

SOCKET MOBILE, INC.  
Form DEF 14A  
March 12, 2012

SOCKET MOBILE, INC.

NOTICE OF 2012 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

To Be Held April 25, 2012

Dear Stockholders:

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Socket Mobile, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), to be held Wednesday, April 25, 2012 at 9:00 a.m., local time, at the Company's headquarters at 39700 Eureka Drive, Newark, California 94560 for the following purposes:

- (1) To elect seven directors to serve until their respective successors are elected;
- (2) To ratify the appointment of Moss Adams LLP as independent public accountants of the Company for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2012.
- (3) To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

The foregoing items of business are more fully described in the Proxy Statement accompanying this notice.

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on February 27, 2012 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting. All stockholders are cordially invited to attend the meeting in person. However, to ensure your representation at the meeting, you are urged to mark, sign, date, and return the enclosed Proxy as promptly as possible following the instructions on your proxy ballot. Any stockholder attending the meeting may vote in person even if he or she has returned a Proxy.

Sincerely,

Kevin J. Mills

President and Chief Executive Officer

Newark, California

March 9, 2012

YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT.

IN ORDER TO ENSURE YOUR REPRESENTATION AT THE ANNUAL MEETING,  
YOU ARE REQUESTED TO COMPLETE, SIGN AND DATE THE ENCLOSED PROXY  
AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE AND RETURN IT IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE, OR VOTE BY PHONE OR  
BY INTERNET WHERE AVAILABLE.



SOCKET MOBILE, INC.

PROXY STATEMENT FOR

2012 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

INFORMATION CONCERNING SOLICITATION AND VOTING

GENERAL

The enclosed proxy is solicited on behalf of the Board of Directors of Socket Mobile, Inc. (the "Company"), for use at the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held Wednesday April 25, 2012 at 9:00 a.m., local time, or at any adjournment thereof, for the purposes set forth herein and in the accompanying Notice of 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. The 2012 Annual Meeting will be held at the Company's headquarters at 39700 Eureka Drive, Newark, California 94560. The Company's telephone number at that location is (510) 933-3000.

Notice of the availability of these proxy solicitation materials and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, including financial statements, were first mailed on or about March 16, 2012 to all stockholders entitled to vote at the 2012 Annual Meeting.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS**

The proxy materials are available at <http://www.socketmobile.com/2012-proxy-materials.html>. Stockholders may access the Notice of Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement, Annual Report on Form 10-K and Proxy Card at this site to read, download the documents, and/or request a printed copy. Printed copies may also be requested by telephone at **800-856-9390**. Printed copies will be mailed within 3 business days of receipt of the request.

#### **RECORD DATE AND PRINCIPAL SHARE OWNERSHIP**

Holders of record of our Common Stock at the close of business on February 27, 2012 (the "Record Date") are entitled to notice of and to vote at the 2012 Annual Meeting. At the Record Date, 4,835,695 shares of Common Stock were issued and outstanding. Each share of Common Stock is entitled to one vote. The Company has no other class of voting securities outstanding and entitled to be voted at the meeting.

The only persons known by the Company to beneficially own more than five percent of the Company's Common Stock as of the Record Date were Charlie Bass, the Chairman of the Company's Board of Directors, Kevin J. Mills, the President, Chief Executive Officer and a director of the Company, Hudson Bay Master Fund Ltd. which is managed by Hudson Bay Capital Management LP, Roy L. Rogers as trustee for the Rogers Family Trust UTD 01-21-81 and the Roy and Ruth Rogers Unitrust, UTD 09-28-89, Leviticus Partners, L.P. whose general partner is AMH Equity LLC and AboCom Systems Inc. Please see "Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management" for more information on these holdings.

#### **REVOCABILITY OF PROXIES**

Any proxy given pursuant to this solicitation may be revoked by the person giving it at any time before its use by delivering to the Secretary of the Company a written notice of revocation or a duly executed proxy bearing a later date or by attending the 2012 Annual Meeting and voting in person.

## VOTING AND SOLICITATION

Generally each stockholder is entitled to one vote for each share of Common Stock held on all matters to be voted on by the stockholders. If, however, any stockholder at the 2012 Annual Meeting gives notice of his or her intention to cumulate votes with respect to the election of directors (Proposal One), then each stockholder may cumulate such stockholder's votes for the election of directors and give one candidate a number of votes equal to the number of directors to be elected multiplied by the number of shares of Common Stock that such stockholder is entitled to vote, or may distribute such stockholder's votes on the same principle among as many candidates as the stockholder may select, provided that votes cannot be cast for more than seven candidates. However, no stockholder shall be entitled to cumulate votes for a candidate unless the candidate's name has been placed in nomination prior to the voting and the stockholder, or any other stockholder, has given notice at the meeting, prior to the voting, of the intention to cumulate votes. On all other matters, stockholders may not cumulate votes.

This solicitation of proxies is made by the Company, and all related costs will be borne by the Company. In addition, the Company may reimburse brokerage firms and other persons representing beneficial owners of stock for their expenses in forwarding solicitation material to such beneficial owners. Proxies may also be solicited by the Company's directors, officers and regular employees, without additional compensation, personally or by telephone, email or facsimile.

### QUORUM; VOTE REQUIRED; ABSTENTIONS; BROKER NON-VOTES

The presence at the 2012 Annual Meeting, either in person or by proxy, of the holders of a majority of votes entitled to be cast with respect to the outstanding shares of Common Stock shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Shares that are voted "FOR," "AGAINST," "WITHHOLD" or "ABSTAIN" on a subject matter (the "Votes Cast") are treated as being present at the meeting for purpose of establishing a quorum entitled to vote on the matter.

*Proposal One.* Directors are elected by a plurality of the votes of the shares present in person or represented by proxy at the meeting and entitled to vote on the election of directors. If a quorum is present at the meeting, the seven nominees receiving the highest number of votes will be elected to the Board of Directors. Votes withheld from any nominee are counted for purposes of determining the presence or absence of a quorum.

*Proposal Two.* Ratification of the appointment of Moss Adams LLP as the Company's independent public accountants for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2012 requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the Votes Cast on the matter at the 2012 Annual Meeting.

The Company also intends to count abstentions for purposes of determining both (i) the presence or absence of a quorum for the transaction of business and (ii) the total number of Votes Cast with respect to a proposal (other than the election of directors). Thus, abstentions will have the same effect as a vote against a proposal.

Broker non-votes will be counted for purpose of determining the presence or absence of a quorum for the transaction of business, but will not be counted for purpose of determining the number of Votes Cast with respect to a particular proposal. Thus, a broker non-vote will not have any effect on the outcome of the voting on Proposal 2, which requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the Votes Cast.

A plurality of the votes duly cast is required for the election of directors. Thus, neither abstentions nor broker non-votes affect the election of directors, as only affirmative votes will affect the outcome of the election.

**DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE COMPANY'S PROXY MATERIALS**

The Company currently intends to hold its 2013 Annual Meeting of Stockholders in April 2013 and to mail proxy statements relating to such meeting in March 2013. Proposals of stockholders of the Company that are intended to be presented by such stockholders at the 2013 Annual Meeting must be received by the Company no later than November 16, 2012, and must otherwise be in compliance with applicable laws and regulations, in order to be considered for inclusion in the Company's proxy statement and proxy card relating to that meeting. In addition, stockholders must comply with the procedural requirements in the Company's bylaws. Under the Company's bylaws, notice of any stockholder nomination to the board or proposal of business must be delivered to or mailed and received by the Secretary of the Company not less than ninety (90) days prior to the meeting; provided, however, that in the event that less than one-hundred (100) days notice or prior public disclosure of the date of the meeting is given or made to stockholders, notice by the stockholder to be timely must be so received not later than the close of business on the tenth day following the day on which such notice of the date of the meeting is mailed or such public disclosure is made. To be in proper form, a stockholder's notice to the Secretary shall set forth: (i) the name and address of the stockholder who intends to make the nominations or propose the business and, as the case may be, of the person or persons to be nominated or of the business to be proposed; (ii) representations that the stockholder is a holder of record of stock of the Company entitled to vote at such meeting and, as applicable, that such stockholder intends to appear in person or by proxy at the meeting to nominate the person or persons specified in the notice or propose such business; (iii) if applicable, a description of all arrangements or understandings between the stockholder and each nominee and any other person or persons (naming such person or persons) pursuant to which the nomination or nominations are to be made by the stockholder; (iv) such other information regarding each nominee or each matter of business to be proposed by such stockholder as would be required to be included in a proxy statement filed pursuant to the proxy rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission had the nominee been nominated, or intended to be nominated, or the matter been proposed, or intended to be proposed by the Board of Directors; and (v) if applicable, the consent of each nominee to serve as director of the Company if so elected. The chairman of the meeting shall refuse to acknowledge the nomination of any person or the proposal of any business not made in compliance with the foregoing procedure. Stockholders can obtain a copy of the Company's bylaws from the Company upon request. The Company's bylaws are also on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

If a stockholder intends to submit a proposal at the 2013 Annual Meeting, but does not wish to have it included in the proxy statement and proxy for that meeting, the stockholder must do so no later than January 25, 2013, or else the proxy holders will be allowed to use their discretionary authority to vote against the proposal when it is raised at the 2013 Annual Meeting.

The attached proxy card grants the persons named as proxies discretionary authority to vote on any matter raised at the 2012 Annual Meeting that is not included in this Proxy Statement. The Company has not been notified by any stockholder of his or her intent to present a stockholder proposal at the 2012 Annual Meeting.

## PROPOSAL ONE

## ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

The proxy holders will vote to elect as directors the seven nominees named below, unless a proxy card is marked otherwise. The nominees consist of seven current directors. If a person other than a management nominee is nominated at the 2012 Annual Meeting, the holders of the proxies may choose to cumulate their votes and allocate them among such nominees of management as the proxy holders shall determine in their discretion in order to elect as many nominees of management as possible. The seven candidates receiving the highest number of votes will be elected. In the event any nominee is unavailable for election, which is not currently anticipated, the proxy holders may vote in accordance with their judgment for the election of substitute nominees designated by the Board of Directors.

All seven directors will be elected for one-year terms expiring at the 2013 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, subject to the election and qualification of their successors or their earlier death, resignation or removal. The following table sets forth information concerning the nominees for director.

