding company subsidiary.

**NOTE 2 DIVIDENDS RECEIVED**

The Company received dividends of \$4,515, \$3,123 and \$0 in 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively, from its consolidated subsidiaries.

**NOTE 3 CREDIT AGREEMENTS**

Several of the Company's subsidiaries have credit agreements with lenders. Borrowings under the certain agreements are based on agreed percentage of eligible account receivable. The borrowings of the holding company are secured by the accounts receivable of the Company's U.S. and U.K. subsidiaries. Refer to Note 13, "Credit Agreements" to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements for further details.



TABLE OF CONTENTS**SCHEDULE II****VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS  
(IN THOUSANDS)**

| Column A                                       | Column B                       | Column C                               | Column D                  | Column E   |                          |
|--|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------|------------|--------------------------|
| Descriptions                                   | Balance at Beginning of Period | Charged to Costs/Expenses (Recoveries) | Charged to Other Accounts | Deductions | Balance at End of Period |
| Allowance for Doubtful Accounts <sup>(a)</sup> |                                |  |                           |            |                          |
| Year Ended December 31, 2009                   | \$ 3,521                       | (255 )                                 | (38 )                     | 806        | \$ 2,422                 |
| Year Ended December 31, 2010                   | \$ 2,422                       | 392                                    |                           | 669        | \$ 2,145                 |
| Year Ended December 31, 2011                   | \$ 2,145                       | 175                                    |                           | 548        | \$ 1,772                 |

Included in the balances presented here are the allowances for doubtful accounts for the Company's discontinued (a) operations. The sale and subsequent reduction to the account balance is in column C charged to other accounts as a deletion.

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, on this twenty-eighth day of February 2012.

HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.

/s/ MANUEL MARQUEZ DORSCH

By

Manuel Marquez Dorsch  
**Chairman and Chief Executive Officer**

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

| Signature   | Title   | Date              |
|---|---|-------------------|
| /s/ MANUEL MARQUEZ DORSCH<br><b>Manuel Marquez Dorsch</b> | Chairman and Chief Executive Officer<br>(Principal Executive Officer)                 | February 28, 2012 |
| /s/ MARY JANE RAYMOND<br><b>Mary Jane Raymond</b>         | Executive Vice President and Chief Financial<br>Officer (Principal Financial Officer) | February 28, 2012 |
| /s/ FRANK P. LANUTO<br><b>Frank P. Lanuto</b>             | Senior Vice President, Corporate Controller<br>(Principal Accounting Officer)         | February 28, 2012 |
| <b>Jon F. Chait</b>                                       | Director  |                   |
| /s/ ROBERT B. DUBNER<br><b>Robert B. Dubner</b>           | Director  | February 28, 2012 |
| /s/ JOHN J. HALEY<br><b>John J. Haley</b>                 | Director  | February 28, 2012 |
| /s/ JENNIFER LAING<br><b>Jennifer Laing</b>               | Director  | February 28, 2012 |
| /s/ DAVID G. OFFENSEND<br><b>David G. Offensend</b>       | Director  | February 28, 2012 |
| /s/ RICHARD J. STOLZ<br><b>Richard J. Stolz</b>           | Director  | February 28, 2012 |

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**EXHIBIT INDEX**

| Exhibit<br>Number | Exhibit Description   |
|-------------------|---|
| (3.1)             | Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Hudson Highland Group, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to Hudson Highland Group, Inc.'s Registration Statement on Form 10 filed March 14, 2003 (file No. 0-50129)).   |
| (3.2)             | Certificate of Designations of the Board of Directors Establishing the Series and Fixing the Relative Rights and Preferences of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to Hudson Highland Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 2, 2005 (file No. 0-50129)).   |
| (3.3)             | Amended and Restated By-laws of Hudson Highland Group, Inc.   |
| (4.1)             | Rights Agreement, dated as of February 2, 2005, between Hudson Highland Group, Inc. and The Bank of New York (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Registration Statement on Form 8-A of Hudson Highland Group, Inc. dated February 3, 2005 (file No. 0-50129)).   |
| (4.2)             | Loan and Security Agreement, dated as of August 5, 2010, by and among Hudson Highland Group, Inc. and each of its subsidiaries that are signatories thereto, as Borrowers, the lenders that are signatories thereto, as Lenders, and RBS Citizens Business Capital, a division of RBS Asset Finance, Inc., as Agent (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Hudson Highland Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K dated August 3, 2010 (File No. 0-50129)). |
| (4.3)             | Facility Agreement, dated as of November 22, 2011, among Hudson Global Resources (Aust) Pty Limited, Hudson Global Resources (NZ) Limited, Hudson Highland (APAC) Pty Limited, Westpac Banking Corporation and Westpac New Zealand Limited (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Hudson Highland Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K dated December 5, 2011 (file No. 0-50129)).  |
| (4.4)             | Amendment No. 1 to Loan and Security Agreement, dated as of February 22, 2012, by and among Hudson Highland Group, Inc. and each of its subsidiaries that are signatories thereto, as Borrowers, the lenders that are signatories thereto, as Lenders, and RBS Citizens Business Capital, a division of RBS Asset Finance, Inc., as Agent.  |
| (10.1)*           | Hudson Highland Group, Inc. Long Term Incentive Plan, as amended through October 29, 2007 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Hudson Highland Group, Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007 (file No. 0-50129)).  |
| (10.2)*           | Form of Hudson Highland Group, Inc. Long Term Incentive Plan Restricted Stock Award Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Hudson Highland Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K dated May 1, 2007 (file No. 0-50129)).   |
| (10.3)*           | Form of Hudson Highland Group, Inc. Long Term Incentive Plan Restricted Stock Award Agreement for share price vesting awards (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to Hudson Highland Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 9, 2009 (file No. 0-50129)).   |
| (10.4)*           | Form of Hudson Highland Group, Inc. Long Term Incentive Plan Stock Option Agreement (Employees) (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to Hudson Highland Group, Inc.'s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2005 (file No. 0-50129)).   |
| (10.5)*           | Form of Hudson Highland Group, Inc. Long Term Incentive Plan Stock Option Agreement (Directors) (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Hudson Highland Group, Inc.   |

