NetApp, Inc. Form S-4 June 04, 2009

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 4, 2009

Registration No. 333-

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

# Form S-4 REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

#### NetApp, Inc.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware** 

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

3572

(Primary Standard Industrial Classification Code Number)

77-0307520

(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

495 East Java Drive Sunnyvale, California 94089 (408) 822-6000

(Address, including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, including Area Code, of Registrant s Principal Executive Offices)

Daniel J. Warmenhoven
Chief Executive Officer and Director
NetApp, Inc.
495 East Java Drive
Sunnyvale, California 94089
(408) 822-6000

(Name, Address, including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, including Area Code, of Agent for Service)

#### With copies to:

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**Approximate date of commencement of the proposed sale of the securities to the public:** As soon as practicable after this Registration Statement becomes effective and upon completion of the merger described in the enclosed document.

If the securities being registered on this Form are being offered in connection with the formation of a holding company and there is compliance with General Instruction G, check the following box. o

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. o

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(d) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. o

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

Large accelerated filer b Accelerated filer o Non-accelerated filer o Smaller reporting company o (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

If applicable, place an X in the box to designate the appropriate rule provision relied upon in conducting this transaction:

Exchange Act Rule 13e-4(i) (Cross-Border Issuer Tender Offer) o

Exchange Act Rule 14d-1(d) (Cross-Border Third-Party Tender Offer) o

#### **CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE**

Title of Each Class of	Amount to be	Proposed Maximum Offering	Proposed Maximum	Amount of
Securities to be Registered(1)	Registered(2)	Price per Unit	Aggregate Offering Price(3)	Registration Fee
Common Stock, par value				
\$0.001 per share	54,695,347	N/A	\$613,152,900	\$34,214

- (1) This Registration Statement relates to shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, of the Registrant (NetApp) issuable to holders of shares of common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share, of Data Domain, Inc., a Delaware corporation (Data Domain), in the proposed acquisition of Data Domain by the Registrant pursuant to the terms of the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of May 20, 2009, as amended on June 3, 2009, by and among the Registrant, Kentucky Merger Sub One Corporation, Derby Merger Sub Two LLC and Data Domain.
- (2) Based on the maximum number of shares of NetApp common stock to be issued in connection with the merger, calculated as the product of (a) 70,275,404 shares, the maximum number of shares of Data Domain common stock that may be cancelled and exchanged in the merger and (b) the maximum exchange ratio of 0.7783 shares of the Registrant s common stock for each share of Data Domain common stock, which represents the highest possible exchange ratio pursuant to the Agreement and Plan of Merger.
- (3) Estimated solely for purposes of calculating the registration fee in accordance with Rules 457(c) and 457(f) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the market value of the securities to be registered was calculated as the product of (A) \$25.175, the average of the high and low prices per share of Data Domain common stock on

May 29, 2009, as quoted on the NASDAQ Global Select Market, multiplied by (B) 70,275,404, the maximum number of shares of Data Domain common stock that may be cancelled and exchanged in the merger; less \$1,156,030,396, the aggregate amount of cash that would be payable to the holders of Data Domain common stock in the merger assuming 70,275,404 shares of Data Domain common stock were outstanding and assuming a per share cash amount of \$16.45.

The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such dates as the Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

Information contained herein is subject to completion or amendment. A registration statement relating to these securities has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These securities may not be sold nor may offers to buy be accepted prior to the time the registration statement becomes effective. This document shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of any offer to buy nor shall there be any sale of these securities in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction.

#### PRELIMINARY SUBJECT TO COMPLETION DATED JUNE 3, 2009

### MERGER PROPOSAL YOUR VOTE IS VERY IMPORTANT

#### Dear Stockholder:

On May 20, 2009, Data Domain, Inc., referred to as Data Domain, and NetApp, Inc., referred to as NetApp, announced a business combination in which a direct, wholly owned subsidiary of NetApp will merge with Data Domain, with Data Domain continuing as the interim surviving entity, and, immediately thereafter, subject to certain conditions, Data Domain will merge with a second direct, wholly owned subsidiary of NetApp, with such subsidiary continuing as the final surviving entity. On June 3, 2009, NetApp and Data Domain amended the original merger agreement to reflect the terms described in this proxy statement/prospectus. The first merger is referred to herein as the first-step merger, the second merger is referred to herein as the second-step merger, and together such mergers are referred to herein as the merger. If the first-step merger is completed, you will have the right to receive \$16.45 in cash, without interest and less any applicable withholding, referred to as the cash consideration, subject to adjustment, and a number of shares of NetApp common stock equal to the exchange ratio, referred to as the stock consideration, and together with the cash consideration, referred to as the merger consideration, for each outstanding share of common stock of Data Domain that you hold immediately prior to the first-step merger.

The exchange ratio is equal to (i) 0.7783 shares of NetApp common stock if the closing average (as described below) is less than \$17.41, (ii) 0.6370 shares of NetApp common stock if the closing average is greater than \$21.27, and (iii) that fraction of a share of NetApp common stock (rounded to the nearest ten thousandth) equal to the quotient obtained by dividing \$13.55 by the closing average, if the closing average is (A) less than or equal to \$21.27 and (B) greater than or equal to \$17.41. The closing average means the average of the closing sales prices for NetApp common stock (rounded to the nearest one-hundredth of a cent) as reported on the NASDAQ Global Select Market for the 10 most recent consecutive trading days ending on the third trading day immediately prior to the closing of the first-step merger. Data Domain stockholders may contact Innisfree M&A Incorporated, Data Domain s information agent, toll free at (888) 750-5834, and banks or brokers may call collect at (212) 750-5833, for information regarding the approximate merger consideration payable in connection with the first-step merger based on information available as of the date of inquiry. In addition, on the third trading day preceding the date of the special meeting of the Data Domain stockholders described below, NetApp and Data Domain will issue a joint press release announcing the aggregate merger consideration that would be payable to the Data Domain stockholders, assuming that the merger closed on the date of the special meeting. As further described in this proxy statement/prospectus, under certain conditions, NetApp may elect to reduce, or be required to reduce, the stock consideration, and in the event of such a reduction, NetApp will be required to increase the cash consideration.

If the closing average is less than \$17.41, the value of the merger consideration will be less than the aggregate \$30.00 value of the merger consideration on June 3, 2009, the date on which the revised terms of the merger were announced. If the closing average is greater than \$21.27, the value of the merger consideration will be greater than the aggregate \$30.00 value of the merger consideration on June 3, 2009. The following table shows the closing sale prices of NetApp common stock and Data Domain common stock as reported on the NASDAQ Global Select Market on May 19, 2009, the last trading day before the initial announcement of the potential merger, on June 2, 2009, the last trading day before the distribution of the enclosed proxy statement/prospectus for which data was available. This table also shows the implied value of the merger consideration proposed for each share of Data Domain common stock, which was calculated by adding to \$16.45, or the cash consideration, the product obtained by multiplying the closing price of NetApp common stock on those dates by the implied exchange ratio for the stock consideration that would apply if the closing average were equal to such closing price on such dates.

May 19, 2009(1) June 2, 2009	Co	etApp ommon Stock	a Domain ommon Stock	Implied Value of One Share of Data Domain Common Stock		
May 19, 2009(1)	\$	18.07	\$	17.43	\$	25.00
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	\$	19.34	\$	31.58	\$	30.00
[ ], 2009	\$	[ ]	\$	[ ]	\$	[ ]

(1) Based on the terms of the original merger agreement.

The market prices of both NetApp common stock and Data Domain common stock will fluctuate before the merger. You should obtain current stock price quotations for NetApp common stock and Data Domain common stock. NetApp common stock is quoted on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol NTAP. Data Domain common stock is quoted on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol DDUP.

The Data Domain board of directors unanimously recommends that Data Domain stockholders vote FOR approval of the merger proposal and FOR the adjournment proposal.

This proxy statement/prospectus describes the special meeting, the merger proposal and the adjournment proposal, the documents related to each proposal, and other related matters. Please carefully read this entire proxy statement/prospectus, including Risk Factors beginning on page 16, for a discussion of the risks relating to the merger proposal. You also can obtain information about NetApp and Data Domain from documents that each of us has filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

By Order of the Board of Directors

Sincerely,

Frank Slootman

President and Chief Executive Officer

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the NetApp common stock to be issued under this proxy statement/prospectus or determined if this proxy statement/prospectus is accurate or adequate. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this proxy statement/prospectus is [ ], 2009, and it is first being mailed or otherwise delivered to Data Domain stockholders on or about [ ], 2009.

# DATA DOMAIN, INC. 2421 Mission College Blvd. Santa Clara, CA 95054

#### NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

l	], 2009
	4.

To the Stockholders of Data Domain, Inc.:

Data Domain, Inc., o	or Data Doma	in, will hold a	a special	meeting of st	tockholders a	at 2421 Mi	ission Colleg	ge Blvd.,
Santa Clara, CA 950	054 at [	, local time,	on [	], 2009 to co	onsider and v	ote upon	the following	g proposals:

- 1. To adopt the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of May 20, 2009, as amended on June 3, 2009, by and among NetApp, Kentucky Merger Sub One Corporation, Derby Merger Sub Two LLC and Data Domain, as the agreement may be amended from time to time, which proposal is referred to as the merger proposal; and
- 2. To approve the adjournment or postponement of the special meeting, if necessary, to solicit additional proxies, in the event that there are not sufficient votes at the time of the special meeting to approve the merger proposal, which proposal is referred to as the adjournment proposal.

The Data Domain board of directors has fixed the close of business on [ ], 2009 as the record date for the special meeting. Only Data Domain stockholders of record at that time are entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the special meeting, or any adjournment or postponement of the special meeting. In order for the merger proposal to be approved, the holders of at least a majority of the Data Domain shares outstanding and entitled to vote thereon must vote in favor of approval of the merger proposal. In the event that a quorum is not present in person or represented by proxy at the special meeting, the chairman of the meeting may adjourn the meeting to another place, date or time. If a quorum is present in person or represented by proxy at the special meeting, approval of the adjournment proposal requires the affirmative vote of the majority of the outstanding shares that are present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at the special meeting.

Regardless of whether you plan to attend the special meeting, please submit your proxy with voting instructions. Please vote as soon as possible. If you hold stock in your name as a stockholder of record, please vote your shares by (i) completing, signing, dating and returning the enclosed proxy card, (ii) using the telephone number on your proxy card, or (iii) using the Internet voting instructions on your proxy card. If you hold your stock in street name through a bank, broker, or other nominee, please direct your bank, broker, or other nominee to vote in accordance with the instructions you have received from your bank, broker, or other nominee. This will not prevent you from voting in person, but it will help to secure a quorum and avoid additional solicitation costs. Any holder of Data Domain common stock who is present at the special meeting may vote in person instead of by proxy, thereby canceling any previous proxy. In any event, a proxy may be revoked in writing at any time before the special meeting in the manner described in the accompanying document.

The Data Domain board of directors has unanimously approved the merger proposal and unanimously recommends that Data Domain stockholders vote FOR approval of the merger proposal and FOR approval of the adjournment proposal.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS,

Sincerely,

Frank Slootman President and Chief Executive Officer

[ ], 2009

### YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT.

PLEASE VOTE YOUR SHARES PROMPTLY, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE SPECIAL MEETING.

#### REFERENCES TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This proxy statement/prospectus incorporates important business and financial information about NetApp and Data Domain from documents that are not included in or delivered with this document. You can obtain documents incorporated by reference in this proxy statement/prospectus, other than certain exhibits to those documents, or filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this proxy statement/prospectus is a part, by requesting them in writing or by telephone from the appropriate company at the following addresses:

#### NetApp, Inc.

495 East Java Drive Sunnyvale, CA 94089 Attention: Investor Relations Telephone: (408) 822-7098

#### Data Domain, Inc.

2421 Mission College Blvd. Santa Clara, CA 95054 Attention: Investor Relations Telephone: (408) 980-4909

You will not be charged for any of these documents that you request. Data Domain stockholders requesting documents should do so by [ ], 2009 (which is five business days prior to the date of the special meeting) to ensure that they receive them before the special meeting.

See Where You Can Find More Information on page 119.

#### ABOUT THIS PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS

This proxy statement/prospectus, which forms a part of a registration statement on Form S-4 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, referred to as the SEC, by NetApp, constitutes a prospectus of NetApp under Section 5 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, referred to as the Securities Act, with respect to the shares of NetApp common stock to be issued to Data Domain stockholders in connection with the merger. This document also constitutes a proxy statement under Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, referred to as the Exchange Act, and the rules thereunder, and a notice of meeting with respect to the special meeting of Data Domain stockholders to consider and vote upon the merger proposal and the adjournment proposal.

Except as otherwise provided herein, all descriptions of and calculations made under the terms of the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, including the merger, assume that no Data Domain stockholders exercise appraisal rights under Delaware law.

To facilitate the reading of this proxy statement/prospectus, in referring to we, us and other first person declarations, we are referring to both NetApp and Data Domain or, in some instances, the combined company as it would exist following the completion of the merger.

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# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT VOTING PROCEDURES FOR THE DATA DOMAIN SPECIAL MEETING

#### Q: Why am I receiving this proxy statement/prospectus?

A: NetApp, Inc., referred to as NetApp, has agreed to acquire Data Domain, Inc., referred to as Data Domain, by means of a merger of Data Domain with a subsidiary of NetApp. Please see Data Domain Proposal 1 The Merger beginning on page 48 and The Merger Agreement beginning on page 76 for a description of the merger and the merger agreement. A copy of the merger agreement is attached to this proxy statement/prospectus as Appendix A.

To complete the merger, Data Domain stockholders must vote to approve the merger proposal. Data Domain will hold a special meeting of stockholders to obtain this approval. You will also be given an opportunity to vote to approve the adjournment or postponement of the special meeting, if necessary, to solicit additional proxies in favor of the merger proposal, referred to as the adjournment proposal.

#### Q: What will happen in the merger?

A: As the first step in the transaction, a direct, wholly owned subsidiary of NetApp will merge with Data Domain, with Data Domain continuing as the surviving entity, and as a direct, wholly owned subsidiary of NetApp. Immediately thereafter, provided that certain conditions described below are satisfied, Data Domain will merge with a second direct, wholly owned subsidiary of NetApp, with such second subsidiary continuing as the surviving corporation. The first merger is referred to herein as the first-step merger and the second-step merger together are referred to herein as the merger. If the second-step merger does not occur, references herein to the merger shall mean the first-step merger. Upon completion of the first-step merger, Data Domain common stock will cease trading on the NASDAQ Global Select Market, and Data Domain common stockholders will be entitled to receive the merger consideration for each outstanding share of Data Domain common stock held immediately prior to the first-step merger.

#### Q: What will Data Domain stockholders receive in the merger?

A: In the merger, subject to the possible adjustments to the cash consideration and the stock consideration described below, each Data Domain stockholder will have a right to receive a cash amount of \$16.45, without interest and less any applicable withholding, plus a number of shares of NetApp common stock equal to the exchange ratio for each outstanding share of Data Domain common stock. The exchange ratio will depend on the closing average of NetApp common stock. The closing average is the average of the closing sales prices for NetApp common stock as reported on the NASDAQ Global Select Market for the 10 most recent consecutive trading days ending on the third trading day immediately prior to the closing of the first-step merger.

The exchange ratio is equal to (i) 0.7783 shares of NetApp common stock if the closing average is less than \$17.41, (ii) 0.6370 shares of NetApp common stock if the closing average is greater than \$21.27, and (iii) that fraction of a share of NetApp common stock equal to the quotient obtained by dividing \$13.55 by the closing average, if the closing average is (A) less than or equal to \$21.27 and (B) greater than or equal to \$17.41.

For example, if the closing average of NetApp common stock is \$16.00, a holder of 100 shares of Data Domain common stock will receive \$1,645 in cash and 77 shares of NetApp common stock (i.e.,  $100 \times 16.45 = 1,645$  in cash and  $100 \times 0.7783 = 77$  shares of common stock), plus cash equal to the value of the fractional share of NetApp common stock to which such holder would otherwise be entitled.

If the closing average of NetApp common stock is \$18.00, a holder of 100 shares of Data Domain common stock will receive \$1,645 in cash and 75 shares of NetApp common stock (i.e.,  $100 \times 16.45 = 1,645$  in cash and  $100 \times (13.55/18.00) = 75$  shares of common stock), plus cash equal to the value of the fractional share of NetApp common stock to which such holder would otherwise be entitled.

Finally, if the closing average of NetApp common stock is \$22.00, a holder of 100 shares of Data Domain common stock will receive \$1,645 in cash and 63 shares of NetApp common stock (i.e.,  $100 \times 16.45 = 1,645$  in cash and  $100 \times 0.6370 = 63$  shares of common stock), plus cash equal to the value of the fractional share of NetApp common stock to which such holder would otherwise be entitled.

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The range of outcomes is illustrated by the following graph:

Stockholders of Data Domain should bear in mind, however, that under the merger agreement, if the exchange ratio is greater than or equal to 0.7006 and less than 0.7783, NetApp, in its sole discretion may reduce the number of shares of NetApp common stock you will receive and proportionately increase the amount of cash you will receive. However, NetApp may not reduce the amount of stock consideration and increase the cash consideration to the extent that it would reasonably be expected to cause the merger to fail to qualify as a tax-free reorganization under the Internal Revenue Code, except as may be required as described herein.

If the aggregate amount of the stock consideration issuable in the merger (including the stock consideration issuable to holders of Data Domain options and restricted stock units) would exceed 19.5% of the outstanding shares of NetApp common stock immediately prior to the effective time of the first-step merger, the stock consideration will be decreased to the minimum extent necessary so that no more than 19.5% of the outstanding shares of NetApp common stock will be issued in the merger (with such percentage measured immediately prior to the effective time of the first-step merger). In such event, the cash consideration will be increased by an amount equal to the product of (a) the amount of the reduction in the stock consideration multiplied by (b) the closing average. In the event that the stock consideration is decreased in accordance with this paragraph, the merger may to fail to qualify as a tax-free reorganization under the Internal Revenue Code.

Data Domain stockholders may contact Innisfree M&A Incorporated, Data Domain s information agent, toll free at (888) 750-5834, and banks or brokers may call collect at (212) 750-5833, for information regarding the approximate merger consideration payable in connection with the merger. In addition, on the third trading day preceding the date of the special meeting of the Data Domain stockholders, NetApp and Data Domain will issue a joint press release announcing the aggregate merger consideration that would be payable to the Data Domain stockholders and whether the merger would qualify as a tax-free reorganization, assuming that the merger closed on the date of the special meeting. However, there can be no assurance that the merger will close on the date of the special meeting of the stockholders, and, as such, the assumptions in that announcement may differ from the actual merger consideration payable in, and the tax treatment of, the merger at the closing.

#### O: What do I need to do now?

A: After you have carefully read this proxy statement/prospectus and have decided how you wish to vote your shares, please vote your shares promptly. If you hold stock in your name as a stockholder of record, please vote your shares by (i) completing, signing, dating and returning the enclosed proxy card, (ii) using the telephone number on your proxy card or (iii) using the Internet voting instructions on your proxy card. If you have Internet access, you are encouraged to record your vote via the Internet.

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If you hold your stock in street name through a bank, broker or other nominee, you must direct your bank, broker or other nominee to vote in accordance with the instructions you have received from your bank, broker or other nominee. Submitting your proxy card or directing your bank, broker or other nominee to vote your shares will ensure that your shares are represented and voted at the special meeting.

#### Q: Why is my vote important?

A: If you do not vote by proxy or vote in person at the special meeting, it will be more difficult for us to obtain the necessary quorum to hold the special meeting. In addition, your failure to vote, by proxy or in person, or failure to instruct your broker, will have the same effect as a vote against the merger proposal. The merger proposal must be approved by the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of Data Domain common stock entitled to vote at the special meeting. In the event that a quorum is not present in person or represented by proxy at the special meeting, the chairman of the meeting may adjourn the meeting to another place, date or time. Approval of the adjournment proposal requires the affirmative vote of the majority of the outstanding shares that are present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at the special meeting. The Data Domain board of directors unanimously recommends that you vote to approve the merger proposal and the adjournment proposal.

# Q: If my shares of common stock are held in street name by my broker, will my broker automatically vote my shares for me?

A: No. Your broker cannot vote your shares without instructions from you. You should instruct your broker as to how to vote your shares, following the directions your broker provides to you. Please check the voting form used by your broker.

## Q: What if I abstain from voting or fail to instruct my broker?

A: If you abstain from voting, the abstention will be counted toward a quorum at the special meeting, but it will have the same effect as a vote against the merger proposal and against the adjournment proposal. If you fail to instruct your broker, a broker non-vote, those shares would be counted towards a quorum at the special meeting, but the shares would not be considered entitled vote, and thus it will have the same effect as a vote against the merger proposal, but it will have no effect on the adjournment proposal.

#### Q: Can I attend the special meeting and vote my shares in person?

A: Yes. All stockholders, including stockholders of record and stockholders who hold their shares through banks, brokers, nominees or any other holder of record, are invited to attend the special meeting. Holders of record of Data Domain common stock can vote in person at the special meeting. If you are not a stockholder of record, you must obtain a proxy, executed in your favor, from the record holder of your shares, such as a broker, bank or other nominee, to be able to vote in person at the special meeting. If you plan to attend the special meeting, you must hold your shares in your own name or have a letter from the record holder of your shares confirming your ownership, and you must bring a form of personal photo identification with you to be admitted. Data Domain reserves the right to refuse admittance to anyone without proper proof of share ownership or without proper photo identification.

#### Q: Can I change my vote?

A: Yes. You may revoke any proxy at any time before it is voted by signing and returning a proxy card with a later date, delivering a written revocation letter to the Data Domain Corporate Secretary, or by attending the special

meeting in person, notifying the Corporate Secretary and voting by ballot at the special meeting. The Data Domain Corporate Secretary s mailing address is 2421 Mission College Blvd., Santa Clara, CA 95054.

Any stockholder entitled to vote in person at the special meeting may vote in person regardless of whether a proxy has been previously given, but the mere presence (without notifying the Data Domain Corporate Secretary) of a stockholder at the special meeting will not constitute revocation of a previously given proxy.

Q: If I am a Data Domain stockholder, should I send in my Data Domain stock certificates now?

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A: No. You should not send in your Data Domain stock certificates at this time. After the merger is completed, NetApp will send you instructions for exchanging Data Domain stock certificates for the merger consideration. Unless Data Domain stockholders specifically request to receive NetApp stock certificates, the shares of NetApp stock they receive in the merger will be issued in book-entry form.

#### Q: Is the merger subject to the approval of stockholders of NetApp?

A: No. NetApp is not required to obtain the approval of its stockholders with respect to the merger proposal.

# Q: When do you expect to complete the merger?

A: Data Domain currently expects to complete the merger in the late summer or early fall of 2009. However, there can be no assurance as to when, or if, the merger will occur. Data Domain must first obtain the approval of Data Domain stockholders at the special meeting and the necessary regulatory approvals.

#### Q: What are the material U.S. tax consequences of the merger?

A: The U.S. tax consequences of the merger depend on whether the second-step merger occurs. The second-step merger will occur only if Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, Professional Corporation, counsel to NetApp, and Fenwick & West LLP, counsel to Data Domain, deliver opinions to the effect that the first-step merger and the second-step merger together will qualify as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code. The tax opinions are conditioned upon receipt of customary written representations from NetApp and Data Domain, including representations that the stock consideration, valued as of the last business day immediately prior to the closing date of the first-step merger, will constitute at least 40% of the total consideration paid or payable to Data Domain stockholders in the first-step merger, referred to as the continuity of interest test.

Whether the continuity of interest test will be satisfied depends primarily upon the market value of the NetApp common stock immediately before the first-step merger. No assurances can be given that the continuity of interest test will be met. As a result, in deciding whether to approve the merger, you should consider the possibility that it may be taxable to you because the continuity of interest test is not satisfied and the second-step merger does not occur. You will not be entitled to change your vote in the event that the merger is taxable.

If the second-step merger occurs and the merger qualifies as a reorganization, a U.S. holder of Data Domain common stock receiving NetApp common stock and cash in exchange for Data Domain common stock in the merger generally will recognize gain equal to the lesser of (i) the amount of cash received by the U.S. holder (excluding any cash received in lieu of fractional shares) and (ii) the excess of the amount realized by the U.S. holder over the U.S. holder s tax basis in the Data Domain common stock. The amount realized by the U.S. holder will equal the sum of the fair market value of the NetApp common stock and the amount of cash (including any cash received in lieu of fractional shares) received by the U.S. holder. Losses will not be permitted to be recognized. Realized gain or loss must be calculated separately for each identifiable block of shares (i.e., shares acquired at different times and prices) exchanged in the merger, and a loss realized on the exchange of one block cannot be used to offset a gain recognized on the exchange of another block.

If the second-step merger does not occur, the exchange of Data Domain common stock for NetApp common stock and cash in the first-step merger will be a fully taxable transaction in which a U.S. holder generally will recognize gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized (as defined above) and the U.S. holder s tax basis in the Data Domain common stock. Gain or loss must be calculated separately for each

identifiable block of shares (i.e., shares acquired at different times and prices) exchanged in the first-step merger.

Please see Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger beginning on page 95.

# Q: Whom should I call with questions?

A: If you need any assistance in completing your proxy card or have questions regarding the special meeting, you may call Innisfree M&A Incorporated, Data Domain s proxy solicitor, at (888) 750-5834 (toll-free) if you are a stockholder or (212) 750-5833 (collect) if you are a bank or broker.

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#### **SUMMARY**

This summary highlights material information from this proxy statement/prospectus. It may not contain all of the information that is important to you. Data Domain urges you to read carefully the entire proxy statement/prospectus and the other documents to which we refer to fully understand the merger and the related transactions. See Where You Can Find More Information on page 119. Each item in this summary refers to the page of this proxy statement/prospectus on which that subject is discussed in more detail.

Following the first-step merger, for each share of Data Domain common stock held by them, Data Domain stockholders will have a right to receive a cash amount of \$16.45, without interest and less any required withholding under United States federal, state, or local law or under foreign law, plus a number of validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable shares of NetApp common stock equal to the exchange ratio. The exchange ratio is equal to (i) 0.7783 shares of NetApp common stock if the closing average (as described below) is less than \$17.41, (ii) 0.6370 shares of NetApp common stock if the closing average is greater than \$21.27, and (iii) that fraction of a share of NetApp common stock equal to the quotient obtained by dividing \$13.55 by the closing average, if the closing average is (A) less than or equal to \$21.27 and (B) greater than or equal to \$17.41. The closing average means the average of the closing sales prices for NetApp common stock as reported on the NASDAQ Global Select Market for the 10 most recent consecutive trading days ending on the third trading day immediately prior to the closing of the first-step merger. Under certain conditions, NetApp may elect to reduce, or may be required to reduce, the stock consideration, and, in the event of such a reduction, NetApp will be required to increase the cash consideration. See The Merger Agreement Per Share Merger Consideration. Data Domain stockholders may contact Innisfree M&A Incorporated, Data Domain s information agent, toll free at (888) 750-5834, and banks or brokers can call collect at (212) 750-5833, for information regarding the merger consideration to be received upon exchange of each share of Data Domain common stock in connection with the merger. In addition, on the third trading day preceding the date of the special meeting of the Data Domain stockholders, NetApp and Data Domain will issue a joint press release announcing the aggregate merger consideration that would be payable to the Data Domain stockholders and whether the merger would qualify as a tax-free reorganization, assuming that the merger closed on the date of the special meeting. However, there can be no assurance that the merger will close on the date of the special meeting of the stockholders, and, as such, the assumptions in that announcement may differ from the actual merger consideration payable in, and the tax treatment of, the merger at the closing.

On May 20, 2009, NetApp entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger, referred to as the original merger agreement, by and among NetApp, Kentucky Merger Sub One Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of NetApp, referred to as Merger Sub One, Derby Merger Sub Two LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of NetApp, referred to as Merger Sub Two, and Data Domain, pursuant to which for each share of Data Domain common stock held by them, Data Domain stockholders would have had a right to receive a cash amount of \$11.45 plus a number of validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable shares of NetApp common stock equal to an exchange ratio of (i) 0.833 shares of NetApp common stock if the closing average was less than \$16.26, (ii) 0.682 shares of NetApp common stock if the closing average was greater than \$19.88, and (iii) that fraction of a share of NetApp common stock equal to the quotient obtained by dividing \$13.55 by the closing average, if the closing average was (A) less than or equal to \$19.88 and (B) greater than or equal to \$16.26. On June 3, 2009, NetApp and Data Domain amended the original merger agreement to reflect the terms described in this proxy statement/prospectus. The merger agreement provides for the acquisition of Data Domain by NetApp by means of a merger of Merger Sub One with and into Data Domain, referred to as the first-step merger, with Data Domain as the interim surviving entity. Immediately thereafter, subject to certain conditions, Data Domain, as the interim surviving entity, will merge with and into Merger Sub Two, referred to as the second-step merger, with Merger Sub Two as the final surviving entity. Unless otherwise specified

herein, the second-step merger, taken together with the first-step merger, is referred to in this proxy statement/prospectus as the merger. As a result of the first-step merger, Data Domain will become a wholly owned subsidiary of NetApp. See Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger for an explanation of the two-step merger structure. Based on NetApp s stock trading price as of June 2, 2009, the aggregate value of the consideration payable in connection with the merger, is \$1.9 billion on a fully diluted basis (net of cash on Data

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Domain s balance sheet). The aggregate value of the consideration payable at closing is subject to change, as further described in this proxy statement/prospectus.