<b>Name of Nominee</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Position(s) Currently Held With the Company</b>	<b>Director Since</b>
Charlie Bass (1)(2)	70	Chairman of the Board	1992
Kevin J. Mills	51	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director	2000
Charles C. Emery, Jr.(1)	65	Director	2010
Micheal L. Gifford	54	Executive Vice President and Director	1992
Leon Malmed (1)(2)	74	Director	2000
Thomas O. Miller (3)	60	Director	2008
Peter Sealey (3)	71	Director	2002

(1) Member of the Audit Committee.

(2) Member of the Nominating Committee.

(3) Member of the Compensation Committee.

There are no family relationships among any of the directors or executive officers of the Company.

*Charlie Bass* co-founded the Company in March 1992 and has been the Chairman of the Board of Directors from such time to the present. Dr. Bass served as the Company's Chief Executive Officer from April 1997 to March 2000. Dr. Bass has served as the Trustee of The Bass Trust since April 1988. Dr. Bass holds a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from the University of Hawaii.

*Kevin J. Mills* was appointed the Company's President and Chief Executive Officer and a director of the Company in March 2000. He served as the Company's Chief Operating Officer from September 1998 to March 2000. Mr. Mills joined the Company in September 1993 as Vice President of Operations and has also served as our Vice President of Engineering. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Mills worked from September 1987 to August 1993 at Logitech, Inc., a computer peripherals company, serving most recently as its Director of Operations. He holds a B.E. in Electronic Engineering with honors from the University of Limerick, Ireland.

*Charles C. Emery, Jr.* has been a director of the Company since April 2010. Dr. Emery served until his retirement as Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer for Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey from 1996 through 2006. Since his retirement, Dr. Emery has been active with Arizona State University and the University of

Maryland teaching graduate classes in healthcare information systems, strategic planning, and healthcare finance. He has over 35 years experience working within the health insurance and healthcare provider sectors. He is a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives and a fellow of the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives. Dr. Emery holds a doctorate in management systems from the Peter F. Drucker Graduate Management School at the Claremont Graduate University.

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*Micheal L. Gifford* is a co-founder of the Company and has been a director since its inception in March 1992, has served as the Company's Executive Vice President since October 1994 and is currently the Vice President of Marketing and Business Development. Mr. Gifford served as the Company's President from the Company's inception in March 1992 to September 1994 and as the Company's Chief Executive Officer from March 1992 to June 1994. From December 1986 to December 1991, Mr. Gifford served as a director and as Director of Sales and Marketing for Tidewater Associates, a computer consulting and computer product development company. Prior to working for Tidewater Associates, Mr. Gifford co-founded and was President of Gifford Computer Systems, a computer network integration company. Mr. Gifford holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of California at Berkeley.

*Leon Malmed* has been a director of the Company since June 2000. Mr. Malmed served as Senior Vice President of Worldwide Marketing and Sales of SanDisk Corporation, a manufacturer of flash memory products, from 1992 to his retirement in March 2000. Prior to his tenure with SanDisk Corporation, Mr. Malmed was Executive Vice President of Worldwide Marketing and Sales for Syquest Corporation, a disk storage manufacturer, and President of Iota, a Syquest subsidiary, from 1990 to 1992; and Senior Vice President of Worldwide Sales, Marketing and Programs for Maxtor Corporation, a disk drive supplier, from 1984 to 1990. Mr. Malmed holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Paris, and also has completed the AEA/UCLA Senior Executive Program at the University of California at Los Angeles and the AEA/Stanford Executive Institute Program for Management of High Technology Companies at Stanford Business School.

*Thomas O. Miller* was appointed a director of the Company by the Board of Directors in February 2008. He is a Partner in The SAGE Group of Bellevue, Washington, a management consulting company that works with executives at small to midsize companies on business transformation and revitalization strategies for value-creating events. Mr. Miller and The SAGE Group also advise private equity firms who invest in wireless and mobility companies. Prior to joining The SAGE Group, Mr. Miller was a member of the executive team at Intermec Corporation, a leader in the automated data collection, wireless and mobile computing industries, serving as its President from 2004 to 2005. He was also Vice President of Corporate Development until July 2006 with Intermec's parent company UNOVA. Prior to his appointment as President of Intermec, he was Executive Vice President, Global Sales and Marketing from 2001 to 2003, and Senior Vice President, Americas and System and Solutions from 1999 through 2001. Mr. Miller was Chairman of the Automatic Industry and Mobility Association from 2003 to March 2006 and was recognized for his contributions to the industry with induction into the AIDC100 organization in 2004. Mr. Miller previously served on the board of directors and the audit and compensation committees of InfoLogix, Inc., an enterprise mobility automation company serving the healthcare industry, from October 2006 until January 18, 2011 when it was purchased by Stanley Works. Mr. Miller holds a Bachelor of Business and a Master of Business Administration degree from Western Illinois University.

*Peter Sealey* has been a director of the Company since June 2002. Dr. Sealey has served as Chief Executive Officer and founder of The Sausalito Group, Inc., a management consulting firm, since its founding in July 1997. Dr. Sealey also serves as an Adjunct Professor of Marketing at the Peter F. Drucker Graduate Management School at the Claremont Graduate University in Claremont, California. He served as a member of the board of directors of Echometrix Inc., a leading developer of analytic applications for user-generated digital web content, from December 2008 through April 21, 2010 and was their non-executive chairman of the board from February 2009 through April 21, 2010. He previously served as an Adjunct Professor of Marketing at the Haas School of Business, University of California at Berkeley from 1996 to 2006. From July 1969 to August 1993, Dr. Sealey served in various senior marketing positions with the Coca-Cola Company, including as its Senior Vice President, Global Marketing and Chief Marketing Officer from December 1989 to August 1993. Dr. Sealey holds a doctorate from the Peter F. Drucker Graduate Management School at the Claremont Graduate University.



## BOARD MEETINGS AND COMMITTEES

The Board of Directors has determined that all of the nominees, except Messrs. Mills and Gifford, satisfy the definition of "independent director," as established by Nasdaq listing standards. The Board of Directors has an Audit Committee, a Nominating Committee and a Compensation Committee. Each committee has adopted a written charter, all of which are available on the Company's web site at [http://www.mkr-group.com/SCKT/board\\_committee.html](http://www.mkr-group.com/SCKT/board_committee.html). The Board of Directors has also determined that each member of the Audit Committee, the Nominating Committee and the Compensation Committee satisfies the definition of "independent director," as established by Nasdaq listing standards.

The Board of Directors held a total of four regular meetings during fiscal 2011 and three telephone meetings. The independent directors met separately without management or the management directors after each of the four regular Board meetings held during 2011. The Company strongly encourages members of the Board of Directors to attend all meetings, including meetings of committees on which they serve, as well as the annual meeting of stockholders. No director attended fewer than 75 percent of the meetings of the Board of Directors and the Board committees on which he served. All directors except Messrs. Emery and Miller attended the 2011 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

The Audit Committee consists of Messrs. Bass (Chairman), Emery, and Malmed. As required by Nasdaq rules, the members of the Audit Committee each qualify as "independent" under the standards established by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission for members of audit committees. The Audit Committee also includes one member, Dr. Bass, who has been determined by the Board of Directors to meet the qualifications of an "audit committee financial expert" in accordance with Securities and Exchange Commission rules. Stockholders should understand that this designation is a disclosure required by the Securities and Exchange Commission relating to Dr. Bass' experience and understanding with respect to certain accounting and auditing matters. This designation does not impose upon Dr. Bass any duties, obligations or liabilities that are greater than are generally imposed on him as a member of the Audit Committee, and his designation as an audit committee financial expert pursuant to this SEC requirement does not affect the duties, obligations or liabilities of any other member of the Audit Committee or Board of Directors.

The Audit Committee met with management and the independent accountants six times by telephone during the year ended December 31, 2011 to review quarterly and annual financial information and to discuss the results of quarterly review and annual audit procedures performed by the independent accountants before quarterly and annual financial reports were issued. The Audit Committee is responsible for appointing, compensating and overseeing actions taken by the Company's independent accountants, and reviews the Company's internal financial controls and financial statements. The Audit Committee also oversees management's assessment and management of risks. Management and the independent accountants participated in all meetings of the Audit Committee. Portions of each Audit Committee meeting were held between the Audit Committee members and the independent accountants without the presence of management. The Committee reviewed the financial statements and the annual audit results, including the independent accountants' assessment of the Company's internal controls and procedures, and discussed with the independent accountants the matters denoted as required communications by Statement of Auditing Standards 61 (SAS 61). The meetings also included a discussion and review of auditor independence, the pre-approval of the independent accountants' fees for 2011, and a recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the issuance of the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2011. The report of the Audit Committee for the year ended December 31, 2011 is included in this Proxy Statement. The Audit Committee Charter is available on the Company's website at [http://www.mkr-group.com/SCKT/board\\_committee.html](http://www.mkr-group.com/SCKT/board_committee.html).

The Nominating Committee consists of Messrs. Malmed (Chairman) and Bass. The Nominating Committee considers and recommends nominations for the Board of Directors and facilitates the self-assessment of Board performance by the independent directors. The Nominating Committee met once in 2011, and once in 2012 to date to consider nominees for director. The Nominating Committee determined that each of the seven current directors being nominated was willing and able to serve as a director for the ensuing year and recommended their nomination. In addition, the independent directors met four times during 2011 and once in January 2012 to date following their regular board meetings to consider matters relating to board governance, oversight and effectiveness. For 2013, the Nominating Committee will consider nominees recommended by security holders. Such nominations should be made in writing to the Company, attention Corporate Secretary, no later than November 16, 2012 in order to be considered for inclusion in next year's proxy statement. The Nominating Committee Charter is available on the Corporate Governance section of the Company's website at [http://www.mkr-group.com/SCKT/board\\_committee.html](http://www.mkr-group.com/SCKT/board_committee.html).

The Compensation Committee, which consists of Messrs. Sealey (Chairman) and Miller, held twelve meetings during fiscal year 2011. The Compensation Committee is responsible for determining salaries, incentives and other forms of compensation for directors and officers of the Company, approving the Company's incentive compensation and benefit plans including its equity incentive plan, and providing oversight of all matters affecting compensation including overseeing management's assessment and management of compensation-related risks. The report of the Compensation Committee for fiscal year 2011 is included in this Proxy Statement. The Compensation Committee Charter is available on the Corporate Governance section of the Company's website at [http://www.mkr-group.com/SCKT/board\\_committee.html](http://www.mkr-group.com/SCKT/board_committee.html).

