

KADANT INC
Form 10-Q
November 07, 2012

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

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

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

For the quarterly period ended September 29, 2012

OR

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file number 1-11406

KADANT INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)

52-1762325
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

One Technology Park Drive
Westford, Massachusetts
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

01886
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (978) 776-2000

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

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

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.

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).
Yes No

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

Class	Outstanding at October 26, 2012
Common Stock, \$.01 par value	11,319,096

PART 1 – FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1 – Financial Statements

KADANT INC.

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet
(Unaudited)

Assets

(In thousands)	September 29, 2012	December 31, 2011
Current Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$53,339	\$46,950
Restricted cash (Note 2)	67	700
Accounts receivable, less allowances of \$2,370 and \$2,308 (Note 2)	60,511	59,492
Inventories (Note 4)	43,561	50,527
Unbilled contract costs and fees	6,937	3,244
Other current assets	14,796	11,703
Assets of discontinued operation	1,642	1,675
Total Current Assets	180,853	174,291
Property, Plant, and Equipment, at Cost	106,794	105,671
Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization	68,920	65,576
	37,874	40,095
Other Assets	36,359	38,053
Goodwill	107,218	105,959
Total Assets	\$362,304	\$358,398

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

KADANT INC.

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet (continued)
(Unaudited)

Liabilities and Shareholders' Investment

(In thousands, except share amounts)	September 29, 2012	December 31, 2011
Current Liabilities:		
Current maturities of long-term obligations	\$ 500	\$ 500
Accounts payable	22,843	28,624
Accrued payroll and employee benefits	15,871	17,687
Customer deposits	13,906	18,627
Other current liabilities	26,270	26,722
Liabilities of discontinued operation	1,460	3,632
Total Current Liabilities	80,850	95,792
Other Long-Term Liabilities	27,601	27,226
Long-Term Obligations (Note 6)	11,375	11,750
Shareholders' Investment:		
Preferred stock, \$.01 par value, 5,000,000 shares authorized; none issued	—	—
Common stock, \$.01 par value, 150,000,000 shares authorized; 14,624,159 shares issued	146	146
Capital in excess of par value	94,362	93,701
Retained earnings	220,763	198,706
Treasury stock at cost, 3,305,063 and 2,983,717 shares	(69,464)	(62,118)
Accumulated other comprehensive items	(4,628)	(7,955)
Total Kadant Shareholders' Investment	241,179	222,480
Noncontrolling interest	1,299	1,150
Total Shareholders' Investment	242,478	223,630
Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Investment	\$ 362,304	\$ 358,398

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

KADANT INC.

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Income
(Unaudited)

(In thousands, except per share amounts)	Three Months Ended	
	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011
Revenues	\$86,601	\$84,358
Costs and Operating Expenses:		
Cost of revenues	49,005	48,347
Selling, general, and administrative expenses	26,171	26,080
Research and development expenses	1,511	1,408
Other income (Note 8)	–	(2,282)
	76,687	73,553
Operating Income	9,914	10,805
Interest Income	63	122
Interest Expense	(219)	(254)
Income from Continuing Operations Before Provision for Income Taxes	9,758	10,673
Provision for Income Taxes	2,055	774
Income from Continuing Operations	7,703	9,899
Income (Loss) from Discontinued Operation (net of income tax expense of \$520 and income tax benefit of \$224)	844	(1,156)
Net Income	8,547	8,743
Net Income Attributable to Noncontrolling Interest	(86)	(95)
Net Income Attributable to Kadant	\$8,461	\$8,648
Amounts Attributable to Kadant:		
Income from Continuing Operations	\$7,617	\$9,804
Income (Loss) from Discontinued Operation	844	(1,156)
Net Income Attributable to Kadant	\$8,461	\$8,648
Earnings per Share from Continuing Operations Attributable to Kadant (Note 3):		
Basic	\$.67	\$.81
Diluted	\$.66	\$.80

Earnings per Share Attributable to Kadant (Note 3):

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Basic	\$.75	\$.71
Diluted	\$.74	\$.70
Weighted Average Shares (Note 3):		
Basic	11,341	12,155
Diluted	11,491	12,276

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

KADANT INC.

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Income
(Unaudited)

(In thousands, except per share amounts)	Nine Months Ended	
	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011
Revenues	\$253,696	\$238,495
Costs and Operating Expenses:		
Cost of revenues	141,430	130,685
Selling, general, and administrative expenses	77,804	76,374
Research and development expenses	4,436	4,123
Other expense (income) (Note 8)	307	(2,282)
	223,977	208,900
Operating Income	29,719	29,595
Interest Income	231	343
Interest Expense	(624)	(810)
Income from Continuing Operations Before Provision for Income Taxes	29,326	29,128
Provision for Income Taxes (Note 5)	7,898	5,974
Income from Continuing Operations	21,428	23,154
Income (Loss) from Discontinued Operation (net of income tax expense of \$467 and income tax benefit of \$229)	780	(1,165)
Net Income	22,208	21,989
Net Income Attributable to Noncontrolling Interest	(151)	(246)
Net Income Attributable to Kadant	\$22,057	\$21,743
Amounts Attributable to Kadant:		
Income from Continuing Operations	\$21,277	\$22,908
Income (Loss) from Discontinued Operation	780	(1,165)
Net Income Attributable to Kadant	\$22,057	\$21,743
Earnings per Share from Continuing Operations Attributable to Kadant (Note 3):		
Basic	\$1.85	\$1.87
Diluted	\$1.83	\$1.85

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Earnings per Share Attributable to Kadant (Note 3):

Basic	\$1.91	\$1.78
Diluted	\$1.90	\$1.76

Weighted Average Shares (Note 3):

Basic	11,523	12,248
Diluted	11,633	12,387

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

KADANT INC.