Each share of Data Domain common stock issued and outstanding immediately prior to the effective time of the merger will be cancelled and extinguished and automatically converted into the right to receive a cash amount of \$16.45, or the cash consideration, without interest and less any required withholding under United States federal, state, local or foreign law, plus a number of validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable shares of NetApp common stock equal to the exchange ratio, referred to as the stock consideration, and together with the cash consideration, the merger consideration.

The merger agreement is included as Appendix A to this proxy statement/prospectus.

#### What Holders of Data Domain Stock Options and Other Equity-Based Awards Will Receive (page 77)

Each of the vested and unvested options to purchase shares of Data Domain common stock that is outstanding at the effective time of the first-step merger will be assumed and converted into an option to acquire shares of NetApp common stock, subject to the option exchange ratio, at the effective time of the merger, and will otherwise be subject to the terms and conditions of such award prior to the completion of the first-step merger, including vesting and exercisability.

Each of Data Domain s restricted stock units outstanding at the effective time of the first-step merger will be assumed and converted into a restricted stock unit representing the right to receive the merger consideration payable for shares underlying each assumed and converted Data Domain restricted stock unit. The assumed and converted restricted stock units will otherwise be subject to the same terms and conditions, including vesting restrictions, applicable to such Data Domain restricted stock units prior to the effective time of the first-step merger.

Each of Data Domain s unvested shares of restricted stock outstanding at the effective time of the first-step merger will be assumed and converted into the right to receive the merger consideration payable for such shares. The merger consideration payable for such unvested shares of restricted stock will be subject to the same terms and conditions, including vesting restrictions, applicable to such shares of Data Domain restricted stock prior to the effective time of the first-step merger.

#### Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger to Data Domain Stockholders (page 95)

The U.S. tax consequences of the merger depend on whether the second-step merger occurs. The second-step merger will occur only if Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, Professional Corporation, counsel to NetApp, and Fenwick & West LLP, counsel to Data Domain, deliver tax opinions to the effect that the merger will qualify as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code. The tax opinions are conditioned upon receipt of customary written representations from NetApp and Data Domain, including representations that continuity of interest test will be satisfied, requiring that the stock consideration constitute at least 40% of the total consideration paid or payable to Data Domain stockholders in the first-step merger.

Whether the continuity of interest test will be satisfied depends primarily upon the market value of the NetApp common stock immediately before the first-step merger. No assurances can be given that the continuity of interest test will be met. As a result, in deciding whether to approve the merger, you should consider the possibility that the it may be taxable to you because the continuity of interest test is not satisfied and the second-step merger does not occur. You will not be entitled to change your vote in the event that the merger is taxable.

If the second-step merger occurs and the merger qualifies as a reorganization, a U.S. holder of Data Domain common stock receiving NetApp common stock and cash in exchange for such Data Domain common stock in the merger generally will recognize gain equal to the lesser of (i) the amount of cash received by the U.S. holder (excluding any cash received in lieu of fractional shares) and (ii) the excess of the amount realized by the U.S. holder over the U.S. holder s tax basis in the Data Domain common stock. The amount realized by the U.S. holder will equal the sum of the fair market value of the NetApp common stock and the amount of cash (including any cash received in lieu of fractional shares) received by the U.S. holder. Losses will not be permitted to be recognized. Realized gain or loss must be calculated separately for each identifiable block of shares (i.e., shares acquired at different times and prices) exchanged in the merger, and a loss realized on the exchange of one block

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cannot be used to offset a gain recognized on the exchange of another block. Any gain recognized by a U.S. holder of Data Domain common stock generally will be long-term capital gain if the U.S. holder s holding period of the Data Domain common stock is more than one year, and short-term capital gain if the U.S. holder s holding period is one year or less, at the time of the first-step merger. Long-term capital gains of individuals are eligible for reduced rates of taxation.

If the second-step merger does not occur, the exchange of Data Domain common stock for NetApp common stock and cash in the first-step merger will be a fully taxable transaction in which a U.S. holder generally will recognize gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized (as defined above) and the U.S. holder s tax basis in the Data Domain common stock. Gain or loss must be calculated separately for each identifiable block of shares (i.e., shares acquired at different times and prices) exchanged in the first-step merger. Any gain or loss recognized by a U.S. holder of Data Domain common stock generally will be long-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. holder s holding period of the Data Domain common stock is more than one year, and short-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. holder s holding period is one year or less, at the time of the first-step merger. Long-term capital gains of individuals are eligible for reduced rates of taxation. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations.

The U.S. federal income tax consequences described above may not apply to all holders of Data Domain common stock. Your tax consequences will depend on your individual situation. Accordingly, NetApp and Data Domain strongly urge you to consult with your tax advisor for a full understanding of the particular tax consequences of the merger to you.

#### **Comparative Market Prices and Dividends (page 177)**

NetApp common stock trades on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol NTAP, and Data Domain common stock trades on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol DDUP. The following table shows the closing sale prices of NetApp common stock and Data Domain common stock as reported on the NASDAQ Global Select Market on May 19, 2009, the last trading day before the signing of the original merger agreement, on June 2, 2009, the last trading day before the signing of the amended merger agreement, and on [ ], 2009, the last trading day before the distribution of this proxy statement/prospectus for which data was available. This table also shows the implied value of the merger consideration proposed for each share of Data Domain common stock, which was calculated by adding to \$16.45, or the cash consideration, the product obtained by multiplying the closing price of a share of NetApp common stock on those dates by the implied exchange ratio for the stock consideration that would apply if the closing average were equal to the closing sale price on those dates.

	etApp	ı Domain	One	of Share of Domain
	ommon Stock	ommon Stock	Comr	non Stock
May 19, 2009(1)	\$ 18.07	\$ 17.43	\$	25.00
June 2, 2009	\$ 19.34	\$ 31.58	\$	30.00
[ ], 2009	\$ [ ]	\$ [ ]	\$	[ ]

(1) Based on the terms of the original merger agreement.

The market price of NetApp common stock and Data Domain common stock will fluctuate prior to the closing of the first-step merger. You should obtain current market quotations for the shares.

The Data Domain Board of Directors Unanimously Recommends that Data Domain Stockholders Vote FOR the Proposals (pages 48 and 118)

The Data Domain board of directors believes that the merger is in the best interests of Data Domain and its stockholders and has unanimously approved the merger and the merger agreement. The Data Domain board of directors unanimously recommends that Data Domain stockholders vote FOR the merger proposal and FOR the adjournment proposal.

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#### Qatalyst Partners Provided an Opinion to the Data Domain Board of Directors (page 62)

As financial advisor to Data Domain, on May 20, 2009, Qatalyst Partners LP, which is referred to herein as Qatalyst, rendered to the Data Domain board of directors its opinion that, as of such date and based upon and subject to the various assumptions, qualifications and limitations set forth in its opinion, the merger consideration to be received by the holders of shares of Data Domain common stock, other than affiliates who have executed voting agreements, pursuant to the original merger agreement was fair, from a financial point of view, to such holders.

The full text of the written opinion of Qatalyst, dated May 20, 2009, is attached hereto as Appendix D and is incorporated by reference herein. The opinion sets forth, among other things, the assumptions made, procedures followed, matters considered and limitations and qualifications of the review undertaken by Qatalyst in rendering its opinion. You should read the opinion carefully in its entirety. Qatalyst s opinion was provided to the Data Domain board of directors and addresses only the fairness, from a financial point of view, of the merger consideration to be received by the holders of shares of Data Domain common stock pursuant to the original merger agreement as of the date of the opinion. It does not address any other aspect of the transaction and does not constitute a recommendation to the stockholders of Data Domain as to how to vote with respect to the merger proposal or act on any other matter.

# Data Domain s Officers and Directors Have Financial Interests in the Merger That Differ From Your Interests (page 68)

Data Domain s executive officers and directors have interests in the merger that are different from those of other Data Domain stockholders. As of the record date, all directors and executive officers of Data Domain, together with their affiliates, beneficially owned approximately [ ]% of the outstanding shares of Data Domain common stock, which includes shares of common stock and shares of restricted stock that will vest within 60 days of the record date, shares underlying vested options and options that will vest within 60 days of the record date, and shares issuable upon settlement of restricted stock units and that will be issuable within 60 days of such date. Additionally, certain executive officers and the non-employee directors of Data Domain will be entitled to additional benefits as a result of the completion of the merger or upon certain events following the completion of the merger.

# Directors and Executive Officers of Data Domain Have Agreed to Vote in Favor of the Merger Proposal (page 93)

In connection with the execution of the merger agreement, directors and executive officers of Data Domain and certain of their affiliates entered into voting agreements pursuant to which they have agreed to vote all shares of Data Domain common stock owned by them in favor of the merger proposal. As of the record date these directors, executive officers and affiliates owned shares representing approximately [ ]% of Data Domain s issued and outstanding common stock. They have also agreed to comply with certain restrictions on the disposition of their shares, subject to the terms and conditions contained in the voting agreements. Pursuant to their terms, these voting agreements will terminate concurrently with any termination of the merger agreement.

The form of voting agreement is included as Appendix B to this proxy statement/prospectus.

#### Holders of Data Domain Common Stock Are Entitled to Appraisal Rights (page 72)

Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, referred to as the DGCL, holders of Data Domain common stock who do not vote for the approval of the first-step merger proposal have the right to seek appraisal of the fair value of their shares as determined by the Delaware Court of Chancery if the merger is completed, but only if they comply with all requirements of Delaware law, which are summarized in this proxy statement/prospectus. This appraisal amount could be more than, the same as, or less than the amount a Data Domain stockholder would be entitled to receive under the

merger agreement. Any holder of Data Domain common stock intending to exercise appraisal rights, among other things, must submit a written demand for appraisal to Data Domain prior to the vote on the approval of the merger proposal and must not vote or otherwise submit a proxy in favor of approval of the merger proposal. Failure to follow exactly the procedures specified under Delaware law will result in the loss of appraisal rights. Because of the complexity of the Delaware law relating to appraisal rights, if you are considering exercising your appraisal right, Data Domain encourages you to seek the advice of your own legal counsel.

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A copy of Section 262 of the DGCL is also included as Appendix C to this proxy statement/prospectus.

#### Conditions That Must Be Satisfied or Waived for the Merger to Occur (page 88)

Currently, NetApp and Data Domain expect to complete the first-step merger in the late summer or early fall of 2009. As more fully described in this proxy statement/prospectus and in the merger agreement, the completion of the first-step merger depends on a number of conditions being satisfied or, where legally permissible, waived. These conditions include, among others, approval of the merger proposal by Data Domain stockholders, the expiration or termination of the applicable Hart-Scott-Rodino waiting period, the receipt of all required regulatory approvals.

Neither NetApp nor Data Domain can be certain when, or if, the conditions to the merger will be satisfied or waived, or that the merger will be completed.

#### **Termination of the Merger Agreement (page 90)**

Either NetApp or Data Domain may terminate the merger agreement under certain circumstances, which would prevent the merger from being completed.

### **Termination Fee (page 92)**

A termination fee of \$57,000,000 may be payable by Data Domain to NetApp upon the termination of the merger agreement under several circumstances.

#### **Regulatory Approvals Required for the Merger (page 74)**

NetApp and Data Domain have agreed to use reasonable best efforts to obtain as promptly as practicable all regulatory approvals that are required to complete the transactions contemplated in the merger agreement. This includes filing all required notices to governmental authorities, including the required filings with the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission pursuant to the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976, as amended, referred to herein as the HSR Act. NetApp and Data Domain are not permitted to complete the merger until the applicable waiting periods under the HSR Act have expired or been terminated.

Although neither NetApp nor Data Domain know of any reason why regulatory approvals would not be obtained in a timely manner, NetApp and Data Domain cannot be certain when, or if, the approvals will be obtained.

#### Board of Directors and Management of NetApp following Completion of the Merger (page 72)

The directors of Data Domain and its subsidiaries will resign in connection with the first-step merger. The composition of NetApp s board of directors and management is not anticipated to change in connection with the completion of the first-step merger, although it is possible that following the first-step merger, one or more members of Data Domain s management may be asked to join NetApp s board of directors and/or management.

#### The Rights of Data Domain Stockholders will Change as a Result of the Merger (page 111)

The rights of Data Domain stockholders will change as a result of the merger due to differences in NetApp s and Data Domain s governing documents. This proxy statement/prospectus contains a summary description of stockholder rights under each of the NetApp and Data Domain governing documents and describes the material differences between them.

Data Domain will Hold its Special Meeting on [ ], 2009 (page 43)

The special meeting will be held on [ ], 2009 at [ ], local time, at 2421 Mission College Blvd., Santa Clara, CA 95054. At the special meeting, Data Domain stockholders will be asked to:

Adopt the merger agreement; and

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Approve the adjournment or postponement of the special meeting, if necessary, to solicit additional proxies, in the event that there are not sufficient votes at the time of the special meeting to adopt the merger agreement.

Record Date. Only holders of record at the close of business on [ ], 2009 will be entitled to vote at the special meeting. Each share of Data Domain common stock is entitled to vote. As of the record date, [ ] shares of Data Domain common stock were outstanding, held by approximately [ ] registered holders.

Required Vote. Approval of the merger proposal requires the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of Data Domain common stock entitled to vote at the special meeting. Because approval of the merger proposal is based on the affirmative vote of a majority of shares outstanding, a Data Domain stockholder s failure to vote, abstention or failure to instruct a broker, a broker non-vote, will have the same effect as a vote against the merger proposal.

In the event that a quorum is not present in person or represented by proxy at the special meeting, the chairman of the meeting may adjourn the meeting to another place, date or time. If a quorum is present in person or represented by proxy at the special meeting, approval of the adjournment proposal requires the affirmative vote of the majority of the outstanding shares that are present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at the special meeting. A Data Domain stockholder s abstention will have the same effect as a vote against the adjournment proposal. A broker non-vote will have no effect on the adjournment proposal.

#### **Information about the Companies (page 47)**

#### NetApp, Inc.

NetApp, a Delaware corporation, was established in 1992. NetApp is a leading provider of storage and data management solutions. NetApp common stock is traded on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol NTAP. The principal executive offices of NetApp are located at 495 East Java Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94089, and its telephone number is (408) 822-6000.

Additional information about NetApp and its subsidiaries is included in documents incorporated by reference in this proxy statement/prospectus. See Where You Can Find More Information beginning on page 119.

#### Kentucky Merger Sub One Corporation

Kentucky Merger Sub One Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of NetApp, was formed solely for the purpose of completing the merger. Kentucky Merger Sub One Corporation has not carried on any activities to date, except for activities incidental to its formation and activities undertaken in connection with the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement. The principal executive offices of Kentucky Merger Sub One Corporation are located at 495 East Java Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94089, and its telephone number is (408) 822-6000.

#### Derby Merger Sub Two LLC

Derby Merger Sub Two LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of NetApp, was formed solely for the purpose of completing the merger. Derby Merger Sub Two LLC has not carried on any activities to date, except for activities incidental to its formation and activities undertaken in connection with the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement. The principal executive offices of Derby Merger Sub Two LLC are located at 495 East Java Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94089, and its telephone number is (408) 822-6000.

# Data Domain, Inc.

Data Domain, a Delaware corporation, was incorporated in Delaware in October 2001. Data Domain is a leading provider of storage solutions for backup and archive applications based on deduplication technology.

Data Domain common stock is traded on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol DDUP. The principal executive offices of Data Domain are located at 2421 Mission College Blvd., Santa Clara, CA 95054, and its telephone number is (408) 980-4800.

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Additional information about Data Domain and its subsidiaries is included in documents incorporated by reference in this proxy statement/prospectus. See Where You Can Find More Information beginning on page 119.

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#### SELECTED CONSOLIDATED HISTORICAL FINANCIAL DATA OF NETAPP

The tables below present selected consolidated financial data of NetApp prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, or GAAP. The data below are only a summary and should be read in conjunction with NetApp s consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes, as well as NetApp s management s discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations, all of which can be found in publicly available documents, including those incorporated by reference in this proxy statement/prospectus. For a complete list of documents incorporated by reference in this proxy statement/prospectus, see Where You Can Find More Information beginning on page 119.

NetApp derived the consolidated statements of income data for the years ended April 25, 2008, April 27, 2007 and April 28, 2006, and the consolidated balance sheet data as of April 25, 2008 and April 27, 2007, from its audited consolidated financial statements incorporated by reference in this proxy statement/prospectus. NetApp derived the consolidated statements of income data for the years ended April 29, 2005 and April 30, 2004, and the consolidated balance sheet data as of April 28, 2006, April 29, 2005 and April 30, 2004, from its audited consolidated financial statements not included or incorporated by reference in this proxy statement/prospectus. The unaudited consolidated statements of income data for the nine month periods ended January 23, 2009 and January 25, 2008, and the unaudited consolidated balance sheet data as of January 23, 2009, are derived from its unaudited consolidated financial statements incorporated by reference in this proxy statement/prospectus. NetApp has prepared the unaudited information on the same basis as the audited consolidated financial statements and has included, in its opinion, all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring adjustments, that it considers necessary for a fair presentation of the financial information set forth in those statements. NetApp s historical results are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected in the future.

	Nine Months Ended muary 23, 2009	Ja	Nine Months Ended nuary 25, 2008	-	ear Ended April 25, 2008 In thousand	-	ear Ended April 27, 2007 xcept per sh	A	ar Ended April 28, 2006 amounts)	ar Ended April 29, 2005	ar Ended April 30, 2004
Consolidated Statements of Income Data:											
Total revenues(1)	\$ 2,526,750	\$	2,365,436	\$	3,303,167	\$	2,804,282	\$	2,066,456	\$ 1,598,131	\$ 1,170,310
Total cost of revenue(2)	1,070,730		924,932		1,289,791		1,099,782		809,995	623,083	465,789
Gross profit	1,456,020		1,440,504		2,013,376		1,704,500		1,256,461	975,048	704,521
Total operating expenses Income from	1,442,773		1,230,111		1,699,776		1,403,258		948,170	721,861	546,058
operations	13,247		210,393		313,600		301,242		308,291	253,187	158,463
Net income(1)	\$ 11,461	\$	219,918	\$	309,738	\$	297,735	\$	266,452	\$ 225,754	\$ 152,087

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Net income per share, basic	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.62	\$ 0.88	\$ 0.80	\$ 0.72	\$ 0.63	\$ 0.44
Net income per share, diluted	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.60	\$ 0.86	\$ 0.77	\$ 0.69	\$ 0.59	\$ 0.42
Shares used in basic net income per share calculation	330,067	354,799	351,676	371,204	371,061	361,009	346,965
Shares used in diluted net income per share calculation	335,070	365,290	361,090	388,454	388,381	380,412	366,195

	January 23, 2009	April 25, 2008	April 27, 2007 (In tho	April 28, 2006 usands)	April 29, 2005	April 30, 2004
Consolidated Balance Sheet Data: Cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments Working capital Total assets Short-term debt		\$ 1,164,390 653,331 4,070,988	\$ 1,308,781 1,053,256 3,658,478 85,110	\$ 1,322,892 1,116,047 3,260,965 166,211	\$ 1,169,965 1,055,700 2,372,647	\$ 807,965 745,013 1,877,266
Long-term debt and other Total stockholders equity	1,430,687 1,527,393	318,658 1,700,339	9,487 1,989,021	138,200 1,923,453	4,474 1,660,804	4,858 1,415,848

- (1) Total revenues and net income for the nine months ended January 23, 2009 included a reserve for GSA contingency of \$128,000. Net income for fiscal 2006 included an income tax expense of \$22,500 related to the American Jobs Creation Act and the repatriation of foreign subsidiary earnings back to the U.S. net income for fiscal 2004 included an income tax benefit of \$16,800 associated with a favorable foreign tax ruling.
- (2) In the first quarter of fiscal 2009, NetApp implemented a change in the reporting of warranty costs and reported these costs in cost of product revenues. These costs were included in cost of service revenues in previous periods. This change had no effect on the reported amounts of total cost of revenue, gross profit or net income for any period presented. NetApp s Consolidated Statements of Income data for fiscal years 2008, 2007 and 2006 reflect a reclassification of \$26,997, \$22,082 and \$18,532, respectively, to conform to current period presentation.

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### SELECTED CONSOLIDATED HISTORICAL FINANCIAL DATA OF DATA DOMAIN

The data below present selected consolidated financial data of Data Domain prepared in accordance with GAAP. The data below are only a summary and should be read in conjunction with Data Domain s consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes, as well as Data Domain s management s discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations, all of which can be found in publicly available documents, including those incorporated by reference in this proxy statement/prospectus. The unaudited consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the same basis as the audited consolidated financial statements and include, in the opinion of management, all adjustments, which include only normal recurring adjustments that management considers necessary for the fair presentation of the financial information set forth in those statements. Historical results are not necessarily indicative of future results. For a complete list of documents incorporated by reference in this proxy statement/prospectus, see Where You Can Find More Information beginning on page 119.

The consolidated statements of operations data for the three months ended March 31, 2009 and 2008, and the consolidated balance sheet data as of March 31, 2009 are derived from the unaudited consolidated financial statements of Data Domain and the related notes thereto that are incorporated by reference into this proxy statement/prospectus. The consolidated statement of operations data for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006, and the consolidated balance sheet data as of December 31, 2008 and 2007 are derived from the audited consolidated financial statements of Data Domain and the related notes thereto that are incorporated by reference into this proxy statement/prospectus. The consolidated statements of operations data for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004, and the consolidated balance sheet data as of December 31, 2006 and 2005 are derived from audited consolidated financial statements not included, or incorporated by reference, in this proxy statement/prospectus. The consolidated balance sheet data as of December 31, 2004 are derived from unaudited consolidated financial statements not included, or incorporated by reference, into this proxy statement/prospectus.

	]	Months Ended arch 31, 2009	]	Months Ended arch 31, 2008	Dec	2008	Dec	Year Ended cember 31,1 2007 scept per si	Dec	2006	Dec	Year Ended ember 31, 2005	Year Ended ember 31, 2004
Consolidated Statements of Operations Data: Total revenue Total cost of revenue	\$	79,036 22,831	\$	52,615 13,806	\$	274,085 76,180	\$	123,622 35,901	\$	46,434 14,523	\$	8,121 5,170	\$ 779 1,424
Gross profit (loss) Total operating expenses Operating income		56,205 54,083		38,809 37,574		197,905 181,095		87,721 94,910		31,911 36,449		2,951 16,984	(645) 9,370
(loss) Net income (loss)	\$	2,122 1,250	\$	1,235 2,741	\$	16,810 21,593	\$	(7,189) (3,660)	\$	(4,538) (4,026)	\$	(14,033) (13,783)	\$ (10,015) (9,828)

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Net income (loss) per common share, basic	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.37	\$ (0.12) \$	(0.56) \$	(2.38) \$	(2.10)
Net income (loss) per common share, diluted	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.33	\$ (0.12) \$	(0.56) \$	(2.38) \$	(2.10)
Shares used in computing basic net income (loss) per share	60,157	56,414	58,254	31,482	7,128	5,801	4,672
Shares used in computing diluted net income (loss) per share	65,739	65,378	65,814	31,482	7,128	5,801	4,672

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	March 31, 2009	December 31, 2008	December 31, 2007 (In the	December 31, 2006 ousands)	December 31, 2005	December 31, 2004		
Consolidated Balance Sheet Data: Cash and cash equivalents and	<b>.</b>		<b>.</b>	<b>.</b>	<b>.</b>	4 0 0 7 0		
short-term investments Working capital	\$ 246,852 248,058	\$ 233,892 232,996	\$ 207,136 203,688	\$ 11,857 12,856	\$ 12,505 9,692	\$ 9,358 8,233		
Total assets Other liabilities Mandatorily	400,713 2,058	386,981 2,910	261,364 594	30,913 3,319	18,896	11,394		
redeemable convertible preferred stock Common stock and additional paid-in				41,514	41,309	26,273		
capital	308,619	295,564	248,078	3,049	1,542	1,293		
Total stockholders equity (deficit)	289,748	276,884	207,862 11	(33,566)	(31,037)	(17,516)		

### SELECTED UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONDENSED COMBINED FINANCIAL DATA

The following selected unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial data was prepared using the purchase method of accounting. The NetApp and Data Domain selected unaudited pro forma condensed combined balance sheet data assume that the merger of NetApp and Data Domain took place on January 23, 2009, and combines the NetApp historical consolidated balance sheet at January 23, 2009 with Data Domain shistorical consolidated balance sheet at March 31, 2009. The NetApp and Data Domain selected unaudited pro forma condensed combined statement of operations data assume that the merger of NetApp and Data Domain took place as of April 28, 2007. The selected unaudited pro forma condensed combined statement of operations data for the fiscal year ended April 25, 2008 combines NetApp shistorical consolidated statement of income for the fiscal year then ended with Data Domain s results of operations for the twelve months ended March 31, 2008. The selected unaudited pro forma condensed combined statement of operations data for the nine months ended January 23, 2009 combines NetApp shistorical consolidated statement of income for the nine months then ended with Data Domain shistorical consolidated statement of operations for the nine months ended December 31, 2008.

The selected unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial data is presented for illustrative purposes only and is not necessarily indicative of the combined financial position or results of operations of future periods or the results that actually would have been realized had the entities been a single entity during these periods. The selected unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial data as of and for the nine months ended January 23, 2009 and for the fiscal year ended April 25, 2008 is derived from the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial statements included elsewhere in this proxy statement/prospectus and should be read in conjunction with those statements and the related notes. See Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Statements.

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	Mile						
		Months	F	iscal Year			
		Ended		Ended			
	Ja	nuary 23,		April 25,			
		2009		2008			
	()	per share					
	data)						
Selected Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Statements of							
Operations Data:							
Net revenues	\$	2,748,220	\$	3,459,195			
Gross profit		1,580,016		2,081,320			
Income (loss) before income taxes		(41,425)		291,615			
Net income (loss)		(12,228)		251,087			
Net income (loss) per share: basic	\$	(0.03)	\$	0.63			
Net income (loss) per share: diluted	\$	(0.03)	\$	0.61			
Weighted average number of shares used in computing net income (loss) per							
share:							
Basic		378,198		399,807			
Diluted		378,198		412,596			

As of

	January 23, 2009	,
<b>Selected Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Balance Sheet Data:</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments	\$ 1,668,449	)
Working capital	819,185	5
Total assets	6,435,350	)
Long-term liabilities	2,267,860	)
Stockholders equity	2,537,715	5
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### COMPARATIVE HISTORICAL AND PRO FORMA PER SHARE DATA

The following table shows historical information about NetApp s and Data Domain s respective income (loss) per share and book value per share, and similar information reflecting the merger, referred to as pro forma information. As NetApp has a fiscal year ending on the last Friday in April and Data Domain has a fiscal year ending on December 31, the unaudited pro forma condensed combined balance sheet combines the historical balances of NetApp as of January 23, 2009 with the historical balances of Data Domain as of March 31, 2009, plus pro forma adjustments as if the merger had occurred on January 23, 2007. In addition, the unaudited pro forma condensed combined statements of operations combine the historical results of NetApp for the year ended April 25, 2008 and for the nine months ended January 23, 2009 with the historical results of Data Domain for the twelve months ended March 31, 2008 and the nine months ended December 31, 2008, respectively, plus pro forma adjustments as if the merger had occurred on April 28, 2007. Data Domain s data has been calculated by combining its reported interim data for each quarter within the respective period.

NetApp is required to account for the merger using the purchase method of accounting under GAAP, for accounting and financial reporting purposes. Under the purchase method of accounting, the assets acquired and liabilities assumed from Data Domain as of the completion of the merger will be recorded at their respective fair values and added to those of NetApp. Any excess of the purchase price over the fair value of assets acquired and liabilities assumed will be recorded as goodwill. The consolidated financial statements of NetApp issued after the merger will reflect these fair values and will not be restated retroactively to reflect the historical financial position or results of operations of Data Domain.

The pro forma financial information includes estimates of the purchase price and adjustments to record certain assets and liabilities of Data Domain at their respective fair values. These pro forma adjustments are subject to updates as additional information becomes available and as additional analyses are performed. Certain other assets and liabilities of Data Domain will also be subject to adjustment to their respective fair values. Pending more detailed analyses, no pro forma adjustments are included for those assets and liabilities, including additional intangible assets that may be identified. Any change in the fair value of the net assets of Data Domain will change the amount of the purchase price allocable to goodwill. Additionally, changes to Data Domain s stockholders equity, including net income through the date the merger is completed, will change the amount of goodwill recorded. The final adjustments may differ materially from the pro forma adjustments reflected in this proxy statement/prospectus.