## COMPENSATION OF DIRECTORS

Regular meetings of the Board of Directors are scheduled once per quarter. Directors who are not employees of the Company receive \$4,000 per regular meeting of the Board of Directors that they attend. Outside directors are also entitled to participate in the Company's 2004 Equity Incentive Plan. Grants of options to directors are made annually as compensation for Board service, committee service and committee and Board leadership positions, generally at the time of annual election of the Board of Directors. On April 27, 2011, options that vest monthly over a one year period were awarded to the outside directors as shown in the chart below for the service period that commenced on April 27, 2011, at an exercise price of \$2.10 per share, the fair market value of the Common Stock on the date of grant. On August 22, 2011, the Board granted a fully vested supplemental option to Charlie Bass for 10,000 shares at an exercise price of \$1.95 per share, the fair market value of the Common Stock on the date of grant, in recognition of his board service. Options granted were as shown in the chart below.

Name	New Options Granted in 2011
Charlie Bass	20,000
Charles C. Emery, Jr.	7,000
Leon Malmed	8,000
Thomas O. Miller	7,000
Peter Sealey	8,000

## VOTE REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD

If a quorum is present at the Annual Meeting, the seven nominees receiving the highest number of votes will be elected to the Board of Directors. Votes withheld from any nominee are counted for purposes of determining the presence or absence of a quorum.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT STOCKHOLDERS VOTE "FOR" ALL OF THE COMPANY'S NOMINEES FOR DIRECTORS.

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## PROPOSAL TWO

### RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

The Audit Committee has selected Moss Adams LLP, independent public accountants, to audit the financial statements of the Company for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2012, and recommends that stockholders vote for ratification of such appointment.

Moss Adams LLP has audited the Company's financial statements for each of the eight fiscal years ended December 31, 2011. Representatives of Moss Adams LLP are expected to be present at the 2012 Annual Meeting. The representatives will have the opportunity to make a statement if they desire to do so, and are expected to be available to respond to appropriate questions.

### FEES BILLED BY MOSS ADAMS LLP DURING FISCAL YEARS 2011 AND 2010

#### Audit Fees:

Audit fees billed to the Company by Moss Adams LLP for their audit of the Company's 2011 and 2010 fiscal year financial statements and review of the Company's quarterly financial statements for fiscal 2011 and 2010 totaled \$228,000 in each fiscal year. The Company was not deemed an accelerated filer for fiscal years 2011 and 2010, and an audit of the Company's internal controls at December 31, 2011 and 2010 was not required.

#### Audit-Related Fees:

Audit-related fees billed to the Company by Moss Adams LLP during the Company's 2011 and 2010 fiscal years totaled \$10,900 and \$15,900, respectively. Audit-related fees in both years related to the issuance of consents related to the filing of a Form S-3 registration statement and a Form S-8 registration statement in each of fiscal 2011 and 2010, as well as and work related to accounting advice.

#### Tax Fees:

Fees billed to the Company by Moss Adams LLP for tax services during the Company's 2011 and 2010 fiscal years were \$11,088 in 2011 and \$14,831 in 2010. Tax fees are for preparation of the prior year's annual tax returns.

#### *All Other Fees:*

There were no other fees billed to the Company during the Company's 2011 and 2010 fiscal years by Moss Adams LLP.

#### *Approval Procedures:*

The Audit Committee's policy is to pre-approve all audit and other permissible services provided by the independent accountants. These services may include audit services, audit-related services, tax services and other services. Pre-approval is generally detailed as to the particular service or category of services and is generally subject to a specific budget. The independent accountants and management are required to report periodically to the Audit Committee regarding the extent of services provided by the independent accountants in accordance with this

pre-approval process and the fees for the services performed through such date. The Audit Committee may also pre-approve particular services on a case-by-case basis. All services performed by the independent accountants in fiscal 2011 and 2010 were preapproved by the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee has considered whether the provision of the services described in this section is compatible with maintaining Moss Adams LLP's independence and determined that it is.

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**VOTE REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD**

Ratification of the appointment of Moss Adams LLP as the Company's independent public accountants for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2012 requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the Votes Cast on the matter at the 2012 Annual Meeting.

Stockholder ratification of the appointment of Moss Adams LLP as the Company's independent public accountants is not required by the Company's bylaws or other applicable legal requirement. However, the Audit Committee is submitting the appointment of Moss Adams LLP to the stockholders for ratification as a matter of common corporate practice. If the stockholders fail to ratify the appointment, the Audit Committee will reconsider its selection. Even if the appointment is ratified, the Audit Committee at its discretion may direct the appointment of a different independent accounting firm at any time during the year, if it determines that such a change would be in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders.

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT STOCKHOLDERS VOTE "FOR" THE RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF MOSS ADAMS LLP AS THE COMPANY'S INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2012.**

## SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

The following table sets forth, as of the Record Date, certain information with respect to the beneficial ownership of the Company's Common Stock, including on an as-exercised basis, options and warrants exercisable within 60 days of the Record Date, as to (i) each person known by the Company to own beneficially more than 5 percent of the outstanding shares of Common Stock; (ii) each director of the Company; (iii) each executive officer of the Company named in the Summary Compensation table; and (iv) all directors and executive officers of the Company as a group. Except as set forth below, the address of record for each of the individuals listed in this table is: c/o Socket Mobile, Inc., 39700 Eureka Drive, Newark, California 94560.

Name of Beneficial Owner (1)	Number of Shares of Common Stock Beneficially Owned	Percentage of Shares of Common Stock Beneficially Owned (2)
5% Stockholders		
Hudson Bay Master Fund Ltd. (3)	574,512	10.8%
Leviticus Partners, L.P. (4)	391,216	8.1%
Roy L. Rogers (5)	378,538	7.8%
AboCom Systems Inc. (6)	282,485	5.8%
Directors and Executive Officers		
Charlie Bass (7)	308,443	6.3%
Kevin J. Mills (8)	285,816	5.8%
David W. Dunlap (9)	78,911	1.6%
Micheal L. Gifford (10)	75,173	1.5%
Leonard L. Ott (11)	68,024	1.4%
Tim I. Miller (12)	58,499	1.2%
Leon Malmed (13)	53,969	1.1%
Lee A. Baillif (14)	48,882	1.0%
Peter Sealey (13)	40,875	*
Thomas O. Miller (15)	27,437	*
Charles C. Emery, Jr. (13)	14,000	*
All Directors and Executive Officers as a group (11 persons) (16)	1,057,548	19.4%

\*Less than 1%

To the Company's knowledge, the persons named in the table have sole voting and investment power with respect to all shares of Common Stock shown as beneficially owned by them, subject to community property laws where applicable and the information contained in the footnotes to this table.

- Percentage ownership is based on 4,835,695 shares of Common Stock outstanding, each of which is entitled to one vote, on the Record Date and any shares issuable pursuant to securities exercisable for shares of Common Stock by the person or group in question as of the Record Date or within 60 days thereafter.
- (3) Hudson Bay Master Fund Ltd. is managed by Hudson Bay Capital Management L.P. The address of both is 777 Third Avenue, 30<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10017. Beneficial share ownership consists of 74,512 shares of Common Stock and 500,000 shares subject to warrants that are exercisable at \$2.44 per share through May 20,

2016.

- AMH Equity LLC is the general partner of Leviticus Partners, L.P. The address of Leviticus Partners, L.P. is 60 East 42nd Street, Suite 901, New York, NY 10165. Includes 16,666 shares subject to warrants that are exercisable at \$1.80 per share through May 26, 2014.
- Shares held by Roy L. Rogers as trustee for the Rogers Family Trust UTD 01-21-81 which holds 266,887 shares of Common Stock, and as trustee for the Roy and Ruth Rogers Unitrust, UTD 09-28-89 which holds 83,651 shares of Common Stock. Mr. Rogers' address is 3000 Sand Hill Road, Building 1, Suite 260, Menlo Park, CA 94025. Includes 28,000 shares subject to warrants that are exercisable at \$1.80 per share through May 26, 2014.
- (6) AboCom Systems Inc. is a corporation organized under the laws of Taiwan with offices at 350 No. 77, Yu-Yih Road, Chu-Nan Chen, Miao-Lih Hsuan, Taiwan, R.O.C. and is a contract product supplier for the Company.
  - (7) Includes 75,219 shares of Common Stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days of February 27, 2012.
  - (8) Includes 111,402 shares of Common Stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days of February 27, 2012.
  - (9) Includes 70,365 shares of Common Stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days of February 27, 2012.
  - (10) Includes 64,323 shares of Common Stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days of February 27, 2012.
  - (11) Includes 66,584 shares of Common Stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days of February 27, 2012.
  - (12) Includes 58,044 shares of Common Stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days of February 27, 2012.
  - (13) Consists of shares of Common Stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days of February 27, 2012.
  - (14) Includes 43,743 shares of Common Stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days of February 27, 2012.
  - (15) Includes 26,875 shares of Common Stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days of February 27, 2012.
  - (16) Includes 625,399 shares of Common Stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days of February 27, 2012.



SECTION 16(a) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE

Section 16(a) of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, requires the Company's executive officers, directors and persons who own more than ten percent of the Company's Common Stock to file reports of ownership and changes in ownership with the SEC and the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. Executive officers, directors and greater than 10 percent stockholders are required by SEC regulation to furnish the Company with copies of all Section 16(a) forms they file. We prepare Section 16(a) forms on behalf of our executive officers and directors based on the information provided by them. Based solely on review of this information, the Company believes that during fiscal 2011 all of its executive officers and directors complied with their Section 16(a) filing requirements.

MANAGEMENT

The current executive officers of the Company are as follows:

<b>Name of Officer</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Position with the Company</b>
Kevin J. Mills	51	President and Chief Executive Officer and Director
Micheal L. Gifford	54	Executive Vice President and Director
David W. Dunlap	69	Vice President of Finance and Administration, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary
Tim I. Miller	57	Vice President of Worldwide Operations and Engineering
Leonard L. Ott	53	Vice President and Chief Technical Officer
Lee A. Baillif	51	Vice President and Controller

For information regarding Kevin J. Mills and Micheal L. Gifford, please see "Proposal One - Election of Directors" above.

*David W. Dunlap* has served as the Company's Vice President of Finance and Administration, Secretary and Chief Financial Officer since February 1995 and served in the same role as a consultant from November 1994 to February 1995. Mr. Dunlap previously served as Vice President of Finance and Administration and Chief Financial Officer at several public and private companies. He is a certified public accountant (inactive), and holds an M.B.A. and a B.A. in Business Administration from the University of California at Berkeley.

*Tim I. Miller* has served as the Company's Vice President of Worldwide Operations since March 2003, responsible for the Company's worldwide manufacturing operations and assumed the additional role of Vice President of Engineering on April 1, 2009. Mr. Miller served as Vice President of Worldwide Operations as a consultant to the Company from January 2003 to March 2003. Mr. Miller was an independent consultant from June 1991 to December 1992. Mr. Miller holds a B.S. with an emphasis in Business Administration and Political Science from San Jose State University.