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income
(Unaudited)

(In thousands)	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011
Net Income	\$ 8,547	\$8,743	\$22,208	\$21,989
Other Comprehensive Items:				
Foreign Currency Translation Adjustment	4,542	(6,852)	2,881	1,084
Pension and Other Post-Retirement Liability Adjustments, net (net of income tax of \$67 and \$205 in the three and nine months ended September 29, 2012, respectively, and \$48 and \$139 in the three and nine months ended October 1, 2011, respectively)	110	97	361	(696)
Deferred Gain (Loss) on Hedging Instruments (net of income tax of \$49 and \$50 in the three and nine months ended September 29, 2012, respectively, and tax benefit of \$(157) and \$(126) in the three and nine months ended October 1, 2011, respectively)	93	(403)	83	(196)
	4,745	(7,158)	3,325	192
Comprehensive Income	13,292	1,585	25,533	22,181
Comprehensive Income Attributable to Noncontrolling Interest	(128)	(21)	(149)	(300)
Comprehensive Income Attributable to Kadant	\$13,164	\$1,564	\$25,384	\$21,881

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

KADANT INC.

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows
(Unaudited)

(In thousands)	Nine Months Ended	
	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011
Operating Activities:		
Net income attributable to Kadant	\$22,057	\$21,743
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interest	151	246
(Income) loss from discontinued operation	(780)	1,165
Income from continuing operations	21,428	23,154
Adjustments to reconcile income from continuing operations to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	6,419	5,947
Stock-based compensation expense	3,560	2,921
Provision for losses on accounts receivable	65	1,013
Gain on the sale of property, plant, and equipment	(209)	(2,323)
Other items, net	1,144	(713)
Changes in current assets and liabilities, net of effects of acquisitions:		
Accounts receivable	(563)	(4,778)
Unbilled contract costs and fees	(3,934)	(1,014)
Inventories	7,398	(14,465)
Other current assets	(980)	(720)
Accounts payable	(5,890)	(1,089)
Other current liabilities	(9,981)	12,241
Contributions to pension plan	(720)	(675)
Net cash provided by continuing operations	17,737	19,499
Net cash (used in) provided by discontinued operation	(1,359)	111
Net cash provided by operating activities	16,378	19,610
Investing Activities:		
Purchases of property, plant, and equipment	(1,514)	(5,473)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant, and equipment	370	2,329
Acquisitions, net of cash acquired	113	(15,358)
Dividend paid to minority shareholder	–	(579)
Other, net	(10)	58
Net cash used in continuing operations for investing activities	(1,041)	(19,023)
Financing Activities:		
Purchases of Company common stock	(9,799)	(9,445)
Change in restricted cash	632	(1,188)
Proceeds from issuance of long-term obligations	5,000	5,000
Repayments of short- and long-term obligations	(5,375)	(10,892)
Net proceeds from issuance of Company common stock	359	149
Other, net	(517)	7
Net cash used in continuing operations for financing activities	(9,700)	(16,369)

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Exchange Rate Effect on Cash and Cash Equivalents from Continuing Operations	752	828
Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents from Continuing Operations	6,389	(14,954)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period	46,950	61,805
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period	\$53,339	\$46,851
Non-cash Investing Activities:		
Fair value of assets acquired	\$-	\$21,808
Cash paid for acquired business	-	(15,849)
Liabilities assumed of acquired business	\$-	\$5,959
Non-cash Financing Activities:		
Issuance of Company common stock	\$1,967	\$2,009

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

KADANT INC.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
(Unaudited)

1. General

The interim condensed consolidated financial statements and related notes presented have been prepared by Kadant Inc. (also referred to in this document as “we,” “Kadant,” “the Company,” or “the Registrant”), are unaudited, and, in the opinion of management, reflect all adjustments of a normal recurring nature necessary for a fair statement of the Company’s financial position at September 29, 2012, and its results of operations and comprehensive income for the three and nine month periods ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011, and cash flows for the nine month periods ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011. Interim results are not necessarily indicative of results for a full year or for any other interim period.

The condensed consolidated balance sheet presented as of December 31, 2011 has been derived from the consolidated financial statements contained in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K. The condensed consolidated financial statements and related notes are presented as permitted by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) rules and regulations for Form 10-Q and do not contain certain information included in the annual consolidated financial statements and related notes of the Company. The condensed consolidated financial statements and notes included herein should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and related notes included in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011, filed with the SEC.

2. Restricted Cash and Notes Receivable

As of September 29, 2012 and December 31, 2011, the Company had restricted cash of \$67,000 and \$700,000, respectively. This cash served as collateral for bank guarantees primarily associated with providing assurance to customers in China that the Company would fulfill certain customer obligations entered into in the normal course of business. All the bank guarantees expired by September 30, 2012.

As of September 29, 2012 and December 31, 2011, the Company had \$9,853,000 and \$15,901,000, respectively, of notes receivable, included in accounts receivable in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheet. These represent banker’s acceptance bills from banks in China that have been presented by various customers in China as payment for their trade accounts receivable. The notes receivable are non-interest bearing and mature within six months. The Company has the ability to sell the notes receivable at a discount or transfer the notes receivable in settlement of current accounts payable prior to the scheduled maturity date.