NetApp also anticipates that the merger will provide it with financial benefits that include, with respect to the combined entity, revenue and operating expense synergies, but these financial benefits are not reflected in the proforma information. Accordingly, the proforma information does not attempt to predict or suggest future results. It also does not necessarily reflect what the historical results of NetApp would have been had NetApp and Data Domain been combined during the periods presented.

The information in the following table is based on historical financial information and related notes for Data Domain and NetApp, as well as the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial statements. You should read the summary financial information provided in the following table together with historical financial information and related notes. The historical financial information of Data Domain and NetApp is also incorporated by reference into this proxy statement/prospectus. See Where You Can Find More Information beginning on page 119 for a description of where you can find this historical information. Neither NetApp nor Data Domain has declared dividends on its common stock during the last three fiscal years.

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	NetApp Fiscal Year					Data Domain(1)				
		'iscal Year	E	nded		welve onths				
	<b>Ap</b>	nded oril 25, 2008 torical	Pro	oril 25, 2008 Forma mbined	Ma 2	nded rch 31, 2008 storical	Pro Forma Equivalent(2)			
Income (loss) per share:										
Basic	\$	0.88	\$	0.63	\$	0.01	\$	0.01		
Diluted	\$	0.86	\$	0.61	\$	0.01	\$	0.01		
Book value per share at period end	\$			n/a	\$	3.86	\$	2.99		

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	I	Ne Nine Mo Januar	Ended	Data Domain(1) Nine Months Ended December 31, 2008			
	His	torical	 Forma mbined	His	torical		Forma valent(2)
Income (loss) per share:							
Basic	\$	0.03	\$ (0.03)	\$	0.32	\$	0.25
Diluted	\$	0.03	\$ (0.03)	\$	0.29	\$	0.22
Book value per share at period end	\$	4.62	\$ 6.70	\$	4.65	\$	3.60

- (1) Data Domain book value per share is stockholders equity divided by total shares outstanding reduced by shares subject to repurchase.
- (2) The pro forma Data Domain equivalent per share amounts were calculated by applying an exchange ratio of 0.7738 to the pro forma combined income (loss) and book value per share, as described in Note 4 to the Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Statements. The exchange ratio used in this pro forma table reflects the value of the per share merger consideration, exclusive of the cash portion of \$16.45, of \$14.28 divided by the value of a share of NetApp common stock of \$18.46 (as of May 22, 2009), with each of the numerator and denominator calculated based on the average of the closing price for NetApp common stock for the 10 trading day period ended May 19, 2009. The final ratio of the per share merger consideration to the value of a share of NetApp common stock will vary based on the trading price of NetApp common stock.

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### CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

In addition to historical information, this proxy statement/prospectus contains or incorporates by reference certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements are not historical facts but instead represent NetApp s beliefs and expectations regarding future events, many of which are, by their nature, inherently uncertain and outside NetApp s control. Forward-looking statements include statements preceded by, followed by, or including the words could, would. should. may. will. plan, believe, expect, intend, anticipate, estimate, project, potential, possible, objective, seek. strategy and other similar expressions. In particular, the forward-looking statements contained in this proxy statement/prospectus include, but are not limited to, statements regarding:

the expected financial condition, results of operations, earnings outlook and prospects of NetApp, Data Domain and the combined company;

the expected benefits and synergies of the merger;

the likelihood that NetApp and Data Domain will receive the regulatory approvals required to complete the merger;

NetApp s expectation that customers will continue to adopt deduplication technology;

the expectation that the acquisition of Data Domain will complement NetApp s storage and data management business;

the expectation that the merger will allow NetApp to capture a greater share of the capacity optimized disk market;

the expectation that the merger will result in increased operational efficiency and create opportunities for cost reduction through the elimination of redundant overhead expenses and public company costs; and

the expectation that the second-step merger will occur.

The forward-looking statements contained or incorporated by reference herein are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from those reflected in the forward-looking statements. Such risk and uncertainties include those set forth on page 16 under the heading Risk Factors, as well as, among others, the following:

the expenses of the merger being greater than anticipated, including as a result of unexpected factors or events and unanticipated tax consequences of the merger;

the exposure to litigation, including the possibility that litigation relating to the merger agreement and related transactions could delay or impede the completion of the merger;

the integration of Data Domain s business and operations with those of NetApp taking longer than anticipated, being costlier than anticipated and having unanticipated adverse results relating to Data Domain s or NetApp s existing businesses; and

the anticipated cost savings and other synergies of the merger taking longer to be realized or failing to be achieved in their entirety, and attrition in key client, partner and other relationships relating to the merger greater than expected.

You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on the forward-looking statements contained herein, which speak only as of the date of this proxy statement/prospectus or the date of any document incorporated by reference in this document. Except to the extent required by applicable law or regulation, neither NetApp nor Data Domain undertakes any obligation to update these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this proxy statement/prospectus or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements concerning the merger or other matters addressed in this proxy statement/prospectus and attributable to NetApp or Data Domain or any person acting on their behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the preceding cautionary statement.

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### RISK FACTORS

In addition to the other information included in and incorporated by reference into this proxy statement/prospectus, including the matters addressed in the section entitled Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements beginning on page 15, you should carefully consider the following risk factors before deciding whether to vote for approval of the merger proposal and the adjournment proposal. In addition, you should read and consider the risks associated with the business of NetApp and the business of Data Domain because these risks will also affect the combined company. These risks can be found in NetApp s and Data Domain s respective Forms 10-K and Forms 10-Q, which are filed with the SEC and incorporated by reference into this proxy statement/prospectus. You should also read and consider the other information in this proxy statement/prospectus and the other documents incorporated by reference into this proxy statement/prospectus. See the section entitled Where You Can Find More Information beginning on page 119.

### Risks Relating to the Merger

The consideration that you will receive in the merger depends upon the price of NetApp s common stock at the closing of the first-step merger and may fall below \$30 per share of Data Domain stock.

At the closing of the first-step merger, each share of Data Domain common stock will be converted into the right to receive a cash payment of \$16.45, plus a fraction of a share of NetApp common stock equal to the exchange ratio. The exchange ratio is based on the closing average of NetApp common stock and, within a certain range of possible closing averages, will result in the right to receive NetApp common stock with a market value of \$13.55 per share of Data Domain stock, or a total merger consideration of \$30 per share. Under the terms of the merger agreement, the exchange ratio will be calculated as follows:

if the closing average is less than \$17.41, then the exchange ratio will be 0.7783;

if the closing average is greater than \$21.27, then the exchange ratio will be 0.6370; and

if the closing average is less than or equal to \$21.27 and greater than or equal to \$17.41, then the exchange ratio will be calculated as the fraction obtained by dividing \$13.55 by the closing average.

As a result of the collar mechanism described above, if the closing average (as described in the second paragraph of the section entitled Summary beginning on page 1) is less than \$17.41, then for each share of Data Domain stock you own, you will receive less than \$13.55 worth of NetApp common stock, resulting in a total merger consideration of less than \$30 per share.

The market price of NetApp s common stock may decline as a result of the merger.

The market price of NetApp s common stock may decline as a result of the merger for a number of reasons, including:

the integration of Data Domain by NetApp may be unsuccessful;

NetApp may not achieve the perceived benefits of the merger as rapidly as, or to the extent, anticipated by financial or industry analysts; or

the effect of the merger on NetApp s financial results may not be consistent with the expectations of financial or industry analysts.

These factors are, to some extent, beyond NetApp s control. In addition, for Data Domain stockholders who hold their shares in certificated form, there will be a time period between the effective time of the merger and the time when Data Domain stockholders actually receive book-entry shares evidencing NetApp common stock. Until book-entry shares are received, Data Domain stockholders will not be able to sell their shares of NetApp common stock in the open market and, thus, will not be able to avoid losses resulting from any decline in the market price of NetApp common stock during this period.

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The failure of NetApp to operate and manage the combined company effectively could have a material adverse effect on NetApp s business, financial condition and operating results.

NetApp will need to meet significant challenges to realize the expected benefits and synergies of the merger. These challenges include:

integrating the management teams, strategies, cultures, technologies and operations of the two companies;

retaining and assimilating the key personnel of each company;

retaining existing Data Domain customers; and

creating uniform standards, controls, procedures, policies and information systems.

The accomplishment of these post-merger objectives will involve considerable risk, including:

the potential disruption of each company s ongoing business and distraction of their respective management teams;

the difficulty of incorporating acquired technology and rights into NetApp s operations;

unanticipated expenses related to the integration;

potential unknown liabilities associated with the merger; and

managing the risks related to Data Domain s business as described in Data Domain s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the period ending December 31, 2008, as amended, that may continue to impact the business following the merger.

NetApp and Data Domain have operated and, until the completion of the merger, will continue to operate, independently. It is possible that the integration process could result in the loss of the technical skills and management expertise of key employees, the disruption of each company s ongoing businesses or inconsistencies in standards, controls, procedures and policies due to possible cultural conflicts or differences of opinions on technical decisions and product roadmaps that adversely affect NetApp s ability to maintain relationships with customers, suppliers and employees or to achieve the anticipated benefits of the merger.

Even if NetApp is able to integrate the Data Domain business operations successfully, this integration may not result in the realization of the full benefits of synergies, cost savings, innovation and operational efficiencies that may be possible from this integration, and these benefits may not be achieved within a reasonable period of time.

### The merger may be a fully taxable transaction for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

The U.S. tax consequences of the merger depend on whether it meets the requirements of Section 368(a) of the Code, including the continuity of interest test, which will be satisfied if the stock consideration, valued as of the last business day immediately prior to the closing date of the merger, constitutes at least 40% of the total consideration paid or payable to Data Domain stockholders in the first-step merger. Whether the continuity of interest test will be satisfied depends primarily upon the market value of the NetApp common stock immediately before the first-step merger and the extent to which NetApp is required to substitute cash for stock at the closing pursuant to the terms of merger

agreement. No assurances can be given that the continuity of interest test will be met. If the test is not met, the second-step merger will not occur, and the merger will be a fully taxable transaction. In deciding whether to approve the merger, you should consider the possibility that the merger may be fully taxable to you, because you will not be entitled to change your vote in that event.

# Failure to retain key employees could diminish the anticipated benefits of the merger.

The success of the merger will depend in part on the retention of personnel critical to the business and operations of the combined company due to, for example, their technical skills or management expertise. Employees may experience uncertainty about their future role with Data Domain and NetApp until strategies with regard to these employees are announced or executed. If Data Domain and NetApp are unable to retain personnel, including Data Domain s key management, technical and sales personnel, who are critical to the

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successful integration and future operations of the companies, Data Domain and NetApp could face disruptions in their operations, loss of existing customers, loss of key information, expertise or know-how, and unanticipated additional recruitment and training costs. In addition, the loss of key personnel could diminish the anticipated benefits of the merger.

Uncertainty regarding the merger may cause customers, suppliers or strategic partners to delay or defer decisions concerning NetApp and Data Domain and adversely affect each company s ability to attract and retain key employees.

The merger will happen only if stated conditions are met, including the approval of the merger proposal by Data Domain s stockholders, the receipt of regulatory approvals, and the absence of any material adverse effect in the business of Data Domain or NetApp. Many of the conditions are outside the control of Data Domain and NetApp, and both parties also have stated rights to terminate the merger agreement. Accordingly, there may be uncertainty regarding the completion of the merger. This uncertainty may cause customers, suppliers or strategic partners to delay or defer decisions concerning Data Domain or NetApp, which could negatively affect their respective businesses. Any delay or deferral of those decisions or changes in existing agreements could have a material adverse effect on the respective businesses of Data Domain and NetApp, regardless of whether the merger is ultimately completed. Moreover, diversion of management focus and resources from the day-to-day operation of the business to matters relating to the merger could have a material adverse effect on each company s business, regardless of whether the merger is completed. Current and prospective employees of each company may experience uncertainty about their future roles with the combined company. This may adversely affect each company s ability to attract and retain key management, sales, marketing and technical personnel.

The market price of NetApp common stock after the merger may be affected by factors different from those affecting the shares of Data Domain or NetApp currently.

The businesses of NetApp and Data Domain differ in important respects and, accordingly, the results of operations of the combined company and the market price of the combined company s shares of common stock may be affected by factors different from those currently affecting the independent results of operations of NetApp and Data Domain. For a discussion of the businesses of NetApp and Data Domain and of certain factors to consider in connection with those businesses, see the documents incorporated by reference in this proxy statement/prospectus and referred to under Where You Can Find More Information beginning on page 119.

The merger may go forward in certain circumstances even if NetApp or Data Domain suffers a material adverse effect.

In general, either party can refuse to complete the merger if a material adverse effect (as defined below under the heading. The Merger Agreement Material Adverse Effect.) occurs with regard to the other party before the closing. However, neither party may refuse to complete the merger on that basis as a result of any fact, circumstance, change or effect resulting from:

changes in the general economic conditions in the United States or any other country or region in the world, or changes in conditions in the global economy generally, to the extent that they do not have a disproportionate impact on NetApp or Data Domain relative to other companies and operating in the same industries in which NetApp or Data Domain operates;

changes in general conditions in the industries in which NetApp or Data Domain operates, to the extent that they do not have a disproportionate impact on NetApp or Data Domain relative to other companies operating in the same industries in which NetApp or Data Domain, as a operates;

changes in generally accepted accounting principles or other accounting standards, or the interpretation of such principles or standards by a third party, applicable federal, state, local, municipal, foreign or other law or regulatory conditions, or the interpretation of such law or regulations by a third party;

any failure to take any action or the taking of any specific action by NetApp or Data Domain taken with the prior written consent or written direction of the other party;

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the taking of any specific action expressly required by the merger agreement;

acts of war, armed hostilities or terrorism, to the extent that they do not have a disproportionate impact on NetApp or Data Domain relative to other companies operating in the same industries in which NetApp or Data Domain operates;

changes in the trading price or trading volume of NetApp s or Data Domain s common stock, in and of itself, provided that the exception described in this bullet shall not in any way prevent or otherwise affect a determination that any fact, circumstance, change or effect that has resulted in, or contributed to, a material adverse effect;

the public announcement of the merger agreement or pendency of the merger, including any loss of employees, provided that the exception described in this bullet shall not apply to any fact, circumstance, change or effect related to or caused by any legal proceedings resulting from the announcement and pendency of the merger and the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement;

any failure of NetApp or Data Domain to meet any public or internal estimates or expectations of revenue, earnings or other financial performance or results of operations for any period, or failure to meet any internal budgets, plans, or forecasts of revenues, earnings or other financial performance or results of operations (it being understood that any underlying cause of any such failure may be deemed to constitute, in and of itself, a material adverse effect and may be taken into consideration when determining whether a material adverse effect has occurred); or

stockholder class action, derivative litigation or other legal proceedings made or brought by any of the current or former stockholders of NetApp or Data Domain against NetApp or Data Domain arising out of the merger or any other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement.

If adverse changes occur but NetApp and Data Domain must still complete the merger, NetApp s stock price may suffer. This in turn may reduce the value of the merger to Data Domain stockholders.

# Data Domain stockholders will have a reduced ownership and voting interest after the merger and will exercise less influence over management.

Data Domain stockholders currently have the right to vote in the election of the board of directors of Data Domain and on other matters affecting Data Domain. When the merger occurs, each Data Domain stockholder that receives shares of NetApp common stock will become a stockholder of NetApp with a percentage ownership of the combined company that is much smaller than the stockholder s percentage ownership of Data Domain. It is expected that the former stockholders of Data Domain as a group will own less than []% of the outstanding shares of NetApp immediately after the completion of merger. Because of this, Data Domain s stockholders will have less influence on the management and policies of NetApp than they now have on the management and policies of Data Domain.

### The merger agreement limits Data Domain s ability to pursue alternatives to the merger.

The merger agreement contains no shop provisions that, subject to limited exceptions, limit Data Domain s ability to discuss, facilitate or commit to competing third-party proposals to acquire all or a significant part of Data Domain, as well as a termination fee that is payable by Data Domain under certain circumstances. These provisions might discourage a potential competing acquiror that might have an interest in acquiring all or a significant part of Data Domain from considering or proposing that acquisition even if it were prepared to pay consideration with a higher per

share market price than that proposed in the merger or might result in a potential competing acquiror proposing to pay a lower per share price to acquire Data Domain than it might otherwise have proposed to pay.

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The merger is subject to the receipt of consents and approvals from regulatory authorities that may impose conditions that could have an adverse effect on NetApp or, if not obtained, could prevent completion of the merger.

Before the merger may be completed, various approvals or consents must be obtained from various regulatory and other authorities. While NetApp and Data Domain believe that they will receive the requisite regulatory approvals from these governmental authorities, there can be no assurance of this. If such approvals are not obtained, the merger will not be completed. In addition, these governmental authorities may impose conditions on the completion of the merger or require changes to the terms of the merger. Although NetApp and Data Domain do not currently expect that any such conditions or changes would be imposed, there can be no assurance that they will not be, and such conditions or changes could have the effect of delaying completion of the merger or imposing additional costs on or limiting the revenues of NetApp following the merger, any of which might have a material adverse effect on NetApp following the merger. For a full description of the regulatory clearances, consents and approvals required for the merger, please see Data Domain Proposal 1 The Merger Regulatory Approvals Required for the Merger beginning on page 74.

Failure to complete the merger could negatively affect Data Domain s stock price and its future business and operations.

If the merger is not completed for any reason, Data Domain may be subject to a number of material risks, including the following:

Data Domain may be required under certain circumstances to pay NetApp a termination fee of \$57.0 million;

the price of Data Domain s common stock may decline; and

costs related to the merger, such as financial advisory, legal, accounting and printing fees, must be paid even if the merger is not completed.

If the merger agreement is terminated, Data Domain may be unable to pursue another business combination transaction on terms as favorable as those set forth in the merger agreement, or at all. This could limit Data Domain s ability to pursue its strategic goals.

NetApp and Data Domain may waive one or more of the conditions of the merger without re-soliciting stockholder approval for the merger.

Each of the conditions to NetApp s and Data Domain s obligations to complete the merger may be waived, in whole or in part, to the extent permitted by applicable law, by agreement of NetApp and Data Domain, if the condition is a condition to both NetApp s and Data Domain s obligation to complete the merger, or by the party for which such condition is a condition of its obligation to complete the merger. The boards of directors of NetApp and Data Domain may evaluate the materiality of any such waiver to determine whether amendment of this proxy statement/prospectus and re-solicitation of proxies are necessary. NetApp and Data Domain, however, generally do not expect any such waiver to be significant enough to require re-solicitation of stockholders. In the event that any such waiver is not determined to be significant enough to require re-solicitation of stockholders, the companies will have the discretion to complete the merger without seeking further stockholder approval.

If Data Domain stockholders sell the NetApp common stock received in the merger, they could cause a decline in the market price of NetApp common stock.

NetApp s issuance of common stock in the merger will be registered with the SEC. As a result, those shares will be immediately available for resale in the public market. The maximum number of shares of NetApp common stock to be issued to Data Domain stockholders in connection with the merger and immediately available for resale will equal approximately [ ]% of the number of outstanding shares of NetApp common stock currently in the public market. Data Domain stockholders may sell the stock they receive commencing immediately after the merger. If this occurs, or if other holders of NetApp common stock sell significant amounts of NetApp common stock immediately after the merger is completed, the market price of NetApp common stock may decline.

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A shift or decline in the demand for deduplication technology could substantially reduce the anticipated benefits of the merger.

NetApp expects that customers will continue to adopt deduplication technology and that the acquisition of Data Domain will result in certain market synergies. However, if customer demand in the deduplication market decreases or is less than expected, or if customer preferences shift to a new or different technology, then NetApp may not realize all of the anticipated benefits of the merger.

Although NetApp has traditionally used a single operating system, NetApp s ability to realize the expected benefits of the merger will depend upon its ability to successfully operate the Data Domain operating system as a separate platform.

NetApp currently runs a single platform, Data ONTAP, and expects to run the Data Domain operating system as a separate platform. Running two platforms could require significant investments of time and financial resources. If NetApp is unable to effectively maintain and support both platforms or otherwise adjust its infrastructure and processes to accommodate the parallel operation of both platforms in a timely manner, then the strategic benefits of the merger may not be realized or could be significantly reduced.

Failure to achieve significant cost synergies could harm NetApp s business and operating results.

NetApp anticipates that the merger will result in cost synergies associated with combining facilities, IT infrastructure, and certain functions such as finance, human resources and administrative services. However, differences between the two companies operations could cause unforeseen delays in the integration process, result in lower savings than originally anticipated, or both, which could adversely affect NetApp s business and operating results.

### Risks Relating to NetApp s Business, Generally

NetApp s operating results may be adversely affected by unfavorable economic and market conditions, including the current economic downturn.

NetApp is subject to the effects of general global economic and market conditions challenging economic conditions worldwide have from time to time contributed, and are currently contributing, to slowdowns in the computer, storage, and networking industries at large, as well as the market for information technology or IT, resulting in:

Reduced demand for our products as a result of continued constraints on IT related spending by our customers;

Increased price competition for our products from competitors;

Deferment of purchases and orders by customers due to budgetary constraints or changes in current or planned utilization of our systems;

Risk of excess and obsolete inventories;

Excess facilities costs;

Higher overhead costs as a percentage of revenue;

Increased risk of losses or impairment charges related to our investment portfolio;

Negative impacts from increased financial pressures on customers, distributors and resellers;

Negative impacts from increased financial pressures on key suppliers or contract manufacturers; and

Potential discontinuance of product lines or businesses and related asset impairments.

The turmoil in the global credit markets, the recent instability in the geopolitical environment in many parts of the world and other disruptions may continue to put pressure on global economic conditions. The economic challenges we initially experienced in the United States have spread throughout the world. If global economic and market conditions,

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or economic conditions in the United States or other key markets, remain uncertain, persist, or deteriorate further, we may experience material adverse impacts on our business, operating results, and financial condition.

NetApp s quarterly operating results may fluctuate, which could adversely impact its common stock price.

NetApp believes that period-to-period comparisons of its results of operations are not necessarily meaningful and should not be relied upon as indicators of future performance. Our operating results have in the past, and will continue to be, subject to quarterly fluctuations as a result of numerous factors, some of which may contribute to more pronounced fluctuations in an uncertain global economic environment. These factors include, but are not limited to, the following:

Fluctuations in demand for our products and services, in part due to changes in general economic conditions and specific economic conditions in the computer, storage, and networking industries;

A shift in federal government spending patterns;

Changes in sales and implementation cycles for our products and reduced visibility into our customers spending plans and associated revenue;

The level of price and product competition in our target product markets;

The impact of the current adverse economic and credit environment on our customers, channel partners, and suppliers, including their ability to obtain financing or to fund capital expenditures;

The overall movement toward industry consolidations among both our competitors and our customers;

Our reliance on a limited number of suppliers due to industry consolidation, which could subject us to periodic supply-and-demand, price rigidity, and quality issues with our components;

The timing of bookings or the cancellation of significant orders;

Product configuration and mix;

The extent to which our customers renew their service and maintenance contracts with us;

Market acceptance of new products and product enhancements;

Announcements and introductions of, and transitions to, new products by us or our competitors;

Deferrals of customer orders in anticipation of new products or product enhancements introduced by us or our competitors;

Our ability to develop, introduce, and market new products and enhancements in a timely manner;

Technological changes in our target product markets;

Our levels of expenditure on research and development and sales and marketing programs;

Our ability to achieve targeted cost reductions;

Adverse movements in foreign currency exchange rates as a result of our international operations;

Excess or inadequate facilities;

Actual events, circumstances, outcomes and amounts differing from judgments, assumptions, and estimates used in determining the values of certain assets (including the amounts of valuation allowances), liabilities, and other items reflected in our consolidated financial statements;

Disruptions resulting from new systems and processes as we continue to enhance and scale our system infrastructure;

Future accounting pronouncements and changes in accounting rules, such as the increased use of fair value measures and the potential requirement that U.S. registrants prepare financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, or IFRS;

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Seasonality, such as our historical seasonal decline in revenues in the first quarter of our fiscal year and seasonal increase in revenues in the second quarter of our fiscal year, with the latter due in part to the impact of the U.S. federal government s September 30 fiscal year end on the timing its orders; and

Linearity, such as our historical intraquarter revenue pattern in which a disproportionate percentage of each quarter s total revenues occur in the last month of the quarter.

Due to such factors, operating results for a future period are difficult to predict, and, therefore, prior results are not necessarily indicative of results to be expected in future periods. Any of the foregoing factors, or any other factors discussed elsewhere herein, could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, and financial condition. It is possible that in one or more quarters our results may fall below our forecasts and the expectations of public market analysts and investors. In such event, the trading price of our common stock would likely decrease.

NetApp s revenue for a particular period is difficult to forecast, and a shortfall in revenue may harm its business and operating results.

NetApp s revenues for a particular period are difficult to forecast, especially in light of the current global economic downturn and related market uncertainty. Product sales are also difficult to forecast because the storage and data management market is rapidly evolving, and our sales cycle varies substantially from customer to customer. New or additional product introductions also increase the complexities of forecasting revenues.

Additionally, we derive a majority of our revenue in any given quarter from orders booked in the same quarter. Bookings typically follow intraquarter seasonality patterns weighted toward the back end of the quarter. If we do not achieve bookings in the latter part of a quarter consistent with our quarterly targets, our financial results will be adversely impacted.

We use a pipeline system, a common industry practice, to forecast bookings and trends in our business. Sales personnel monitor the status of potential business and estimate when a customer will make a purchase decision, the dollar amount of the sale and the products or services to be sold. These estimates are aggregated periodically to generate a bookings pipeline. Our pipeline estimates may prove to be unreliable either in a particular quarter or over a longer period of time, in part because the conversion rate of the pipeline into contracts varies from customer to customer, can be difficult to estimate, and requires management judgment. Small deviations from our forecasted conversion rate may result in inaccurate plans and budgets and could materially and adversely impact our business or our planned results of operations. In particular, the continued adverse events in the economic environment and financial markets have made it even more difficult for us to forecast our future results and may result in a reduction in our quarterly conversion rate as our customers purchasing decisions are delayed, reduced in amount, or cancelled.

Uncertainty about current and future global economic conditions has caused consumers, businesses and governments to defer purchases in response to tighter credit, decreased cash availability and declining customer confidence. Accordingly, future demand for our products could differ from our current expectations.

NetApp has experienced periods of alternating growth and decline in revenues and operating expenses. If it is not able to successfully manage these fluctuations, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be significantly impacted.

The ongoing global financial crisis has led to a worldwide economic downturn that has negatively affected NetApp s business. If the current economic downturn continues or worsens, demand for our products and services and our revenues may be further reduced. A prolonged downturn can adversely affect our revenues, gross margin and results

of operations. During such economic downturns, it is critical to appropriately align our cost structure with prevailing market conditions and to minimize the effect of such downturns on our operations, while also maintaining our capabilities and strategic investments for future growth.

Our expense levels are based in part on our expectations as to future revenues, and a significant percentage of our expenses are fixed. We have a limited ability to quickly or significantly reduce our fixed costs, and if revenue levels are below our expectations, operating results will be adversely impacted. During uneven periods of growth,

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we may incur costs before we realize some of the anticipated benefits, which could harm our operating results. We have significant investments in engineering, sales, service support, marketing programs and other functions to support and grow our business. We are likely to recognize the costs associated with these investments earlier than some of the anticipated benefits, and the return on these investments may be lower, or may develop more slowly, than we expect, which could harm our business, operating results and financial condition.

Conversely, if we are unable to effectively manage our resources and capacity, during periods of increasing demand for our products, we could experience a material adverse effect on operations and financial results. If the network storage market fails to grow, or grows slower than we expect, our revenues will be adversely affected. Also, even if IT spending increases, our revenue may not grow at the same pace.

NetApp s gross margins have varied over time and may continue to vary, and such variation may make it more difficult to forecast its earnings.

NetApp s product gross margins have been and may continue to be affected by a variety of factors, including:

Demand for storage and data management products;

Pricing actions, rebates, initiatives, discount levels, and price competition;

Direct versus indirect and Original Equipment Manufacturer or OEM sales;

Changes in customer, geographic, or product mix, including mix of configurations within each product group;

Product and add-on software mix;

The mix of services as a percentage of revenue;

The mix and average selling prices of products;

The mix of disk content;

The timing of revenue recognition and revenue deferrals;

New product introductions and enhancements;

Excess inventory purchase commitments as a result of changes in demand forecasts and possible product and software defects as we transition our products; and

The cost of components, manufacturing labor, quality, warranty, and freight.

Changes in software entitlements and maintenance gross margins may result from various factors, such as:

The size of the installed base of products under support contracts;

The timing of technical support service contract renewals;

Demand for and the timing of delivery of upgrades;

The timing of our technical support service initiatives; and

The level of spending on our customer support infrastructure.

Changes in service gross margins may result from various factors, such as:

The mix of customers;

The size and timing of service contract renewals;

The volume and use of outside partners to deliver support services on our behalf; and

Product quality and serviceability issues.