*Leonard L. Ott* has served as the Company's Vice President and Chief Technical Officer since October 2000 and previously served as Vice President of Engineering from December 1998 to October 2000. Mr. Ott joined the Company in March 1994, serving in increasingly responsible engineering positions including Director of Software Development and Director of Engineering. Mr. Ott also worked as an engineering consultant to the Company, from November 1993 to March 1994. Mr. Ott holds a B.S. in Computer Science from the University of California at Berkeley.

*Lee A. Baillif* has served as the Company's Controller since January 1, 1999 and was promoted to Vice President and Controller on January 24, 2007. Prior to his appointment as Controller, Mr. Baillif was a member of the accounting staff from September 1994. He holds a B.S. in Business and Finance from San Francisco State University.

## DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

### Compensation of Non-Employee Directors

The following tables set forth the annual compensation paid to or accrued by the Company on behalf of the outside directors of the Company for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Fees Earned or Paid in Cash (\$) (1)</b>	<b>Option Awards (\$) (2)</b>	<b>Total (\$)</b>
Charlie Bass	\$16,000	\$21,900(3)	\$37,900
Charles C. Emery, Jr.	\$16,000	\$ 7,910(4)	\$23,910
Leon Malmed	\$16,000	\$ 9,040(5)	\$25,040
Thomas O. Miller	\$16,000	\$ 7,910(6)	\$23,910
Peter Sealey	\$16,000	\$ 9,040(7)	\$25,040

(1) Directors are paid a fee for preparation and attendance at four regularly scheduled board meetings at the rate of \$4,000 per meeting attended, totaling \$16,000 per year. The Board met by telephone an additional 3 times in fiscal 2011 without additional compensation. All directors attended all meetings.

(2) Amounts shown are not intended to reflect value actually received by the directors. Instead, the amounts shown are the total fair value of option awards granted in fiscal 2011 for financial statement reporting purposes, as determined pursuant to Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718, or ASC Topic 718 (formerly Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123(R)). These values are amortized as equity compensation expense over the vesting period of the grants.

(3) Mr. Bass was granted an option to purchase 10,000 shares on April 27, 2011 with a grant date fair value of \$11,300. Mr. Bass was granted a supplemental option to purchase 10,000 shares on August 22, 2011 with a grant date fair value of \$10,600.

(4) Mr. Emery was granted an option to purchase 7,000 shares on April 27, 2011 with a grant date fair value of \$7,910.

(5) Mr. Malmed was granted an option to purchase 8,000 shares on April 27, 2011 with a grant date fair value of \$9,040.

- (6) Mr. Miller was granted an option to purchase 7,000 shares on April 27, 2011 with a grant fair value of \$7,910.
- (7) Mr. Sealey was granted an option to purchase 8,000 shares on April 27, 2011 with a grant date fair value of \$9,040.

The outside directors are entitled to participate in the Company's 2004 Equity Incentive Plan. Grants of options to directors for Board and Committee service are made annually, commencing at the start of the Board term. The grants made on April 27, 2011 were determined as follows: each Director was awarded an option to purchase 5,000 shares for participation in Board meetings. The director serving as the Board chairperson received an option to purchase an additional 2,000 shares. Directors serving as chairpersons of the Audit, Nominating and Compensation Committees each received an option to purchase an additional 1,000 shares. Members serving on the Audit Committee and on the Compensation Committee each received an option to purchase an additional 2,000 shares. As a result, on April 27, 2011, the five outside directors as a group were granted options to purchase an aggregate of 40,000 shares. The options vest monthly over a one year period commencing on the date of grant. Options granted on April 27, 2011 had an exercise price of \$2.10 per share, which was the fair market value of the Common Stock on the date of grant. In addition, Mr. Bass was awarded a supplemental grant of 10,000 fully vested shares on August 22, 2011 in recognition of his Board service. The supplemental option had an exercise price of \$1.95 per share, which was the fair market value of the Common Stock on the date of grant. See also Proposal One – Compensation of Directors.

## COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

### OVERVIEW

The Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors establishes the general compensation policies of the Company as well as the compensation plans and specific compensation levels for executive officers. The Committee strives to ensure that the Company's executive compensation programs enable the Company to attract, retain, motivate and reward key people based on a pay-for-performance approach, targeted within ten percent of market median for similar sized companies in similar fields of business when target performance objectives are achieved, and potentially resulting in superior pay when superior performance objectives are achieved. Within this framework, actual compensation can vary depending on each executive officer's position, responsibilities and overall experience. Overall, the Company strives to provide a total compensation package that is fair, reasonable and competitive with prevailing practices in the Company's industry.

The Company, with the approval of the Compensation Committee, enacted a number of cost reduction steps involving compensation starting in 2009 to reduce overall costs and expenses during a period of reduced revenue resulting from adverse economic conditions. These steps included a 27 percent reduction in the number of employees from 90 employees in the fourth quarter of 2008 to 66 employees in the fourth quarter of 2011, effective base salary reductions ranging from 20 percent for senior employees to 10 percent for other employees effective during 2009 and 2010, a cancellation of salary increases that had been approved in 2008 for the executive officers of the Company, a suspension of annual employee salary increases, and a suspension of all variable compensation programs applicable to employees except sales commissions. Commencing with the first quarter of 2011, the base salary reduction programs were eliminated resulting in payments commencing in 2011 of full base salaries. Also commencing with the first quarter of 2011, a management incentive variable compensation program was reinstated for the senior executives of the Company that is based upon attainment of revenue goals, achieving quarterly operating profitability relative to the Company's annual financial plan and for the President and CEO, attaining increases in shareholder value as measured by the market capitalization of the Company.. Management and the Compensation Committee will continue to closely monitor the Company's operating results, financial condition and shareholder value and intend to continue to phase out cost reduction program measures in 2012 consistent with meeting or exceeding the financial goals of the Company.

In addition, adverse economic conditions resulted in reductions in the market valuation of the Company. By 2010, stock options, which are a key element of compensation as described in this section, had become largely ineffective in their objectives of aligning employee and stockholder interests, in retaining employees and in rewarding employees for increases in stockholder value. The lower market valuations caused the options granted prior to 2009 to have little value because their exercise prices were much higher than the trading price of the Company's stock during this period. In April 2010, the stockholders approved a one-time option exchange program with the objective of restoring the effectiveness of the stock option program. The option exchange was completed on July 1, 2010 and enabled employees to exchange previously granted stock options for options priced as of the exchange date and with new 10 year terms, but with new vesting periods extending the vesting of exchanged options for a period of at least two additional years.

The discussions that follow reflect the goals and objectives of the Company's compensation policies and practices.

## COMPENSATION PHILOSOPHY AND OBJECTIVES

The Company's compensation policies, plans and programs are intended to achieve the following objectives:

- attract, retain, motivate and reward talented executive officers and employees;
- provide executive officers and senior employees with performance-based cash bonus opportunities linked to achievement of financial objectives of revenue attainment and operating profitability; and
- align the financial interests of executive officers, directors and employees with those of stockholders by providing each through the stock option program with an equity stake in the Company.

The Company's approach to executive compensation is to set base compensation levels within ten percent of median levels reflecting the experience and performance of each individual compared to similar positions in smaller technology based companies (although they may be set to higher or lower levels to recognize a particular employee's role, responsibilities, skills, experience and performance), to set variable compensation targets tied to financial performance so as to motivate and reward positive performance of executive officers in driving Company to achieve key financial objectives including revenue attainment, profitability and increases in shareholder value, and to offer equity incentives through its stock option program to all executives commensurate with each executive's level of responsibility, experience and performance while maintaining acceptable levels of dilution.

The Company's approach to employee compensation is to set base compensation levels within ten percent of median levels up to the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile for very experienced high performing employees consistent with the experience and performance of each individual compared to similar positions in smaller technology based companies, to set variable compensation targets for senior employees tied to financial performance to motivate and reward positive performance including the achievement of key financial objectives of revenue attainment and profitability, and to offer equity incentives through its stock option program to all employees commensurate with each employee's level of responsibility, experience and performance while maintaining acceptable levels of dilution.

## ELEMENTS OF EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The three major components of compensation for the Company's executive officers are:

- (i) base salary;
- (ii) variable performance-based cash incentive awards; and
- (iii) long-term, equity-based incentive awards.

The base salary and variable performance-based incentive award components of the Company's compensation program are compared to other similar smaller technology public companies set forth in the national compensation

survey of Tech America, formerly the American Electronics Association. The compensation survey is used to benchmark the Company's executive and employee salaries, as it is a broad-based compensation survey with an emphasis on companies in the electronics industry and provides information on base salary and variable incentive awards based on size of companies and geographic location. Offering competitive salary packages to employees is an essential element of attracting and retaining key employees in the San Francisco Bay Area including Silicon Valley, which has many electronics firms that compete for talent and offer a variety of employment alternatives.

*Base Salary.* The Compensation Committee establishes a competitive base salary for each executive officer designed to recognize the skills and experience the individual brings to the Company and the performance contributions he or she makes. Base salaries for executives are generally targeted within ten percent of the median compensation levels for smaller public technology companies but may be set to higher or lower levels to recognize a particular executive's role, responsibilities, skills, experience and performance.

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The Compensation Committee determines both the amount and timing of base salary increases for executive officers. Factors affecting the level of base salary increases each year include the overall financial performance of the Company, changes in the base salary compensation levels reported in the Tech America survey for executive positions in similarly sized companies, and the individual performance of each executive. Base salaries were last increased for Executives in January 2007. Base salaries were also impacted in 2009 and 2010 by base salary reductions of twenty-percent for executive officers. These reductions were designed to offset lower revenues resulting from adverse economic conditions. Commencing in the first quarter of 2011, and based upon an improving economic outlook as reflected in the 2011 Financial Plan of the Company, the base salary reduction programs were eliminated. Recent salary reviews reflect that current base salaries for the Company's executives are below compensation targets derived from the Tech America survey data. The Company therefore intends in 2012 to bring base salaries back in line with its compensation policies consistent with meeting or exceeding its 2012 Financial Plan results.