3. Earnings per Share

Basic and diluted earnings per share are calculated as follows:

(In thousands, except per share amounts)	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011
Amounts Attributable to Kadant:				
Income from Continuing Operations	\$7,617	\$9,804	\$21,277	\$22,908
Income (Loss) from Discontinued Operation	844	(1,156)	780	(1,165)

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Net Income	\$8,461	\$8,648	\$22,057	\$21,743
Basic Weighted Average Shares	11,341	12,155	11,523	12,248
Effect of Stock Options, Restricted Stock Units and Employee Stock Purchase Plan	150	121	110	139
Diluted Weighted Average Shares	11,491	12,276	11,633	12,387
Basic Earnings per Share:				
Continuing Operations	\$.67	\$.81	\$1.85	\$1.87
Discontinued Operation	\$.07	\$(.10)	\$.07	\$(.10)
Net Income	\$.75	\$.71	\$1.91	\$1.78
Diluted Earnings per Share:				
Continuing Operations	\$.66	\$.80	\$1.83	\$1.85
Discontinued Operation	\$.07	\$(.09)	\$.07	\$(.09)
Net Income	\$.74	\$.70	\$1.90	\$1.76

KADANT INC.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
(Unaudited)

3. Earnings per Share (continued)

Options to purchase approximately 164,400 and 81,600 shares of the Company's common stock for the third quarters of 2012 and 2011, respectively, and 145,300 and 62,800 shares of the Company's common stock for the first nine months of 2012 and 2011, respectively, were not included in the computation of diluted earnings per share because the options' exercise prices were greater than the average market price for the common stock during the period and the effect of their inclusion would have been anti-dilutive. Unvested restricted stock units equivalent to approximately 43,000 shares of common stock for the third quarter of 2011, and 38,000 and 60,000 shares of common stock for the first nine months of 2012 and 2011, respectively, were not included in the computation of diluted earnings per share because either the effect of their inclusion would have been anti-dilutive, or for unvested performance-based restricted stock units, the performance conditions had not been met as of the end of the reporting period.

4. Inventories

The components of inventories are as follows:

(In thousands)	September 29, 2012	December 31, 2011
Raw Materials and Supplies	\$19,914	\$20,218
Work in Process	7,952	9,383
Finished Goods	15,695	20,926
	\$43,561	\$50,527

5. Income Taxes

The provision for income taxes was \$7,898,000 and \$5,974,000 in the first nine months of 2012 and 2011, respectively, and represented 27% and 21% of pre-tax income. The effective tax rate of 27% in the first nine months of 2012 was lower than the Company's statutory rate primarily due to the expected utilization of foreign tax credits in the U.S. that were fully reserved in prior periods and the distribution of worldwide earnings. The increase in the expected utilization of foreign tax credits was due to an increase in estimated current year income and foreign source income in the U.S. For the full year 2012, the Company estimates that it will be able to utilize approximately \$2,709,000 of foreign tax credit carryforwards. The effective tax rate of 21% in the first nine months of 2011 was lower than the Company's statutory rate primarily due to the inclusion of a discrete tax benefit of \$1,890,000 from the recognition of previously unrecognized tax benefits that resulted primarily from the favorable settlement of a tax audit in a non-U.S. jurisdiction, as well as the expiration of statutes of limitations in various jurisdictions. Also contributing to the effective tax rate of 21% in the first nine months of 2011 was the expected utilization of foreign tax credits that were fully reserved in prior periods and the favorable geographic distribution of worldwide earnings.

The Company has established valuation allowances related to certain domestic and foreign deferred tax assets and tax credits. The valuation allowance as of December 31, 2011 was \$21,014,000, consisting of \$8,096,000 in the U.S. and \$12,918,000 in foreign jurisdictions. Compliance with Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 740, "Income Taxes", requires the Company to periodically evaluate the necessity of establishing or adjusting a valuation allowance

for deferred tax assets depending on whether it is more likely than not that a related tax benefit will be recognized in future periods. When assessing the need for a valuation allowance in a tax jurisdiction, the Company evaluates the weight of all available evidence to determine whether it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred income tax assets will not be realized. As part of this evaluation, the Company considers its cumulative three-year history of earnings before income taxes, taxable income in prior carryback years, future reversals of existing taxable temporary differences, prudent and feasible tax planning strategies, and expected future results of operations. As of September 29, 2012, the Company has maintained a valuation allowance in the U.S. primarily against certain of its foreign tax credits due to the uncertainty of income beyond 2012. The Company's full valuation allowance in certain foreign jurisdictions was maintained as of September 29, 2012 as a result of certain foreign subsidiaries being in a three-year cumulative loss position and the uncertainty of future profitability.

KADANT INC.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
(Unaudited)

6. Long-Term Obligations

Long-term obligations are as follows:

(In thousands)	September 29, 2012	December 31, 2011
Revolving Credit Facility, due 2017	\$5,000	\$–
Revolving Credit Facility, due 2013	–	5,000
Variable Rate Term Loan, due from 2012 to 2016	6,875	7,250
Total Long-Term Obligations	11,875	12,250
Less: Current Maturities	(500)	(500)
Long-Term Obligations, less Current Maturities	\$11,375	\$11,750

The weighted average interest rate for the Company's long-term obligations was 5.5% as of September 29, 2012.

On August 3, 2012, the Company entered into a five-year unsecured revolving credit facility (2012 Credit Agreement) in the aggregate principal amount of up to \$100,000,000. The 2012 Credit Agreement also includes an uncommitted unsecured incremental borrowing facility of up to an additional \$50,000,000. The principal on any borrowings made under the 2012 Credit Agreement is due on August 3, 2017. Interest on any loans outstanding under the 2012 Credit Agreement accrues and is payable quarterly in arrears at one of the following rates selected by the Company: (i) the highest of (a) the federal funds rate plus 0.50% plus an applicable margin of 0% to 1%, (b) the prime rate, as defined, plus an applicable margin of 0% to 1% and (c) the Eurocurrency rate, as defined, plus 0.50% plus an applicable margin of 0% to 1% or (ii) the Eurocurrency rate, as defined, plus an applicable margin of 1% to 2%. The applicable margin is determined based upon the ratio of the Company's total debt to EBITDA, as defined in the 2012 Credit Agreement. For this purpose, total debt is defined as total debt less up to \$25,000,000 of unrestricted domestic cash.

Contemporaneously with the execution of the 2012 Credit Agreement, the Company borrowed \$5,000,000 under the 2012 Credit Agreement and applied the proceeds to pay off its existing outstanding unsecured revolving credit facility entered into in February 2008, which was then terminated.

The obligations of the Company under the 2012 Credit Agreement may be accelerated upon the occurrence of an event of default under the 2012 Credit Agreement, which includes customary events of default including without limitation payment defaults, defaults in the performance of affirmative and negative covenants, the inaccuracy of representations or warranties, bankruptcy- and insolvency-related defaults, defaults relating to such matters as the Employment Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), unsatisfied judgments, the failure to pay certain indebtedness, and a change of control default. In addition, the 2012 Credit Agreement contains negative covenants applicable to the Company and its subsidiaries including financial covenants requiring the Company to comply with a maximum consolidated leverage ratio of 3.5 to 1, a maximum annual capital expenditure of \$25,000,000, and a minimum consolidated interest coverage ratio of 3 to 1, and restrictions on liens, indebtedness, fundamental changes, dispositions of property, making certain restricted payments (including dividends and stock repurchases), investments, transactions with affiliates, sale and leaseback transactions, swap agreements, changing its fiscal year, arrangements affecting subsidiary distributions, entering into new lines of business, and certain actions related to the discontinued

operation. As of September 29, 2012, the Company was in compliance with these covenants.

Loans under the 2012 Credit Agreement are guaranteed by certain domestic subsidiaries of the Company pursuant to a Guarantee Agreement, effective August 3, 2012.

As of September 29, 2012, the Company had \$89,937,000 of borrowing capacity available under the committed portion of its 2012 Credit Agreement. The amount the Company is able to borrow under the 2012 Credit Agreement is the total borrowing capacity less any outstanding borrowings, letters of credit and multi-currency borrowings issued under the 2012 Credit Agreement.

KADANT INC.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
(Unaudited)

7. Warranty Obligations

The Company provides for the estimated cost of product warranties at the time of sale based on the actual historical occurrence rates and repair costs. The Company typically negotiates the terms regarding warranty coverage and length of warranty depending on the products and applications. While the Company engages in extensive product quality programs and processes, the Company's warranty obligation is affected by product failure rates, repair costs, service delivery costs incurred in correcting a product failure, and supplier warranties on parts delivered to the Company. Should actual product failure rates, repair costs, service delivery costs, or supplier warranties on parts differ from the Company's estimates, revisions to the estimated warranty liability would be required.

The changes in the carrying amount of accrued warranty costs included in other current liabilities in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheet are as follows:

(In thousands)	Nine Months Ended September 29, 2012	Nine Months Ended October 1, 2011
Balance at beginning of period	\$4,129	\$3,778
Provision	1,128	1,373
Usage	(1,171)	(1,563)
Acquired	-	86
Currency translation	34	77
Balance at end of period	\$4,120	\$3,751

8. Restructuring and Other Expense (Income)

Other Expense (Income)

In the first nine months of 2012, other expense consisted of accelerated depreciation of \$307,000 associated with the anticipated disposal of equipment in China related to a facility consolidation. Other income in the three and nine month periods ended October 1, 2011 consisted of a pre-tax gain of \$2,282,000 from the sale of real estate in China.

2011 Restructuring Plan

The Company recorded total restructuring costs of \$408,000 in the fourth quarter of 2011 in its Papermaking Systems segment consisting of severance and associated costs related to the reduction of 73 employees in China to adjust our cost structure and streamline the Company's operations.

2008 Restructuring Plan

The Company recorded total restructuring costs of \$4,515,000, including severance and associated costs of \$4,130,000 and facility-related costs of \$385,000, in prior periods associated with its 2008 Restructuring Plan. These restructuring costs related to the reduction of 329 employees in China, North America, Latin America, and Europe, all in its Papermaking Systems segment. These actions were taken to adjust the Company's cost structure and streamline its operations in response to the weak economic environment at the time.

KADANT INC.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
(Unaudited)

8. Restructuring and Other Expense (Income) (continued)

A summary of the changes in accrued restructuring costs related to the Company's 2008 and 2011 Restructuring Plans is as follows:

(In thousands)	Severance Costs
2011 Restructuring Plan	
Balance at December 31, 2011	\$408
Payments	(191)
Currency translation	2
Balance at September 29, 2012	\$219
2008 Restructuring Plan	
Balance at December 31, 2011	\$354
Payments	(141)
Currency translation	2
Balance at September 29, 2012	\$215

The Company expects to pay the remaining accrued restructuring costs from 2012 to 2016.

9. Business Segment Information

The Company has combined its operating entities into one reportable operating segment, Papermaking Systems, and a separate product line, Fiber-based Products. In classifying operational entities into a particular segment, the Company aggregated businesses with similar economic characteristics, products and services, production processes, customers, and methods of distribution.

(In thousands)	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011
Revenues:				
Papermaking Systems	\$85,211	\$82,883	\$245,322	\$230,038
Fiber-based Products	1,390	1,475	8,374	8,457
	\$86,601	\$84,358	\$253,696	\$238,495
Income from Continuing Operations Before Provision for Income Taxes:				
Papermaking Systems	\$14,385	\$14,573	\$38,261	\$38,343
Corporate and Fiber-based Products (a)	(4,471)	(3,768)	(8,542)	(8,748)
Total Operating Income	9,914	10,805	29,719	29,595

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Interest Expense, Net	(156)	(132)	(393)	(467)
	\$9,758	\$10,673	\$29,326	\$29,128
Capital Expenditures:				
Papermaking Systems	\$578	\$1,371	\$1,339	\$5,281
Corporate and Fiber-based Products	95	138	175	192
	\$673	\$1,509	\$1,514	\$5,473

(a) Corporate primarily includes general and administrative expenses.

KADANT INC.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
(Unaudited)

10. Stock-Based Compensation

Stock-based compensation expense of \$1,298,000 and \$1,019,000 in the third quarters of 2012 and 2011, respectively, and \$3,560,000 and \$2,921,000 in the first nine months of 2012 and 2011, respectively, was recognized within selling, general, and administrative expenses in the accompanying condensed consolidated statement of income. Unrecognized compensation expense related to stock-based compensation totaled approximately \$5,578,000 at September 29, 2012, and will be recognized over a weighted average period of 1.6 years.

On March 7, 2012, the Company granted to executive officers of the Company performance-based restricted stock units (RSUs), which represented, in aggregate, the right to receive 66,299 shares (the target RSU amount), subject to adjustment, with a grant date fair value of \$21.91 per share. The RSUs are subject to adjustment based on the achievement of the performance measure selected for the 2012 fiscal year, which is a specified target for adjusted earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization (adjusted EBITDA) generated from continuing operations for the 2012 fiscal year. The RSUs are adjusted by comparing the actual adjusted EBITDA for the performance period to the target adjusted EBITDA. Actual adjusted EBITDA between 50% and 100% of the target adjusted EBITDA results in an adjustment of 50% to 100% of the RSU amount. Actual adjusted EBITDA between 100% and 115% of the target adjusted EBITDA results in an adjustment using a straight-line linear scale between 100% and 150% of the RSU amount. If actual adjusted EBITDA is below 50% of the target adjusted EBITDA for the 2012 fiscal year, all RSUs will be forfeited. In the first nine months of 2012, the Company recognized compensation expense based on the probable number of RSUs expected to vest, which was 135% of the target RSU amount. Following the adjustment, the RSUs will be subject to additional time-based vesting, and will vest in three equal annual installments on March 10 of 2013, 2014, and 2015, provided that the executive officer is employed by the Company on the applicable vesting dates. In March 2012, the Company granted time-based RSUs representing 93,198 shares to its employees and non-employee directors. Also in March 2012, the Company granted options to purchase 82,717 shares of common stock to its executive officers.

11. Employee Benefit Plans

The Company sponsors a noncontributory defined benefit retirement plan for the benefit of eligible employees at its Kadant Solutions division and its corporate office (included in the table below in "Pension Benefits"). In addition, employees at certain of the Company's subsidiaries participate in defined benefit retirement and post-retirement welfare benefit plans (included in the table below in "Other Benefits"). The components of the net periodic benefit cost for the pension benefits and other benefits plans are as follows:

KADANT INC.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
(Unaudited)

11. Employee Benefit Plans (continued)

(In thousands)	Three Months Ended September 29, 2012		Three Months Ended October 1, 2011	
	Pension Benefits	Other Benefits	Pension Benefits	Other Benefits
Components of Net Periodic Benefit Cost:				
Service cost	\$243	\$34	\$209	\$51
Interest cost	331	56	324	61
Expected return on plan assets	(407)	–	(359)	–
Recognized net actuarial loss	160	8	107	7
Amortization of prior service cost	14	6	14	4
Net periodic benefit cost	\$341	\$ 104	\$295	\$123

The weighted average assumptions used to determine net periodic benefit cost are as follows:

Discount rate	4.28	%	4.43	%	5.25	%	5.05	%
Expected long-term return on plan assets	6.25	%	–		6.25	%	–	
Rate of compensation increase	4.00	%	3.45	%	4.00	%	3.24	%

(In thousands)	Nine Months Ended September 29, 2012		Nine Months Ended October 1, 2011	
	Pension Benefits	Other Benefits	Pension Benefits	Other Benefits
Components of Net Periodic Benefit Cost:				
Service cost	\$748	\$107	\$645	\$141
Interest cost	982	171	975	174
Expected return on plan assets	(1,208)	–	(1,071)	–
Recognized net actuarial loss	474	25	326	21
Amortization of prior service cost	42	17	42	3
Net periodic benefit cost	\$1,038	\$320	\$ 917	\$ 339

The weighted average assumptions used to determine net periodic benefit cost are as follows:

Discount rate	4.28	%	4.43	%	5.25	%	5.03	%
Expected long-term return on plan assets	6.25	%	–		6.25	%	–	
Rate of compensation increase	4.00	%	3.46	%	4.00	%	3.14	%

The Company made cash contributions of \$720,000 to its Kadant Solutions division's noncontributory defined benefit retirement plan in the first nine months of 2012 and expects to make cash contributions of \$240,000 over the remainder of 2012. For the remaining pension and post-retirement welfare benefits plans, the Company does not expect to make cash contributions other than to fund current benefit payments.

KADANT INC.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
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12. Derivatives

The Company uses derivative instruments primarily to reduce its exposure to changes in currency exchange rates and interest rates. When the Company enters into a derivative contract, the Company makes a determination as to whether the transaction is deemed to be a hedge for accounting purposes. For a contract deemed to be a hedge, the Company formally documents the relationship between the derivative instrument and the risk being hedged. In this documentation, the Company specifically identifies the asset, liability, forecasted transaction, cash flow, or net investment that has been designated as the hedged item, and evaluates whether the derivative instrument is expected to reduce the risks associated with the hedged item. To the extent these criteria are not met, the Company does not use hedge accounting for the derivative. The changes in the fair value of a derivative not deemed to be a hedge are recorded currently in earnings. The Company does not hold or engage in transactions involving derivative instruments for purposes other than risk management.

ASC 815, "Derivatives and Hedging," requires that all derivatives be recognized on the balance sheet at fair value. For derivatives designated as cash flow hedges, the related gains or losses on these contracts are deferred as a component of accumulated other comprehensive items. These deferred gains and losses are recognized in the period in which the underlying anticipated transaction occurs. For derivatives designated as fair value hedges, the unrealized gains and losses resulting from the impact of currency exchange rate movements are recognized in earnings in the period in which the exchange rates change and offset the currency gains and losses on the underlying exposures being hedged. The Company performs an evaluation of the effectiveness of the hedge both at inception and on an ongoing basis. The ineffective portion of a hedge, if any, and changes in the fair value of a derivative not deemed to be a hedge are recorded in the condensed consolidated statement of income.

Interest Rate Swaps

The Company entered into interest rate swap agreements in 2008 and 2006 to hedge its exposure to variable-rate debt and has designated these agreements as cash flow hedges. On February 13, 2008, the Company entered into a swap agreement (2008 Swap Agreement) to hedge the exposure to movements in the three-month LIBOR rate on future outstanding debt. The 2008 Swap Agreement has a five-year term and a \$15,000,000 notional value, which decreased to \$5,000,000 on December 30, 2011. Under the 2008 Swap Agreement, on a quarterly basis the Company receives a three-month LIBOR rate and pays a fixed rate of interest of 3.265% plus the applicable margin. The Company entered into a swap agreement in 2006 (the 2006 Swap Agreement) to convert a portion of the Company's outstanding debt from a floating to a fixed rate of interest. The swap agreement has the same terms and quarterly payment dates as the corresponding debt, and reduces proportionately in line with the amortization of the debt. Under the 2006 Swap Agreement, the Company receives a three-month LIBOR rate and pays a fixed rate of interest of 5.63% plus an applicable margin. The fair values for these instruments as of September 29, 2012 are included in liabilities, with an offset to accumulated other comprehensive items (net of tax) in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheet. The Company has structured these interest rate swap agreements to be 100% effective and as a result, there is no current impact to earnings resulting from hedge ineffectiveness. Management believes that any credit risk associated with the swap agreements is remote based on the Company's financial position and the creditworthiness of the financial institution issuing the swap agreements.

The counterparty to the swap agreement could demand an early termination of the swap agreement if the Company is in default under the 2012 Credit Agreement, or any agreement that amends or replaces the 2012 Credit Agreement in

which the counterparty is a member, and the Company is unable to cure the default. An event of default under the 2012 Credit Agreement includes customary events of default and failure to comply with financial covenants, including a maximum consolidated leverage ratio of 3.5 to 1, a maximum annual capital expenditure of \$25,000,000, and a minimum consolidated interest coverage ratio of 3 to 1. As of September 29, 2012, the Company was in compliance with these covenants. The unrealized loss of \$1,181,000 as of September 29, 2012 represents the estimated amount that the Company would pay to the counterparty in the event of an early termination.

Forward Currency-Exchange Contracts

The Company uses forward currency-exchange contracts primarily to hedge exposures resulting from fluctuations in currency exchange rates. Such exposures result primarily from portions of the Company's operations and assets and liabilities that are denominated in currencies other than the functional currencies of the businesses conducting the operations or holding the assets and liabilities. The Company typically manages its level of exposure to the risk of currency-exchange fluctuations by hedging a portion of its currency exposures anticipated over the ensuing 12-month period, using forward currency-exchange contracts that have maturities of 12 months or less.

KADANT INC.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
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12. Derivatives (continued)

Forward currency-exchange contracts that hedge forecasted accounts receivable or accounts payable are designated as cash flow hedges. The fair values for these instruments are included in other current assets for unrecognized gains and in other current liabilities for unrecognized losses, with an offset in accumulated other comprehensive items (net of tax). For forward currency-exchange contracts that are designated as fair value hedges, the gain or loss on the derivative, as well as the offsetting loss or gain on the hedged item are recognized currently in earnings. The fair values of forward currency-exchange contracts that are not designated as hedges are recorded currently in earnings. The Company recognized a loss of \$14,000 and a gain of \$10,000 in the third quarters of 2012 and 2011, respectively, and a loss of \$39,000 and a gain of \$91,000 in the first nine months of 2012 and 2011, respectively, included in selling, general, and administrative expenses, associated with forward currency-exchange contracts that were not designated as hedges. Management believes that any credit risk associated with forward currency-exchange contracts is remote based on the Company's financial position and the creditworthiness of the financial institutions issuing the contracts.

The following table summarizes the fair value of the Company's derivative instruments designated and not designated as hedging instruments, the notional values of the associated derivative contracts, and the location of these instruments in the condensed consolidated balance sheet:

(In thousands)	Balance Sheet Location	September 29, 2012		December 31, 2011	
		Asset (Liability) (a)	Notional Amount (b)	Asset (Liability) (a)	Notional Amount
Derivatives Designated as Hedging Instruments:					
Derivatives in an Asset Position:					
Forward currency-exchange contracts	Other Current Assets	\$14	\$425	\$22	\$421
Derivatives in a Liability Position:					
Forward currency-exchange contracts	Other Current Liabilities	\$(501)	\$6,253	\$(462)	\$6,635
Interest rate swap agreement	Other Current Liabilities	\$(56)	\$5,000	\$-	\$-
Interest rate swap agreements	Other Long-Term Liabilities	\$(1,125)	\$6,875	\$(1,401)	\$12,250
Derivatives Not Designated as Hedging Instruments:					
Derivatives in a Liability Position:					
Forward currency-exchange contracts	Other Current Liabilities	\$(40)	\$1,535	\$(82)	\$1,775

(a) See Note 13 for the fair value measurements related to these financial instruments.

(b) The total notional amount is indicative of the level of the Company's derivative activity during the first nine months of 2012.

KADANT INC.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
(Unaudited)

12. Derivatives (continued)

The following table summarizes the activity in accumulated other comprehensive items (OCI) associated with the Company's derivative instruments designated as cash flow hedges as of and for the period ended September 29, 2012:

(In thousands)	Interest Rate Swap Agreements	Forward Currency-Exchange Contracts	Total
Unrealized loss, net of tax, at December 31, 2011	\$ 1,166	\$ 267	\$ 1,433
(Loss) gain reclassified to earnings (a)	(244)	13	(231)
Loss recognized in OCI	103	45	148
Unrealized loss, net of tax, at September 29, 2012	\$ 1,025	\$ 325	\$ 1,350

(a) Included in interest expense for interest rate swap agreements and in revenues for forward currency-exchange contracts in the accompanying condensed consolidated statement of income.

As of September 29, 2012, \$591,000 of the net unrealized loss included in OCI is expected to be reclassified to earnings over the next twelve months.

13. Fair Value Measurements

Fair value measurement is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. A fair value hierarchy is established, which prioritizes the inputs used in measuring fair value into three broad levels as follows:

- Level 1—Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2—Inputs, other than the quoted prices in active markets, that are observable either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3—Unobservable inputs based on the Company's own assumptions.

The following table presents the fair value hierarchy for those assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis:

(In thousands)	Fair Value as of September 29, 2012			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Assets:				
Money market funds and time deposits	\$ 15,647	\$—	\$—	\$ 15,647
Forward currency-exchange contracts	\$—	\$ 14	\$—	\$ 14
Liabilities:				
Forward currency-exchange contracts	\$—	\$ 541	\$—	\$ 541
Interest rate swap agreements	\$—	\$ 1,181	\$—	\$ 1,181

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(In thousands)	Fair Value as of December 31, 2011			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Assets:				
Money market funds and time deposits	\$13,983	\$-	\$-	\$13,983
Forward currency-exchange contracts	\$-	\$22	\$-	\$22
Liabilities:				
Forward currency-exchange contracts	\$-	\$544	\$-	\$544
Interest rate swap agreements	\$-	\$1,401	\$-	\$1,401

KADANT INC.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
(Unaudited)

13. Fair Value Measurements (continued)

The Company uses the market approach technique to value its financial assets and liabilities, and there were no changes in valuation techniques during the first nine months of 2012. The Company's financial assets and liabilities carried at fair value include cash equivalents and derivative instruments used to hedge the Company's foreign currency and interest rate risks. The Company's cash equivalents are comprised of money market funds and time deposits that are highly liquid and easily tradable. These investments are fair valued using inputs observable in active markets. The fair values of the Company's interest rate swap agreements are based on LIBOR yield curves at the reporting date. The fair values of the Company's forward currency-exchange contracts are based on quoted forward foreign exchange rates at the reporting date. The forward currency-exchange contracts and interest rate swap agreements are hedges of either recorded assets or liabilities or anticipated transactions. Changes in values of the underlying hedged assets and liabilities or anticipated transactions are not reflected in the table above.

The carrying value and fair value of the Company's long-term debt obligations are as follows:

(In thousands)	September 29, 2012		December 31, 2011	
	Carrying Value	Fair Value	Carrying Value	Fair Value
Long-term debt obligations	\$11,375	\$11,375	\$11,750	\$11,750

The carrying value of long-term debt obligations approximates fair value as the obligations bear variable rates of interest, which adjust quarterly based on prevailing market rates.

14. Recent Accounting Pronouncements

Intangibles—Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Testing Indefinite-Lived Intangible Assets for Impairment. In July 2012, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2012-02, "Intangibles-Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Testing Indefinite-Lived Intangible Assets for Impairment." The guidance in this ASU gives the Company the option to first perform a qualitative assessment to determine whether it is more likely than not (a likelihood of more than 50%) that an indefinite-lived intangible asset is impaired. If the Company determines that it is more likely than not that the fair value of such an asset exceeds its carrying amount, it would not need to calculate the fair value of the asset in that year. However, if the Company concludes otherwise, it must calculate the fair value of the asset, compare that value with its carrying amount, and record an impairment charge, if any. This guidance is effective for annual and interim impairment tests performed for fiscal years beginning after September 15, 2012, although early adoption is permitted. The Company is currently evaluating when it will adopt this ASU, but such adoption is not expected to have a material effect on its consolidated financial statements.