Due to such factors, gross margins are subject to variations from period to period and are difficult to predict.

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NetApp s cost-reduction initiatives and restructuring plans may not result in anticipated savings or more efficient operations. NetApp s most recently-announced restructuring may disrupt its operations and adversely affect its operations and financial results.

On February 11, 2009, in response to the worsening global economic conditions and uncertainty about future IT spending, NetApp announced a restructuring of our worldwide operations in an effort to strategically align its cost structure with expected revenues, as well as to reallocate resources into areas of our business with more growth potential.

Additionally, in December 2008, we decided to cease development and availability of our SnapMirror<sup>®</sup> for Open Systems product, or SMOS product, and as a result recorded restructuring and other charges attributable primarily to severance and employee-related and facility closure costs, as well as the impairment of certain acquired intangible assets.

We may not be able to successfully complete and realize the expected benefits of these restructuring plans. Our restructuring plans may involve higher costs or a longer timetable, or they may fail to improve our gross margins, results of operations and cash flows as we anticipate. Our inability to realize these benefits may result in an ineffective business structure that could negatively impact our results of operations. In addition to costs related to severance and other employee-related costs, our restructuring plans may also subject us to litigation risks and expenses.

In addition, our restructuring plans may have other adverse consequences, such as attrition beyond our planned reduction in workforce, the loss of employees with valuable knowledge or expertise, a negative impact on employee morale, or a gain in competitive advantage by our competitors over us. The restructuring efforts could also be disruptive to our day-to-day operations and cause our remaining employees to be less productive, which in turn may affect our revenue and other operating results in the future. In the event that the economy recovers sooner than we expect and results in increased IT spending, we may not have sufficient capacity to capitalize on the related increase in demand for our products and services.

We may undertake future cost-reduction initiatives and restructuring plans that may adversely impact our operations; and we may not realize all of the anticipated benefits of our prior or any future restructurings.

Changes in market conditions have led, and in the future could lead, to charges related to the discontinuance of certain of NetApp s products and asset impairments.

In response to changes in economic conditions and market demands, NetApp may be required to strategically realign our resources and consider cost containment measures including restructuring, disposing of, or otherwise discontinuing certain products. Any decision to limit investment in, dispose of, or otherwise exit products may result in the recording of charges to earnings, such as inventory and technology-related or other intangible asset write-offs, workforce reduction costs, charges relating to consolidation of excess facilities, cancellation penalties or claims from third parties who were resellers or users of discontinued products, which would harm our operating results. Our estimates with respect to the useful life or ultimate recoverability of our carrying basis of assets, including purchased intangible assets, could change as a result of such assessments and decisions. Additionally, we are required to perform goodwill impairment tests on an annual basis, and between annual tests in certain circumstances when impairment indicators exist or if certain events or changes in circumstances have occurred. Future goodwill impairment tests may result in charges to earnings, which could materially harm our operating results.

NetApp s OEM relationship with IBM may not continue to generate significant revenue.

In April 2005, NetApp entered into an OEM agreement with IBM, which enables IBM to sell IBM branded solutions based on NetApp® unified solutions, including NearStore® and V-Series systems, as well as associated software offerings. While this agreement is an element of our strategy to expand our reach into more customers and countries, we do not have an exclusive relationship with IBM, and there is no minimum commitment for any given period of time; therefore, this relationship may not continue to contribute revenue in future years. In addition, we have no control over the products that IBM selects to sell, or its release schedule and timing of those products; nor do we control its pricing. In the event that sales through IBM increase, we may experience distribution channel conflicts between our direct sales force and IBM or among our channel partners. If we fail to minimize channel conflicts, our operating results and financial condition could be harmed. We cannot assure you that this OEM

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relationship will continue to generate significant revenue while the agreement is in effect, or that the relationship will continue to be in effect for any specific period of time.

If NetApp is unable to maintain our existing relationships and develop new relationships with major strategic partners, our revenue may be impacted negatively.

An element of NetApp s strategy to increase revenue is to strategically partner with major third-party software and hardware vendors that integrate our products into their products and also co-market our products with these vendors. We have significant partner relationships with database, business application, backup management and server virtualization companies, including Microsoft, Oracle, SAP, Symantec and VMware. A number of these strategic partners are industry leaders that offer us expanded access to segments of the storage market. There is intense competition for attractive strategic partners, and even if we can establish relationships with these or other partners, these partnerships may not generate significant revenue or may not continue to be in effect for any specific period of time. If these relationships fail to materialize as expected, we could suffer delays in product development or other operational difficulties.

We intend to continue to establish and maintain business relationships with technology companies to accelerate the development and marketing of our storage solutions. To the extent that we are unsuccessful in developing new relationships or maintaining our existing relationships, our future revenue and operating results could be impacted negatively. In addition, the loss of a strategic partner could have a material adverse effect on our revenues and operating results.

### Disruption of or changes in NetApp s distribution model could harm our sales.

If NetApp fails to manage distribution of our products and services properly, or if our distributors financial condition or operations weaken, our revenue and gross margins could be adversely affected.

We market and sell our storage solutions directly through our worldwide sales force and indirectly through channel partners such as value-added resellers, systems integrators, distributors, OEMs and strategic business partners, and we derive a significant portion of our revenue from these channel partners. For the three and nine-month periods ended January 23, 2009, revenues generated from sales through our channel partners accounted for 81.3% and 69.3%, respectively, of our revenues. In order for us to maintain or increase our revenues, we must effectively manage our relationships with channel partners.

Several factors could result in disruption of or changes in our distribution model, which could materially harm our revenues and gross margins, including the following:

We compete with some of our channel partners through our direct sales force, which may lead these partners to use other suppliers who do not directly sell their own products;

Our channel partners may demand that we absorb a greater share of the risks that their customers may ask them to bear;

Our channel partners may have insufficient financial resources and may not be able to withstand changes and challenges in business conditions; and

Revenue from indirect sales could suffer if our channel partners financial condition or operations weaken.

In addition, we depend on our channel partners to comply with applicable regulatory requirements in the jurisdictions in which they operate. Their failure to do so could have a material adverse effect on our revenues and operating results.

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The U.S. government has contributed to NetApp s revenue growth and has become an important customer for us. Future revenue from the U.S. government is subject to shifts in government spending patterns. A decrease in government demand for our products could materially affect our revenues. In addition, our business could be adversely affected as a result of future examinations by the U.S. government.

The U.S. government has become an important customer for the storage market and for NetApp; however, government demand is unpredictable, and there can be no assurance that we will maintain or grow our revenue from the U.S. government. Government agencies are subject to budgetary processes and expenditure constraints that could lead to delays or decreased capital expenditures in IT spending. If the government or individual agencies within the government reduce or shift their capital spending patterns, our revenues and operating results may be harmed.

In addition, selling our products to the U.S. government also subjects us to certain regulatory requirements. The failure to comply with these requirements could subject us to fines and other penalties, which could have a material adverse effect on our revenues and operating results. For example, in April 2009, we entered into a settlement agreement with the United States of America, acting through the United States Department of Justice, or the DOJ, and on behalf of the General Services Administration, or the GSA, under which we agreed to pay the United States \$128.0 million, plus interest, related to a dispute regarding our discount practices and compliance with the price reduction clause provisions of its GSA contracts between August 1997 and February 2005. If we were subject to an adverse outcome of any future examinations, or if we were suspended or debarred from contracting with the federal government generally, or with any specific agency, or if the government otherwise ceased doing business with us or significantly decreased the amount of business it does with us, our revenue and operating results could be materially adversely affected.

A portion of NetApp s revenue is generated by large, recurring purchases from various customers, resellers and distributors. A loss, cancellation or delay in purchases by these parties has and could continue to negatively affect our revenue.

During the three-month period ended January 23, 2009, two U.S. distributors accounted for approximately 11.5% and 12.1% of NetApp s revenues, respectively. During the nine-month period ended January 23, 2009, the same two U.S. distributors accounted for approximately 10.8% and 10.5% of our revenues, respectively. The loss of continued orders from any of our more significant customers, strategic partners, distributors or resellers could cause our revenue and profitability to suffer. Our ability to attract new customers will depend on a variety of factors, including the cost-effectiveness, reliability, scalability, breadth and depth of our products.

We generally do not enter into binding purchase commitments with our customers for an extended period of time, and thus we may not be able to continue to receive large, recurring orders from these customers, resellers or distributors. For example, our reseller agreements generally do not require minimum purchases and our customers, resellers and distributors can stop purchasing and marketing our products at any time.

Recent turmoil in the credit markets may further negatively impact our operations by affecting the solvency of our customers, resellers and distributors, or the ability of our customers to obtain credit to finance purchases of our products. If the global economy and credit markets continue to deteriorate and our future sales decline, our financial condition and operating results could be adversely impacted.

Because our expenses are based on our revenue forecasts, a substantial reduction or delay in sales of our products to, or unexpected returns from, customers and resellers, or the loss of any significant customer or reseller, could harm our business. Although our largest customers may vary from period to period, we anticipate that our operating results for any given period will continue to depend on large orders from significant customers. In addition, a change in the mix of our customers could adversely affect our revenue and gross margins.

NetApp is exposed to the credit risk of some of our customers, resellers, and distributors, as well as credit exposures in weakened markets, which could result in material losses.

Most of NetApp s sales to customers are on an open credit basis, with typical payment terms of 30 days in the United States and, because of local customs or conditions, longer in some markets outside the United States. We

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monitor individual customer payment capability in granting such open credit arrangements, and seek to limit such open credit to amounts we believe the customers can pay. Beyond our open credit arrangements, we also have recourse or nonrecourse customer financing leasing arrangements with third party leasing companies through preexisting relationships with customers. Under the terms of recourse leases, which are treated as off-balance sheet arrangements, we remain liable for the aggregate unpaid remaining lease payments to the third party leasing company in the event that any customers default. We expect demand for customer financing to continue. During periods of economic downturn in the storage industry and the global economy, our exposure to credit risks from our customers increases. In addition, our exposure to credit risks of our customers may increase if our customers and their customers or their lease financing sources are adversely affected by the current global economic downturn, or if there is a continuation or worsening of the downturn. Although we have programs in place to monitor and mitigate the associated risks, such programs may not be effective in reducing our credit risks.

In the past, there have been bankruptcies by our customers both who have open credit and who have lease financing arrangements with us, causing us to incur bad debt charges, and, in the case of financing arrangements, a loss of revenues. There can be no assurance that additional losses will not occur in future periods. Any future losses could harm our business and have a material adverse effect on our operating results and financial condition. Additionally, to the extent that the recent turmoil in the credit markets makes it more difficult for customers to obtain open credit or lease financing, those customers—ability to purchase our product could be adversely impacted, which in turn could have a material adverse impact on our financial condition and operating results.

The market price for NetApp s common stock has fluctuated significantly in the past and will likely continue to do so in the future.

The market price for NetApp s common stock has experienced substantial volatility in the past, and several factors could cause the price to fluctuate substantially in the future. These factors include but are not limited to:

Fluctuations in our operating results;

Variations between our operating results and either the guidance we have furnished to the public or the published expectations of securities analysts;

Economic developments in the storage and data management market as a whole;

Fluctuations in the valuation of companies perceived by investors to be comparable to us;

Changes in analysts recommendations or projections;

Inquiries by the SEC, NASDAQ, law enforcement, or other regulatory bodies;

International conflicts and acts of terrorism;

Announcements of new products, applications, or product enhancements by us or our competitors;

Changes in our relationships with our suppliers, customers, channel and strategic partners; and

General market conditions, including the recent financial and credit crisis and global economic downturn.

In addition, the stock market has experienced volatility that has particularly affected the market prices of the equity securities of many technology companies. Certain macroeconomic factors such as changes in interest rates, the market

climate for the technology sector, and levels of corporate spending on IT, as well as variations in our expected operating performance, could continue to have an impact on the trading price of our stock. As a result, the market price of our common stock may fluctuate significantly in the future, and any broad market decline may materially and adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

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If NetApp is unable to develop and introduce new products and respond to technological change, if our new products do not achieve market acceptance, if we fail to manage the transition between our new and old products, or if we cannot provide the expected level of service and support for our new products, our operating results could be materially and adversely affected.

NetApp s future growth depends upon the successful development and introduction of new hardware and software products. Due to the complexity of storage subsystems and storage security appliances and the difficulty in gauging the engineering effort required to produce new products, such products are subject to significant technical risks. In addition, our new products must respond to technological changes and evolving industry standards. If we are unable, for technological or other reasons, to develop and introduce new products in a timely manner in response to changing market conditions or customer requirements, or if such products do not achieve market acceptance, our operating results could be materially and adversely affected. New or additional product introductions increase the complexities of forecasting revenues, and if not managed effectively, may adversely affect our sales of existing products.

As new or enhanced products are introduced, we must successfully manage the transition from older products in order to minimize disruption in customers—ordering patterns, avoid excessive levels of older product inventories, and ensure that enough supplies of new products can be delivered to meet customers—demands.

As we enter new or emerging markets, we will likely increase demands on our service and support operations and may be exposed to additional competition. We may not be able to provide products, service and support to effectively compete for these market opportunities.

An increase in competition and industry consolidation could materially and adversely affect NetApp s operating results.

The storage markets are intensely competitive and are characterized by rapidly changing technology. In the storage market, NetApp s primary and near-line storage system products and our associated software portfolio compete primarily with storage system products and data management software from EMC, Hitachi Data Systems, HP, IBM, and Sun Microsystems. In addition, Dell, Inc. is a competitor in the storage marketplace through its business arrangement with EMC, which allows Dell to resell EMC storage hardware and software products, as well as through Dell s acquisition of EqualLogic, through which Dell offers low-priced storage solutions. In the secondary storage market, which includes the disk-to-disk backup, compliance and business continuity segments, our solutions compete primarily against products from EMC and Sun Microsystems. Our VTL products also compete with traditional tape backup solutions in the broader data backup/recovery space. Additionally, a number of small, newer companies have recently entered the storage systems and data management software markets, the near-line and VTL storage markets and the high-performance clustered storage markets, some of which may become significant competitors in the future.

There has been a trend toward industry consolidation in our markets for several years. We expect this trend to continue as companies attempt to strengthen or hold their market positions in an evolving industry and as companies are acquired or are unable to continue operations. We believe that industry consolidation may result in stronger competitors that are better able to compete as sole-source vendors for customers. In addition, current and potential competitors have established or may establish cooperative relationships among themselves or with third parties. Accordingly, it is possible that new competitors or alliances among competitors may emerge and rapidly acquire significant market share. We may not be able to compete successfully against current or future competitors. Competitive pressures we face could materially and adversely affect our business and operating results.

NetApp s future financial performance depends on growth in the storage and data management markets. If these markets do not perform as we expect and upon which we calculate and forecast our revenues, our operating results will be materially and adversely impacted.

All of NetApp s products address the storage and data management markets. Accordingly, our future financial performance will depend in large part on continued growth in the storage and data management markets and on our ability to adapt to emerging standards in these markets. The markets for storage and data management have been

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adversely impacted by the current global economic downturn and may not grow as anticipated or may continue to decline.

Additionally, emerging standards in these markets may adversely affect the UNIX®, Windows® and the World Wide Web server markets upon which we depend. For example, we provide our open access data retention solutions to customers within the financial services, healthcare, pharmaceutical and government market segments, industries that are subject to various evolving governmental regulations with respect to data access, reliability and permanence (such as Rule 17(a)(4) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) in the United States and in the other countries in which we operate. If our products do not meet and continue to comply with these evolving governmental regulations in this regard, customers in these market and geographical segments will not purchase our products, and we will not be able to expand our product offerings in these market and geographical segments at the rates which we have forecasted.

Supply chain issues, including financial problems of contract manufacturers or component suppliers, or a shortage of adequate component supply or manufacturing capacity that increase NetApp s costs or cause a delay in our ability to fulfill orders, could have a material adverse impact on our business and operating results, and our failure to estimate customer demand properly may result in excess or obsolete component supply, which could adversely affect our gross margins.

The fact that NetApp does not own or operate our manufacturing facilities and supply chain exposes us to risks, including reduced control over quality assurance, production costs and product supply, which could have a material adverse impact on the supply of our products and on our business and operating results.

Financial problems of either contract manufacturers or component suppliers could limit supply, increase costs, or result in accelerated payment terms. The loss of any contract manufacturer or key supplier could negatively impact our ability to manufacture and sell our products. Qualifying a new contract manufacturer and commencing volume production is expensive and time-consuming. If we are required to change contract manufacturers, we may lose revenue and damage our customer relationships. Disruption or termination of manufacturing capacity or component supply could delay shipments of our products and could materially and adversely affect our operating results. Such delays could also damage relationships with current and prospective customers and suppliers, and our competitive position and reputation could be harmed.

A return to growth in the economy is likely to put greater pressures on us, our contract manufacturers and our suppliers to accurately project demand and to establish optimal purchase commitment levels. Additionally, the reservation of manufacturing capacity at our contract manufacturers by other companies, inside or outside of our industry, or the inability by us to appropriately cancel, reschedule, or adjust our manufacturing or components requirements based upon business needs could result in either limitation of supply or increased costs from these suppliers.

If we inaccurately forecast demand for our products or if there is lack of demand for our products, we may have excess or inadequate inventory or incur cancellation charges or penalties, which would increase our costs and have an adverse impact on our gross margins.

We rely on a limited number of suppliers for components such as disk drives, computer boards and microprocessors utilized in the assembly of our products. In recent years, rapid industry consolidation has led to fewer component suppliers, which has and could subject us to future periodic supply constraints and price rigidity.

Furthermore, as a result of binding price or purchase commitments with suppliers, we may be obligated to purchase components at prices that are higher than those available in the current market, or in amounts greater than our needs.

In the event that we become committed to purchase components at prices in excess of the current market price when the components are actually used, or are committed to buy components in amounts greater than our needs, our gross margins could decrease.

Component quality is a risk and is particularly significant with respect to our suppliers of disk drives. In order to meet product performance requirements, we must obtain disk drives of extremely high quality and capacity.

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As suppliers upgrade their components, they regularly end of life older components. As we become aware of an end of life situation, we attempt to make purchases or purchase commitments to cover all future requirements or find a suitable substitute component. We may not be able to obtain a sufficient supply of components on a timely and cost effective basis. Our failure to do so may lead to an adverse impact on our business. On the other hand, if we fail to anticipate customer demand properly or if there is reduced demand or no demand for our products, an oversupply of end of life components could result in excess or obsolete components that could adversely affect our gross margins.

We intend to regularly introduce new products and product enhancements, which will require us to rapidly achieve volume production by coordinating with our contract manufacturers and suppliers. We may need to increase our material purchases, contract manufacturing capacity and quality functions to meet anticipated demand. The inability of our contract manufacturers or our component suppliers to provide us with adequate supplies of high-quality products and materials suitable for our needs could cause a delay in our ability to fulfill orders.

## Our acquisitions may not provide the anticipated benefits and may disrupt our existing business.

As part of our strategy, we are continuously evaluating opportunities to buy other businesses or technologies that would complement our current products, expand the breadth of our markets, or enhance our technical capabilities. On May 20, 2009, we announced that we have entered into a definitive agreement to acquire Data Domain. We subsequently amended the terms of the definitive agreement on June 3, 2009.

The success of this and any future acquisition is impacted by a number of factors, and may be subject to the following risks:

The inability to successfully integrate the operations, technologies, products and personnel of the acquired companies;

The diversion of management s attention from normal daily operations of the business;

The loss of key employees; and

Substantial transaction costs and accounting charges.

This and any future acquisitions may also result in risks to our existing business, including:

Dilution of our current stockholders percentage ownership to the extent we issue new equity;

Assumption of additional liabilities;

Incurrence of additional debt or a decline in available cash; adverse effects to our financial statements, such as the need to make large and immediate write-offs or the incurrence of restructuring and other related expenses;

Liability for intellectual property infringement and other litigation claims, which we may or may not be aware of at the time of acquisition; and

Creation of goodwill or other intangible assets that could result in significant future amortization expense or impairment charges.

In addition, failure to complete the Data Domain acquisition as planned could negatively impact our stock price.

The failure to achieve the anticipated benefits of an acquisition may also result in impairment charges for goodwill or acquired intangibles. For example, in fiscal 2009 we announced our decision to cease the development and availability of our SMOS product, which was originally acquired through our acquisition of Topio, Inc. in fiscal 2007, resulting in the impairment of acquired intangibles related to such acquisition. Additional or realized risks of this nature could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

The occurrence of any of the above risks could seriously harm our business.

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NetApp is exposed to fluctuations in the market values of our portfolio investments and in interest rates; impairment of our investments could harm our financial results.

As of January 23, 2009, NetApp had \$2.7 billion in cash, cash equivalents, available-for-sale securities and restricted cash and investments. We invest our cash in a variety of financial instruments, consisting principally of investments in U.S. Treasury securities, U.S. government agency bonds, corporate bonds, corporate securities, auction rate securities, certificates of deposit, and money market funds, including the Primary Fund. These investments are subject to general credit, liquidity, market and interest rate risks, which have been exacerbated by unusual events such as the financial and credit crisis, and bankruptcy filings in the United States which have affected various sectors of the financial markets and led to global credit and liquidity issues. These securities are generally classified as available-for-sale and, consequently, are recorded on our Consolidated Balance Sheets at fair value with unrealized gains or losses reported as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax.

Investments in both fixed rate and floating rate interest earning instruments carry a degree of interest rate risk. Fixed rate debt securities may have their market value adversely impacted due to a rise in interest rates, while floating rate securities may produce less income than expected if interest rates fall. Due in part to these factors, our future investment income may fall short of expectations due to changes in interest rates. Currently, we do not use derivative financial instruments in our investment portfolio. We may suffer losses if forced to sell securities that have experienced a decline in market value because of changes in interest rates. Currently, we do not use financial derivatives to hedge our interest rate exposure.

The fair value of our investments may change significantly due to events and conditions in the credit and capital markets. These securities/issuers could be subject to review for possible downgrade. Any downgrade in these credit ratings may result in an additional decline in the estimated fair value of our investments. Changes in the various assumptions used to value these securities and any increase in the markets perceived risk associated with such investments may also result in a decline in estimated fair value. If such investments suffer market price declines, as we experienced with some of our investments during the first nine months of fiscal 2009, we may recognize in earnings the decline in the fair value of our investments below their cost basis when the decline is judged to be other-than-temporary.

As a result of the bankruptcy filing of Lehman Brothers, which occurred during the first nine months of fiscal 2009, we recorded an other-than-temporary impairment charge of \$11.8 million on our corporate bonds related to investments in Lehman Brothers securities and approximately \$9.3 million on our investments in the Primary Fund that held Lehman Brothers investments. As of January 23, 2009, we have an investment in the Primary Fund, an AAA-rated money market fund at the time of purchase, with a par value of \$128.5 million and an estimated fair value of \$119.2 million, which suspended redemptions in September 2008 and is in the process of liquidating its portfolio of investments. We received total distributions of \$478.8 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2009 and an additional \$40.3 million on February 20, 2009 from the Primary Fund. The Primary Fund suspended redemptions in September 2008, and on December 3, 2008, it announced a plan for liquidation and distribution of assets that includes the establishment of a special reserve to be set aside out of its assets for pending or threatened claims, as well as anticipated costs and expenses, including related legal and accounting fees. On February 26, 2009, the Primary Fund announced a plan to set aside \$3.5 billion of the fund s remaining assets as the special reserve which may be increased or decreased as further information becomes available. Our pro rata share of the \$3.5 billion special reserve is approximately \$41.5 million. The Primary Fund plans to continue to make periodic distributions, up to the amount of the special reserve, on a pro-rata basis. We could realize additional losses in our holdings of the Primary Fund and may not receive all or a portion of our remaining balance in the Primary Fund as a result of market conditions and ongoing litigation against the fund.

If the conditions in the credit and capital markets continue to worsen, our investment portfolio may be impacted and we could determine that more of our investments have experienced an other-than-temporary decline in fair value, requiring further impairments, which could adversely impact our financial position and operating results.

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Funds associated with certain of NetApp s auction rate securities may not be accessible for more than 12 months and our auction rate securities may experience further other-than-temporary declines in value, which would adversely affect our earnings.

Auction rate securities, or ARS, held by NetApp are securities with long-term nominal maturities, which, in accordance with investment policy guidelines, had credit ratings of AAA and Aaa at time of purchase. Interest rates for ARS are reset through a Dutch auction each month, which prior to February 2008 had provided a liquid market for these securities.

Substantially all of our ARS are backed by pools of student loans guaranteed by the U.S. Department of Education, and we believe the credit quality of these securities is high based on this guarantee. However liquidity issues in the global credit markets resulted in the failure of auctions for certain of our ARS investments, with a par value of \$75.6 million at January 23, 2009. For each failed auction, the interest rate resets to a maximum rate defined for each security, and the ARS continue to pay interest in accordance with their terms, although the principal associated with the ARS will not be accessible until there is a successful auction or such time as other markets for ARS investments develop.

As of January 23, 2009, we determined there was a total decline in the fair value of our ARS investments of approximately \$6.5 million, of which we recorded temporary impairment charges of \$5.1 million, offset by unrealized gains of \$0.7 million, and \$2.1 million was recognized as an other-than-temporary impairment charge. In addition, we have classified all of our auction rate securities as long-term assets in our consolidated balance sheet of January 23, 2009 as our ability to liquidate such securities in the next 12 months is uncertain. Although we currently have the ability and intent to hold these ARS investments until liquidity returns to the market or until maturity, if the current market conditions deteriorate further, or the anticipated recovery in market liquidity does not occur, we may be required to record additional impairment charges in future quarters.

# NetApp s leverage and debt service obligations may adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

As a result of NetApp s sale of \$1.265 billion of 1.75% convertible senior notes in June 2008, or the Notes, we have a greater amount of long-term debt than we have maintained in the past. We also have a credit facility and various synthetic lease arrangements. In addition, subject to the restrictions in our existing and any future financings agreements, we may incur additional debt.

Our maintenance of higher levels of indebtedness could have adverse consequences including:

Adversely affecting our ability to satisfy our obligations;

Increasing the portion of our cash flows from operations may have to be dedicated to interest and principal payments and may not be available for operations, working capital, capital expenditures, expansion, acquisitions or general corporate or other purposes;

Impairing our ability to obtain additional financing in the future;

Limiting our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and industry; and

Making us more vulnerable to downturns in our business, our industry or the economy in general.

Our ability to meet our expenses and debt obligations will depend on our future performance, which will be affected by financial, business, economic, regulatory and other factors. We will not be able to control many of these factors, such as economic conditions and governmental regulations. Furthermore, our operations may not generate sufficient cash flows from operations to enable us to meet our expenses and service our debt. As a result, we may be required to repatriate funds from our foreign subsidiaries, which could result in a significant tax liability to us. If we are unable to generate sufficient cash flows from operations, or if we are unable to repatriate sufficient or any funds from our foreign subsidiaries, in order to meet our expenses and debt service obligations, we may need to utilize our existing line of credit to obtain the necessary funds, or we may be required to raise additional funds. If we determine it is necessary to seek additional funding for any reason, we may not be able to obtain such funding or, if funding is

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available, obtain it on acceptable terms. If we fail to make a payment on our debt, we could be in default on such debt, and this default could cause us to be in default on our other outstanding indebtedness.

NetApp is subject to restrictive and financial covenants in our credit facility and synthetic lease arrangements. The restrictive covenants may restrict our ability to operate our business.

NetApp s access to undrawn amounts under our credit facility and the ongoing extension of credit under our synthetic lease arrangements are subject to continued compliance with financial covenants, which could be more challenging in a difficult operating environment. If we do not comply with these restrictive and financial covenants or otherwise default under the facility or arrangements, we may be required to repay any outstanding amounts under this credit facility or repurchase the properties and facility which are subject to the synthetic lease arrangements. If we lose access to these credit facility and synthetic lease arrangements, we may not be able to obtain alternative financing on acceptable terms, which could limit our operating flexibility.

The agreements governing our credit facility and synthetic lease arrangements contain restrictive covenants that limit our ability to operate our business, including restrictions on our ability to:

Incur indebtedness;
Incur indebtedness at the subsidiary level;
Grant liens;
Sell all or substantially all our assets:
Enter into certain mergers;
Change our business;
Enter into swap agreements;
Enter into transactions with our affiliates; and

Enter into certain restrictive agreements.

As a result of these restrictive covenants, our ability to respond to changes in business and economic conditions and to obtain additional financing, if needed, may be significantly restricted. We may also be prevented from engaging in transactions that might otherwise be beneficial to us, such as strategic acquisitions or joint ventures.

We are also required to comply with financial covenants under our credit facility and synthetic lease arrangements, and our ability to comply with these financial covenants is dependent on our future performance, which will be subject to many factors, some of which are beyond our control, including prevailing economic conditions.