*Variable Performance Based Incentive Awards.*

Incentive awards are intended to motivate and reward executives to meet or exceed financial performance goals of revenue attainment and operating profitability measured both quarterly and annually. Variable incentive award programs except sales commissions were suspended in 2009 and 2010 for all executives as cost reduction measures due to lower revenues resulting from adverse economic conditions. In January 2011, the Compensation Committee restored for executives the Management Incentive Variable Compensation Plan that was filed as an exhibit to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011. Each executive has a target variable payment award that would be earned if the Company meets certain threshold levels of revenue and operating profits. No payments are earned if the Company's results are below 80% of Plan targets and any payments that are earned can be paid only from a portion of operating profits as defined in the program. Actual payments may exceed targets in the case the Company's results exceed the Financial Plan.

Actual variable compensation payments as a percentage of variable compensation targets for the past three years are shown in the table below for the Named Executive Officers.

Named Executive Officer	Position(s)	2011	2010	2009
Kevin J. Mills(1)	President and Chief Executive Officer and Director	12.8%	Suspended	Suspended
Micheal L. Gifford(2)	Executive Vice President and Director	12.8%	Suspended	Suspended
David W. Dunlap(3)	Vice President of Finance and Administration, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary	12.8%	Suspended	Suspended
Tim I. Miller(4)	Vice President of Worldwide Operations and Engineering	12.8%	Suspended	Suspended
Leonard L. Ott(5)	Vice President and Chief Technical Officer	12.8%	Suspended	Suspended

(1) Variable financial incentive compensation target for Mr. Mills was set at \$100,000 for each of the years 2009 through 2012.

(2) Variable financial incentive compensation target for Mr. Gifford was set at \$50,000 for each of the years 2009 through 2012.

(3) Variable financial incentive compensation target for Mr. Dunlap was set at \$50,000 for each of the years 2009 through 2011 and at \$45,000 for 2012.

(4) Variable financial incentive compensation target for Mr. Miller was set at \$35,000 for each of the years 2009 through 2011 and at \$40,000 for 2012.

(5) Variable financial incentive compensation target for Mr. Ott was set at \$35,000 for each of the years 2009 through 2011 and at \$30,000 for 2012.

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*Long-Term, Equity-Based Incentive Awards.*

Long-Term Equity-Based Incentive Awards are provided through the stockholder-approved 2004 Equity Incentive Plan. Although the Equity Incentive Plan provides for a variety of equity incentive awards, to date the Compensation Committee has only awarded stock option grants from the Equity Incentive Plan. The goal of the Company's long-term, equity-based incentive awards is to align the financial interests of the executive officers and employees of the Company with those of stockholders and to provide each executive officer and employee with a significant incentive to manage the Company from the perspective of an owner with an equity stake in the business. All equity incentives are subject to vesting provisions to encourage executive officers and employees to remain employed with the Company. The Compensation Committee determines the size of each award based on the individual's level of responsibility, recent performance, his or her potential for future responsibility and promotion, the number of unvested options held by the individual at the time of the new grant, and the size of the available stock award pool to arrive at a level that the Committee considers appropriate to create a meaningful opportunity for equity participation by the individual.

As of December 31, 2011, there were 90,571 shares available for grant under the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan. In addition, the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan provides for an automatic increase each January 1<sup>st</sup> equal to the least of (a) 200,000 shares, (b) 4% of the outstanding shares on that date, or (c) a lesser amount as determined by the Board of Directors. Options are granted to executive officers, employees and consultants at the discretion of the Compensation Committee. The Board of Directors itself, in consultation with management, grants options annually to directors for service on the Board of Directors.

The Compensation Committee, in consultation with management, prepares an annual allocation plan dividing the available stock in the grant pool among refresher grants, new employee grants, director grants and reserves. The timing, award criteria and award procedures are discussed more fully under Equity Incentive Grant Policies in the next section. New employee grants are typically made on the first trading day of the month on or following the date of hire. Refresher grants are made annually, typically during the first quarter of the year on the first open trading day of the quarter, which is two days after the release of earnings for the prior year. Refresher grants typically vest monthly over 48 months, contingent upon continued employment with the Company. All grants expire ten years after the date of grant. Fully vested grants, or grants vesting over a shorter or longer term than four years, may be awarded at the discretion of the Compensation Committee. All stock options granted to executives and employees during 2011 vest over four years. Stock options provide a return only if the individual remains with the Company and only if the market price of the Company's Common Stock appreciates during the option term.

The Compensation Committee believes that stock option grants are effective in attracting and retaining key employees, and the Company provides initial grants to all new employees and annual refresher grants to all continuing employees with a weighting reflecting the level of responsibility and performance of the employee. Many of the senior executives and employees have been employed by the Company more than ten years and have amassed a number of annual stock option grants (grants expire 10 years after the date of grant) with potential for substantial cumulative compensation if stock prices increase, thus aligning their interests with those of stockholders. The Company believes stock options are effective long-term incentives because of the expectations of the management team that the Company's products and the markets they address provide opportunities for growth that may result in share price appreciation.

*Other Compensation.*

Executive officers are entitled to participate in the same health and benefit programs and 401(k) program as are available to all employees of the Company and do not receive any perquisites from the Company.

## **EQUITY INCENTIVE GRANT POLICIES**

*General option grant practices.* All stock options grants are awarded by the Compensation Committee, or by the full Board in the case of director stock option grants. All stock options are priced at the closing market price of the Company's Common Stock on the date of grant, and the actions of the Compensation Committee are documented in minutes that are retained in the minute book of the Company. During 2011, the Compensation Committee met twelve times, and stock option grants were awarded at eleven of those meetings.

*Initial stock option grants.* The Compensation Committee awards initial stock option grants to each new employee of the Company on the first trading day of the month following the individual's commencement of employment. The size of the grant is based on the responsibilities of the employee and as agreed to in the employee's employment offer. Grants for executive officers are approved by the Compensation Committee in advance of offers being made. Grants to rank-and-file employees are made within general guidelines reviewed and approved by the Compensation Committee, and the actual grant requires the approval of the Compensation Committee at the time of grant. Initial grants generally vest 25% on the one year anniversary of employment and 1/48<sup>th</sup> per month thereafter for a total vesting period of 48 months. The delay in initial vesting for the first twelve months of employment provides an incentive for employee retention and ensures that the employee is familiar with the Company and its goals and objectives prior to options vesting. During 2011, options to purchase an aggregate of 61,800 shares were awarded to 11 new employees representing 20 percent of options granted during the year.

*Refresher stock option grants.* The Compensation Committee awards refresher stock option grants annually based on the recommendations of management reflecting the responsibilities and performance of each employee and the employee's contributions in meeting the Company's goals and objectives. On February 22, 2011, the Compensation Committee awarded options to purchase an aggregate of 193,650 shares to 59 employees, representing 64 percent of options granted during the year.

*Director stock option grants.* A portion of the compensation of the Company's outside directors is in the form of an annual stock option grant. Director grants are granted by the full Board of Directors at the first regularly scheduled board meeting following the annual election of directors and vest monthly over the ensuing year of service. Options are awarded equally to all directors for Board service. Additional options are awarded for Board and committee leadership positions and Committee service, as discussed under "*Director Compensation.*" On April 27, 2011, the Company granted options to purchase an aggregate of 40,000 shares to the 5 independent directors of the Company, representing 13 percent of options granted during the year. In August 22, 2011, the Board granted a supplemental option to purchase 10,000 shares to Mr. Bass, representing 3 percent of options granted during the year, in recognition of his service to the Board.

## **ACCOUNTING AND TAX IMPLICATIONS**

*Accounting for Stock Based Compensation.* On January 1, 2006, we adopted the provisions of Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 718, Stock Compensation (formerly FASB Statement 123R) for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2006 and beyond. Under ASC Topic 718, the Company uses a binomial lattice valuation model to estimate fair value of stock option grants made on or after January 1, 2006. The binomial lattice model incorporates estimates for expected volatility, risk-free interest rates, employee exercise patterns and post-vesting employment termination behavior. These estimates affect the calculation of the fair value of the Company's stock option grants. The fair value of stock option grants outstanding prior to January 1, 2006 was estimated using a Black-Scholes option pricing model. The Company adopted the modified prospective recognition method and implemented the provisions of ASC Topic 718 (formerly under FASB Statement 123R) beginning with the first quarter of 2006.

*Income taxes.* The Company has not provided any executive officer or director with a gross-up or other reimbursement for tax amounts the executive might pay pursuant to Section 280G or Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code. Although the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan also allows for the issuance of grants qualifying as “performance-based compensation” under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, no grants deemed performance-based compensation grants have been awarded to the executive officers of the Company.

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## COMPENSATION OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Company's Chief Executive Officer is compensated under the same programs applied to all of the Executive Officers of the Company as described under *Elements of Executive Compensation*. His base compensation and variable salary targets are set at median levels for CEO's of similar sized companies based on national compensation salary survey data from Tech America, a trade association whose membership is oriented toward companies serving the electronics industry. During 2011, 50 percent of his variable salary target was based on revenue attainment and 50 percent of his variable salary target was based on attainment of Earnings Before Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization (EBITDA), a traditional non-GAAP measure of operating profitability, both measured in comparison to the 2011 annual financial plan of the Company. Payments under the Management Incentive Variable Compensation Plan were further limited by minimum performance thresholds set at 80 percent of financial plan amounts, and payments not to exceed 50 percent of EBITDA profits for the measurement period. Mr. Mills along with the other executives of the Company earned 12.8 percent of his variable target threshold in 2011. During 2012, Mr. Mills variable compensation earnings will be based on increases in shareholder value as measured by the market capitalization of the Company. His compensation also includes stock option grant awards and medical and dental insurance benefit programs applicable to all employees of the Company. The CEO's employment is subject to an employment contract which provides for six months of base salary and continuation of medical benefits in the event of involuntary termination of services other than for cause, and payment of his variable salary entitlements had he remained employed during this period in the event of a change in control or involuntary termination. The CEO receives no perquisites.

Mr. Mills, as Chief Executive Officer, was the highest paid executive in the Company during fiscal year 2011. His total base salary during the year was \$190,000, unchanged during the past three years. Reflecting improving economic conditions for the Company, Mr. Mills was paid his full base salary in 2011, whereas his base salary in 2010 and 2009, along with the salaries of the other Executive Officers, was reduced by approximately 20% each year as a cost reduction measure. In 2011, Mr. Mills' variable salary target was set at \$100,000 of which 12.8 percent was earned. Mr. Mills did not earn any variable compensation during 2010 or 2009 as variable compensation programs were suspended during those years as a cost reduction measure. Mr. Mills variable salary target for 2012 is \$100,000. Mr. Mills also received an annual refresher stock option grant on February 22, 2011 of 19,920 shares, representing 6.5 percent of all shares granted during the year, at the same time that refresher grants were awarded to other executives and employees of the Company. These options commenced vesting monthly over 48 months starting on March 1, 2011. He received an annual refresher stock option grant on February 27, 2012 of 10,000 shares, at the same time that refresher grants were awarded to other executives and employees of the Company, that commenced vesting over a four year period on March 1, 2012. The reliance on stock option grants as a significant element of the Chief Executive Officer's compensation is intended to align his total compensation package with the interests of stockholders and to provide the Chief Executive Officer with a significant incentive to manage the Company from the perspective of an owner with an equity stake in the business, including attaining long-term growth and profitability.

**SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE**  
**For Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2011**

The following table provides fiscal 2011 compensation information and comparable information for the two preceding fiscal years for the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, and the three other executive officers of the Company who were the most highly compensated in fiscal year 2011 (the “**Named Executive Officers**”).

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary (\$)(1)	Option Awards \$(2)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation \$(3)	Total (\$)
Kevin J. Mills (4) President and Chief Executive Officer and Director	2011	\$190,000	\$20,717	\$12,787	\$223,504
	2010	156,385	138,472	0	294,857
	2009	162,888	49,202	0	212,090
Micheal L. Gifford (5) Executive Vice President and Director	2011	\$175,000	\$13,073	\$6,394	\$194,467
	2010	144,712	85,646	0	230,358
	2009	152,115	32,332	0	184,447
David W. Dunlap (6) Vice President of Finance and Administration, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary	2011	\$170,000	\$14,622	\$6,394	\$191,016
	2010	139,923	77,935	0	217,858
	2009	143,879	32,051	0	175,930
Tim I. Miller (7) Vice President of Worldwide Operations and Engineering	2011	\$155,000	\$20,155	\$4,476	\$179,631
	2010	119,904	58,723	0	178,627
	2009	131,184	32,051	0	163,235
Leonard L. Ott (8) Vice President and Chief Technical Officer	2011	\$155,000	\$11,482	\$4,476	\$170,957
	2010	128,769	86,005	0	214,774
	2009	131,154	32,051	0	163,205

(1) Represents base salary as described under *Compensation Summary and Analysis — Elements of Executive Compensation*.

(2) Represents Long-Term, Equity-Based Incentive Awards as described under *Compensation Summary and Analysis — Elements of Executive Compensation*. Amounts shown do not reflect compensation actually received by the executive officer. Instead, the amounts shown are the total grant date valuations of stock option grants awarded during the year as determined pursuant to ASC Topic 718. The valuations are expensed for financial reporting purposes over the vesting period of the grant. Annual refresher options were granted by the Compensation Committee on February 22, 2011 at an exercise price of \$1.82, the closing market price on the date of grant as reported on the Nasdaq exchange. The options were valued at \$1.04 per share pursuant to the binomial lattice valuation model adopted under ASC Topic 718. Option awards in 2010 include the fair market value of options granted prior to 2009 that were exchanged on July 1, 2010 for new grants with a two year vesting period under an exchange program approved by the

stockholders at the 2010 annual meeting of stockholders.

(3) Represents Variable Incentive Awards as described under *Compensation Summary and Analysis — Elements of Executive Compensation*. All variable compensation programs for executives were suspended in 2010 and 2009 as an expense reduction.

(4) Mr. Mills' salary for 2010 and 2009 included a base salary reduction of 20% as an expense reduction measure. The fair market value of option awards in 2010 included \$119,572 for options exchanged.

(5) Mr. Gifford's salary for 2010 and 2009 included a base salary reduction of 20% as an expense reduction measure. The fair market value of option awards in 2010 included \$71,471 for options exchanged.

(6) Mr. Dunlap's salary for 2010 and 2009 included a base salary reduction of 20% as an expense reduction measure. The fair market value of option awards in 2010 included \$63,760 for options exchanged.

(7) Mr. Miller's salary for 2010 and 2009 included a base salary reduction of 20% as an expense reduction measure. The fair market value of option awards in 2010 included \$35,098 for options exchanged.

(8) Mr. Ott's salary for 2010 and 2009 included a base salary reduction of 20% as an expense reduction measure. The fair market value of option awards in 2010 included \$71,830 for options exchanged.

**GRANTS OF PLAN-BASED AWARDS****For Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2011**

The following table shows for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 certain information regarding options granted to the Named Executive Officers. Options were granted as described under *Compensation Summary and Analysis — Elements of Executive Compensation — Long-Term, Equity-Based Incentive Awards* and — *Equity Incentive Grant Policies*.

Name	Grant Dates	All Other Option Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Options (#)	Exercise or Base Price of Option Awards (\$/share)	Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards \$(1)
Kevin J. Mills	2/22/2011	19,920	\$ 1.82	\$20,717
Micheal L. Gifford	2/22/2011	12,570	\$ 1.82	13,073
David W. Dunlap	2/22/2011	14,060	\$ 1.82	14,622
Tim I. Miller	2/22/2011	19,380	\$ 1.82	20,155
Leonard L. Ott	2/22/2011	11,040	\$ 1.82	11,482

(1) The value of option awards is based on the fair value as of the grant date of such award, determined pursuant to ASC Topic 718 (formerly Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123R), which was \$1.04 per share for the grant dated February 22, 2011. The exercise price for all options granted to the Named Executive Officers is equal to the closing market price for the Company's Common Stock on the grant date as reported on the Nasdaq exchange. Regardless of whatever value is placed on a stock option on the grant date, the actual value of the option to the recipient will depend on the market value of the Company's Common Stock at such date in the future when the option is exercised.

**OUTSTANDING EQUITY AWARDS****At Fiscal 2011 Year-End**

The following table set forth certain information concerning outstanding equity awards held by the Named Executive Officers at the end of the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011.

Name	<b>Option Awards</b>			
	<b>Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options - Exercisable (#)(1)</b>	<b>Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options - Unexercisable (#)(1)(2)</b>	<b>Option Exercise Price \$(3)</b>	<b>Option Expiration Date(4)</b>

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Kevin J. Mills	14,823	6,737	1.96	2/23/2019
	8,625	-	3.45	6/1/2019
	3,750	6,250	2.74	6/1/2020
	61,501	27,199	3.04	7/1/2020
	3,735	16,185	1.82	2/22/2021
Micheal L. Gifford	1,849	4,619	1.96	2/23/2019
	5,313	-	3.45	6/1/2019
	951	4,687	2.74	6/1/2020
	41,101	18,549	3.04	7/1/2020
	2,357	10,213	1.82	2/22/2021
David W. Dunlap	10,093	4,587	1.96	2/23/2019
	5,250	-	3.45	6/1/2019
	2,813	4,687	2.74	6/1/2020
	37,542	16,958	3.04	7/1/2020
	2,636	11,424	1.82	2/22/2021
Tim I. Miller	8,525	3,875	1.96	2/23/2019
	4,125	-	3.45	6/1/2019
	4,688	7,812	2.74	6/1/2020
	26,881	12,319	3.04	7/1/2020
	3,634	15,746	1.82	2/22/2021
Leonard L. Ott	8,181	3,719	1.96	2/23/2019
	4,125	-	3.45	6/1/2019
	2,813	4,687	2.74	6/1/2020
	37,789	16,811	3.04	7/1/2020
	2,070	8,970	1.82	2/22/2021

(1) Options were granted as described under Compensation Summary and Analysis — Elements of Executive Compensation — Long-Term, Equity-Based Incentive Awards and — Equity Incentive Grant Policies. The vesting period and vesting start date were established by the Compensation Committee. Shares unexercisable were not vested at December 31, 2011.

(2) Grant dates and vesting period information for all grants not fully vested as of December 31, 2011 are as follows:

Grant Date	Expiration Date	Vesting Start Date	Months to fully vest
2/23/2009	2/23/2019	3/1/2009	48
6/1/2010	6/1/2020	6/1/2010	48
7/1/2010	7/1/2020	7/1/2010	24 to 32
2/22/2011	2/22/2021	3/1/2011	48

(3) Exercise prices are set at the closing price of the Company's Common Stock on the date of grant.



(4) Options expire ten years from the date of grant, provided that the executive continues employment with the Company.

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**OPTION EXERCISES AND STOCK VESTED****For Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2011**

The following tables show for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 certain information regarding options exercised by the Named Executive Officers:

Name	Option Awards	Value Realized on Exercise (\$)(1)
	Number of Shares Acquired on Exercise (#)	
Micheal L. Gifford	6,787	\$7,003

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(1) The value realized equals the difference between the option exercise price and the fair market value of the Company's Common Stock on the date of exercise, multiplied by the number of shares for which the option was exercised.

**EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION**

The following table provides information as of December 31, 2011 about the Common Stock that may be issued under all equity compensation plans of the Company.

	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options	Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders (1)	1,410,090	\$ 2.70	90,571

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(1) Consists of the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan. Pursuant to an affirmative vote by security holders in June 2004, an annual increase in the number of shares authorized under the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan is added on the first day of

each fiscal year equal to the least of (a) 200,000 shares, (b) four percent of the total outstanding shares of the Company's Common Stock on that date, or (c) a lesser amount as determined by the Board of Directors. As a result, a total of 193,283 shares became available for grant under the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan on January 1, 2012, in addition to those set forth in the table above.

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## COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Compensation Committee has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis with management.

Based on the Compensation Committee's review and discussion noted above, the Compensation Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A.

## COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

Peter Sealey, Chairman

Thomas O. Miller

Dated: March 9, 2012

## COMPENSATION COMMITTEE INTERLOCKS AND INSIDER PARTICIPATION

None of the members of the Compensation Committee has ever been an officer or employee of the Company. No executive officer of the Company serves as a member of the board or compensation committee of any entity that has one or more executive officers serving as a member of the Company's Board of Directors or Compensation Committee.

## POST EMPLOYMENT AND CHANGE-IN-CONTROL COMPENSATION

### **Change of Control and Severance Agreements**

In February 1998, the Company adopted a bonus plan pursuant to which a bonus pool in the amount of up to 10 percent of any consideration payable by a buyer in any acquisition of the Company is to be allocated to the executive officers and such other employees as the Board of Directors determines in its sole discretion.

The Company renewed separate employment agreements, effective as of January 1, 2012, with Messrs. Kevin J. Mills, Lee A. Baillif, David W. Dunlap, Micheal L. Gifford, Tim I. Miller, and Leonard L. Ott for a period of three years expiring December 31, 2014. The agreements replaced agreements that expired on December 31, 2011. The agreements provide that if the Company terminates the executive's employment without cause, the Company will pay the executive: (i) three months' base salary plus one month's base salary for each two years of completed employment up to a maximum of six months; (ii) health insurance until the earlier of the date of the executive's eligibility for the health insurance benefits provided by another employer or the expiration of the continuation period for base salary; (iii) for executives other than the CEO, the full bonus amount to which he would have been entitled for the first quarter following termination and one-half of such bonus amount for the second quarter following termination; and (iv) certain other benefits, including the ability to purchase at book value certain items of the Company's property

purchased by the Company for the executive's use, which may include a personal computer, a cellular phone and other similar items. Commencing in 2012, the CEO bonus amount is based upon increases in shareholder value as measured by the market capitalization of the Company which may be paid in the event of involuntary termination or a change of control as defined in the employment agreement. The exercise period for any of the executive's vested stock options may also be extended up to a period not to exceed one year based on formulas in the employment agreements. Additionally, under the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan, the rights of all optionees, including executive officers, to exercise all their outstanding options become fully vested and immediately exercisable upon a change of control of the Company, unless the options are assumed by the acquiring entity.

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Payments to be made to each of the Named Executive Officers following severance are estimated as follows:

<b>Compensation and Benefits</b>	<b>Voluntary Resignation</b>	<b>For Cause (1)</b>	<b>For Good Reason(2)</b>	<b>Involuntary Without Cause(2)</b>	<b>Involuntary or For Good Reason After Change-in-Control(2)</b>	<b>Due to Death or Disability(2)</b>
<b>Kevin J. Mills</b>						
Base Salary (3)	--	--	\$110,000	\$110,000	\$110,000	\$110,000
Variable Incentive (4)	--	--	37,500	37,500	37,500	37,500
Stock Options (5)	--	--	--	--	--	--
HealthCare Benefits (6)	--	--	4,081	4,081	4,081	4,081
Other Perquisites (7)	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Micheal L. Gifford</b>						
Base Salary (3)	--	--	95,000	95,000	95,000	95,000
Variable Incentive (4)	--	--	18,750	18,750	18,750	18,750
Stock Options (5)	--	--	--	--	--	--
HealthCare Benefits (6)	--	--	4,020	4,020	4,020	4,020
Other Perquisites (7)	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>David W. Dunlap</b>						
Base Salary (3)	--	--	95,000	95,000	95,000	95,000
Variable Incentive (4)	--	--	16,875	16,875	16,875	16,875
Stock Options (5)	--	--	--	--	--	--
HealthCare Benefits (6)	--	--	3,913	3,913	3,913	3,913
Other Perquisites (7)	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Timothy I. Miller</b>						
Base Salary (3)	--	--	95,000	95,000	95,000	95,000
Variable Incentive (4)	--	--	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Stock Options (5)	--	--	--	--	--	--
HealthCare Benefits (6)	--	--	4,730	4,730	4,730	4,730
Other Perquisites (7)	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Leonard L. Ott</b>						
Base Salary (3)	--	--	90,000	90,000	90,000	90,000
Variable Incentive (4)	--	--	11,250	11,250	11,250	11,250
Stock Options (5)	--	--	--	--	--	--
HealthCare Benefits (6)	--	--	3,955	3,955	3,955	3,955
Other Perquisites (7)	--	--	--	--	--	--

(1) Cause is defined in each executive's employment agreement as gross misconduct or fraud, misappropriation of the Company's proprietary information, or willful and continuing breach of duties following notice and a cure period.

(2) All reasons for termination except voluntary resignation or termination by the Company for cause are covered under the terms of the employment agreement as either resignation by the executive for good reason or involuntary termination by the Company without cause.

(3) Except in the case of voluntary resignation or termination for cause, base salary is continued from the date of termination for three months plus one month for each two years of completed service up to a maximum of six months.

All named executive officers would be entitled to the maximum severance period of six months.

(4) Except in the cases of voluntary resignation or termination for cause, scheduled variable incentive payments are paid which equal 100% of the bonus to which the executive would have otherwise been entitled for the quarter of termination and 50% of such bonus entitlement for the following quarter. Amounts included in this table assume entitlements equal to 100% of the target variable compensation for quarterly results in effect for 2012.

(5) Except in the cases of voluntary resignation or termination for cause, stock options vested as of the date of termination may be exercised for a period of up to one year based on formulas in the executive's employment agreement. In the event of a change in control where stock options are not assumed by the acquiring entity, all options granted and outstanding become vested and fully exercisable. In the event of termination for cause or voluntary resignation, stock options vested as of the date of termination may be exercised for a period of 90 days following the termination date.

(6) Except in the cases of voluntary resignation or termination for cause, healthcare benefits are continued up to the earlier of the expiration of the base salary continuation period (see note 3) or securing other employment that includes such benefits.

(7) There are no perquisites in the compensation packages of any of the executive officers.

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## LIMITATION OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNIFICATION MATTERS

Pursuant to the Delaware General Corporation Law, the Company has adopted provisions in its Certificate of Incorporation that eliminate the personal liability of directors to the Company or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of the directors' fiduciary duties in certain circumstances. In addition, the Company's bylaws require the Company to indemnify the Company's directors and officers and authorize the Company to indemnify its employees and other agents to the fullest extent permitted by law.

The Company has entered into indemnification agreements with each of its current directors and officers that provide for indemnification and advancement of expenses to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law, including circumstances in which indemnification or the advancement of expenses is discretionary under Delaware law.

The Company believes that the limitation of liability and indemnification provisions in its Certificate of Incorporation and bylaws and the indemnification agreements with its directors and officers enhance its ability to continue to attract and retain qualified individuals to serve as directors and officers. There is no pending litigation or proceeding involving a director, officer or employee to which these provisions or agreements would apply.

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Company and its Board of Directors are committed to high standards of corporate governance as an important component in building and maintaining stockholder value. To this end, the Company regularly reviews its corporate governance policies and practices to ensure that its policies are consistent with such standards. The Company closely monitors guidance issued or proposed by the Securities Exchange Commission or the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, the listing standards of the Nasdaq Stock Market, the provisions of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, the Dodd-Frank Act and pending legislation. As a result of review of these matters, as well as the emerging best practices of other companies, the Company has implemented the following:

### *Executive Compensation Authority; Compensation Committee*

- The Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors approves all compensation plans and amounts for the executive officers of the Company, following consultation with management.
- The Compensation Committee reviews and approves compensation programs for all other employees of the Company, upon the recommendation of management.
- The Compensation Committee approves all stock option grants, upon the recommendation of management, except director grants, which are approved by the full Board of Directors.
- The charter of the Compensation Committee makes explicit:
  - o the Committee's ability to retain independent consultants and experts as it sees fit, at Company expense;
  - o the Compensation Committee's responsibilities to assess the risk associated with compensation program

### Director Independence



· The Board of Directors has confirmed that a majority of the Company's directors are independent, as defined by current SEC regulations and Nasdaq rules.

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- The Company's independent directors hold formal meetings without the presence of management and chaired by an independent director.
- The Audit, Compensation and Nominating Committees consist solely of independent directors. Each Committee is tasked to establish goals, evaluate performance, review the adequacy of its Charter, and recommend changes to the Board of Directors.

#### Audit Committee

- All Audit Committee members possess the required level of financial literacy, as required by SEC regulations.
- Mr. Bass, a member of the Audit Committee, possesses the qualifications of an “audit committee financial expert,” as required by SEC regulations.
- The Audit Committee’s charter formalizes and makes explicit the following:
  - o The Audit Committee's ability to retain independent consultants and experts as it sees fit, at Company expense;
  - o The Audit Committee's authority to appoint, review and assess the performance of the Company's independent auditors;
  - o The Audit Committee's ability to hold regular executive sessions with the Company's independent auditors and with the Company’s Chief Financial Officer, Controller and other Company officers directly, as it considers appropriate;
  - o The requirement that the Audit Committee review and approve in advance non-audit services by the Company's independent auditors, as well as related party transactions;
  - o The Audit Committee's duty to maintain a formal complaint monitoring procedure (a “whistleblower” policy) to enable confidential and anonymous reporting to the Audit Committee;
  - o The Audit Committee's authority over the independent auditors' rotation policy; and
  - o The Audit Committee’s responsibilities to oversee the Company’s risk management policies and practices.

#### Other Governance Matters

- The Company has a formal Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to all officers, directors and employees.
- The Company has a requirement that any waiver or amendment to the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics involving a director or officer be reviewed by the Nominating Committee and disclosed to the Company's stockholders.
- Each of the Compensation Committee, Audit and Nominating Committees has a written charter.
- The Company has an Insider Trading Policy, including control procedures to comply with current SEC regulations and Nasdaq rules.



- The Company has a policy that the Board of Directors reviews its own performance on an at least annual basis.
- The Company prohibits loans to its officers and directors.

#### *Board Leadership*

The Company is focused on its corporate governance practices and values independent board oversight as an essential component of strong corporate performance to enhance stockholder value. Our commitment to independent oversight is demonstrated by the fact that all of our directors, except for Messrs. Mills and Gifford, are independent. In addition, all of the members of our Board's committees are independent. Our Board of Directors acts independently of management and regularly holds independent director sessions without members of management present. In addition, the Company has a separate position of Chairman of the Board which is held by Mr. Bass, an independent director, who provides additional oversight to the management of the Company. Our Board believes that the current board leadership structure is best for the Company and its stockholders at this time as it allows the recommendations and decisions of the President and Chief Executive Officer, who views such recommendations and decisions from a management perspective, to be reviewed and discussed with the Chairman of the Board, who views such recommendations and decisions from the perspective of an independent director.

#### *Risk Management*

- The Company has designated its Chief Financial and Administrative Officer as its Risk Management Officer with responsibility for identifying, assessing, monitoring and reporting risks that could potentially impact the business.
- The Company summarizes the primary risks associated with the business in its quarterly and annual reports on Forms 10-Q and 10-K, respectively.
- The Audit Committee has primary responsibility for Board oversight of risk management. The Audit Committee meets as necessary, at least quarterly, and matters involving risk are included in the Audit Committee's agenda. The Chairman of the Audit Committee who is also Chairman of the Board and the President and Chief Executive Officer conduct a call at least weekly to review Company operations and such discussions include a review of risk matters as appropriate.

#### *Compensation Risk Considerations*

The Compensation Committee has responsibility for oversight of risk management associated with compensation matters and risks relating to compensation policies and practices are considered at each meeting of the Committee. The Committee does not believe that the Company's compensation policies and practices promote risky behavior on the part of its employees as discussed below.