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- Current Report on Form 8-K dated May 11, 2006 (File No. 0-50129)).
- (10.6)\* Hudson Highland Group, Inc. 2009 Incentive Stock and Awards Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit A to the Company's definitive proxy statement filed with the Securities Exchange Commission on Schedule 14A on April 1, 2009 (file No. 0-50129)).
- (10.7)\* Form of Hudson Highland Group, Inc. 2009 Incentive Stock and Awards Plan Stock Option Agreement (Employees) (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to Hudson Highland Group, Inc.'s Registration Statement on Form S-8 dated August 7, 2009 (file No. 333-161171)).

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| Exhibit<br>Number | Exhibit Description  |
|-------------------|--|
| (10.8)*           | Form of Hudson Highland Group, Inc. 2009 Incentive Stock and Awards Plan Stock Option Agreement (Directors) (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to Hudson Highland Group, Inc. s Registration Statement on Form S-8 dated August 7, 2009 (file No. 333-161171)).   |
| (10.9)*           | Form of Hudson Highland Group, Inc. 2009 Incentive Stock and Awards Plan Restricted Stock Award Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.6 to Hudson Highland Group, Inc. s Registration Statement on Form S-8 dated August 7, 2009 (file No. 333-161171)).   |
| (10.10)*          | Form of Hudson Highland Group, Inc. 2009 Incentive Stock and Awards Plan Restricted Stock Award Agreement for EBITDA and gross margin growth performance vesting awards (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Hudson Highland Group, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 11, 2010 (file No. 0-50129)).  |
| (10.11)*          | Form of Hudson Highland Group, Inc. 2009 Incentive Stock and Awards Plan Restricted Stock Award Agreement for EBITDA and gross margin growth performance vesting awards with vesting also upon a termination without cause (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Hudson Highland Group, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 14, 2011 (file No. 0-50129)). |
| (10.12)*          | Hudson Highland Group CEO Employment Agreement, dated as of March 7, 2011, between Hudson Highland Group, Inc. and Manuel Marquez Dorsch (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Hudson Highland Group, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 7, 2011 (file No. 0-50129)).   |
| (10.13)*          | Amendment to Employment Agreement, dated as of March 23, 2011, between Hudson Highland Group, Inc. and Manuel Marquez Dorsch (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Hudson Highland Group, Inc. s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2011 (file No. 0-50129)).  |
| (10.14)*          | Executive Employment Agreement, amended and restated effective as of March 1, 2009, between Hudson Highland Group, Inc. and Margaretta R. Noonan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.8 to Hudson Highland Group, Inc. s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008 (file No. 0-50129)).  |
| (10.15)*          | Executive Agreement, dated as of January 20, 2012, between Hudson Highland Group, Inc. and Richard S. Gray.  |
| (10.16)*          | Executive Employment Agreement, amended and restated effective as of January 25, 2012, between Hudson Highland Group, Inc. and Latham Williams.  |
| (10.17)*          | Executive Employment Agreement, amended and restated effective as of January 26, 2012, between Hudson Highland Group, Inc. and Neil J. Funk.   |
| (10.18)*          | Executive Employment Agreement, amended and restated effective as of February 8, 2012, between Hudson Highland Group, Inc. and Frank P. Lanuto.  |
| (10.19)*          | Executive Employment Agreement, amended and restated effective as of February 7, 2012, between Hudson Highland Group, Inc. and Mary Jane Raymond.  |
| (10.20)*          | Summary of Hudson Highland Group, Inc. Compensation for Non-employee Members of the Board of Directors (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.9 to Hudson Highland Group, Inc. s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007 (file No. 0-50129)).  |
| (10.21)*          | Hudson Highland Group, Inc. Director Deferred Share Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.15 to Hudson Highland Group, Inc. s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007 (file No. 0-50129)).   |

- (21) Subsidiaries of Hudson Highland Group, Inc.
- (23) Consent of KPMG LLP.

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| Exhibit Number | Exhibit Description  |
|----------------|--|
| (31.1)         | Certification by the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.   |
| (31.2)         | Certification by the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.   |
| (32.1)         | Certification of the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350.  |
| (32.2)         | Certification of the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350.  |
| (99.1)         | Proxy Statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders [To be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission under Regulation 14A within 120 days after December 31, 2011; except to the extent specifically incorporated by reference, the Proxy Statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders shall not be deemed to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission as part of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.]                                     |
| (101)          | The following materials from Hudson Highland Group, Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 are furnished herewith, formatted in XBRL (Extensible Business Reporting Language): (i) the Consolidated Statements of Operations, (ii) the Consolidated Balance Sheets, (iii) the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows, (iv) the Consolidated Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity, and (v) Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements. |

\* A management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement.