

Ascent Solar Technologies, Inc.
Form S-3
December 29, 2011
Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 29, 2011
Registration No. 333-

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-3

REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

ASCENT SOLAR TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

20-3672603
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

12300 North Grant Street
Thornton, Colorado 80241
(720) 872-5000

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

Gary Gatchell
12300 North Grant Street
Thornton, Colorado 80241
(720) 872-5000

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copies to:
James Carroll
Charles Cotter
Faegre & Benson LLP
1470 Walnut Street, Suite 300
Boulder, Colorado 80304
(303) 447-7700

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: From time to time after this registration statement becomes effective as determined by market conditions and other factors.

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If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box:

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box:

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please

Table of Contents

check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

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

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box:

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box:

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

Large accelerated filer <input type="radio"/>	Accelerated filer <input type="radio"/>	Non-accelerated filer <input type="radio"/>	Smaller reporting company <input checked="" type="radio"/>
		(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)	

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Table of Contents

Title of Each Class of Securities to Be Registered	Amount to be Registered (1)	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price (1)(2)	Amount of Registration Fee (3)
Common Stock, par value \$0.0001			
Preferred Stock, par value \$0.0001			
Warrants			
TOTAL:	\$ 25,000,000	\$ 25,000,000	\$ 2,865
Fee amount applied from Prior Registration Statement			\$ 2,865
Fee due with this filing			\$ —

(1) There are being registered under this registration statement such indeterminate number of shares of common stock, preferred stock, and such indeterminate number of warrants of the registrant, all at indeterminate prices, as shall have an aggregate initial offering price not to exceed \$25,000,000 or the equivalent amount denominated in one or more foreign currencies. Any securities registered under this registration statement may be sold separately or as units with other securities registered under this registration statement. The securities being registered also include such indeterminate number of shares of common stock or preferred stock, or warrants as may be issued upon conversion of, or in exchange for, or upon exercise of, convertible or exchangeable securities as may be offered pursuant to any prospectus or prospectus supplement filed with this registration statement.

(2) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee in accordance with Rule 457(o) of the Securities Act of 1933.

(3) The registration fee has been calculated pursuant to Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act of 1933. The Company still has \$97,897,228 of Securities registered but remaining unsold under registration statement No. 333-156665 (the "Prior Registration Statement"). Pursuant to Rule 415(a)(6) under the Securities Act, the Company is including in this registration statement \$25,000,000 of the Securities remaining unsold under the Prior Registration Statement and for which the registration fee has previously been paid. In connection with the Prior Registration Statement, the Registrant paid an aggregate registration fee of \$5,895, of which \$3,847 applies to such amount of unsold Securities. Pursuant to Rule 415(a)(6) under the Securities Act, the Company is applying \$2,865 of such amount to the registration fee for the \$25,000,000 of Securities being registered under this Registration Statement. As a result, no additional registration fee is due in connection with the filing of this registration statement. Pursuant to Rule 415(a)(6), the Prior Registration Statement will be deemed terminated as of the date of effectiveness of this Registration Statement.

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

Table of Contents

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. These securities may not be sold until the related registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED December 29, 2011

PROSPECTUS

ASCENT SOLAR TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

Up to \$25,000,000

COMMON STOCK
PREFERRED STOCK
WARRANTS

We may sell from time to time the securities offered by this prospectus at prices and on terms to be determined at or prior to the time of each sale. We will describe the specific terms and amounts of the securities offered in a prospectus supplement for each sale. You should carefully read this prospectus and any prospectus supplement before you invest. This prospectus may not be used to sell securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

Our common stock is traded on the Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol "ASTI." On December 29, 2011, the last reported sale price of our common stock on the Nasdaq Global Market was \$0.43 per share.

Our principal executive offices are located at 12300 North Grant Street, Thornton, Colorado 80241.

These are speculative securities. Investing in these securities involves significant risks. You should purchase these securities only if you can afford a complete loss of your investment. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page 2.

This prospectus may not be used to consummate a sale of any securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

The securities offered by this prospectus may be sold directly by us to investors, through agents designated from time to time or to or through underwriters or dealers, on a continuous or delayed basis. For additional information on the methods of sale, you should refer to the section entitled "Plan of Distribution" in this prospectus. If any agents or underwriters are involved in the sale of any securities with respect to which this prospectus is being delivered, the names of such agents or underwriters and any applicable fees, commissions, discounts and over-allotment options will be set forth in a prospectus supplement. The price to the public of such securities and the net proceeds that we expect to receive from such sale will also be set forth in a prospectus supplement.

NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THESE SECURITIES OR PASSED UPON THE ADEQUACY OR ACCURACY OF THIS PROSPECTUS. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

The date of this prospectus is _____, 2012

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS	
<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>PROSPECTUS SUMMARY</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>DILUTION</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>EXPERTS</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>INFORMATION INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>INDEMNIFICATION</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>DISCLOSURE OF COMMISSION POSITION ON INDEMNIFICATION OF SECURITIES ACT</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>	

In this prospectus, references to “we,” “us,” “our,” “Ascent,” “Ascent Solar” or the “Company” mean Ascent Solar Technologies, Inc.

Table of Contents

About This Prospectus

This prospectus is part of a Registration Statement on Form S-3 that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) using a “shelf” registration process. Under this shelf process, we may sell any combination of securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings, up to the total dollar amounts appearing on the cover of this prospectus. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we offer the securities, a prospectus supplement will be provided that will contain specific information about the terms of the offering, including the type(s), amount(s) and price(s) of the securities being offered and the plan of distribution. The prospectus supplement for a particular offering may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. In addition, any prospectus supplement relating to a particular offering may be updated or supplemented. You should read carefully both this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement together with the additional information about us to which we refer you in the section of this prospectus entitled “Where You Can Find More Information.” This prospectus may not be used to consummate a sale of any securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or a prospectus supplement. We have not authorized any other person to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. You should not assume that the information appearing in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement or any document incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than its date, regardless of the time of delivery of the prospectus or prospectus supplement or any sale of securities. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary highlights information contained in this prospectus. While we believe that this summary highlights some of the most important information about Ascent Solar Technologies, Inc. and this offering, you should read this entire prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference carefully, including “Risk Factors,” before deciding to invest in our securities.

Overview

We are a development stage company formed in October 2005 to commercialize flexible photovoltaic (“PV”) modules using proprietary technology. Our technology was initially developed at ITN Energy Systems, Inc. (“ITN”) by our founder and core scientific team beginning in 1994 and subsequently assigned and licensed to us. Our proprietary manufacturing process deposits multiple layers of materials, including a thin film of highly efficient copper-indium-gallium-diselenide (“CIGS”) semiconductor material, on a flexible, lightweight, plastic substrate and then laser patterns the layers to create interconnected PV cells, or PV modules, in a process known as monolithic integration. We believe that our technology and manufacturing process provide us with significant advantages over both the crystalline silicon based PV manufacturers that currently dominate the PV market, as well as other thin-film PV manufacturers that use rigid and/or heavier substrate materials such as glass, stainless steel or other metals. Our target markets include the building integrated PV (“BIPV”) market, the building applied PV (“BAPV”) market, the electronic integrated PV (“EIPV”) market, the military and governmental portable power markets and the space and near-space markets.

We completed construction of our FAB1 production line in December 2007. In 2008 we began placing purchase orders for equipment to be installed in our second production facility (“FAB2”) and purchased an existing building in Thornton, Colorado. During 2008 and early 2009, the building was renovated to accommodate our manufacturing requirements. In 2009, we began receiving production equipment in FAB2 and started qualification of the equipment.

Throughout 2010, we continued qualification of the equipment in FAB2 and began production of PV modules. Currently we are in limited production utilizing a combination of equipment from our FAB1 and FAB2 production lines. We are qualifying equipment that has been delivered and additional equipment is scheduled for delivery in 2012 and we have adjusted our utilization of equipment based on our near term forecast. Under our current business plan, we expect losses to continue until annual production reaches approximately 30 MW or more. We intend to augment our own manufacturing capabilities by licensing our proprietary manufacturing processes to others. We plan to continue manufacturing at our current facilities; however, our plans are to have significant future production capacity enabled through partnerships, joint ventures or other commercial or licensing arrangements. To date, we have financed our operations primarily through public and private equity financings. On August 12, 2011, we entered into an investment and strategic alliance with TFG Radiant Investment Group Ltd. and its affiliates (“TFG Radiant”), pursuant to which TFG Radiant made an initial \$7.36 million equity investment in us, and, in

Table of Contents

connection with such investment, received an option to acquire an additional 9,500,000 shares our common stock at an exercise price of \$1.55 per share.

In addition, in exchange for the grant by the Company of exclusive rights to manufacture and sell solar devices based on the Company's proprietary CIGS PV technology in East Asia (comprised of China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Korea and Singapore), TFG Radiant has committed to invest \$165 million to build an initial fab in East Asia using the Company's proprietary processes for manufacturing flexible CIGS PV, will provide consulting fees to the Company in connection with installation and commissioning of any fabs in East Asia, will provide license fees, royalty payments, and ownership interest in all East Asia fabs, and subject to the East Asia fabs meeting certain milestones related to production and costs, will provide over time incentive payments to the Company of up to \$250 million.

Corporate Information

We are incorporated under the laws of Delaware. Our principal business office is located at 12300 North Grant Street, Thornton, Colorado 80241, and our telephone number is (720) 872-5000. Our website address is www.ascentsolar.com. Information contained on our website or any other website does not constitute part of this prospectus.