The Compensation Committee considers, in establishing and reviewing the employee compensation programs, whether the programs encourage unnecessary or excessive risk taking. The Company, after reviewing and discussing the compensation programs with the Compensation and Audit Committees of the Board, believes that the programs are balanced and do not motivate or encourage unnecessary or excessive risk taking. Base salaries are fixed in amount and thus do not encourage risk taking. While the performance-based awards focus on achievement of short-term or annual goals, and short-term goals may encourage the taking of short-term risks at the expense of long-term results, the Company's performance-based award programs represent a small percentage of employees' total compensation opportunities and results are closely monitored at both management and board levels. The Company believes that the programs appropriately balance risk and the desire to focus employees on specific short-term goals important to the Company's success, and that they do not encourage unnecessary or excessive risk taking.



Compensation provided to employees in the form of long-term equity awards through stock option grants are important to help further align employees' interests with those of the Company's stockholders. The Company believes that these awards do not encourage unnecessary or excessive risk taking since the ultimate value of the awards is tied to the Company's stock price, and since awards are subject to long-term vesting schedules to help ensure that executives have significant value tied to long-term stock price performance.

More details on the Company's corporate governance initiatives, including copies of its Code of Business Conduct and Ethics and each of the Committee charters can be found in the "Corporate Governance" section of the Company's web site at [http://www.mkr-group.com/SCKT/board\\_committee.html](http://www.mkr-group.com/SCKT/board_committee.html).

#### Policy for Director Recommendations and Nominations

The Nominating Committee considers candidates for Board membership suggested by Board members, management and the Company's stockholders. It is the policy of the Nominating Committee to consider recommendations for candidates to the Board of Directors from stockholders holding no less than five percent of the total outstanding shares of the Company's Common Stock who have held such shares continuously for at least 12 months prior to the date of the submission of the recommendation. The Nominating Committee will consider persons recommended by the Company's stockholders in the same manner as nominees recommended by members of the Board of Directors or management.

A stockholder who desires to recommend a candidate for election to the Board of Directors should direct the recommendation in written correspondence by letter to the Company, addressed to:

Chairman of the Nominating Committee

c/o Corporate Secretary

Socket Mobile, Inc.

39700 Eureka Drive

Newark, CA 94560

The notice must include:

- the candidate's name and home and business contact information;
- detailed biographical data and relevant qualifications;
- a signed letter from the candidate confirming his or her willingness to serve;
- information regarding any relationships between the candidate and the Company within the last three years; and
- evidence of the required ownership of Common Stock by the recommending stockholder(s).

In addition, a stockholder may nominate a person directly for election to the Board of Directors at the annual meeting of the Company's stockholders, provided the stockholder complies with the requirements set forth in the Company's bylaws and the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission related to stockholder proposals. The process for properly submitting a stockholder proposal, including a proposal to nominate a person for election to

the Board of Directors at an annual meeting, is described on Page 2 in the section entitled "*Deadline for Receipt of Stockholder Proposals to be Included in the Company's Proxy Materials.*"

Where the Nominating Committee has either identified a prospective nominee or determines that an additional or replacement director is required, the Nominating Committee may take such measures that it considers appropriate in connection with its evaluation of a director candidate, including candidate interviews, inquiry of the person or persons making the recommendation or nomination, engagement of an outside search firm to gather additional information, or reliance on the knowledge of the members of the committee, the Board of Directors or management. In its evaluation of director candidates, including the members of the Board of Directors eligible for re-election, the Nominating Committee considers a number of factors, including the following:

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- The current size and composition of the Board of Directors and the needs of the Board of Directors and its various committees.
- Such factors as judgment, independence, character and integrity, area of expertise, diversity of experience, length of service and potential conflicts of interest. The Nominating Committee recognizes that diversity in these areas brings value to the collective impact of the Board on the Company. The Company does not consider or make its recommendations based on race, gender, religion, age, sexual orientation or other matters the Committee deems not relevant to effective board service.
- Such other factors as the Nominating Committee may consider appropriate.

The Nominating Committee has also specified the following minimum qualifications that it believes must be met by a nominee for a position on the Board of Directors:

- The highest personal and professional ethics and integrity.
- Proven achievement and competence in the nominee's field, and the ability to exercise sound business judgment.
- Skills complementary to those of the existing members of the Board of Directors.
- The ability to assist and support management and make significant contributions to the Company's success.
- An understanding of the fiduciary responsibilities required of a member of the Board of Directors, and the commitment of time and energy necessary to carry out those responsibilities diligently.

In connection with its evaluation, the Nominating Committee determines whether it will interview potential nominees. After completing the evaluation and interview, the Nominating Committee makes a recommendation to the full Board of Directors as to the persons who should be nominated, and the Board of the Directors determines the nominees after considering the recommendation and report of the Nominating Committee.

The Nominating Committee believes that the current nominees for director all meet the general criteria for board membership as described in this section. In addition, each nominee brings particular strengths to the Board. For example, all incumbent directors have a thorough knowledge and understanding of the Company. Mr. Bass also has extensive experience as a former chief executive officer or senior manager in ten companies over the past 35 years in the fields of networking, semiconductors and computing platforms. Mr. Miller has experience as the former President of Intermec, a public manufacturer of rugged bar code scanners and terminal solutions for the mobile computing marketplace, and has been Chairman of A.I.M., an international trade association representing Automatic Identification/Data Capture and mobility technology solution providers. He actively consults in these areas. Mr. Malmed has been a senior sales and marketing executive with technology based companies including SanDisk (memory products), Syquest, Maxtor and Quantum (electronic storage products). Mr. Sealey has well established credentials as a senior marketing executive and marketing consultant, and is a college professor of marketing. Mr. Emery has a strong background working in the healthcare industry with an emphasis on healthcare management systems. Messrs. Bass, Emery and Sealey hold doctorate degrees in their respective fields. Both Mr. Mills and Mr. Gifford have strong engineering backgrounds and a history of innovative leadership and understanding of the business mobility market. Mr. Mills has more than 18 years of experience with the Company, the last 12 years as President and Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Gifford co-founded the Company and has been a key part of its growth and development in serving the business mobility market since the Company's inception.





#### Stockholder Communications to Directors

Stockholders may communicate directly with the members of the Board of Directors by sending an email to [socketboard@socketmobile.com](mailto:socketboard@socketmobile.com). The Company's Secretary monitors these communications and ensures that summaries of all received messages are provided to the Board of Directors at its regularly scheduled meetings or directly to the Chairman of the Board if the matter is deemed to be urgent and to require the immediate attention of the Board. Where the nature of a communication warrants, Mr. Bass, Chairman of the Board, may decide to obtain the more immediate attention of the appropriate committee of the Board of Directors or a non-management director, or the Company's management or independent advisors, as appropriate. Mr. Bass also determines whether any response to a stockholder communication is necessary or warranted and whether further action is required.

#### Director Independence

In February 2012, the Board of Directors undertook a review of the independence of its directors and considered whether any director had a material relationship with the Company or its management that could compromise his ability to exercise independent judgment in carrying out his responsibilities. As a result of this review, the Board of Directors affirmatively determined that all of the directors of the Company, with the exception of Mr. Mills, the Company's President and Chief Executive Officer, and Mr. Gifford, the Company's Executive Vice President, are independent of the Company and its management under the corporate governance standards of the Nasdaq Stock Market.

#### Code of Business Conduct and Ethics

The Board of Directors has a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that is applicable to all employees, executive officers and directors of the Company, including the Company's senior financial and other executive officers. The Code of Business Conduct and Ethics is intended to deter wrongdoing and promote ethical conduct among the Company's directors, executive officers and employees. The Code of Business Conduct and Ethics is available on the Company's website at [http://www.mkr-group.com/SCKT/board\\_committee.html](http://www.mkr-group.com/SCKT/board_committee.html). The Company will also post any amendments to or waivers from the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics on its website.

## REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Board of Directors maintains an Audit Committee comprised of three of the Company's outside directors. The Audit Committee oversees the Company's financial processes on behalf of the Board of Directors, although management has the primary responsibility for preparing the financial statements and maintaining the Company's financial reporting process including the system of internal controls. In fulfilling its oversight responsibilities, the Audit Committee reviewed with management the audited financial statements in the Annual Report to the Securities and Exchange Commission on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, including discussing the quality of the accounting principles, the reasonableness of significant judgments, including the identification and assessment of risks, and the clarity of disclosures in the financial statements. The Audit Committee has a written charter, a copy of which is posted on the Company's website at [http://www.mkr-group.com/SCKT/board\\_committee.html](http://www.mkr-group.com/SCKT/board_committee.html).

The Audit Committee reviewed the 2011 financial statements with the Company's independent auditors, who are responsible for expressing an opinion on the conformity of the financial statements with generally accepted accounting principles, as well as their judgment as to the quality, not just the acceptability, of the Company's accounting principles. The Audit Committee also discussed such other matters as the auditors are required to discuss with the Committee under generally accepted auditing standards, including Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61. In addition, the Audit Committee discussed with the independent auditors the auditors' independence from management and the Company, including the matters in the written disclosures and the letter from the independent auditors required by the applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board regarding the independent accountants' communications with the audit committee concerning independence.

The Audit Committee also discussed with the Company's independent auditors the overall scope and results of their audit of the financial statements, including their review of internal controls. The Audit Committee met periodically with the independent auditors, with and without management present, to discuss the results of their examination, their evaluation of the Company's internal controls, and the overall quality of the Company's financial reporting. The Audit Committee held two meetings with the auditors in regard to their audit of the Company's annual financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2011. In addition, a conference call among members of the Audit Committee, the auditors and management was held each quarter during fiscal 2011 to review the Company's quarterly financial reports prior to their issuance.

In reliance on the reviews and discussions referred to above, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors, and the Board of Directors has concurred, that the Company's audited financial statements be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011. The Audit Committee also approved the appointment of Moss Adams LLP as the Company's independent auditors for the year ending December 31, 2012.

The foregoing report has been submitted by the undersigned in our capacity as members of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors.

## AUDIT COMMITTEE

Charlie Bass

Charles C. Emery, Jr.

Leon Malmed

Dated: March 9, 2012



**OTHER MATTERS**

The Company knows of no other matters to be submitted at the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. If any other matters properly come before the 2012 Annual Meeting, it is the intention of the persons named in the enclosed form of proxy to vote the shares they represent as the Board of Directors may recommend. It is important that your shares be represented at the meeting, regardless of the number of shares that you hold. Please complete, date, execute and return, at your earliest convenience, the accompanying proxy card in the envelope that has been enclosed or otherwise vote your shares via telephone or internet as available.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dated: March 9, 2012