Our failure to comply with the restrictive and financial covenants could result in a default under our credit facility and our synthetic lease arrangements, which would give the counterparties thereto the ability to exercise certain rights, including the right to accelerate the amounts owed thereunder and to terminate the arrangement, and could also result in a cross default with respect to our other indebtedness. In addition, our failure to comply with these covenants and the acceleration of amounts owed under our credit facility and synthetic lease arrangements could result in a default under the Notes, which could permit the holders to accelerate the Notes. If all of our debt is accelerated, we may not

have sufficient funds available to repay such debt.

Future issuances of NetApp common stock and hedging activities by holders of the Notes may depress the trading price of our common stock and the Notes.

Any new issuance of equity securities, including the issuance of shares upon conversion of the Notes, could dilute the interests of NetApp s existing stockholders, including holders who receive shares upon conversion of their Notes, and could substantially decrease the trading price of our common stock and the Notes. We may issue equity securities in the future for a number of reasons, including to finance our operations and business strategy (including in connection with acquisitions, strategic collaborations or other transactions), to increase our capital, to adjust our

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ratio of debt to equity, to satisfy our obligations upon the exercise of outstanding warrants or options, or for other reasons.

In addition, the price of our common stock could also be affected by possible sales of our common stock by investors who view the Notes as a more attractive means of equity participation in our company and by hedging or arbitrage trading activity that we expect to develop involving our common stock by holders of the Notes. The hedging or arbitrage could, in turn, affect the trading price of the Notes, or any common stock that holders receive upon conversion of the Notes.

# Conversion of NetApp s Notes will dilute the ownership interest of existing stockholders.

The conversion of some or all of NetApp s outstanding Notes will dilute the ownership interest of existing stockholders to the extent we deliver common stock upon conversion of the Notes. Upon conversion of a Note, we will satisfy our conversion obligation by delivering cash for the principal amount of the Note and shares of common stock, if any, to the extent the conversion value exceeds the principal amount. There would be no adjustment to the numerator in the net income per common share computation for the cash settled portion of the Notes as that portion of the debt instrument will always be settled in cash. The number of shares delivered upon conversion, if any, will be included in the denominator for the computation of diluted net income per common share. Any sales in the public market of any common stock issuable upon such conversion could adversely affect prevailing market prices of our common stock. In addition, the existence of the Notes may encourage short selling by market participants because the conversion of the Notes could be used to satisfy short positions, or anticipated conversion of the Notes into shares of our common stock could depress the price of our common stock.

# The note hedges and warrant transactions that NetApp entered into in connection with the sale of the Notes may affect the trading price of our common stock.

In connection with the issuance of the Notes, NetApp entered into privately negotiated convertible note hedge transactions with certain option counterparties, which are expected to reduce the potential dilution to our common stock upon any conversion of the Notes. At the same time, we also entered into warrant transactions with the counterparties pursuant to which we may issue shares of our common stock above a certain strike price. In connection with these hedging transactions, the counterparties may have entered into various over-the-counter derivative transactions with respect to our common stock or purchased shares of our common stock in secondary market transactions at or following the pricing of the Notes. Such activities may have had the effect of increasing the price of our common stock. The counterparties are likely to modify their hedge positions from time to time prior to conversion or maturity of the Notes by purchasing and selling shares of our common stock or entering into other derivative transactions. Additionally, these transactions may expose us to counterparty credit risk for nonperformance. We manage our exposure to counterparty credit risk through specific minimum credit standards and the diversification of counterparties. The effect, if any, of any of these transactions and activities on the market price of our common stock or the Notes will depend, in part, on market conditions and cannot be ascertained at this time, but any of these activities could adversely affect the value of our common stock. In addition, if our stock price exceeds the strike price for the warrants, there could be additional dilution to our stockholders, which could adversely affect the value of our common stock.

Lehman Brothers OTC Derivatives, Inc., or Lehman OTC, is the counterparty to 20% of our Note hedges. The bankruptcy filing by Lehman OTC on October 3, 2008 constituted an event of default under the hedge transaction that could, at our option, lead to termination under the hedge transaction to the extent we provide notice to Lehman OTC. We have not terminated the Note hedge transaction with Lehman OTC, and will continue to carefully monitor the developments impacting Lehman OTC. This event of default is not expected to have an impact on our financial position or results of operations. However, we could incur significant costs if we elect to replace this hedge

transaction originally held with Lehman OTC. If we do not elect to replace this hedge transaction, then we would be subject to potential dilution upon conversion of the Notes if on the date of conversion the per-share market price of our common stock exceeds the conversion price of \$31.85. The terms of the Notes, the rights of the holders of the Notes and other counterparties to Note hedges and warrants were not affected by the bankruptcy filings of Lehman OTC.

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NetApp s synthetic leases are off-balance sheet arrangements that could negatively affect our financial condition and results. We have invested substantial resources in new facilities and physical infrastructure, which will increase our fixed costs. Our operating results could be harmed if our business does not grow proportionately to our increase in fixed costs.

NetApp has various synthetic lease arrangements with BNP Paribas Leasing Corporation, or BNPPLC, as lessor for our headquarters office buildings and land in Sunnyvale, California. On April 1, 2009, we terminated two of the synthetic lease arrangements in an effort to manage our capital structure in light of the current economic environment. The lease payments commitments associated with the remaining arrangements as of the termination date totaled \$141.5 million through fiscal 2013. These synthetic leases qualify for operating lease accounting treatment under SFAS No. 13, *Accounting for Leases (as amended)*, and are not considered variable interest entities under FIN No. 46R *Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities (revised)*. Therefore, we do not include the properties or the associated debt on our condensed consolidated balance sheet. However, if circumstances were to change regarding our or BNPPLC s ownership of the properties, or in BNPPLC s overall portfolio, we could be required to consolidate the entity, the leased facilities and the associated debt.

Our future minimum lease payments under these synthetic leases limit our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business by restricting the funds available for use in addressing such changes. If we are unable to grow our business and revenues proportionately to our increase in fixed costs, our operating results will be harmed. If we elect not to purchase the properties at the end of the lease term, we have guaranteed a minimum residual value to BNPPLC. Therefore, if the fair value of the properties declines below that guaranteed minimum residual value, our residual value guarantee would require us to pay the difference to BNPPLC, which could have a material adverse effect on our cash flows, financial condition and operating results.

Reductions in headcount growth have resulted in excess capacity and vacant facilities. In addition, we may experience changes in our operations in the future that could result in additional excess capacity and vacant facilities. We will continue to be responsible for all carrying costs of these facilities—operating leases until such time as we can sublease these facilities or terminate the applicable leases based on the contractual terms of the operating lease agreements, and these costs may have an adverse effect on our business, operating results and financial condition.

## Risks inherent in NetApp s international operations could have a material adverse effect on our operating results.

NetApp conducts a significant portion of our business outside the United States. A substantial portion of our revenues is derived from sales outside of the U.S. During fiscal 2008 and 2007, our international revenues accounted for 47.1% and 44.7% of our total revenues, respectively. In addition, we have several research and development centers overseas, and a substantial portion of our products are manufactured outside of the U.S. Accordingly, our business and our future operating results could be materially and adversely affected by a variety of factors affecting our international operations, some of which are beyond our control, including regulatory, political, or economic conditions in a specific country or region, trade protection measures and other regulatory requirements, government spending patterns, and acts of terrorism and international conflicts. In addition, we may not be able to maintain or increase international market demand for our products.

We face exposure to adverse movements in foreign currency exchange rates as a result of our international operations. These exposures may change over time as business practices evolve, and they could have a material adverse impact on our financial results and cash flows. Our international sales are denominated in U.S. dollars and in foreign currencies. An increase in the value of the U.S. dollar relative to foreign currencies could make our products more expensive and therefore potentially less competitive in foreign markets. Conversely, lowering our price in local currency may result in lower U.S.-based revenue. A decrease in the value of the U.S. dollar relative to foreign currencies could increase the cost of local operating expenses. Additionally, we have exposures to emerging market currencies, which can have

extreme currency volatility. We utilize forward and option contracts to hedge our foreign currency exposure associated with certain assets and liabilities as well as anticipated foreign currency cash flows. All balance sheet hedges are marked to market through earnings every quarter. The time-value component of our cash flow hedges is recorded in earnings while all other gains and losses are marked to market through other

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comprehensive income until forecasted transactions occur, at which time such realized gains and losses are recognized in earnings. These hedges attempt to reduce, but do not always entirely eliminate, the impact of currency exchange movements. Factors that could have an impact on the effectiveness of our hedging program include the accuracy of forecasts and the volatility of foreign currency markets as well as widening interest rate differentials and the volatility of the foreign exchange market. There can be no assurance that such hedging strategies will be successful and that currency exchange rate fluctuations will not have a material adverse effect on our operating results.

Additional risks inherent in our international business activities generally include, among others, longer accounts receivable payment cycles and difficulties in managing international operations. Such factors could materially and adversely affect our future international sales and consequently our operating results. Our international operations are subject to other risks, including general import/export restrictions and the potential loss of proprietary information due to piracy, misappropriation or laws that may be less protective of our intellectual property rights than U.S. law.

Moreover, in many foreign countries, particularly in those with developing economies, it is common to engage in business practices that are prohibited by regulations applicable to us, such as the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. Although we implement policies and procedures designed to ensure compliance with these laws, our employees, contractors and agents, as well as those companies to which we outsource certain of our business operations, may take actions in violation of our policies. Any such violation, even if prohibited by our policies, could subject us to fines and other penalties, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

## NetApp also has credit exposure to our hedging counterparties.

In order to minimize volatility in earnings associated with fluctuations in the value of foreign currency relative to the U.S. Dollars, NetApp utilizes forward and option contracts to hedge our exposure to foreign currencies. As a result of entering into these hedging contracts with major financial institutions, we may be subject to counterparty nonperformance risk. Should there be a counterparty default, we could be exposed to the net losses on the original hedge contracts or be unable to recover anticipated net gains from the transactions.

A significant portion of NetApp s cash and cash equivalents balances is held overseas. If we are not able to generate sufficient cash domestically in order to fund our U.S. operations and strategic opportunities and service our debt, we may incur a significant tax liability in order to repatriate the overseas cash balances, or we may need to raise additional capital in the future.

A portion of NetApp s earnings which is generated from our international operations is held and invested by certain of our foreign subsidiaries. These amounts are not freely available for dividend repatriation to the United States without triggering significant adverse tax consequences, which could adversely affect our financial results. As a result, unless the cash generated by our domestic operations is sufficient to fund our domestic operations, our broader corporate initiatives such as stock repurchases, acquisitions, and other strategic opportunities, and to service our outstanding indebtedness, we may need to raise additional funds through public or private debt or equity financings, or we may need to expand our existing credit facility to the extent we choose not to repatriate our overseas cash. Such additional financing may not be available on terms favorable to us, or at all, and any new equity financings or offerings would dilute our current stockholders—ownership. Furthermore, lenders, particularly in light of the current challenges in the credit markets, may not agree to extend us new, additional or continuing credit. If adequate funds are not available, or are not available on acceptable terms, we may be forced to repatriate our foreign cash and incur a significant tax expense or we may not be able to take advantage of strategic opportunities, develop new products, respond to competitive pressures or repay our outstanding indebtedness. In any such case, our business, operating results or financial condition could be materially adversely affected.

Changes in NetApp s effective tax rate or adverse outcomes resulting from examination of our income tax returns could adversely affect our results.

NetApp s effective tax rate could be adversely affected by several factors, many of which are outside of our control, including:

Earnings being lower than anticipated in countries where we are taxed at lower rates as compared to the U.S. statutory tax rate;

Material differences between forecasted and actual tax rates as a result of a shift in the mix of pretax profits and losses by tax jurisdiction, our ability to use tax credits, or effective tax rates by tax jurisdiction that differ from our estimates;

Changing tax laws or related interpretations, accounting standards, regulations, and interpretations in multiple tax jurisdictions in which we operate, as well as the requirements of certain tax rulings;

An increase in expenses not deductible for tax purposes, including certain stock-based compensation expense, write-offs of acquired in-process research and development, and impairment of goodwill;

The tax effects of purchase accounting for acquisitions and restructuring charges that may cause fluctuations between reporting periods;

Changes related to our ability to ultimately realize future benefits attributed to our deferred tax assets, including those related to other-than-temporary impairments;

Tax assessments resulting from income tax audits or any related tax interest or penalties could significantly affect our income tax expense for the period in which the settlements take place; and

A change in our decision to indefinitely reinvest foreign earnings.

We receive significant tax benefits from sales to our non-U.S. customers. These benefits are contingent upon existing tax regulations in the United States and in the countries in which our international operations are located. Future changes in domestic or international tax regulations could adversely affect our ability to continue to realize these tax benefits. We have not provided for United States federal and state income taxes or foreign withholding taxes that may result on future remittances of undistributed earnings of foreign subsidiaries.

The Obama administration recently announced several proposals to reform United States tax rules, including proposals that may result in a reduction or elimination of the deferral of United States income tax on our future unrepatriated earnings. Absent a restructuring of some legal entities and their functionality, some of the future unrepatriated earnings would be taxed at the United States federal income tax rate. Additionally, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit on May 27, 2009 held in Xilinx Inc. v. Commissioner that stock-based compensation must be included in the research and development cost base of companies that have entered into a cost sharing arrangement and must, therefore, be allocated among the participants based on anticipated benefits. The Court's reversal of the prior U.S. Tax Court decision could change our estimate of tax benefits that were required to be recognized in connection with our adoption of Financial Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes—an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109 (FIN 48) at the beginning of fiscal year 2008. We are currently evaluating the impact of the Xilinx case for FIN 48 purposes for the first quarter of fiscal 2010. Our international operations currently benefit from a tax ruling concluded in the Netherlands, which expires in 2010. If we are unable to negotiate a similar tax ruling upon expiration of the current ruling, our effective tax rate could increase and our

operating results could be adversely affected. Our effective tax rate could also be adversely affected by different and evolving interpretations of existing law or regulations, which in turn would negatively impact our operating and financial results as a whole. The price of our common stock could decline to the extent that our financial results are materially affected by an adverse change in our effective tax rate.

We are currently undergoing federal income tax audits in the United States and several foreign tax jurisdictions. The rights to some of our intellectual property, or IP, are owned by certain of our foreign subsidiaries, and payments are made between U.S. and foreign tax jurisdictions relating to the use of this IP in a qualified cost sharing arrangement. In recent years, several other U.S. companies have had their foreign IP arrangements challenged as part of IRS examinations, which has resulted in material proposed assessments and/or pending litigation with

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respect to those companies. During fiscal 2009, we received Notices of Proposed Adjustments from the IRS in connection with federal income tax audits conducted with respect to our fiscal 2003 and 2004 tax years. If the ultimate determination of income taxes assessed under the current IRS audit or under audits being conducted in any of the other tax jurisdictions in which we operate results in an amount in excess of the tax provision we have recorded or reserved for, our operating results, cash flows and financial condition could be adversely affected.

NetApp may face increased risks and uncertainties related to our current or future investments in nonmarketable securities of private companies, and these investments may not achieve our objectives.

On occasion, NetApp makes strategic investments in nonmarketable securities of development stage entities. As of January 23, 2009, the carrying value of our investments in nonmarketable securities totaled \$6.6 million. Investments in nonmarketable securities are inherently risky, and some of these companies are likely to fail. Their success (or lack thereof) is dependent on product development, market acceptance, operational efficiency and other key business success factors. In addition, depending on these companies—future prospects, they may not be able to raise additional funds when needed, or they may receive lower valuations, with less favorable investment terms than in previous financings, and our investments in them would likely become impaired. We could lose our entire investment in these companies. For example, during the three and nine-month periods ended January 23, 2009 we determined that our investments in nonmarketable securities of two companies had been impaired, and we recorded impairment charges of \$1.7 million and \$3.7 million, respectively.

If NetApp is unable to establish fair value for any undelivered element of a sales arrangement, all or a portion of the revenue relating to the arrangement could be deferred to future periods.

In the course of our sales efforts, NetApp often enters into multiple element arrangements that include our systems and one or more of the following undelivered software-related elements: software entitlements and maintenance, premium hardware maintenance, and storage review services. If we are required to change the pricing of our software related elements through discounting, or otherwise introduce variability in the pricing of such elements, we may be unable to maintain Vendor Specific Objective Evidence of fair value of the undelivered elements of the arrangement, and would therefore be required to delay the recognition of all or a portion of the related arrangement. A delay in the recognition of revenue may cause fluctuations in our financial results and may adversely affect our operating margins.

NetApp s business could be materially and adversely affected as a result of a natural disaster, terrorist acts or other catastrophic events.

NetApp depends on the ability of our personnel, raw materials, equipment and products to move reasonably unimpeded around the world. Any political, military, world health or other issue that hinders this movement or restricts the import or export of materials could lead to significant business disruptions. Furthermore, any strike, economic failure or other material disruption caused by fire, floods, hurricanes, power loss, power shortages, telecommunications failures, break-ins and similar events could also adversely affect our ability to conduct business. If such disruptions result in cancellations of customer orders or contribute to a general decrease in economic activity or corporate spending on information technology, or directly impact our marketing, manufacturing, financial and logistics functions, our results of operations and financial condition could be materially adversely affected. In addition, our headquarters are located in Northern California, an area susceptible to earthquakes. If any significant disaster were to occur, our ability to operate our business could be impaired.

NetApp depends on attracting and retaining qualified technical and sales personnel. If we are unable to attract and retain such personnel, our operating results could be materially and adversely impacted.

NetApp s continued success depends, in part, on our ability to identify, attract, motivate and retain qualified technical and sales personnel. Because our future success is dependent on our ability to continue to enhance and introduce new products, we are particularly dependent on our ability to identify, attract, motivate and retain qualified engineers with the requisite education, background and industry experience. Competition for qualified engineers, particularly in Silicon Valley, can be intense. The loss of the services of a significant number of our

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engineers or salespeople could be disruptive to our development efforts or business relationships and could materially and adversely affect our operating results.

Undetected software errors, hardware errors, or failures found in new products may result in loss of or delay in market acceptance of NetApp s products, which could increase our costs and reduce our revenues. Product quality problems could lead to reduced revenue, gross margins and operating results.

NetApp s products may contain undetected software errors, hardware errors or failures when first introduced or as new versions are released. Despite testing by us and by current and potential customers, errors may not be found in new products until after commencement of commercial shipments, resulting in loss of or delay in market acceptance, which could materially and adversely affect our operating results.

If we fail to remedy a product defect, we may experience a failure of a product line, temporary or permanent withdrawal from a product or market, damage to our reputation, inventory costs or product reengineering expenses, any of which could have a material impact on our revenue, gross margins and operating results.

In addition, we may be subject to losses that may result from or are alleged to result from defects in our products, which could subject us to claims for damages, including consequential damages. Based on our historical experience, we believe that the risk of exposure to product liability claims is low. However, should we experience increased exposure to product liability claims, our business could be adversely impacted.

NetApp is exposed to various risks related to legal proceedings or claims and protection of intellectual property rights, which could adversely affect our operating results.

NetApp is a party to lawsuits in the normal course of our business, including our ongoing litigation with Sun Microsystems. Litigation can be expensive, lengthy and disruptive to normal business operations. Moreover, the results of complex legal proceedings are difficult to predict. An unfavorable resolution of a particular lawsuit could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, or financial condition.

If we are unable to protect our intellectual property, we may be subject to increased competition that could materially and adversely affect our operating results. Our success depends significantly upon our proprietary technology. We rely on a combination of copyright and trademark laws, trade secrets, confidentiality procedures, contractual provisions, and patents to protect our proprietary rights. We seek to protect our software, documentation and other written materials under trade secret, copyright and patent laws, which afford only limited protection. Some of our U.S. trademarks are registered internationally as well. We will continue to evaluate the registration of additional trademarks as appropriate. We generally enter into confidentiality agreements with our employees and with our resellers, strategic partners and customers. We currently have multiple U.S. and international patent applications pending and multiple U.S. patents issued. The pending applications may not be approved, and our existing and future patents may be challenged. If such challenges are brought, the patents may be invalidated. We may not be able to develop proprietary products or technologies that are patentable, or where any issued patent will provide us with any competitive advantages or will not be challenged by third parties. Further, the patents of others may materially and adversely affect our ability to do business. In addition, a failure to obtain and defend our trademark registrations may impede our marketing and branding efforts and competitive position.

Litigation may be necessary to protect our proprietary technology. Any such litigation may be time consuming and costly. Despite our efforts to protect our proprietary rights, unauthorized parties may attempt to copy aspects of our products or obtain and use information that we regard as proprietary. In addition, the laws of some foreign countries do not protect proprietary rights to as great an extent as do the laws of the United States. Our means of protecting our proprietary rights may not be adequate or our competitors may independently develop similar technology, duplicate

our products, or design around patents issued to us or other intellectual property rights of ours.

We are subject to intellectual property infringement claims. We may, from time to time, receive claims that we are infringing third parties intellectual property rights. Third parties may in the future claim infringement by us with respect to current or future products, patents, trademarks or other proprietary rights. We expect that companies in the network storage market will increasingly be subject to infringement claims as the number of products and competitors in our industry segment grows and the functionality of products in different industry segments overlaps.

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Any such claims could be time consuming, result in costly litigation, cause product shipment delays, require us to redesign our products or enter into royalty or licensing agreements, any of which could materially and adversely affect our operating results. Such royalty or licensing agreements, if required, may not be available on terms acceptable to us or at all.

NetApp is continually seeking ways to make our cost structure more efficient, including moving activities from higher-to lower-cost owned locations, as well as outsourcing certain business process functions. Problems with the execution of these changes could have an adverse effect on our business or results of operations.

NetApp continuously seeks to make our cost structure more efficient. We are focused on increasing workforce flexibility and scalability, and improving overall competitiveness by leveraging our global capabilities, as well as external talent and skills worldwide. For example, certain engineering activities and projects that were formally performed in the U.S. have been moved to lower cost international locations. The challenges involved with these initiatives include executing business functions in accordance with local laws and other obligations while maintaining adequate standards, controls and procedures.

In addition, we will rely on partners or third party service providers for the provision of certain business process functions in IT and accounting, and as a result, we may incur increased business continuity risks. For example, we may no longer be able to exercise control over some aspects of the future development, support or maintenance of outsourced operations and processes, including the internal controls associated with those outsourced business operations and processes, which could adversely affect our business. If we are unable to effectively utilize or integrate and interoperate with external resources or if our partners or third party service providers experience business difficulties or are unable to provide business process services as anticipated, we may need to seek alternative service providers or resume providing these business processes internally, which could be costly and time consuming and have a material adverse effect on our operating results.

NetApp s business could be materially adversely affected by changes in regulations or standards regarding energy efficiency of our products.

NetApp continually seeks ways to increase the energy efficiency of our products. Recent analyses have estimated the amount of global carbon emissions that are due to information technology products. As a result, governmental and non-governmental organizations have turned their attention to development of regulations and standards to drive technological improvements and reduce such amount of carbon emissions. There is a risk that the rush to development of these standards will not fully address the complexity of the technology developed by the IT industry or will favor certain technological approaches. Depending on the regulations or standards that are ultimately adopted, compliance could adversely affect our business, financial condition or operating results.

NetApp s business is subject to increasingly complex corporate governance, public disclosure, accounting and tax requirements that have increased both our costs and the risk of noncompliance.

Because NetApp s common stock is publicly traded, we are subject to certain rules and regulations of federal, state and financial market exchange entities charged with the protection of investors and the oversight of companies whose securities are publicly traded. These entities, including the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, the SEC, and NASDAQ, have implemented requirements and regulations and continue developing additional regulations and requirements in response to corporate scandals and laws enacted by Congress, most notably the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. Our efforts to comply with these regulations have resulted in, and are likely to continue resulting in, increased general and administrative expenses and diversion of management time and attention from revenue-generating activities to compliance activities.

We completed our evaluation of our internal controls over financial reporting for the fiscal year ended April 25, 2008 as required by Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. Although our assessment, testing and evaluation resulted in our conclusion that as of April 25, 2008, our internal controls over financial reporting were effective, we cannot predict the outcome of our testing in future periods. If our internal controls are ineffective in future periods, our business and reputation could be harmed. We may incur additional expenses and commitment of

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management s time in connection with further evaluations, either of which could materially increase our operating expenses and accordingly reduce our operating results.

Because new and modified laws, regulations, and standards are subject to varying interpretations in many cases due to their lack of specificity, their application in practice may evolve over time as new guidance is provided by regulatory and governing bodies. This evolution may result in continuing uncertainty regarding compliance matters and additional costs necessitated by ongoing revisions to our disclosure and governance practices.

Changes in financial accounting standards may cause adverse unexpected fluctuations and affect NetApp s reported results of operations.

A change in accounting standards or practices and varying interpretations of existing accounting pronouncements, such as the increased use of fair value measures and the potential requirement that U.S. registrants prepare financial statements in accordance with IFRS, could have a significant effect on NetApp s reported financial results or the way we conduct our business.

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## THE DATA DOMAIN SPECIAL MEETING

This section contains information about the special meeting of Data Domain stockholders that has been called to consider and approve the merger proposal and the adjournment proposal.

Together with this proxy statement/prospectus, Data Domain is also sending you a notice of the special meeting and a form of proxy that is solicited by the Data Domain board of directors.

## Time, Date and Place

The special meeting will be held on [ ], 2009 at [ ], local time, at 2421 Mission College Blvd., Santa Clara, CA 95054.

## **Matters to Be Considered**

The purpose of the special meeting is to vote on the following proposals:

- 1. To adopt the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of May 20, 2009, as amended on June 3, 2009, by and among NetApp, Kentucky Merger Sub One Corporation, Derby Merger Sub Two LLC and Data Domain, as the agreement may be amended from time to time, which proposal is referred to as the merger proposal; and
- 2. To approve the adjournment or postponement of the special meeting, if necessary, to solicit additional proxies, in the event that there are not sufficient votes at the time of the special meeting to approve the merger proposal, which proposal is referred to as the adjournment proposal.

## **Proxies**

Each copy of this proxy statement/prospectus mailed to holders of Data Domain common stock is accompanied by a form of proxy with instructions for voting. If you hold stock in your name as a stockholder of record, you should vote your shares by (i) completing, signing, dating and returning the enclosed proxy card, (ii) using the telephone number on your proxy card or (iii) using the Internet voting instructions on your proxy card to ensure that your vote is counted at the special meeting, or at any adjournment or postponement of the special meeting, regardless of whether you plan to attend the special meeting.

If you hold your stock in street name through a bank, broker or other nominee, you must direct your bank, broker or other nominee to vote in accordance with the instructions you have received from your bank, broker or other nominee.

If you hold stock in your name as a stockholder of record, you may revoke any proxy at any time before it is voted by signing and returning a proxy card with a later date, delivering a written revocation letter to Data Domain s Secretary, or by attending the special meeting in person, notifying Data Domain s Corporate Secretary, and voting by ballot at the special meeting.

Any stockholder entitled to vote in person at the special meeting may vote in person regardless of whether a proxy has been previously given, but the mere presence (without notifying Data Domain s Corporate Secretary) of a stockholder at the special meeting will not constitute revocation of a previously given proxy.

Written notices of revocation and other communications about revoking your proxy should be addressed to:

Data Domain, Inc. 2421 Mission College Blvd. Santa Clara, CA 95054 Attention: Corporate Secretary

If your shares are held in street name by a bank, broker or other nominee, you should follow the instructions of your bank, broker or other nominee regarding the revocation of proxies.

According to the Data Domain amended and restated bylaws, business to be conducted at a special meeting of stockholders may only be brought before the meeting by or at the direction of the Data Domain board of directors, or by any Data Domain stockholder who is entitled to vote at the meeting and who complies with the notice provisions

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set forth in the Data Domain amended and restated bylaws. No matters other than the matters described in this document are anticipated to be presented for action at the special meeting or at any adjournment or postponement of the special meeting.

Data Domain stockholders should not send Data Domain stock certificates with their proxy cards. After the merger is completed, NetApp will mail to holders of Data Domain common stock a transmittal form with instructions on how to exchange their Data Domain stock certificates for the merger consideration.

#### Solicitation of Proxies

Since many Data Domain stockholders may be unable to attend the special meeting, Data Domain s board of directors is soliciting proxies to be voted at the special meeting to give each stockholder an opportunity to vote on all matters scheduled to come before the meeting and set forth in this proxy statement/prospectus. Data Domain s board of directors is asking stockholders to designate Frank Slootman and Michael P. Scarpelli, or any one of them, as their proxies.

NetApp will pay the costs of printing and mailing this proxy statement/prospectus to Data Domain s stockholders, and Data Domain will pay all other costs incurred by it in connection with the solicitation of proxies from its stockholders on behalf of its board of directors, including the entire cost of soliciting proxies from you. In addition to solicitation of proxies by mail, Data Domain will request that banks, brokers, and other record holders send proxies and proxy material to the beneficial owners of Data Domain common stock and secure their voting instructions. Data Domain will reimburse the record holders for their reasonable expenses in taking those actions. Data Domain has also made arrangements with Innisfree M&A Incorporated to assist it in soliciting proxies and has agreed to pay them \$50,000 plus reasonable expenses for these services over a three month period. Data Domain has agreed to indemnify Innisfree M&A Incorporated for claims related to these services. If necessary, Data Domain may use several of its directors, executive officers and employees, who will not be specially compensated, to solicit proxies from Data Domain stockholders, either personally or by telephone, facsimile, letter or other electronic means.

#### **Record Date**

The close of business on [	], 2009 has been fixed as the record da	ate for determining the D	Data Domain
stockholders entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the special meeting. At that time, [			] shares of Data
Domain common stock were o	utstanding, held by approximately [	registered holders.	

## **Voting Rights and Vote Required**

The presence, in person or by proxy, of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of Data Domain common stock entitled to vote is necessary to constitute a quorum at the special meeting. Abstentions will be counted for the purpose of determining whether a quorum is present.

Approval of the merger proposal requires the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of Data Domain common stock entitled to vote at the special meeting. You are entitled to one vote for each share of Data Domain common stock you hold as of the record date.

Because the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of Data Domain common stock entitled to vote at the special meeting is needed to approve the merger proposal, the failure to vote by proxy or in person will have the same effect as a vote against the approval of the merger proposal. Abstentions and broker non-votes will also have the same effect as a vote against the approval of the merger proposal. Accordingly, the Data Domain board of directors urges Data Domain stockholders to promptly vote by (i) completing, signing, dating and

returning the enclosed proxy card, (ii) using the telephone number on your proxy card, or (iii) using the Internet voting instructions on your proxy card, or, if you hold your stock in street name through a bank, broker or other nominee, by following the voting instructions of your bank, broker or other nominee.

Approval of the adjournment proposal requires the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares entitled to vote and present in person or by proxy. Because approval of this proposal requires the affirmative vote of a majority of shares present in person or by proxy, abstentions will have the same effect as a vote against this

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proposal. However, the failure to vote, either by proxy or in person, and broker non-votes, will have no effect on the adjournment proposal.

Stockholders may vote at the meeting by ballot. Votes cast at the meeting, in person or by proxy, will be tallied by Innisfree M&A Incorporated, Data Domain s proxy solicitor.

As of the record date, directors and executive officers of Data Domain, and their affiliates, had the right to vote
[ ] shares of Data Domain common stock, or [ ]% of the outstanding Data Domain common stock at that date
Data Domain currently expects that each of these individuals will vote their shares of Data Domain common stock in
favor of the proposals to be presented at the special meeting. Certain executive officers of Data Domain and their
affiliates, collectively holding [ ] shares of Data Domain common stock, or [ ] % of the outstanding Data
Domain common stock as of the record date have entered voting agreements with NetApp. Pursuant to the voting
agreements, these officers have agreed to vote such shares of Data Domain common stock in favor of the approval of
the merger proposal, and have granted a proxy to NetApp to vote the shares in such manner.

## **Recommendation of the Data Domain Board of Directors**

The Data Domain board of directors has unanimously approved and adopted the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby. The Data Domain board of directors determined that the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby are advisable and in the best interests of Data Domain and its stockholders and unanimously recommends that you vote FOR approval of the merger proposal and FOR approval of the adjournment proposal. See Data Domain Proposal 1 The Merger Data Domain s Reasons for the Merger; Recommendation of the Data Domain Board of Directors on page 48 for a more detailed discussion of the Data Domain board of directors recommendation.

# **Attending the Meeting**

All holders of Data Domain common stock, including stockholders of record and stockholders who hold their shares through banks, brokers, nominees or any other holder of record, are invited to attend the special meeting. Stockholders of record can vote in person at the special meeting. If you are not a stockholder of record, you must obtain a proxy executed in your favor, from the record holder of your shares, such as a broker, bank or other nominee, to be able to vote in person at the special meeting. If you plan to attend the special meeting, you must hold your shares in your own name or have a letter from the record holder of your shares confirming your ownership and you must bring a form of personal photo identification with you in order to be admitted. Data Domain reserves the right to refuse admittance to anyone without proper proof of share ownership and without proper photo identification.

# **Voting By Telephone or Via the Internet**

In addition to voting by proxy or in person at the special meeting, Data Domain stockholders that hold their shares as the stockholder of record also may vote their shares by using the telephone number on the proxy card or using the Internet voting instructions on the proxy card. Data Domain stockholders that hold their shares in street name through a bank, broker or other nominee may also vote their shares by following the telephone or Internet voting instructions provided by the bank, broker or other nominee. If you have access to the Internet, you are encouraged to vote via the Internet.

## **Adjournments and Postponements**

Although it is not currently expected, the special meeting may be adjourned for the purpose of soliciting additional proxies if Data Domain has not received sufficient votes to approve the merger proposal at the special meeting of

stockholders. Any adjournments may be made without notice, other than an announcement at the special meeting, by approval of the affirmative vote of holders of at least a majority of shares of Data Domain common stock who are present in person or represented by proxy at the special meeting. Any adjournment of the special meeting for the purpose of soliciting additional proxies will allow stockholders who have already sent in their proxies to revoke them at any time prior to their use.

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At any time prior to convening the special meeting, Data Domain s board of directors may postpone the special meeting for any reason without the approval of Data Domain stockholders. If postponed, Data Domain will provide notice of the new meeting date as required by law. Although it is not currently expected, Data Domain s board of directors may postpone the special meeting for the purpose of soliciting additional proxies if Data Domain has not received sufficient proxies to constitute a quorum or sufficient votes for adoption of the merger agreement. Similar to adjournments, any postponement of the special meeting for the purpose of soliciting additional proxies will allow stockholders who have already sent in their proxies to revoke them at any time prior to their use.

## **Appraisal Rights**

Under Delaware law, Data Domain stockholders are entitled to appraisal rights in connection with the merger. Failure to take any of the steps required under Delaware law on a timely basis may result in the loss of these appraisal rights, as more fully described in Data Domain Proposal 1 The Merger Appraisal Rights beginning on page 72.

## **Other Matters**

As of the date of this proxy statement/prospectus, the Data Domain board of directors does not know of any other business to be presented for consideration at the special meeting. If other matters properly come before the special meeting, the persons named in the accompanying form of proxy intend to vote on such matters based on their best judgment and they intend to vote the shares as the Data Domain board of directors may recommend.

## **Questions and Additional Information**

Data Domain stockholders who would like additional copies, without charge, of this proxy statement/prospectus or have additional questions about the merger, including the procedures for voting their shares of Data Domain common stock, should contact:

Data Domain, Inc. 2421 Mission College Blvd. Santa Clara, CA 95054 Attention: Investor Relations Telephone: (408) 980-4909

or Data Domain s solicitation agent:

Innisfree M&A Incorporated
501 Madison Avenue, 20<sup>th</sup> Floor
New York, NY 10022
Stockholders Call Toll-Free at: (888) 750-5834
Banks and Brokers Call Collect at: (212) 750-5833

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## INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMPANIES

# NetApp, Inc.

NetApp is a supplier of enterprise storage and data management software and hardware products and services. NetApp provides solutions to help global enterprises meet major information technology challenges such as managing storage growth, assuring secure and timely information access, protecting data and controlling costs by providing innovative solutions that simplify the complexity associated with managing corporate data. NetApp was incorporated in 1992 and shipped the world s first networked storage appliance a year later. Since then, NetApp has brought to market many significant innovations and industry firsts in storage and data management.

NetApp common stock is traded on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol NTAP. The principal executive offices of NetApp are located at 495 East Java Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94089, and its telephone number is (408) 822-6000.

On May 22, 2009, NetApp commenced an option exchange program pursuant to which employees of NetApp (other than executive officers and directors) who hold certain options to purchase shares of NetApp s common stock are being given the opportunity to exchange such options for restricted stock units. The option exchange program was approved by NetApp s stockholders on April 21, 2009. Unless extended by NetApp, the option exchange offer will expire on June 19, 2009. For more information, please see NetApp s tender offer statement on Schedule TO, as filed with the SEC on May 22, 2009, as may be amended from time to time.

Additional information about NetApp and its subsidiaries is included in documents incorporated by reference in this document. See Where You Can Find More Information beginning on page 119.

## **Kentucky Merger Sub One Corporation**

Kentucky Merger Sub One Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of NetApp, was formed solely for the purpose of completing the merger. Kentucky Merger Sub One has not carried on any activities to date, except for activities incidental to its formation and activities undertaken in connection with the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement. The principal executive offices of Kentucky Merger Sub One Corporation are located at 495 East Java Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94089, and its telephone number is (408) 822-6000.

## **Derby Merger Sub Two LLC**

Derby Merger Sub Two LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of NetApp, was formed solely for the purpose of completing the merger. Derby Merger Sub Two has not carried on any activities to date, except for activities incidental to its formation and activities undertaken in connection with the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement. The principal executive offices of Derby Merger Sub Two LLC are located at 495 East Java Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94089, and its telephone number is (408) 822-6000.

## Data Domain, Inc.

Data Domain, a Delaware corporation, was incorporated in Delaware in October 2001. Data Domain is a leading provider of storage solutions for backup and archive applications based on deduplication technology. Data Domain deduplication storage systems are designed to deliver reliable, efficient and cost-effective solutions that enable enterprises of all sizes to manage, retain and protect their data.

Data Domain common stock is traded on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol DDUP. The principal executive offices of Data Domain are located at 2421 Mission College Blvd., Santa Clara, CA 95054 and its telephone number is (408) 980-4800.

Additional information about Data Domain and its subsidiaries is included in documents incorporated by reference in this proxy statement/prospectus. See Where You Can Find More Information beginning on page 119. Data Domain also plans to file a proxy statement for its 2009 annual meeting of stockholders with the SEC. The annual meeting is expected to be held on July 2, 2009, and the purpose of the meeting is to reelect three members of Data Domain s board of directors and to ratify Data Domain s independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2009.

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## DATA DOMAIN PROPOSAL 1 THE MERGER

The stockholders of Data Domain are being asked to adopt the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of May 20, 2009, as amended on June 3, 2009, by and among NetApp, Inc., Kentucky Merger Sub One Corporation, Derby Merger Sub Two LLC and Data Domain, as the agreement may be amended from time to time. This proposal is referred to as the merger proposal.

## **Background of the Merger**

Since 2006, Frank Slootman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Data Domain, and Daniel J. Warmenhoven, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of NetApp, have from time to time had informal discussions regarding their respective businesses and the data storage industry in general.

Goldman Sachs & Co., or Goldman Sachs, had served as co-managing underwriters in Data Domain s initial public offering in June 2007. In November 2008, prior to the engagement of Goldman Sachs by NetApp, a representative of Goldman Sachs arranged for a meeting between Messrs. Slootman and Warmenhoven to discuss the possibility of a business combination involving NetApp and Data Domain.

On November 4, 2008, Messrs. Slootman and Warmenhoven and a representative of Goldman Sachs met to discuss the merits of a potential business combination involving NetApp and Data Domain. Messrs. Slootman and Warmenhoven agreed that although there was value in a potential business combination, considering current market conditions and trading prices of the stock of the respective companies, such a business combination was not feasible at that time. Messrs. Slootman and Warmenhoven agreed that no further discussions of a potential business combination involving NetApp and Data Domain would occur for the foreseeable future.

In early 2009, Mr. Slootman and a representative of Goldman Sachs had ongoing discussions of potential strategic transactions involving Data Domain. A representative of Goldman Sachs arranged for a meeting on March 17, 2009, between Mr. Slootman and Thomas Georgens, President and Chief Operating Officer of NetApp to discuss potential strategic opportunities involving NetApp and Data Domain.

On March 17, 2009, Messrs. Slootman and Georgens and a representative of Goldman Sachs met to discuss potential strategic opportunities involving NetApp and Data Domain. Mr. Georgens inquired as to whether Data Domain would be interested in a potential business combination with NetApp at that time. Mr. Slootman agreed to discuss such a potential business combination with members of the Data Domain board of directors.

On March 17, 2009, Mr. Slootman briefed Aneel Bhusri, Chairman of the Data Domain board of directors, and some of the other members of the Data Domain board of directors on his discussions with Mr. Georgens regarding a potential business combination with NetApp. The members of the Data Domain board of directors agreed to open a dialogue with NetApp regarding a potential business combination dependent upon the value of the consideration offered by NetApp.

On March 18, 2009, Mr. Slootman telephoned Mr. Georgens to inform him that Data Domain was receptive to a potential business combination with NetApp, but that further discussions would be dependent upon the value of the consideration offered by NetApp to the Data Domain stockholders.

On March 24, 2009, Mr. Slootman, Michael P. Scarpelli, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Data Domain, Mr. Georgens and Steven J. Gomo, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of NetApp, met to

discuss a potential business combination involving NetApp and Data Domain. After discussing the potential synergies, cultural fit and strategic benefits of a potential business combination involving NetApp and Data Domain, the parties expressed their respective continued interests in further exploring such a business combination.

On March 26, 2009, the Data Domain board of directors held a meeting to discuss a potential business combination with NetApp. Mr. Slootman reviewed the conversation he and Mr. Scarpelli had with Messrs. Georgens and Gomo regarding a potential proposal from NetApp to acquire Data Domain. Mr. Slootman proposed hiring Qatalyst Partners LP, or Qatalyst, as Data Domain s financial advisor to advise the Data Domain board of directors regarding the evaluation of a potential NetApp proposal and other strategic alternatives for Data Domain. Mr. Slootman noted that Goldman Sachs had been previously engaged by NetApp to serve as its financial advisor. The Data Domain board of directors approved the engagement of Qatalyst as Data Domain s financial advisor.

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Mr. Slootman also reviewed potential benefits and synergies from a potential business combination with NetApp. Representatives of Fenwick & West LLP, or Fenwick & West, Data Domain s legal counsel, then reviewed considerations regarding the Data Domain board of directors fiduciary duties in the context of such a potential business combination. Representatives of Qatalyst led a discussion regarding current macro economic market conditions, recent strategic developments in the technology sector, potential deal structures, processes and other issues to consider in such a potential business combination. The Data Domain board of directors expressed concerns regarding the potential harm to Data Domain s business relating to any uncertainty perceived by its current or future customers should they learn of discussions regarding a potential business combination involving Data Domain and the ability of Data Domain s competition to take advantage of any such perceived uncertainty. At the conclusion of the meeting, the Data Domain board of directors confirmed that it had not been seeking a sale of Data Domain, however should NetApp elect to proceed with an offer it would merit further consideration.

On March 27, 2009, NetApp and Goldman Sachs executed an engagement letter for Goldman Sachs to act as NetApp s financial advisor.

On April 1, 2009, the NetApp board of directors met to discuss the potential business combination between NetApp and Data Domain.

On April 2, 2009, Messrs. Slootman and Warmenhoven met to further discuss the opportunities and strategic benefits of a potential business combination involving NetApp and Data Domain. Mr. Warmenhoven indicated his interest in Data Domain s business and his respect for the long-term value of Data Domain as an enterprise. Mr. Warmenhoven indicated that NetApp was serious about making an offer for Data Domain and that the value of the consideration that NetApp would offer would reflect NetApp s commitment to securing such a potential business combination with Data Domain. Later that day representatives of Qatalyst had a call with Mr. Warmenhoven in which he informed them that the NetApp board of directors had authorized him to move forward with discussions regarding a potential business combination with Data Domain and the parties discussed the potential timing of a potential business combination.

On April 3, 2009, Messrs. Warmenhoven and Bhusri met to discuss the strategic rationale and benefits of a potential business combination involving NetApp and Data Domain. Both parties reiterated their interest in considering such a potential business combination. Mr. Bhusri indicated that the amount and certainty of the value of the consideration to be delivered to the Data Domain stockholders at closing was a priority of the Data Domain board of directors given the general economic uncertainty and volatile stock market conditions over the past several months. Mr. Bhusri indicated that the Data Domain board of directors intended to continue operating Data Domain as an independent entity absent a potential business combination at a sufficient value and therefore he expressed concern over the risks to Data Domain s business if competitors or customers became aware of discussions regarding a business combination involving Data Domain. Mr. Warmenhoven informed Mr. Bhusri that NetApp intended to place discussions of a potential business combination with Data Domain on hold temporarily. Mr. Bhusri agreed that the parties should not move forward at all until such time as both of the parties were in a position to move forward expeditiously.

On April 6, 2009, Mr. Slootman met with a representative of Company A to discuss the terms of a proposed commercial relationship that was being negotiated. The representative of Company A indicated that Company A might be interested in a business combination involving Data Domain and asked Mr. Slootman when a discussion of such a potential business combination would be appropriate. Mr. Slootman informed the representative of Company A that such a discussion should happen sooner rather than later. After this meeting, the parties continued to discuss the proposed commercial relationship, but no representatives of Company A contacted Mr. Slootman or any other representatives of Data Domain regarding a business combination involving Data Domain and Company A.

On April 9, 2009, the Data Domain board of directors met to further discuss the potential business combination with NetApp. Mr. Bhusri reviewed the status of discussions with Mr. Warmenhoven regarding NetApp s potential interest

in pursuing a business combination, but noted that no offer or specific terms had been proposed to date and that NetApp did not wish to engage in further conversations regarding a business combination for the time being and likely would not be in a position to reengage in such discussions until near the end of NetApp s fiscal quarter. Mr. Slootman reviewed his discussion with the representative of Company A. Representatives of Qatalyst summarized their conversations with Mr. Warmenhoven regarding the potential business combination with NetApp.

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Representatives of Fenwick & West reviewed the Data Domain board of directors fiduciary duties and commented on legal considerations in the event Data Domain were to receive an offer from NetApp. At the conclusion of the meeting, the Data Domain board of directors confirmed that it was not seeking a sale of Data Domain absent a potential business combination involving sufficient value. However, the Data Domain board of directors acknowledged that should NetApp elect to proceed with an offer that provided for significant value to Data Domain s stockholders a transaction with NetApp would merit further consideration. The Data Domain board of directors further determined that Data Domain would not initiate any further discussions with NetApp or any other parties at this time.

On April 14, 2009, the NetApp board of directors held a meeting to discuss a potential business combination with Data Domain. Certain members of management presented the board of directors with a market analysis, as well as evaluations of the potential market opportunities and Data Domain s valuation and discounted cash flows. Following discussion among the NetApp board of directors and management, the NetApp board of directors authorized NetApp management to approach Data Domain with an offer to acquire Data Domain, subject to the parameters discussed and approved by the NetApp board of directors.

On April 21, 2009, the Data Domain board of directors held a meeting, during which it discussed, among other matters, trends in the data storage market and potential consolidation in the data storage market. Mr. Slootman reviewed the opportunities and challenges of remaining an independent entity in the current and foreseeable market environment in light of the storage market trends toward vertically integrated product offerings, noting that Data Domain may need to consider strategic alternatives or partnerships in the future to provide a more complete product offering in order to grow and remain competitive in the marketplace.

On April 22, 2009, Data Domain and Qatalyst executed an engagement letter for Qatalyst to act as Data Domain s financial advisor.

On April 24, 2009, Mr. Warmenhoven contacted Mr. Slootman to arrange a meeting to reinitiate discussions about a potential business combination involving NetApp and Data Domain.

On April 27, 2009, Fenwick & West provided a mutual non-disclosure agreement to Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati P.C., or Wilson Sonsini, NetApp s legal counsel, which, after some discussions between respective counsel, was executed later that day by Data Domain and NetApp.

On April 27, 2009, Messrs. Slootman, Bhusri, Warmenhoven and Georgens met to further discuss a potential business combination involving NetApp and Data Domain. Messrs. Warmenhoven and Georgens presented a written summary of proposed terms for the potential transaction, including, among other items, consideration consisting of a mix of \$7.00 to \$8.00 per share in cash and 0.805 shares of NetApp common stock per share of Data Domain common stock, representing an implied value of \$22.00 to \$23.00 per share. The proposed terms also provided for a limited period of exclusivity for discussions with NetApp. Messrs. Slootman and Bhusri indicated that an exclusivity agreement was not acceptable to Data Domain, but that they would discuss the other aspects of the proposal with the Data Domain board of directors. Mr. Warmenhoven informed Mr. Bhusri of the potential for a role on the NetApp board of directors for Mr. Bhusri and a role in the management of NetApp for Mr. Slootman.

On April 28, 2009, the Data Domain board of directors met to discuss the status of the potential business combination with NetApp. Mr. Slootman reviewed the discussions that occurred with Messrs. Warmenhoven and Georgens regarding NetApp s interest in a business combination with Data Domain and the written terms that were proposed by NetApp, including the proposed per share consideration. Mr. Bhusri informed the Data Domain board of directors of the potential for a role on the NetApp board of directors for Mr. Bhusri and a role in the management of NetApp for Mr. Slootman. A discussion then ensued among the Data Domain board of directors, Qatalyst and Fenwick & West

regarding the NetApp proposal and potential responses thereto. Representatives of Fenwick & West reviewed the Data Domain board of directors fiduciary duties, the various processes the Data Domain board of directors might adopt and discussed potential responses to the offer from NetApp. Given the recent fluctuations of the trading prices of the respective companies—stock and fluctuations in the market indices generally, the Data Domain board of directors determined that establishing a collar mechanism around any portion of the stock consideration was important to providing some protection for the value to be received to the Data Domain stockholders in the event that the market price of NetApp—s common stock price fluctuated within a given range

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between signing and closing of the proposed transaction. The Data Domain board of directors also expressed concerns regarding the timing of a potential business combination and the certainty of closing such a transaction once a definitive agreement was signed. Of particular concern was the negative impact of any uncertainty to Data Domain s business perceived by its current or future customers and the ability of Data Domain s competition to take advantage of any such uncertainty. The Data Domain board of directors considered the heightened risk of these harms to Data Domain s business if any of Data Domain s competitors were contacted regarding a potential strategic transaction. The Data Domain board of directors agreed that Mr. Bhusri would talk to Mr. Warmenhoven regarding NetApp s offer, specifically to seek to increase the amount of total consideration in the potential transaction, to increase the cash component of the mix of consideration and to provide further protection from fluctuations in NetApp s stock price between signing and closing of the potential transaction. The Data Domain board of directors also instructed representatives of Qatalyst to contact representatives of NetApp to seek favorable financial terms consistent with the objectives they provided to Mr. Bhusri.

Following the meeting of the Data Domain board of directors on April 28, 2009, Mr. Bhusri called Mr. Warmenhoven to discuss the potential business combination with NetApp. Mr. Bhusri indicated that the Data Domain board of directors was interested in pursuing a potential business combination with NetApp, however, they believed enhanced financial terms would be necessary for discussions to continue. Mr. Bhusri also informed Mr. Warmenhoven that the Data Domain board of directors thought the cash component of the mix of consideration should be increased and that the Data Domain board of directors wanted down-side protection around the stock component of the consideration to protect the value to the Data Domain stockholders in the event that the market price of NetApp s common stock price fluctuated between signing and closing of the proposed transaction. Mr. Bhusri reiterated that Data Domain could not agree to an exclusive negotiating period for NetApp. Mr. Warmenhoven said that he would review this information with the NetApp board of directors.

On April 28, 2009 Fenwick & West provided a form of standstill agreement to Wilson Sonsini that provided that NetApp would not acquire shares of Data Domain, subject to limited exceptions.

On April 29, 2009, representatives of Qatalyst had a call with representatives of Goldman Sachs seeking a proposal with enhanced financial terms along the lines described above.

On May 1, 2009, Messrs. Slootman and Georgens met to further discuss the potential market, customer, product and cost synergies that could be achieved through a business combination of NetApp and Data Domain, the corporate culture of the two companies and how the companies would fit together and generally discussed the business of their respective companies. Messrs. Slootman and Georgens did not negotiate or discuss the substantive terms of the proposed business combination at this meeting.

On May 1, 2009, the NetApp board of directors held a meeting to further discuss the potential acquisition of Data Domain. The board of directors discussed with management the status of negotiations with Data Domain and NetApp s strategy with respect to the transaction. The NetApp board of directors then authorized management to present Data Domain with a revised offer, subject to the parameters discussed and approved by the board of directors.

On May 4, 2009, Mr. Warmenhoven called Mr. Bhusri and indicated that NetApp would increase the proposed aggregate consideration to Data Domain stockholders in the business combination to \$24.00 per share, comprised of \$6.00 in cash and \$18.00 dollars worth of shares of NetApp common stock for each share of Data Domain common stock, with a symmetrical 7.5% collar on the stock portion of the consideration so that Data Domain stockholders would receive a fixed amount of consideration in the event that the market price of NetApp s common stock price fluctuated within that range between signing and closing of the proposed transaction. Mr. Bhusri informed Mr. Warmenhoven that while the Data Domain board of directors was interested in the potential business combination with NetApp, there were still several issues with the offer that needed to be resolved before the parties could move

forward, including an increase in the aggregate consideration, the need for a greater portion of the aggregate consideration to be provided in cash and for a wider collar to be placed around the stock component of the consideration. On that same day, Mr. Slootman and Mr. Georgens also discussed NetApp s revised proposal. Mr. Slootman also indicated that amount of the aggregate consideration, price certainty and protection against fluctuations NetApp s common stock price were important to Data Domain and that the terms of any business combination involving Data Domain should include an increase in the aggregate consideration, an increased amount of cash and an appropriate collar on the stock portion of the consideration. Also on May 4, 2009, a

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representative of Qatalyst discussed the details of Data Domain s views regarding the financial terms of a potential business combination involving Data Domain and NetApp with a representative of Goldman Sachs.

On May 5, 2009, Mr. Warmenhoven emailed a revised written summary of proposed terms of the potential business combination with NetApp to Mr. Bhusri. The revised offer consisted of \$24.00 per share in aggregate consideration, comprised of \$9.50 per share in cash and \$14.50 worth of shares of NetApp common stock for each share of Data Domain common stock, with a symmetrical 7.5% collar on the stock portion of the consideration.

On May 6, 2009, the Data Domain board of directors held a meeting at which it had an extensive discussion with Qatalyst and Fenwick & West regarding, among other matters, NetApp s original offer, NetApp s subsequent offers and the current offer of \$24.00 per share (consisting of \$9.50 per share in cash and \$14.50 per share in NetApp common stock, with a 7.5% symmetrical collar around the stock portion of the consideration), NetApp s desire to sign a merger agreement for any potential transaction by May 20, 2009 (the scheduled date for the announcement of NetApp s fiscal fourth quarter results) and other parties that may potentially be interested in a strategic transaction with Data Domain. Representatives of Fenwick & West reviewed the fiduciary duties of the Data Domain board of directors and the various processes the Data Domain board of directors might adopt. The Data Domain board of directors considered conducting a market check prior to the signing of a merger agreement with NetApp only if it could be conducted in a manner that did not jeopardize securing a firm proposal from NetApp and did not disrupt Data Domain s relationships with its current and future customers during the process. However, the Data Domain board of directors ultimately determined that it was not clear that Data Domain could come to mutually agreeable terms regarding a business combination with NetApp and therefore such a market check would involve a high degree of risk to Data Domain s customer relationships. The Data Domain board of directors authorized Mr. Bhusri and representatives of Qatalyst to propose a counteroffer to NetApp seeking a higher price of \$26.00 per share in the aggregate and wider collar of 15% around the stock portion of the consideration.

After the Data Domain board of directors meeting on May 6, 2009, Mr. Bhusri called Mr. Warmenhoven to make a counter proposal at a higher price of \$26.00 in aggregate consideration per share. After further negotiation, the parties tentatively agreed on \$25.00 in aggregate consideration per share, with the remaining financial terms to be negotiated the following day at a meeting that included Mr. Bhusri, representatives of Qatalyst, Messrs. Georgens and Gomo, J.R. Ahn, Vice President, Corporate Development of NetApp, and representatives of Goldman Sachs.

On May 6, 2009, representatives of Qatalyst contacted representatives of Goldman Sachs to discuss the revised terms of the proposed transaction.

On May 7, 2009, Data Domain and NetApp executed a revised mutual non-disclosure agreement that contained a standstill provision with respect to shares of Data Domain common stock.

On May 7, 2009, Mr. Bhusri, representatives of Qatalyst, Messrs. Georgens, Gomo and Ahn, and representatives of Goldman Sachs met to discuss the detailed financial terms of the proposed business combination between NetApp and Data Domain. The parties agreed to a mix of consideration consisting of \$11.00 per share in cash and \$14.00 per share in NetApp common stock. The parties also agreed to a 10% symmetrical collar so that Data Domain stockholders would receive a fixed amount of consideration in the event that the market price of NetApp s common stock price fluctuated within a that range between signing and closing of the proposed transaction.

On May 7, 2009, Mr. Slootman, David L. Schneider, Senior Vice President Worldwide Sales of Data Domain, Mr. Georgens and Robert E. Salmon, Executive Vice President, Field Operations of NetApp, met to get acquainted and discuss potential product sales synergies to be derived from a business combination between NetApp and Data Domain.

On May 7, 2009, a member of the board of directors of EMC, a competitor of Data Domain, contacted Mr. Slootman. The EMC board member sought to arrange a meeting between Mr. Slootman and the Chief Executive Officer of EMC to share with them EMC s vision for the future. Mr. Slootman asked for more specific information on the nature of the meeting, but the board member of EMC did not provide any further detail.