This Offering

Through this prospectus, we may from time to time offer and sell shares of our common stock, shares of our preferred stock, warrants, and the securities issuable upon exercise or conversion of any of those securities. We may offer and sell these securities separately or together as units, but the aggregate initial offering price will not to exceed \$25,000,000 or the equivalent amount denominated in one or more foreign currencies. Each time we offer and sell the securities, a prospectus supplement will be provided that will contain specific information about the terms of the offering, including the type(s), amount(s) and price(s) of the securities being offered and the plan of distribution employed.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus includes “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements include statements concerning our plans, objectives, goals, strategies, future events, future net sales or performance, capital expenditures, financing needs, plans or intentions relating to acquisitions, business trends and other information that is not historical information and, in particular, appear under headings including “Prospectus Summary.” When used in this prospectus, the words “estimates,” “expects,” “anticipates,” “projects,” “plans,” “intends,” “believes,” “forecasts,” “foresees,” “likely,” “may,” “should,” “goal,” “target” and variations of similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements are based upon information available to us on the date of this prospectus.

These forward-looking statements are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which are outside of our control, that could cause actual results to differ materially from the results discussed in the forward-looking statements, including, among other things, the matters discussed in this prospectus in the section captioned “Risk Factors.” Factors you should consider that could cause these differences are:

- * Our limited operating history and lack of profitability;
- * Our ability to secure equity or debt or other financing necessary to fund our operations and the acquisition of additional operating capacity;

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- * Our ability to meet the cost and performance metrics and to implement the production capacity that we have forecasted;
- * Our ability to develop demand for, and sales of, our photovoltaic modules and establish strategic relationships with key distribution partners, including original equipment manufacturers, system integrators and distributors;
- * Our ability to obtain necessary or desired certifications for our photovoltaic modules;
- * Whether we receive timely delivery of production tools from our equipment suppliers;

2

Table of Contents

- * Our ability to design, purchase, install, qualify and operate production tools pursuant to our business plan and within budgeted amounts;
- * The extent to which we are able to reduce the per watt manufacturing costs of our photovoltaic modules, and the extent to which our competitors are able to do the same with their photovoltaic modules;
- * Global demand for electricity and the market for renewable energy, including solar energy;
- * The cost-effectiveness of photovoltaic-generated energy relative not only to that generated from conventional sources such as fossil fuels, but also to that generated from other renewable sources which include wind, biomass, geothermal and tidal power;
- * The availability of, or changes to, government policies, subsidies and incentives that affect the use or cost of renewable energy;
- * The emergence of disruptive or competing technologies in the energy industry;
- * Our competitive position and that of our photovoltaic modules relative to others in the photovoltaic and thin-film markets;
- * The extent to which our interests align with or deviate from those of TFG Radiant Investment Group Ltd. and Norsk Hydro Produksjon AS, our largest stockholders, and their affiliates;
- * Foreign currency exchange fluctuations, political instability in certain foreign markets or the general state of geopolitical affairs;
- * The supply and price of equipment, components and raw materials;
- * The status of our relationship with ITN Energy Systems, Inc.;
- * Our ability to attract and retain key executives and employees;
- * Our continued investment in research and development, and our ability to remain competitive through development of new technologies;
- * The extent to which we are able to manage the expansion of our operations effectively, both domestically and abroad;
- * Commencement of legal proceedings against us or by us, including proceedings relating to environmental matters or intellectual property rights;
- * Our ability to expand and protect the intellectual property portfolio that relates to our photovoltaic modules and processes;
- * The extent to which we qualify to perform research and development under the federal government's Small Business Innovation Research program; and
- * General economic and business conditions.

There may be other factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from the results referred to in the forward-looking statements. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise forward-looking statements to reflect subsequent events or circumstances after the date made or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events, except as required by law.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

An investment in our securities involves a high degree of risk and many uncertainties discussed in the section entitled “Risk Factors” in our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010, which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus. You should carefully consider the risk factors before purchasing our securities. If one or more of the possibilities described as risks actually occurs, our operating results and financial condition would likely suffer and the trading price of our securities could fall, causing you to lose some or all of your investment in the securities we are offering.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of any securities offered under this prospectus for general corporate purposes, including repayment and refinancing of debt, working capital and capital expenditures, research and development expenses, general and administrative expenses, or investment in technologies, products or assets that complement our business. We may temporarily invest the net proceeds in investment-grade and U.S. government interest-bearing securities until they are used for their stated purpose. We have not determined the amount of net proceeds to be used specifically for such purposes. As a result, management will retain broad discretion over the allocation of net proceeds.

DILUTION

If required by SEC rules, we will set forth in a prospectus supplement the following information regarding any material dilution of the equity interests of investors purchasing securities in an offering under this prospectus:

- * the net tangible book value per share of our equity securities before and after the offering;
- * the amount of the increase in such net tangible book value per share attributable to the cash payments made by purchasers in the offering; and
- * the amount of the immediate dilution from the public offering price which will be absorbed by such purchasers.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the securities being offered hereby in one or more of the following ways from time to time:

• through dealers or agents to the public or to investors;

• to underwriters for resale to the public or to investors;

• directly to investors; or

• through a combination of such methods.

We may sell the securities at a fixed price or prices that may change, at prevailing market prices, at prices relating to prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices. Each time we sell securities in a particular offering, we will set forth in a prospectus supplement the terms of the offering of securities, including:

• the material terms of the distribution, including the number of shares and the consideration paid;

the identity of any underwriters, dealers, agents or purchasers that will purchase the securities;

the type and amount of any compensation, discounts or commissions to be received by underwriters, dealers or agents;

the purchase price of the securities being offered and the proceeds we will receive from the sale;

- the nature of any transactions by underwriters, dealers or agents during the offering that are intended to stabilize or maintain the market price of our securities; and

4

Table of Contents

the terms of any indemnification provisions.

Underwriters, dealers and agents that participate in the distribution of the securities may be deemed to be underwriters as defined in the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), and any discounts or commissions they receive from us and any profit on their resale of the securities may be treated as underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act. We will identify in the applicable prospectus supplement any underwriters, dealers or agents and will describe their compensation. We may have agreements with the underwriters, dealers and agents to indemnify them against specified civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act. Underwriters, dealers and agents may engage in transactions with or perform services for us or our subsidiary in the ordinary course of their businesses.

Certain persons that participate in the distribution of the securities may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of the securities, including over-allotment, stabilizing and short-covering transactions in such securities, and the imposition of penalty bids, in connection with an offering. Certain persons may also engage in passive market-making transactions as permitted by Rule 103 of Regulation M. Passive market makers must comply with applicable volume and price limitations and must be identified as passive market makers. In general, a passive market maker must display its bid at a price not in excess of the highest independent bid for such security; if all independent bids are lowered below the passive market maker's bid, however, the passive market maker's bid must then be lowered when certain purchase limits are exceeded.

DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES

Our authorized capital stock consists of 125,000,000 shares of common stock, \$0.0001 par value, and 25,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$0.0001 par value. As of December 29, 2011, we had 39,345,459 shares of common stock and no shares of preferred stock outstanding.

The following is a summary of the rights of our common stock, preferred stock and certain outstanding rights to obtain our common stock. For more detailed information about our capital stock, please see our certificate of incorporation and bylaws, both as amended (our "Certificate of Incorporation" and "Bylaws," respectively).

Common Stock

Holders of our common stock are entitled to one vote for each share on all matters submitted to a stockholder vote and may not cumulate their votes. Holders of common stock are entitled to share in all dividends that our Board of Directors (our "Board"), in its discretion, declares from legally available funds. In the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, each outstanding share entitles its holder to participate pro rata in all assets that remain after payment of liabilities and after providing for each class of stock, if any, having preference over the common stock.

Except for Norsk Hydro and TFG Radiant, which hold pre-emptive rights with respect to certain equity issuances by us (on terms no less favorable than any such issuance) in order to maintain their percentage ownership in our common stock, no other holders of our common stock have any conversion, preemptive or other subscription rights, and there are no redemption provisions applicable to our common stock. The rights of the holders of common stock are subject to any rights that may be fixed for holders of preferred stock.

Preferred Stock

Our Board is authorized by our Certificate of Incorporation to establish classes or series of preferred stock and fix the designation, powers, preferences and rights of the shares of each such class or series and the qualifications, limitations

or restrictions thereof without any further vote or action by our stockholders. Any shares of preferred stock so issued could have priority over our common stock with respect to dividend or liquidation rights. Any future issuance of preferred stock may have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in our control without further action by our stockholders and may adversely affect the voting and other rights of the holders of our common stock. At present we have no plans to issue any shares of preferred stock or to adopt any new series, preferences or other classification of preferred stock.

The issuance of shares of preferred stock, or the issuance of rights to purchase such shares, could be used to discourage an unsolicited acquisition proposal. For instance, the issuance of a series of preferred stock might impede a business combination by including class voting rights that would enable a holder to block such a transaction. In addition, under certain circumstances, the issuance of preferred stock could adversely affect the voting power of holders of our common stock. Although our Board is required to make any determination to issue preferred stock based on its judgment as to the best interests of our stockholders,

Table of Contents

our Board could act in a manner that would discourage an acquisition attempt or other transaction that some, or a majority, of our stockholders might believe to be in their best interests or in which such stockholders might receive a premium for their stock over the then market price of such stock. Our Board presently does not intend to seek stockholder approval prior to the issuance of currently authorized stock, unless otherwise required by law or applicable stock exchange rules.

Authorized but Unissued Shares

The authorized but unissued shares of common and preferred stock are available for future issuance without stockholder approval, unless otherwise required by law or applicable stock exchange rules. These additional shares may be used for a variety of corporate purposes, including future public offerings to raise additional capital, corporate acquisitions and employee benefit plans. The existence of authorized but unissued shares could hinder or discourage an attempt to obtain control of us by means of a proxy contest, tender offer, merger or otherwise.

Warrants

We may issue warrants to purchase our debt or equity securities or other rights, including rights to receive payment in cash or securities based on the value, rate or price of one or more specified commodities, currencies, securities or indices, or any combination of the foregoing. Warrants may be issued independently or together with any other securities and may be attached to, or separate from, such securities. Each series of warrants will be issued under a separate warrant agreement to be entered into between us and a warrant agent. The terms of any warrants to be issued and a description of the material provisions of the applicable warrant agreement will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the following terms of any warrants in respect of which this prospectus is being delivered:

Table of Contents

- * the title of such warrants;
- * the aggregate number of such warrants;
- * the price or prices at which such warrants will be issued;
- * the currency or currencies, in which the price of such warrants will be payable;
- * the securities or other rights, including rights to receive payment in cash or securities based on the value, rate or price of one or more specified commodities, currencies, securities or indices, or any combination of the foregoing, purchasable upon exercise of such warrants;
- * the price at which and the currency or currencies, in which the securities or other rights purchasable upon exercise of such warrants may be purchased;
- * the date on which the right to exercise such warrants shall commence and the date on which such right shall expire;
- * if applicable, the minimum or maximum amount of such warrants which may be exercised at any one time;
- * if applicable, the designation and terms of the securities with which such warrants are issued and the number of such warrants issued with each such security;
- * if applicable, the date on and after which such warrants and the related securities will be separately transferable;
- * information with respect to book-entry procedures, if any;
- * if applicable, a discussion of any material U.S. federal income tax considerations; and
- * any other material terms of such warrants, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of such warrants.

2005 Stock Option Plan

Our 2005 Stock Option Plan, as amended (the "Option Plan"), currently authorizes the grant of up to 3,700,000 shares of common stock (subject to adjustment for stock splits and similar capital changes) in connection with incentive stock option grants and non-qualified stock option grants. Employees and, in the case of nonqualified stock options, directors, consultants or other service providers are eligible to receive grants under our plans. According to the terms of the Option Plan, no employee may be granted, in any fiscal year, options to purchase more than 100,000 shares. As of December 29, 2011, there were outstanding and unexercised options to purchase 1,450,901 shares under our Option Plan.

2008 Restricted Stock Plan

Our 2008 Restricted Stock Plan, as amended (the "Stock Plan"), currently authorizes the grant of up to 1,550,000 shares of restricted common stock and restricted stock units (subject to adjustment for stock splits and similar capital

changes) to employees, directors, consultants or other service providers. According to the terms of the Stock Plan, no individual may be granted, in any fiscal year, more than 200,000 shares. Vesting of shares of restricted stock granted under the Stock Plan may occur over a specified period of time or based upon performance metrics announced at the time of grant. As of December 29, 2011, 1,234,052 restricted stock units had been granted under our Stock Plan, of which 639,759 were vested and outstanding.

TFG Radiant Option

7

Table of Contents

Pursuant to the Securities Purchase Agreement entered into on August 12, 2011 with TFG Radiant, we granted TFG Radiant an option to purchase 9,500,000 shares of our common stock. This option will only become exercisable under certain terms and conditions, including, among other things, TFG Radiant achieving certain performance milestones related to the construction of an initial PV module manufacturing facility located in Asia. This option will terminate if it becomes exercisable and then it is not exercised on or before February 12, 2014. If a change of control transaction occurs prior to such expiration date, this option will become immediately exercisable and will terminate unless exercised in connection with such change of control transaction. If this option becomes exercisable, the shares would be sold to TFG Radiant at a per share price equal to \$1.55 per share, or an aggregate of \$14,725,000.

Norsk Hydro Registration Rights

In connection with the sale of certain of our securities, Norsk Hydro received piggyback registration rights that enable them to require us to register for resale the shares held by them if we engage in a registered public offering; and also certain demand registration rights.

Anti-Takeover Effects of Certain Provisions of Delaware Law and Our Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws

Our Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws contain a number of provisions that could make our acquisition by means of a tender or exchange offer, a proxy contest or otherwise more difficult. These provisions are summarized below.

Removal of Directors. Our Bylaws provide that our directors may only be removed by the affirmative vote of the shares entitled to vote at an election of directors, or for cause by a majority of the Board. Although our Bylaws do not give the Board the power to approve or disapprove stockholder nominations for the election of directors or of any other business stockholders desire to conduct at an annual or any other meeting, the Bylaws may have the effect of precluding a nomination for the election of directors or precluding the conduct of business at a particular annual meeting if the proper procedures are not followed, or discouraging or deterring a third party from conducting a solicitation of proxies to elect its own slate of directors or otherwise attempting to obtain control, even if the conduct of that solicitation or attempt might be beneficial to our stockholders.

Staggered Board. Staggered terms tend to protect against sudden changes in management and may have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in our control without further action by our stockholders. Our Board is divided into three classes, with one class of directors elected at each year's annual stockholder meeting.

Special Meetings. Our Bylaws provide that special meetings of stockholders can be called by the President, at the request of a majority of the Board or at the written request of holders of at least 50% of the shares outstanding and entitled to vote.

Undesignated Preferred Stock. The ability to authorize undesignated preferred stock makes it possible for our Board of Directors to issue preferred stock with voting or other rights or preferences that could impede the success of any attempt to acquire us. These and other provisions may have the effect of deferring hostile takeovers or delaying changes in control or management of our Company.

Delaware Anti-Takeover Statute. We are subject to the provisions of Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law regulating corporate takeovers. In general, Section 203 prohibits a publicly held Delaware corporation from engaging under certain circumstances in a business combination with an interested stockholder for a period of three years following the date the person became an interested stockholder unless:

¶ Prior to the date of the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder, the board of directors of the corporation approved either the business combination or the transaction which resulted in the

stockholder becoming an interested stockholder.

Upon completion of the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder, the stockholder owned at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation outstanding at the time the transaction commenced, excluding for purposes of determining the number of shares outstanding (1) shares owned by persons who are directors and also officers and (2) shares owned by employee stock plans in which employee participants do not have the right to determine confidentially whether shares held subject to the plan will be tendered in a tender or exchange offer.

On or subsequent to the date of the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder, the business combination is approved by the board and authorized at an annual or special meeting of stockholders, and not by written consent, by the affirmative vote of at least $66\frac{2}{3}\%$ of the outstanding voting stock

8

Table of Contents

which is not owned by the interested stockholder.

Generally, a business combination includes a merger, asset or stock sale, or other transaction resulting in a financial benefit to the interested stockholder. An interested stockholder is a person who, together with affiliates and associates, owns or, within three years prior to the determination of interested stockholder status, did own 15% or more of a corporation's outstanding voting securities. We expect the existence of this provision to have an anti-takeover effect with respect to transactions our Board does not approve in advance. We also anticipate that Section 203 may also discourage attempts that might result in a premium over the market price for the shares of common stock held by stockholders.

The provisions of Delaware law, our Certificate of Incorporation and our Bylaws could have the effect of discouraging others from attempting hostile takeovers and, as a consequence, they may also inhibit temporary fluctuations in the market price of our common stock that often result from actual or rumored hostile takeover attempts. These provisions may also have the effect of preventing changes in our management. It is possible that these provisions could make it more difficult to accomplish transactions that stockholders may otherwise deem to be in their best interests.

Listing

Our common stock is listed on the Nasdaq Global Market under the trading symbol "ASTI."

Transfer Agent and Registrar

The transfer agent and registrar of our common stock is Computershare Investor Services.

EXPERTS

The financial statements included in our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010 and incorporated into this prospectus by reference have been audited by Hein & Associates LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, to the extent and for the periods set forth in their report, and are incorporated in this prospectus by reference in reliance upon such report given upon the authority of them as experts in auditing and accounting.

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the securities offered hereby will be passed on by Faegre & Benson LLP, Boulder, Colorado.

INFORMATION INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3. The SEC allows this filing to "incorporate by reference" information that the Company previously has filed with the SEC. This means the Company can disclose important information to you by referring you to other documents that it has filed with the SEC. The information that is incorporated by reference is considered part of this prospectus, and information that the Company files later will automatically update and may supersede this information. For further information about the Company and the securities being offered, you should refer to the registration statement and the following documents that are incorporated by reference:

• Our annual report on Form 10-K filed on February 28, 2011, which contains audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010;

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• Our definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A filed on April 27, 2011;

• Our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q filed on April 28, 2011, August 15, 2011 and November 10, 2011;

• Our current reports on Form 8-K filed on April 6, 2011, June 16, 2011, August 15, 2011, October 13, 2011, October 27, 2011, November 3, 2011 and November 22, 2011;

• All other reports filed by us pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act since the end of the fiscal year covered by the annual report referred to above; and

Table of Contents

The description of our common stock contained in Forms 8-A filed on June 19, 2006 and August 8, 2006 and any amendments or reports filed for the purpose of updating such description.

All documents filed by the Company subsequent to those listed above with the SEC pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, prior to the termination of the offering, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus and to be a part hereof from the date of filing of such documents. Any statement contained in a document incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus.

You may request a copy of all documents that are incorporated by reference in this prospectus by writing or telephoning us at the following address and number: Ascent Solar Technologies, Inc., Attention: Corporate Secretary, 12300 North Grant Street, Thornton, Colorado 80241, telephone (720) 872-5000. We will provide copies of all documents requested (not including exhibits to those documents, unless the exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference into those documents or this prospectus) without charge.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 filed with the SEC under the Securities Act. This prospectus does not contain all the information set forth in the registration statement because certain information has been incorporated into the registration statement by reference in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. Please review the documents incorporated by reference for a more complete description of the matters to which such documents relate.

We are subject to the informational reporting requirements of the Exchange Act. In accordance with the Exchange Act, we file reports, proxy statements, and other information with the SEC. You can inspect and copy these reports, proxy statements, and other information at the Public Reference Room of the SEC, 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549, at prescribed rates. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the operation of the public reference rooms. Our SEC filings are also available on the SEC's web site. The address of this site is <http://www.sec.gov>.

INDEMNIFICATION

Our Certificate of Incorporation contains provisions that limit the liability of our directors for monetary damages to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law. Consequently, our directors will not be personally liable to stockholders for monetary damages for any breach of fiduciary duties as directors, except liability for the following:

- Any breach of their duty of loyalty to our company or our stockholders;
- Acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law;

Unlawful payments of dividends or unlawful stock repurchases or redemptions as provided in Section 174 of the Delaware General Corporation Law; and

- Any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit.

Our Bylaws provide that we are required to indemnify our directors and officers and may indemnify our employees and other agents to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law. Our Bylaws also provide that we shall advance expenses incurred by a director or officer before the final disposition of any action or proceeding upon receipt of an undertaking from or on behalf of that director or officer to repay the advance if it is ultimately determined that he or she is not entitled to be indemnified. We have entered and expect to continue to enter into agreements to indemnify our directors, executive officers and other employees as determined by the Board. These agreements provide for indemnification for related expenses including attorneys' fees, judgments, fines and settlement amounts incurred by any of these individuals in any action or proceeding. We believe that these provisions and indemnification agreements are necessary to attract and retain qualified persons as directors and officers. We also maintain directors' and officers' liability insurance.

The limitation of liability and indemnification provisions in our Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws may discourage stockholders from bringing a lawsuit against our directors for breach of their fiduciary duty. They may also reduce the likelihood of derivative litigation against our directors and officers, even though an action, if successful, might benefit us and

other stockholders. Furthermore, a stockholder's investment may be adversely affected to the extent that we pay the costs of settlement and damage awards against directors and officers as required by these indemnification provisions. At present, there is no pending litigation or proceeding involving any of our directors, officers or employees regarding which indemnification is sought, and we are not aware of any threatened litigation that may result in claims for indemnification.

**DISCLOSURE OF COMMISSION POSITION ON
INDEMNIFICATION OF SECURITIES ACT LIABILITIES**

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers or persons controlling us pursuant to the foregoing provisions, we have been informed that in the opinion of the SEC such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is therefore unenforceable.

Table of Contents

PART II

INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution.

The estimated expenses of the offering, all of which are to be borne by the Registrant, are as follows:

SEC Registration Fee	\$ 2,865
Printing and Engraving *	5,000
Accounting Fees and Expenses *	10,000
Legal Fees and Expenses *	20,000
Transfer Agent Fees *	5,000
Miscellaneous *	2,135
Total*	\$ 45,000

* Estimated

Item 15. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Under Delaware law, a corporation may indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to an action (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of his service as a director or officer of the corporation, or his service, at the corporation's request, as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees) that are actually and reasonably incurred by him ("Expenses"), and judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement that are actually and reasonably incurred by him, in connection with the defense or settlement of such action, provided that he acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the corporation's best interests, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe that his conduct was unlawful. Although Delaware law permits a corporation to indemnify any person referred to above against Expenses in connection with the defense or settlement of an action by or in the right of the corporation, provided that he acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the corporation's best interests, if such person has been judged liable to the corporation, indemnification is only permitted to the extent that the Court of Chancery (or the court in which the action was brought) determines that, despite the adjudication of liability, such person is entitled to indemnity for such Expenses as the court deems proper. The General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware also provides for mandatory indemnification of any director, officer, employee or agent against Expenses to the extent such person has been successful in any proceeding covered by the statute. In addition, the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware provides the general authorization of advancement of a director's or officer's litigation expenses in lieu of requiring the authorization of such advancement by the board of directors in specific cases, and that indemnification and advancement of expenses provided by the statute shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which those seeking indemnification or advancement of expenses may be entitled under any bylaw, agreement or otherwise.

The Bylaws of the Company provide for the broad indemnification by the directors and officers of the Company and for advancement of litigation expenses to the fullest extent permitted by current Delaware law. The Company also has entered into indemnification contracts with its directors and officers.

The Company maintains a policy of directors and officers liability insurance which reimburses the Company for expenses which it may incur in connection with the foregoing indemnity provisions and which may provide direct indemnification to

Table of Contents

directors and officers where the Company is unable to do so.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of Registrant pursuant to the above, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the SEC such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Act and is, therefore, unenforceable.

Item 16. Exhibits.

Exhibit Number	Description
3.1	Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to our Registration Statement on Form SB-2 filed January 23, 2006 (Reg. No. 333-131216), as amended)
3.2	Certificate of Amendment to the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to our quarterly report on Form 10-Q filed November 10, 2011)
3.3	Second Amended and Restated Bylaws (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to our Current Report on Form 8-K filed on February 17, 2009)
3.4	First Amendment to Second Amended and Restated Bylaws (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.3 to our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2009)
4.1	Form of common stock certificate (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to our Registration Statement on Form SB-2 filed January 23, 2006 (Reg. No. 333-131216), as amended)
4.2	Form of Certificate of Designation of preferred stock**
4.3	Specimen preferred stock certificate**
4.4	Form of warrant**
4.5	Form of warrant agreement**
5.1	Opinion of Faegre & Benson LLP*
23.1	Consent of Hein & Associates LLP*
23.3	Consent of Faegre & Benson LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1)
24.1	Power of Attorney (included in signature page)

* Filed herewith.

** To be filed by amendment to this registration statement or by a report filed under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and incorporated herein by reference

Item 17. Undertakings.

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental

change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in the volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective registration statement; and

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the

II - 2

Table of Contents

registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement; provided, however, that paragraphs (1)(i), (1)(ii) and (1)(iii) above do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 and Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement, or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of the registration statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(4) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser:

(A) Each prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the registration statement; and

(B) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5), or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii), or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by Section 10(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which that prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof. Provided, however, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date.

(5) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the registrant under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities, the undersigned registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

(i) Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;

(ii) Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned registrant;

(iii) The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant; and

(iv) Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned registrant to the purchaser.

(6) That, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to section 13(a) or section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(7) To deliver or cause to be delivered with the prospectus, to each person to whom the prospectus is sent or given, the latest annual report to security holders that is incorporated by reference in the prospectus and furnished pursuant to

and meeting the requirements of Rule 14a-3 or Rule 14c-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and, where interim financial information required to be presented by Article 3 of Regulation S-X are not set forth in the prospectus, to deliver, or cause to be delivered to each person to whom the prospectus is sent or given, the latest quarterly report that is specifically incorporated by reference in the prospectus to provide such interim financial information.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers

II - 3

Table of Contents

and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and is therefore unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

II - 4

Table of Contents

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in Thornton, Colorado on December 29, 2011 .

Ascent Solar Technologies, Inc.

By: /s/ Ron Eller
Ron Eller
President and Chief Executive Officer

Table of Contents

POWER OF ATTORNEY

We, the undersigned directors and officers of Ascent Solar Technologies, Inc., do hereby constitute and appoint Ron Eller and Gary Gatchell or any of them, our true and lawful attorneys and agents, to do any and all acts and things in our name and behalf in our capacities as directors and officers and to execute any and all instruments for us and in our names in the capacities indicated below, which said attorneys and agents, or either of them, may deem necessary or advisable to enable said corporation to comply with the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and any rules, regulations, and requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission, in connection with this registration statement, including specifically, but without limitation, power and authority to sign for us or any of us in our names and in the capacities indicated below, any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this registration statement, or any related registration statement that is to be effective upon filing pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended; and we do hereby ratify and confirm all that the said attorneys and agents, or either of them, shall do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act, this registration statement has been signed below by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

II - 6

Table of Contents

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ Ron Eller Ron Eller	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer)	December 29, 2011
/s/ Gary Gatchell Gary Gatchell	Chief Financial Officer (Principal Accounting and Financial Officer)	December 29, 2011
/s/ Amit Kumar, Ph.D. Amit Kumar, Ph.D.	Chairman	December 29, 2011
/s/ Kim J. Huntley Kim J. Huntley	Director	December 29, 2011
/s/ G. Thomas Marsh G. Thomas Marsh	Director	December 29, 2011
/s/ Richard J. Swanson Richard J. Swanson	Director	December 29, 2011
/s/ Hans Olav Kvalvaag Hans Olav Kvalvaag	Director	December 29, 2011
Lee Kong Hian (aka Victor Lee)	Director	

Table of Contents

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** To be filed by amendment to this registration statement or by a report filed under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and incorporated herein by reference.