On May 7, 2009, the Data Domain board of directors held a meeting to further discuss the potential business combination with NetApp. At this meeting, Mr. Bhusri reviewed for the Data Domain board of directors his discussion with Mr. Warmenhoven regarding valuation and informed the Data Domain board of directors that they

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had negotiated an increase in NetApp s offer from \$24.00 to \$25.00 per share in aggregate consideration, consisting of \$11.00 per share in cash and \$14.00 per share in NetApp common stock, with a 10% symmetrical collar around the value of the stock portion of the consideration. The Data Domain board of directors then discussed with representatives of Qatalyst the negotiations regarding the collar mechanism around the value of the stock portion of the consideration, the progression of the proposed terms from NetApp and the value of the current NetApp proposal. Mr. Slootman reviewed for the Data Domain board of directors the call he received from a director of EMC asking whether Mr. Slootman would be available to meet with the Chief Executive Officer of EMC. The Data Domain board of directors engaged in an extensive discussion regarding the NetApp offer and the whether to call other companies, including competitors, that could be candidates for a strategic transaction prior to signing a definitive merger agreement with NetApp. The Data Domain board of directors expressed further concerns regarding the high risk of potential harm to Data Domain s business relating to any uncertainty perceived by its current or future customers should they learn of discussions regarding a business combination involving Data Domain prior to the announcement of a definitive agreement and the ability of Data Domain s competition to take advantage of any such perceived uncertainty. The Data Domain board of directors further evaluated the heightened risk of these harms to Data Domain s business if any of Data Domain s competitors were contacted regarding a potential strategic transaction. Representatives of Fenwick & West then discussed the fiduciary duties of the Data Domain board of directors and the various processes the Data Domain board of directors might adopt. The Data Domain board of directors was concerned that initiating a market check at this time could jeopardize securing a firm agreement from NetApp and could disrupt Data Domain s relationships with its current and future customers during the process. The Data Domain board of directors determined that Data Domain should move forward with the potential business combination with NetApp without contacting other companies that might be candidates for a strategic transaction with Data Domain, but that the Data Domain board of directors would continue to evaluate this strategy and consider the matter further based upon the progress and terms of the potential business combination with NetApp.

On May 7, 2009, with the authorization of the Data Domain board of directors, Mr. Bhusri called Mr. Warmenhoven to inform him of the conversation between the EMC board member and Mr. Slootman earlier that day.

On May 8, 2009, Wilson Sonsini delivered an initial draft of the merger agreement to Data Domain and Fenwick & West. Also on May 8, 2009, Fenwick & West granted access to an online data room containing Data Domain due diligence materials to representatives of NetApp, Wilson Sonsini and Goldman Sachs.

On May 8, 2009, the Chief Executive Officer of EMC contacted Mr. Slootman via email to request a meeting the next time that the Chief Executive Officer was in the San Francisco Bay Area and suggested proposed dates. Mr. Slootman agreed via email to such dates, resulting in a meeting being scheduled on May 27, 2009.

On May 9, 2009, Messrs, Scarpelli and Slootman and Robert Specker, Vice President, In-house Counsel to Data Domain provided financial and business due diligence on Data Domain to representatives of NetApp and Goldman Sachs.

Between May 9 and May 20, 2009, Messrs. Warmenhoven, Georgens and Gomo, other executive officers of NetApp, and other employees of NetApp met numerous times with Messrs. Bhusri, Slootman, Scarpelli and Specker, other executive officers and employees of Data Domain to discuss various aspects of the potential business combination. During this period, NetApp and its advisors reviewed due diligence materials relating to Data Domain made available to NetApp in an online data room, requested and reviewed additional materials relating to Data Domain and engaged in due diligence discussions with their counterparts.

On May 11, 2009, the Data Domain board of directors met to further discuss, among other matters, the potential business combination with NetApp. Mr. Slootman informed the Data Domain board of directors that the Chief Executive Officer of EMC had contacted him to schedule a meeting and, based upon the availability of the Chief

Executive Officer of EMC, the meeting had been scheduled for May 27, 2009. A representative of Qatalyst reviewed a discussion with Mr. Warmenhoven in which Mr. Warmenhoven had reiterated NetApp s position that NetApp would not engage in a bidding contest if additional parties emerged seeking to acquire Data Domain. Representatives of Fenwick & West reviewed key terms of the initial draft of the merger agreement, including the omission of the ability of Data Domain to accept such a superior proposal and terminate the merger agreement with NetApp and the Data Domain board of directors ability to change its recommendation in favor of the proposed

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business combination with NetApp for any reason consistent with its fiduciary duties and NetApp s initial request of a termination fee of 5.00% of the transaction value, and then discussed the fiduciary duties of the Data Domain board of directors and the various processes the Data Domain board of directors might adopt. The Data Domain board of directors and its advisors determined that in the negotiations with NetApp, Data Domain would insist on a process that would permit a superior proposal from a third party to surface after the signing of the merger agreement with NetApp and for the Data Domain board of directors to consider and accept such a superior proposal and terminate the merger agreement with NetApp, the Data Domain board of directors ability to change its recommendation in favor of the proposed business combination with NetApp for any reason consistent with its fiduciary duties and an amount of the termination fee that would not be preclusive of a superior proposal. The Data Domain board of directors reaffirmed the priority of its objectives of retaining the compelling valuation of the proposed business combination with NetApp, obtaining deal certainty with respect to the proposed business combination with NetApp and not exposing Data Domain s business and customers to uncertainty and risk. The Data Domain board of directors and its advisors discussed the fact that NetApp s board of directors would be meeting on May 13, 2009, and that it would be important to assess NetApp s continued resolve to pursue a deal with Data Domain before deciding whether to taking any action relative to soliciting the interest of other parties with respect to a strategic transaction with Data Domain. In the interim, the Data Domain board of directors determined that Data Domain should move forward with the due diligence and other aspects of the potential business combination with NetApp.

On May 12, 2009, Fenwick & West delivered proposed revisions to the draft merger agreement to NetApp and Wilson Sonsini. Between May 12 and May 20, 2009, in addition to continuing their due diligence investigations of each other, NetApp and Data Domain, along with their respective legal and financial advisors, negotiated the terms of the merger agreement.

On May 12 and 13, 2009, Messrs. Warmenhoven, Georgens, Gomo and Ahn, other employees of NetApp and representatives of Goldman Sachs met with Messrs. Slootman, Scarpelli and Specker, other employees of Data Domain and representatives of Qatalyst to discuss specific functional areas of diligence with respect to Data Domain and the potential business combination between NetApp and Data Domain, including financial, sales and marketing, human resources, services, product, supply chain and manufacturing, information technologies and facilities, and legal and intellectual property.

On May 13, 2009, the Data Domain board of directors held a meeting at which it discussed with representatives of Qatalyst the current financial terms of the transaction, the significant premiums the proposed business combination from NetApp provided and the likelihood that another party would offer more value to the Data Domain stockholders. The Data Domain board of directors engaged in further extensive discussions regarding the NetApp offer. The Data Domain board of directors reviewed the value of the NetApp offer, the significant premiums implied by the offer, the current economic conditions and stock market volatility. The Data Domain board of directors confirmed the desire to avoid the downside risk of further economic and stock market uncertainties by securing the attractive deal value reflected in the proposed business combination with NetApp, while obtaining protection of this deal value with the cash component of the offer and the collar around the stock portion of the consideration. Representatives of Fenwick & West discussed key terms of the merger agreement and the fiduciary duties of the Data Domain board of directors. The Data Domain board of directors discussed with representatives of Fenwick & West the legal issues surrounding its decision of whether to contact other companies, including competitors, that could be candidates for a strategic transaction with Data Domain prior to signing a definitive merger agreement with NetApp in light of the applicable merger agreement terms proposed by NetApp. The Data Domain board of directors expressed further concerns regarding the potential harm to Data Domain s business relating to any uncertainty perceived by its current or future customers should they learn of discussions regarding a business combination involving Data Domain prior to the announcement of a definitive agreement and the ability of Data Domain s competition to take advantage of any such perceived uncertainty. The Data Domain board of directors acknowledged the heightened risk of these harms to Data Domain s business if any of Data Domain s competitors were contacted regarding a potential strategic transaction.

The Data Domain board of directors was concerned that initiating a market check at this time could jeopardize securing the proposed business combination with NetApp. The Data Domain board of directors also expressed concerns regarding additional delay and uncertainty associated with soliciting the interest of other parties with respect to a strategic transaction with Data Domain. The Data Domain board of directors determined that Data Domain should move forward with the potential

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business combination with NetApp without contacting other companies and reaffirmed its commitment to insisting on merger agreement terms that would not unduly preclude the possibility of Data Domain receiving and implementing a superior proposal after the signing of a merger agreement with NetApp.

On May 13, 2009, the NetApp board of directors held a meeting to discuss the progress of the potential acquisition of Data Domain. Members of NetApp s management team were present to update the board of directors on work completed to date, initial findings from the due diligence process and next steps. The board of directors reviewed with management the preliminary terms of the potential transaction and discussed at length the stand-alone prospects of the potential transaction as well as expected net synergies. Following such discussion, the members of the board of directors authorized management to continue with its diligence review and discussions with Data Domain regarding a potential transaction.

On May 14, 2009, Messrs. Warmenhoven, Georgens, Gomo and Ahn, other employees of NetApp and representatives of Goldman Sachs met with Messrs. Bhusri, Slootman, Scarpelli and Specker, and representatives of Qatalyst to discuss due diligence of NetApp with respect to the potential business combination between NetApp and Data Domain. Between May 14 and May 19, 2009, representatives of NetApp and its advisors met with representatives of Data Domain and its advisors to engage in further due diligence discussions regarding the potential business combination between NetApp and Data Domain.

On May 14, 2009, Messrs. Bhusri and Warmenhoven met to discuss the terms of the proposed merger agreement. Mr. Bhusri indicated that, among other items, the Data Domain board of directors considered it important that the merger agreement allow for a process by which other parties could submit offers for alternate strategic transactions after the signing of a definitive merger agreement and that the Data Domain board of directors maintain the ability to consider such offers presented to it after the signing of a merger agreement with NetApp consistent with its fiduciary duties. Specifically, the Data Domain board of directors insisted on the ability to change its recommendation in favor of the proposed business combination with NetApp for any reason consistent with its fiduciary duties, a right to terminate the merger agreement after receipt of an alternative offer with respect to a strategic transaction that it determines to be a superior proposal and that the termination fee proposed by NetApp to be reduced.

Mr. Warmenhoven also mentioned to Mr. Bhusri that NetApp was currently conducting a search for a new member of its board of directors of Directors and suggested that Mr. Bhusri consider participating in the search process. Both parties agreed that no determinations would be made with respect to Mr. Bhusri s consideration for a position on the NetApp board of directors until after completion of the business combination between Data Domain and NetApp. On the same day, representatives of Qatalyst placed a follow-up call to Mr. Warmenhoven to underscore the views that Mr. Bhusri had communicated regarding the deal protection terms of the merger agreement.

Also on May 14, 2009, Wilson Sonsini delivered an initial draft of the form of voting agreement to Fenwick & West.

On May 16, 2009, the Data Domain board of directors met to further discuss the potential business combination with NetApp. Representatives of Qatalyst reviewed due diligence that had been conducted on NetApp with respect to, among other matters, NetApp s recent financial results and outlook. Representatives of Fenwick & West then led a discussion regarding the voting agreements that were requested from officers, directors and associated funds and the status of the previous day s negotiations on key terms of the merger agreement. Representatives of Fenwick & West informed the Data Domain board of directors that NetApp agreed to include a process that would permit a superior proposal from a third party to surface after the signing of the merger agreement with NetApp and for the Data Domain board of directors to consider and accept such a superior proposal and terminate the merger agreement with NetApp and had proposed a termination fee of 4.50% of the transaction value, and the impact of the outcome of these negotiations on the Data Domain board of directors fiduciary duties. The Data Domain board of directors reaffirmed its commitment to the need for a provision of the merger agreement that provided for the Data Domain board of

directors ability to change its recommendation in favor of the proposed business combination with NetApp for any reason consistent with its fiduciary duties and agreeing to an amount of the termination fee that would not be preclusive of a superior proposal. At the conclusion of this meeting, the Data Domain board of directors reiterated its commitment to continue negotiating the potential business combination with NetApp.

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On May 17, 2009, Fenwick & West delivered proposed revisions to the draft form of voting agreement to Wilson Sonsini. Between May 18 and May 20, 2009, NetApp, Data Domain and certain parties that were asked to sign the voting agreements, along with their respective legal advisors, negotiated the terms of the form of voting agreement.

On May 16 and 17, 2009, Mr. Slootman exchanged emails with Mr. Georgens regarding whether NetApp would be providing offer letters to any Data Domain employees prior to the signing of a merger agreement. No such offer letters were provided to any Data Domain employees by NetApp prior to the signing of the merger agreement.

On May 18, 2009, Messrs. Schneider and Warmenhoven, James Lau, Co-Founder, Chief Strategy Officer and Executive Vice President of NetApp and David Hitz, Co-Founder and Executive Vice President of NetApp, met to get acquainted and discuss potential synergies to be derived from a business combination between NetApp and Data Domain.

On May 18, 2009, the Data Domain board of directors held a meeting to further discuss the potential business combination with NetApp. At this meeting, Mr. Bhusri and representatives of Fenwick & West reviewed for the Data Domain board of directors the results of the negotiations that had taken place earlier that day between Mr. Slootman, representatives of Fenwick & West, Mr. Georgens, in-house attorneys for NetApp and representatives of Wilson Sonsini. Specifically, they noted that as a result of the negotiations the merger agreement would now provide for the Data Domain board of directors ability to change its recommendation in favor of the proposed business combination with NetApp for any reason consistent with its fiduciary duties, a right to terminate the merger agreement after receipt of an alternative offer with respect to a strategic transaction that the Data Domain board of directors determines to be a superior proposal and the amount of the termination fee had been reduced to 3.25% of the transaction value. Representatives of Qatalyst reviewed the stock and cash components of the consideration to be received by the Data Domain stockholders proposed by NetApp, and other financial terms of the proposed merger. At the conclusion of this meeting, the Data Domain board of directors reiterated its commitment to finalize the terms of the potential business combination with NetApp.

On May 19, 2009, several conversations occurred among representatives of Qatalyst and Goldman Sachs and Mr. Bhusri and Mr. Georgens to discuss the exchange ratio, collar mechanics and final mix of consideration. As a result of these meetings and conference calls, the parties agreed to use the closing stock price of NetApp common stock on May 19, 2009 of \$18.07 in order to calculate the stock exchange ratio for the basis for the 10% symmetrical collar on the stock portion of the consideration that will provide adjustments to maintain the \$25 per share merger consideration for variations in NetApp s stock price of up to 10% in either direction between signing and closing of the merger, thereby providing downside protection for Data Domain stockholders if NetApp s stock declines by up to 10% while maintaining the upside potential if NetApp s stock increases in value by more than 10%. The parties also agreed that the cash portion of the merger consideration would be increased from \$11.00 to \$11.45 and the stock portion of the merger consideration would be decreased from \$14.00 to \$13.55.

On May 19, 2009, the NetApp board of directors held a meeting to further discuss the potential business combination with Data Domain. Representatives of Wilson Sonsini reviewed the board of directors fiduciary duty obligations in the context of the potential acquisition, and the board of directors members took note of the significant legal and financial due diligence that had been conducted over the past several weeks, including the analyses and various detailed models prepared by Goldman Sachs. Next, the board of directors reviewed the key terms of the merger agreement and engaged in extensive discussions in this regard. Representatives of Goldman Sachs then provided a summary of the potential transaction, presented various detailed financial analyses, and provided a review of its fairness opinion, which concluded that the merger consideration was fair to NetApp from a financial point of view. The members of the board of directors made inquiry of management and its advisors in this regard, and further discussion then ensured. At the conclusion of the meeting, the board of directors unanimously approved the acquisition of Data Domain, the merger agreement and related matters.

On May 20, 2009, the Data Domain board of directors held a meeting at which the proposed business combination with NetApp was further discussed and considered for final approval. At this meeting, Mr. Bhusri updated the Data Domain board of directors on the current status of negotiations with NetApp. Representatives of Fenwick & West reviewed in detail with the Data Domain board of directors the outcome of further negotiations and the terms of the merger agreement and related agreements, as well as the fiduciary duties of the Data Domain board

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of directors. Mr. Slootman reviewed analyses, objectives, opportunities and challenges of Data Domain remaining as a stand alone company. Representatives of Qatalyst presented to the Data Domain board of directors its financial analysis of the proposed transaction and delivered to the Data Domain board of directors its oral opinion, subsequently confirmed in writing as of May 20, 2009, that, as of that date the consideration to be received by holders of shares of Data Domain common stock, other than affiliates who had executed voting agreements, pursuant to the original merger agreement, was fair, from a financial point of view, to such holders. The full text of the written opinion of Qatalyst, dated May 20, 2009, which sets forth, among other things, the assumptions made, procedures followed, matters considered and limitations and qualifications of the review undertaken by Qatalyst in rendering its opinion, is attached hereto as Appendix D. Following the presentations, and after further review and discussion, the Data Domain board of directors unanimously voted to approve the merger, the merger agreement and related matters and resolved to recommend that Data Domain stockholders adopt the merger agreement, which was subsequently filed with the SEC as an exhibit to Data Domain s Current Report on Form 8-K filed on May 21, 2009.

Following the adjournment of the meeting of the Data Domain board of directors on May 20, 2009, the parties signed the merger agreement. The signing of the merger agreement was publicly announced later that day, following the closing of trading on the NASDAQ Global Select Market.

On May 20, 2009, after the announcement of the signing of the merger agreement, Mr. Slootman contacted the Chief Executive Officer of EMC to cancel the meeting previously scheduled for May 27, 2009.

## Additional Background to the Merger

On numerous occasions after the announcement of the signing of the merger agreement on May 20, 2009 and through June 1, 2009, individual representatives of EMC and members of the board of directors of EMC contacted individual representatives of Data Domain and members of the Data Domain board of directors regarding an alternative acquisition proposal from EMC. None of the representatives of Data Domain or members of the Data Domain board of directors responded to such inquiries other than to inform the respective representatives of EMC and members of the board of directors of EMC that they could not discuss the matter since they were bound by the non-solicitation provisions of the merger agreement.

On June 1, 2009, EMC announced an unsolicited \$30.00 per share all cash tender offer to the stockholders of Data Domain. EMC sent a letter to Mr. Slootman that same day regarding the cash tender offer to the stockholders of Data Domain and enclosed a proposed form of merger agreement.

On June 1, 2009, the Data Domain board of directors held a meeting at which EMC s announcement of a cash tender offer to the stockholders of Data Domain and the proposed business combination with NetApp were discussed. Representatives of Qatalyst and Fenwick & West reviewed the terms of EMC s cash tender offer. After further review and discussion, the Data Domain board of directors determined (after consultation with Qatalyst and Fenwick & West) that EMC s announcement of a \$30.00 per share all cash tender offer to the stockholders of Data Domain was reasonably likely to lead to a Superior Proposal (as that term is defined in the merger agreement). In accordance with the merger agreement, Data Domain then informed NetApp of this determination and of Data Domain s intent to contact EMC and offer to enter into discussions if EMC entered into a nondisclosure and standstill agreement as required by the merger agreement.

On June 2, 2009, EMC formally commenced a \$30.00 per share all cash tender offer to the stockholders of Data Domain. Unless extended by EMC, the tender offer expires at midnight, New York City time, on Monday June 29, 2009.

On June 2, 2009, Mr. Warmenhoven called Mr. Bhusri to inform him that NetApp would be willing to increase the aggregate consideration in the proposed business combination with Data Domain from \$25.00 to \$30.00, and maintaining the 10% symmetrical collar around the value of the stock portion of the consideration.

On June 2, 2009, the Data Domain board of directors held a meeting at which both EMC s cash tender offer to the stockholders of Data Domain and the proposed business combination with NetApp were discussed. At this meeting, Mr. Bhusri updated the Data Domain board of directors on the revised proposal from NetApp to increase the aggregate consideration from \$25.00 to \$30.00. Representatives of Qatalyst and Fenwick & West reviewed the

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terms of EMC s cash tender offer to the stockholders of Data Domain. In addition, the Data Domain board of directors discussed potential additional terms to seek in connection with the revised oral proposal form NetApp and determined to review and seek to negotiate the terms of the revised proposal from NetApp once they were received.

On June 2, 2009, a representative of Qatalyst called Mr. Gomo to discuss the financial terms of NetApp s revised proposal regarding the proposed business combination involving Data Domain and NetApp and proposed additional terms that would enhance the proposal from Data Domain s point of view.

Late in the evening on June 2, 2009, Mr. Georgens delivered a letter to Messrs. Bhusri and Slootman containing the financial terms of the revised proposal regarding the proposed business combination involving Data Domain and NetApp, which provided for \$30.00 per share in aggregate consideration, consisting of \$16.45 per share in cash and \$13.55 per share in NetApp stock, with a 10% symmetrical collar around the value of the stock portion of the consideration. At this time, Mr. Georgens also delivered to Messrs. Bhusri and Slootman an initial draft of the amendment to the original merger agreement to effect this revised proposal.

On June 2, 2009, the NetApp board of directors held a meeting to discuss EMC s announcement of an all cash tender offer and the business combination with Data Domain. Representatives of Wilson Sonsini and Goldman Sachs reviewed the key terms of EMC s cash tender offer to the stockholders of Data Domain. Next, representatives of Goldman Sachs provided a summary of potential responses and presented various detailed financial analyses associated with these responses. Then, the board of directors reviewed the key terms of a potential response and engaged in extensive discussion in this regard. Representatives of Goldman Sachs have provided a fairness opinion to the board of directors, which concluded that the revised proposal which provided for \$30.00 per share in aggregate consideration, consisting of \$16.45 per share in cash and \$13.55 per share in NetApp stock, with a 10% symmetrical collar around the value of the stock portion of the consideration was fair to NetApp from a financial point of view. The board of directors unanimously approved the terms of NetApp s revised proposal and approved the amendment to the merger agreement and related matters.

Following receipt of the revised proposal from NetApp, representatives of Qatalyst and Goldman Sachs discussed the financial terms of NetApp s revised proposal regarding the proposed business combination involving Data Domain and NetApp and continued to request additional terms that would enhance the proposal from Data Domain s point of view.

On the morning of June 3, 2009, the Data Domain board of directors held a meeting at which both EMC s cash tender offer to the stockholders of Data Domain and the revised financial terms of the proposed business combination with NetApp were discussed. At this meeting, representatives of Fenwick & West and Qatalyst updated the Data Domain board of directors on the terms of the revised proposal regarding the proposed business combination with NetApp and the related amendment to the merger agreement. After further review and discussion, the Data Domain board of directors unanimously determined that the revised terms of NetApp s proposal were advisable, fair to and in the best interests of Data Domain s stockholders and voted to approve the amendment to the original merger agreement, which was filed with the SEC as an exhibit to Data Domain s Current Report on Form 8-K filed later that day. The Data Domain board of directors further considered and discussed EMC s cash tender offer to the stockholders of Data Domain and, after consultation with Qatalyst and Fenwick & West, the Data Domain board of directors reaffirmed its determination that EMC s \$30.00 per share all cash tender offer to the stockholders of Data Domain was reasonably likely to lead to a Superior Proposal (as that term is defined in the merger agreement). Later that day, the parties exectued the amendment to the merger agreement.

On June 3, 2009, a representative of Fenwick & West delivered to a representative of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, or Skadden Arps, legal counsel to EMC, a form of mutual non-disclosure agreement that contained a standstill provision with respect to shares of Data Domain common stock, which, under the original merger agreement, is a pre-condition to Data Domain s discussions or negotiations with a third party, such as EMC,

with respect to a potential Superior Proposal (as that term is defined in the merger agreement). Later in the day, EMC issued a press release reaffirming its \$30.00 per share tender offer for all Data Domain shares.

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## Data Domain s Reasons for the Merger; Recommendation of the Data Domain Board of Directors

In the course of reaching its decision to approve the merger, adopt the merger agreement and recommend that Data Domain stockholders vote FOR the adoption of the merger agreement, the Data Domain board of directors consulted with senior management, legal counsel and its financial advisor. The Data Domain board of directors also consulted with outside legal counsel regarding its fiduciary duties, legal due diligence matters and the terms of the merger agreement and related agreements. The following discussion includes all material reasons and factors considered by the Data Domain board of directors in making its recommendation, but is not, and is not intended to be, exhaustive:

*Merger Consideration.* The Data Domain board of directors considered the following with respect to the merger consideration to be received by the Data Domain stockholders:

that our stockholders will receive merger consideration of \$30.00 per share consisting of \$16.45 per share in cash and \$13.55 per share in NetApp stock upon the completion of the merger (assuming NetApp s common stock price remains within the 10% symmetrical collar discussed below), as compared to the uncertain future long-term value to our stockholders that might be realized if we remained independent;

the fact that the cash portion of the merger consideration will provide liquidity and certainty of value to our stockholders:

the fact that the stock portion of the merger consideration has a 10% symmetrical collar around the closing stock price of NetApp common stock on June 2, 2009 (the last trading day prior to the Data Domain board of directors approval of the Merger) of \$19.34 that will provide adjustments to maintain the \$30.00 per share merger consideration for variations in NetApp s stock price of up to 10% in either direction between signing and closing of the merger, thereby providing downside protection for Data Domain stockholders if NetApp s stock declines by up to 10% while maintaining a portion of the upside potential if NetApp s stock increases in value by more than 10%;

the fact that the \$30.00 per share value of the consideration for Data Domain common stock in the merger (assuming NetApp s stock price remains within the 10% collar discussed above) represents significant premiums to our stockholders of approximately 115% premium over the average closing price of our common stock on The NASDAQ Global Select Market over the 60 trading day period ending on May 19, 2009 (the last trading day prior to the Data Domain board of directors approval of the merger) and a 72% premium over the closing price of our common stock on The NASDAQ Global Select Market on May 19, 2009 (the last trading day prior to the Data Domain board of directors approval of the merger) and the levels of those premiums as compared to the premiums in other comparable merger transactions; and

the then current financial market conditions and the recent and historical market prices of Data Domain common stock, including the market price performance of Data Domain common stock relative to those of other industry participants. See Comparative Market Prices and Dividends for information about our common stock prices over the past two years.

Synergy between NetApp and Data Domain. The Data Domain board of directors considered NetApp s prospects following the closing of the merger. NetApp s sales and distribution channels and international reach to offer the Data Domain product line to more customers, accelerating growth and market adoption. The Data Domain board of directors believed that the combination of the two companies would increase the value of NetApp and thereby the value of the NetApp common stock that Data Domain stockholders would receive in

the merger.

Review of Prospects in Remaining Independent. The Data Domain board of directors considered the possibility of continuing to operate Data Domain as an independent public company. The Data Domain board of directors also considered the perceived risks and uncertainties of remaining an independent public company, the range of possible values to its stockholders arising from this alternative and the timing and uncertainty of successfully accomplishing meaningful growth under Data Domain s strategic plan. The Data

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Domain board of directors assessment was that pursuit of a growth strategy as an independent company was not reasonably likely to create greater value for the Data Domain stockholders than the merger, after discounting for the elapse of time and considering the factors reviewed below. In considering the alternative of pursuing growth as an independent company, the Data Domain board of directors considered the following factors:

increased competition, especially from competitors with greater name recognition, more resources, financial and otherwise, broader product offerings and more vertically integrated product offerings than Data Domain;

Data Domain s slowing growth rates and the challenge of expanding beyond its core deduplication product offerings in the context of enterprise customers and large data centers increasing requests for a broader suite of data storage products and services;

the increasing preference of enterprises to consolidate vendors and use one vendor for all of its data center needs instead of using multiple vendors that offer best-of-breed products independently;

customer concern regarding Data Domain s relatively small size compared to its competitors due to the critical nature of its storage products in customer data centers; and

the time and risk involved in integrating new management members and key employees if Data Domain were successful in recruiting new management and key employees.

*Economic Conditions*. The Data Domain board of directors considered the fact that the United States economy, in general, appears to be in a downturn. This turmoil and uncertainty could adversely affect the demand for Data Domain s products and services. In addition, because Data Domain s sales are primarily to corporate customers, Data Domain s business depends on general economic and business conditions.

Opinion of Qatalyst Partners LP. The Data Domain board of directors considered the financial presentation of Qatalyst and the opinion of Qatalyst, dated May 20, 2009, that, as of the date of the opinion, and subject to and based on the assumptions made, procedures followed, matters considered and limitations and qualifications of the review undertaken in such opinion, the merger consideration to be received by holders of shares of Data Domain common stock, other than affiliates who have executed voting agreements, pursuant to the original merger agreement was fair, from a financial point of view, to such holders, as more fully described in the section entitled Data Domain Proposal 1 The Merger Opinion of Qatalyst Partners LP on page 62.

*Likelihood and Timing of Closing.* The Data Domain board of directors considered the likelihood that the proposed acquisition would be completed on a timely basis, in light of:

the customary closing conditions included in the merger agreement;

the fact that the merger does not need to be approved by foreign anti-trust authorities;

the available cash resources of NetApp to pay the cash portion of the merger consideration without the need for outside financing and the representation that NetApp made in the merger agreement to that effect; and

the fact that the merger does not need to be approved by NetApp s stockholders and the representation that NetApp made in the merger agreement to that effect.

*Terms of the Merger Agreement.* The Data Domain board of directors considered the terms and conditions of the merger agreement and the course of negotiations thereof, including:

the limited conditions to NetApp s obligation to complete the merger, including the absence of a financing condition or vote of NetApp s stockholders and limited ability of NetApp to terminate the merger agreement under clearly defined circumstances;

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the structure of the transaction as a merger, requiring approval by Data Domain s stockholders, which would result in detailed public disclosure and a period of time prior to completion of the merger during which an unsolicited superior proposal, if any, could be brought forth;

the ability of the Data Domain board of directors, under certain circumstances, to furnish information to and conduct negotiations with a third party, if the Data Domain board of directors determines in good faith (after consultation with its financial advisor and its outside legal counsel) that (A) the third party has made an acquisition proposal that either constitutes or is reasonably likely to lead to a superior proposal and (B) the failure to take such action is reasonably likely to result in a breach of its fiduciary duties to the Data Domain stockholders:

the ability of the Data Domain board of directors, under certain circumstances, to change its recommendation that the Data Domain stockholders adopt the merger agreement if the Data Domain board of directors determines in good faith (after consultation with its outside counsel) that the failure to change its recommendation is reasonably likely to be a breach of its fiduciary duties to the Data Domain stockholders;

the ability of Data Domain to terminate the merger agreement in order to accept a superior proposal, subject to certain conditions and payment to NetApp of \$57.0 million, representing approximately 2.7% of the total equity value of the proposed transaction at the time of the execution of the merger agreement;

the belief of the Data Domain board of directors that the termination fee is within the range of reasonable termination fees provided for in comparable transactions and is not a significant deterrent to possible competing offers; and

that Data Domain s stockholders will be entitled to appraisal rights under Delaware law.

*NetApp s Reputation.* The Data Domain board of directors considered the business reputation of NetApp and its management and the substantial financial resources of NetApp, which the Data Domain board of directors believed supported the conclusion that the merger could be completed relatively quickly and in an orderly manner.

In the course of its deliberations, the Data Domain board of directors also considered a variety of risks and factors weighing against the merger, including:

Risks of Announcement and Completion. The Data Domain board of directors considered:

the risks and contingencies related to the announcement of the merger, including our ability to retain key employees and maintain our relationships with customers, commercial partners and third parties;

the conditions to NetApp s obligation to complete the merger and the right of NetApp to terminate the merger agreement under certain circumstances; and

the risks and costs to Data Domain if the merger is not completed, including the diversion of management and employee attention, potential employee attrition, the potential impact on our stock price and the effect on our business relationships.

Limitations on Data Domain s Business. The Data Domain board of directors considered the potential limitations on Data Domain s pursuit of business opportunities due to pre-closing covenants in the merger agreement whereby Data Domain agreed that it will carry on its business in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practice, and subject to specified exceptions, will not take certain actions related to the conduct of its business without the prior written consent of NetApp.

Absence of Pre-Signing Solicitation. The Data Domain board of directors considered the absence of contacting other companies or other effort to solicit interest from other potential buyers that might be a likely candidates for a strategic transaction with Data Domain prior to the execution and delivery of the merger agreement.

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Potential Taxable Transaction. The Data Domain board of directors considered that the merger agreement allows for NetApp to increase the cash portion of the merger consideration in the event that the issuance of additional shares of its common stock would require NetApp to obtain a vote of its stockholders to approve the issuance and that the increase in the cash portion could result in the stock portion of the merger consideration being taxable to the Data Domain stockholders.

Stockholder Vote. The Data Domain board of directors considered the requirement that, unless the merger agreement is earlier terminated by Data Domain as a result of a receipt of a superior proposal, Data Domain must submit the merger agreement for adoption by Data Domain s stockholders even if the Data Domain board of directors withdraws its recommendation of the merger.

Voting Agreements. The Data Domain board of directors considered that the directors, executive officers and affiliated entities holding shares that represent approximately 22% of Data Domain outstanding common stock as of May 20, 2009, would be entering into voting agreements to vote in favor of the merger and that even if the Data Domain board of directors changed its recommendation to vote against the merger under circumstances in which Data Domain is not entitled to terminate the merger agreement, those directors, executive officers and affiliated entities would still be required to approve the merger proposal.

Termination Fee and Other Alternative Acquirers. The Data Domain board of directors considered the possibility that the \$57.0 million termination fee payable to NetApp under clearly defined circumstances might discourage a competing proposal to acquire Data Domain or reduce the price of any such proposal.

Interests of Directors and Officers. The Data Domain board of directors considered the interests that certain of our directors and executive officers have with respect to the merger in addition to their interests as Data Domain stockholders generally, as described in Data Domain Proposal 1 The Merger Data Domain Officers and Directors Have Financial Interests in the Merger on page 68.

The preceding discussion of the information and factors considered by the Data Domain board of directors is intended to be illustrative and not exhaustive. In light of the variety of factors considered in connection with its evaluation of the merger and the complexity of these matters, the Data Domain board of directors did not find it practicable to, and did not, quantify or otherwise attempt to assign relative weights to the various factors considered in reaching its determination, and individual directors may have given different weight to different factors. In addition, the Data Domain board of directors did not reach any specific conclusion with respect to any of the factors or reasons considered. Instead, the Data Domain board of directors conducted an overall analysis of the factors and reasons described above and determined that, in the aggregate, the potential benefits considered outweighed the potential risks or possible negative consequences of approving the merger, adopting the merger agreement and recommending that Data Domain stockholders vote FOR the adoption of the merger agreement.

## **Opinion of Qatalyst Partners LP**

Data Domain retained Qatalyst to act as its financial advisor in connection with a potential transaction involving Data Domain. Data Domain selected Qatalyst to act as its financial advisor based on Qatalyst s qualifications, expertise, reputation and knowledge of the business and affairs of Data Domain. As financial advisor to Data Domain, on May 20, 2009, Qatalyst rendered to the Data Domain board of directors its written opinion that, as of such date and based upon and subject to the various assumptions, limitations and qualifications set forth in its opinion, the merger consideration to be received by the holders of shares of Data Domain common stock, other than affiliates who have executed voting agreements, pursuant to the original merger agreement was fair, from a financial point of view, to such holders.

The full text of Qatalyst s written opinion, dated May 20, 2009, to the board of directors of Data Domain is attached hereto as Appendix D and is incorporated by reference herein. The opinion sets forth, among other things, the assumptions made, procedures followed, matters considered and limitations and qualifications of the review undertaken by Qatalyst in rendering its opinion. You should read the entire opinion carefully in its entirety. Qatalyst s opinion was provided to the Data Domain board of directors and addressed only the fairness, from a financial point of view, of the merger consideration to be received by the holders of shares of Data Domain common stock, other than affiliates who have executed voting

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agreements, pursuant to the original merger agreement as of the date of the opinion. It did not address any other aspect of the transaction and does not constitute a recommendation to the stockholders of Data Domain as to how to vote or act on any matter with respect to the merger. The summary of Qatalyst s opinion set forth herein is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the opinion.

In arriving at its opinion, Qatalyst reviewed the original merger agreement and certain publicly available financial statements and other business and financial information of Data Domain and NetApp. Qatalyst also reviewed certain financial projections and operating data prepared by the management of Data Domain (the Data Domain Projections) and by the management of NetApp (the NetApp Projections) and reviewed information relating to certain strategic, financial and operational benefits anticipated from the merger, prepared by the managements of Data Domain and NetApp, respectively. Additionally, Qatalyst discussed the past and current operations and financial condition and the prospects of Data Domain and NetApp, including information relating to certain strategic, financial and operational benefits anticipated from the merger, with senior executives of Data Domain and NetApp. Qatalyst also reviewed the historical market prices and trading activity for Data Domain common stock and NetApp common stock and compared the financial performance of Data Domain and the prices and trading activity of Data Domain common stock with that of certain other selected publicly-traded companies and their securities. In addition, Qatalyst reviewed the financial terms, to the extent publicly available, of selected acquisition transactions and performed such other analyses, reviewed such other information and considered such other factors as it deemed appropriate.

In arriving at its opinion, Qatalyst assumed and relied upon, without independent verification, the accuracy and completeness of the information that was publicly available or supplied or otherwise made available to, or discussed with, it by Data Domain and NetApp. With respect to the Data Domain Projections and the NetApp Projections, including information relating to certain strategic, financial and operational benefits anticipated from the merger and other matters covered thereby, Qatalyst was advised by the management of Data Domain and NetApp, respectively, and Qatalyst assumed, that they had been reasonably prepared on bases reflecting the best currently available estimates and judgments of the management of Data Domain and NetApp, respectively, of the future financial performance of Data Domain and NetApp, respectively. Qatalyst assumed that the merger would be completed in accordance with the terms set forth in the original merger agreement, without any modification or delay. In addition, Qatalyst assumed that in connection with the receipt of all the necessary approvals of the proposed merger, no delays, limitations, conditions or restrictions would be imposed that would have an adverse effect on Data Domain, NetApp or the contemplated benefits expected to be derived in the proposed merger. Qatalyst also assumed that the merger would qualify as a tax-free reorganization under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Qatalyst did not make any independent evaluation or appraisal of the assets or liabilities (contingent or otherwise) of Data Domain or NetApp, nor was it furnished with any such evaluation or appraisal. In addition, Qatalyst relied, without independent verification, upon the assessments of the managements of Data Domain and NetApp as to (i) the existing and future technology and products of Data Domain and NetApp and the risks associated with such technology and products, (ii) their ability to integrate the businesses of Data Domain and NetApp and (iii) their ability to retain key employees of Data Domain and NetApp. In arriving at its opinion, Qatalyst was not authorized to solicit, and did not solicit, interest from any party with respect to an acquisition, business combination or other extraordinary transaction involving Data Domain.

Qatalyst s opinion has been approved by its opinion committee in accordance with its standard practice. Qatalyst s opinion does not constitute a recommendation to any holder of shares of Data Domain common stock as to how to vote with respect to the merger and does not in any manner address the prices at which Data Domain common stock or NetApp common stock will trade at any time. Qatalyst s opinion was necessarily based on financial, economic, market and other conditions as in effect on, and the information made available to it as of, the date the opinion was delivered. Events occurring after the date of the opinion may affect Qatalyst s opinion and the assumptions used in preparing it, and Qatalyst has not assumed any obligation to update, revise or reaffirm its opinion. Qatalyst s opinion did not address the underlying business decision of Data Domain to engage in the merger, or the relative merits of the merger

as compared to any strategic alternatives that may have been available to Data Domain. Qatalyst s opinion was limited to the fairness, from a financial point of view, of the merger consideration to be received by the holders of shares of Data Domain common stock, other than affiliates who have executed voting agreements, pursuant to the original merger agreement and Qatalyst expressed no opinion with

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respect to the fairness of the amount or nature of the compensation to any of Data Domain s officers, directors or employees, or any class of such persons, relative to such merger consideration.

The following is a summary of the material analyses performed by Qatalyst in connection with its opinion dated May 20, 2009. The analyses described below must be considered as a whole; considering any portion of such analyses and of the factor considered, without considering all analyses and factors, could create a misleading or incomplete view of the process underlying Qatalyst s opinion. Except as otherwise noted, for purposes of its analyses, Qatalyst utilized equity research analyst projections for both Data Domain and NetApp, or the street projections, and the Data Domain Projections (which consisted of two sets of projections, denoted as Management Case 1 and Management Case 2 herein) for Data Domain.

Illustrative Discounted Cash Flow Analysis. Qatalyst performed an illustrative discounted cash flow analysis, which is designed to imply a value of a company by calculating the net present value of estimated future cash flows of the company. Qatalyst calculated ranges of implied equity values per share for Data Domain based on discounted cash flow analyses utilizing the Data Domain Projections for the fiscal years 2009 through 2013. Qatalyst computed the unlevered free cash flows for Data Domain for the years 2009 through 2013 and calculated the terminal value based on the year 2013 unlevered free cash flow by applying a range of perpetual growth rates ranging from 3.0% to 5.0%. These values were then discounted to present values using cost of equity ranging from 12.0% to 15.0%. Qatalyst then applied a range of dilution factors from 5.0% to 10.0% to illustrate the terminal value dilution to current stockholders due to projected equity compensation grants by Data Domain. Based on the calculations set forth above, this analysis implied a range for Data Domain common stock of approximately \$18.70 to \$29.22 per share based on Management Case 1 and approximately \$12.96 to \$19.43 per share based on Management Case 2, in each case, net of Data Domain s cash, in each case, including Data Domain s net cash balance.

Selected Company Analysis. Qatalyst performed a selected company analysis, which attempts to provide an implied value of a company by comparing it to selected publicly-traded companies. Qatalyst compared selected financial information and public markets multiples for Data Domain with publicly available information and public market multiples for selected technology ecosystems companies and data management companies. The companies used in this comparison included those companies listed below:

Technology Ecosystems Companies:

Microsoft Corporation
International Business Machines Corporation
Cisco Systems, Inc.
Oracle Corporation
Hewlett-Packard Company
EMC Corporation
Dell Inc.
VMware, Inc.

Data Management Companies:

Symantec Corporation

Citrix Systems, Inc.

F5 Networks, Inc.

Open Text Corporation

Riverbed Technology, Inc.

CommVault Systems, Inc.

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3Par Inc.

Netezza Corporation

Based upon equity research analyst estimates for calendar year 2009 and the Data Domain Projections and using the closing prices as of May 19, 2009 for shares of the selected companies, Qatalyst calculated the following ratios for each of these companies:

the enterprise value divided by the estimated revenue for calendar year 2009;

the enterprise value divided by the estimated revenue for calendar year 2010;

the closing stock price divided by the estimated earnings per share for calendar year 2009; and

the closing stock price divided by the estimated earnings per share for calendar year 2010.

Based on the analysis of the relevant ratios for each of the selected companies, Qatalyst selected representative ranges of financial multiples of the selected companies and applied these ranges of multiples to the relevant Data Domain statistic. Based on the calculations set forth above, this analysis implied a range for Data Domain common stock of approximately \$11.34 to \$22.43 based on street projections, approximately \$12.69 to \$24.24 based on Management Case 1 and approximately \$10.25 to \$20.38 based on Management Case 2.

No company included in the selected company analysis is identical to Data Domain. In evaluating the selected companies, Qatalyst made judgments and assumptions with regard to industry performance, general business, economic, market and financial conditions and other matters. Many of these matters are beyond the control of Data Domain, such as the impact of competition on the business of Data Domain and the industry in general, industry growth and the absence of any material adverse change in the financial condition and prospects of Data Domain or the industry or in the financial markets in general. Mathematical analysis, such as determining the arithmetic mean or median, or the high or low, is not in itself a meaningful method of using selected company data.

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Selected Transaction Analysis. Qatalyst performed a selected transaction analysis, which is designed to imply a value of a company based on publicly available financial terms of selected transactions that share some characteristics with the merger. Qatalyst compared the multiples paid in (i) 10 transactions from June 2005 through April 2009 involving public and private companies in the hardware/systems industry and (ii) 14 transactions from July 2003 through January 2009 involving public companies in the software industry. These transactions are listed below:

**Target Acquiror** 

Hardware/Systems Companies

Sun Microsystems, Inc. **Oracle Corporation** 

Foundry Networks, Inc. Brocade Communications Systems, Inc.

LeftHand Networks Hewlett-Packard Company

Diligent Technologies **International Business Machines Corporation** XIV

**International Business Machines Corporation** 

EqualLogic, Inc. Dell Inc.

McDATA Corporation Brocade Communications Systems, Inc.

Advanced Digital Information Corporation **Quantum Corporation** 

**Maxtor Corporation** Seagate Technology Storage Technology Corporation Sun Microsystems, Inc.

Software Companies

Interwoven, Inc. Autonomy Corporation plc

BMC Software, Inc. BladeLogic, Inc. BEA Systems, Inc. **Oracle Corporation** 

Opsware Inc. **Hewlett-Packard Company** 

WebEx Communications, Inc. Cisco Systems, Inc. **Symantec Corporation** Altiris, Inc.

International Business Machines Corporation Internet Security Systems, Inc.

FileNet Corporation **International Business Machines Corporation** 

Mercury Interactive Corporation **Hewlett-Packard Company** RSA Security Inc. **EMC** Corporation

MicroMuse Inc. International Business Machines Corporation

Veritas Software Corporation **Symantec Corporation** Documentum, Inc. **EMC Corporation** 

Legato Systems, Inc. **EMC** Corporation

For each of the transactions listed above, Qatalyst calculated the following ratios:

the ratio of the enterprise value to the estimated next twelve months revenue; and

the estimated next twelve months price to earnings multiple.

Based on the analysis of the relevant metrics for each transaction noted above, Qatalyst selected representative ranges of multiples of the transactions and applied these ranges of multiples to the relevant Data Domain financial statistic. Based on the calculations set forth above, this analysis implied a range for Data Domain common stock of approximately \$15.96 to \$25.96 based on street projections, approximately \$17.50 to \$27.05 based on Management Case 1 and approximately \$14.26 to \$25.96 based on Management Case 2.

No company or transaction utilized in the selected transactions analysis is identical to Data Domain, NetApp or the merger. In evaluating the selected transactions, Qatalyst made judgments and assumptions with regard to general business, market and financial conditions and other matters, many of which are beyond the control of Data Domain and NetApp, such as the impact of competition on the business of Data Domain, NetApp or the industry generally, industry growth and the absence of any adverse material change in the financial condition of Data Domain, NetApp or the industry or in the financial markets in general, which could affect the public trading value of the companies and the aggregate value of the transactions to which they are being compared.

Qatalyst also performed and considered various other financial statistics in connection with its opinion dated May 20, 2009 as set forth below.

Future Trading Analysis. Qatalyst performed an illustrative analysis of the implied present value of the future price per share of Data Domain common stock on a stand-alone basis, which is designed to provide an

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indication of the present value of a theoretical future value of a company s equity as a function of its estimated future earnings and assumed price to future earnings per share multiple. For this analysis, Qatalyst used the street projections for calendar year 2010 only and the Data Domain Projections for Management Case 1 and Management Case 2 for calendar years 2010 and 2011. Qatalyst first calculated the implied value per share of Data Domain common stock for calendar year 2010 with respect to the street projections and each of calendar years 2010 and 2011 with respect to Management Case 1 and Management Case 2 by applying a representative range of public market price to forward earnings per share multiples to earnings per share estimates for Data Domain. Qatalyst then discounted these values using a cost of equity of 13.5%. Based on the calculations set forth above, this analysis implied a range for Data Domain common stock of approximately \$15.81 to \$19.76 per share based on street projections, approximately \$17.09 to \$25.10 per share based on Management Case 1 and approximately \$12.04 to \$15.69 per share based on Management Case 2.

Contribution Analysis. Qatalyst reviewed estimated 2009 and 2010 operating and financial information based on the street projections for Data Domain and NetApp. Such operating and financial information included, among other things, revenues, gross profits, operating profits and net income. Qatalyst analyzed the relative potential financial contribution of Data Domain to the combined company following completion of the merger, the implied equity ownership determined by valuing such contributions and the implied value per share. Based on the calculations set forth above, this analysis implied a range for Data Domain common stock of approximately \$9.64 to \$14.07 per share.

*Premia Paid Statistics.* Qatalyst reviewed the premia paid in selected domestic public company cash and cash/stock mix transactions that have been completed or are pending since 2003 in which the target company was a publicly-traded technology company and the transaction value was greater than \$500 million. Qatalyst selected a representative range of implied premia (representing the 25th percentile and 75th percentile) and applied this range of premia to the price of Data Domain common stock of \$17.43 as of May 19, 2009, which implied a range for Data Domain common stock of approximately \$20.36 to \$24.16 per share.

*Equity Research Analyst Price Targets Statistics*. Qatalyst reviewed and analyzed the price targets for Data Domain common stock prepared and published by equity research analysts during the period from April 23, 2009 through April 28, 2009. These targets reflect each analyst s estimate of the future public market trading price of Data Domain common stock and are not discounted to reflect present values.

Qatalyst noted that the range of undiscounted equity research analyst price targets of Data Domain common stock was between \$11.00 and \$24.00 per share. Qatalyst further calculated that using a cost of equity of 13.5% and a discount period of one year, the present value of the equity research analyst price target range for Data Domain common stock was approximately \$9.69 to \$21.15 per share.

The public market trading price targets published by equity research analysts do not necessarily reflect current market trading prices for Data Domain common stock and these estimates are subject to uncertainties, including the future financial performance of Data Domain and future financial market conditions.

# Miscellaneous

In connection with the review of the transaction by the Data Domain board of directors, Qatalyst performed a variety of financial and comparative analyses for purposes of rendering its opinion. The preparation of a financial opinion is a complex process and is not necessarily susceptible to a partial analysis or summary description. In arriving at its opinion, Qatalyst considered the results of all of its analyses as a whole and did not attribute any particular weight to any analysis or factor it considered. Qatalyst believes that selecting any portion of its analyses, without considering all analyses as a whole, would create an incomplete view of the process underlying its analyses and opinion. In addition, Qatalyst may have given various analyses and factors more or less weight than other analyses and factors, and may

have deemed various assumptions more or less probable than other assumptions. As a result, the ranges of valuations resulting from any particular analysis described above should not be taken to be Qatalyst s view of the actual value of Data Domain or NetApp. In performing its analyses, Qatalyst made numerous assumptions with respect to industry performance, general business, economic, market and financial conditions and other matters, many of which are beyond the control of Data Domain and NetApp. Any estimates contained in

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Qatalyst s analyses are not necessarily indicative of future results or actual values, which may be significantly more or less favorable than those suggested by such estimates.

Qatalyst conducted the analyses described above solely as part of its analysis of the fairness of the merger consideration pursuant to the original merger agreement, from a financial point of view, to holders of shares of Data Domain common stock, other than affiliates who have executed voting agreements, and in connection with the delivery of its opinion to the Data Domain board of directors. These analyses do not purport to be appraisals or to reflect the prices at which shares of Data Domain common stock might actually trade.

Qatalyst s opinion and its presentation to the Data Domain board of directors was one of many factors taken into consideration by the Data Domain board of directors in deciding to approve the merger agreement. Consequently, the analyses as described above should not be viewed as determinative of the opinion of the Data Domain board of directors with respect to the merger consideration or of whether the Data Domain board of directors would have been willing to agree to a different merger consideration. The merger consideration was determined through arm s-length negotiations between Data Domain and NetApp and was approved by the Data Domain board of directors. Qatalyst provided advice to Data Domain during these negotiations. Qatalyst did not, however, recommend any specific merger consideration to Data Domain or that any specific merger consideration constituted the only appropriate merger consideration for the merger.

Qatalyst provides investment banking and other services to a wide range of corporations and individuals, domestically and offshore, from which conflicting interests or duties may arise. In the ordinary course of these activities, affiliates of Qatalyst may at any time hold long or short positions, and may trade or otherwise effect transactions in debt or equity securities or loans of Data Domain, NetApp or their respective affiliates. During the two year period prior to the date of Qatalyst s opinion, no material relationship existed between Qatalyst and its affiliates and Data Domain or NetApp pursuant to which compensation was received by Qatalyst or its affiliates; however Qatalyst and its affiliates may in the future provide investment banking and other financial services to Data Domain and NetApp and their respective affiliates for which they would expect to receive compensation.

Under the terms of its engagement letter, Qatalyst provided Data Domain with financial advisory services in connection with the transaction for which it will be paid a customary fee, a portion of which became payable upon execution of the letter agreement, a portion of which became payable upon delivery of its opinion and a substantial portion of which is contingent upon, and will become payable upon, completion of the merger. Data Domain has also agreed to reimburse Qatalyst for its expenses incurred in performing its services. In addition, Data Domain has agreed to indemnify Qatalyst and its affiliates, their respective members, directors, officers, partners, agents and employees and any person controlling Qatalyst or any of its affiliates against certain liabilities and expenses related to or arising out of Qatalyst s engagement.

## Data Domain Officers and Directors Have Financial Interests in the Merger

In considering the recommendation of the Data Domain board of directors that you vote to approve the merger proposal, you should be aware that Data Domain s executive officers and directors have financial interests in the merger that are different from, or in addition to, those of Data Domain s stockholders generally and that are described below. The members of Data Domain s board of directors were aware of and considered these interests, among other matters, in evaluating and negotiating the merger agreement, and in recommending to the stockholders that the merger agreement be approved and adopted. For purposes of all of the Data Domain and NetApp agreements and plans described below, the completion of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement will constitute a change in control.

## **Equity Compensation Awards**

The merger agreement provides that, upon completion of the merger, each Data Domain option will be assumed and converted, based on the option exchange ratio, into an option to purchase NetApp common stock subject to the same vesting restrictions and other terms and conditions of such Data Domain option. The merger agreement also provides that, upon completion of the merger, each then outstanding restricted stock unit or share of restricted stock of Data Domain will be assumed and converted into the right to receive the merger consideration, but will otherwise be subject to the same vesting restrictions and other terms and conditions of the Data Domain

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awards. Please see The Merger Agreement Treatment of Data Domain Stock Options and Other Equity-Based Awards beginning on page 77 for a detailed discussion of the treatment of equity-based awards.

Our executive officers, Frank Slootman, Michael P. Scarpelli, David L. Schneider, Daniel R. McGee and Nick Bacica, are participants in the Data Domain Management Change in Control Plan, which provides for vesting acceleration of their equity awards upon an involuntary termination (without cause or voluntary resignation for good reason) following a change in control of Data Domain. Pursuant to the Data Domain Management Change in Control Plan, upon such an involuntary termination following a change in control of Data Domain, 50% (or 100% in the case of Mr. Slootman) of their then unvested equity awards will immediately vest.

Pursuant to agreements with the non-employee directors of Data Domain, namely Aneel Bhusri, Ronald Bernal, Ronald Codd, Reed Hundt, Kai Li, Jeffrey Miller and Scott Sandell, certain of their awards of Data Domain stock options and restricted stock will fully vest as a result of the completion of the merger. Upon completion of the merger, the directors of Data Domain will cease to be directors. The following table identifies, for each of Messrs. Bhusri, Bernal, Codd, Hundt, Li, Miller and Sandell (A) the number of unvested options to acquire shares of Data Domain common stock (at exercise prices ranging from \$1.00 to \$8.90) that would vest upon completion of the merger and the corresponding value representing the difference between the exercise price and the assumed share price multiplied by the number of shares accelerated, and (B) the number of shares of unvested Data Domain restricted stock that would vest upon completion of the merger, and the corresponding value of shares accelerated based on the assumed share price assuming a closing date of August 31, 2009:

	<b>Unvested Data</b>			Unvested Data Domain Restricted	Value of
	Domain		Value of Accelerated	Stock	Accelerated
Name	Options Vesting Upon Completion of the Merger	Option  Vesting Assuming \$30 Share Price		Vesting Upon Completion of the Merger	Restricted Stock Vesting Assuming \$30 Share Price
Mr. Bernal	39,584	\$	835,222		\$
Mr. Bhusri	39,584	Ψ	835,222		Ψ
Mr. Codd	58,334		1,691,686		
Mr. Hundt	79,167		1,670,423		
Mr. Li				83,997	2,519,910
Mr. Miller	58,334		1,691,686		
Mr. Sandell	39,584		835,222		

## Severance Benefits in Certain Employment Agreements

Each of Mr. Slootman, Mr. Scarpelli, Mr. Schneider, Mr. McGee and Mr. Bacica are party to employment agreements that provide for severance benefits in the event their employment is terminated for any reason other than cause or permanent disability, provided they sign a general release of claims. In the event Mr. Slootman's employment is terminated for any reason other than cause or permanent disability, he would be entitled to receive continued cash severance payments equal to his base salary for a period of six months. In the event Mr. Scarpelli's employment is terminated for any reason other than cause or permanent disability, he would be entitled to receive continued cash severance payments equal to his base salary for a period of three months and reimbursement for the premiums paid for

continued health coverage through COBRA for up to three months; however, if such termination occurs within twelve months following a change in control of Data Domain, the cash severance will instead be a lump sum equal to six months of his base salary and 50% of his target bonus in effect at the time of termination. Each of the employment agreements for Mr. Schneider, Mr. McGee and Mr. Bacica provide that in the event they are terminated for any reason other than cause or permanent disability, they would be entitled to receive continued cash severance payments equal to their base salary for a period of three months and reimbursement for the premiums paid for continued health insurance through COBRA for up to three months.

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The information for each of Mr. Slootman, Mr. Scarpelli, Mr. Schneider Mr. McGee and Mr. Bacica regarding vesting acceleration and severance payments in the event their employment is terminated for certain reasons, as of June 1, 2009 assuming a share price of \$30.00 per share, is set forth in the table below.