Comprehensive Income. In June 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-05, "Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Presentation of Comprehensive Income." The new guidance eliminates the current option to report other comprehensive income and its components in the statement of stockholders' equity. Instead, the new rule requires an entity to present net income and other comprehensive income in one continuous statement, referred to as the statement of comprehensive income, or in two separate but consecutive statements. While the new guidance changes the presentation of comprehensive income, there are no changes to the components that are recognized in net income or

other comprehensive income under current accounting guidance. In addition, in December 2011, the FASB issued an amendment to this accounting standard which defers the requirement to present certain components of reclassifications of other comprehensive income on the face of the income statement for all periods presented. During the deferral, entities should continue to report reclassifications out of accumulated other comprehensive income consistent with the presentation requirements in effect prior to the issuance of this amendment. This new guidance is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011. The Company adopted this ASU in the first quarter of 2012 and has revised its presentation of comprehensive income in the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements.

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Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
(Unaudited)

14. Recent Accounting Pronouncements (continued)

Fair Value Measurements. In May 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-04, "Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820): Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs)." ASU No. 2011-04 establishes a number of new requirements for fair value measurements. These include: (1) a prohibition on grouping financial instruments for purposes of determining fair value, except when an entity manages market and credit risks on the basis of the entity's net exposure to the group; (2) an extension of the prohibition against the use of a blockage factor to all fair value measurements (that prohibition currently applies only to financial instruments with quoted prices in active markets); and (3) a requirement that for recurring Level 3 fair value measurements, entities disclose quantitative information about unobservable inputs, a description of the valuation process used and qualitative details about the sensitivity of the measurements. In addition, for items not carried at fair value but for which fair value is disclosed, entities will be required to disclose the level within the fair value hierarchy that applies to the fair value measurement disclosed. This ASU is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011. The Company adopted this ASU in the first quarter of 2012, which did not have an impact on its condensed consolidated financial statements.

15. Litigation

Discontinued Operation

In 2005, the Company's Kadant Composites LLC subsidiary (Composites LLC) sold substantially all of its assets to a third party. Through the sale date of October 21, 2005, Composites LLC offered a standard limited warranty to the owner of its decking and roofing products, limited to repair or replacement of the defective product or a refund of the original purchase price. Under the terms of the asset purchase agreement, Composites LLC retained certain liabilities associated with the operation of the business prior to the sale, including the warranty obligations associated with products manufactured prior to the sale date. Composites LLC retained all of the cash proceeds received from the asset sale and continued to administer and pay warranty claims from the sale proceeds into the third quarter of 2007. On September 30, 2007, Composites LLC announced that it no longer had sufficient funds to honor warranty claims, was unable to pay or process warranty claims, and ceased doing business. All activity related to this business is classified in the results of the discontinued operation in the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements.

On October 24, 2011, the Company, Composites LLC, and other co-defendants entered into an agreement to settle a nationwide class action lawsuit related to allegedly defective composites decking building products manufactured by Composites LLC between April 2002 and October 2003, which was filed and approved in Connecticut state court. To participate in the settlement, eligible settlement class members were required to file a proof of claim on or before September 10, 2012. The claim administrator is currently reviewing claims and will complete payment to eligible claimants by December 14, 2012. In the third quarter of 2012, the Company reduced the accrual for the payment of claims by \$1,513,000 based on the claims submitted to date. As of September 29, 2012, the Company has accrued \$1,064,000 for the payment of claims. If the actual claims submitted and approved under the settlement agreement exceed the amount of this reserve, the Company will reflect the amount of the additional claims in the results of the discontinued operation in future periods, up to a maximum of \$5,000,000.

General

From time to time, the Company is subject to various other claims and legal proceedings covering a range of matters that arise in the ordinary course of business. Such litigation may include claims and counterclaims by and against the Company for breach of contract, canceled contracts, or alleged breaches of warranty and other contract commitments. For legal proceedings in which a loss is probable and estimable, the Company accrues a loss based on the low end of the range of estimated loss when there is no better estimate within the range. For legal proceedings in which a loss is neither probable nor remote, the Company is unable to determine an estimate, or range of estimates, of potential losses based on the information currently available. If the Company were found to be liable for any of the claims or counterclaims against it, the Company would incur a charge against earnings for amounts in excess of legal accruals.

KADANT INC.

Item 2 – Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q includes forward-looking statements that are not statements of historical fact, and may include statements regarding possible or assumed future results of operations. Forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties and are based on the beliefs and assumptions of our management, using information currently available to our management. When we use words such as “believes,” “expects,” “anticipates,” “intends,” “plans,” “estimates,” “seeks,” “should,” “likely,” “will,” “would,” “may,” “continue,” “could,” or similar expressions making forward-looking statements.

Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of performance. They involve risks, uncertainties, and assumptions. Our future results of operations may differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements. Many of the important factors that will determine these results and values are beyond our ability to control or predict. You should not put undue reliance on any forward-looking statements. We undertake no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise. For a discussion of important factors that may cause our actual results to differ materially from those suggested by the forward-looking statements, you should read carefully the section captioned “Risk Factors” in Part II, Item 1A, of this Report.

Overview

Company Background

We are a leading supplier of equipment used in the global papermaking and paper recycling industries and a manufacturer of granules made from papermaking byproducts. Our continuing operations are comprised of one reportable operating segment: Papermaking Systems, and a separate product line, Fiber-based Products. Through our Papermaking Systems segment, we develop, manufacture, and market a range of equipment and products for the global papermaking, paper recycling, and process industries. We have a large customer base that includes most of the world’s major paper manufacturers. We believe our large installed base provides us with a spare parts and consumables business that yields higher margins than our capital equipment business.

Through our Fiber-based Products business, we manufacture and sell granules derived from pulp fiber for use as carriers for agricultural, home lawn and garden, and professional lawn, turf and ornamental applications, as well as for oil and grease absorption.

Papermaking Systems Segment

Our Papermaking Systems segment consists of the following product lines: stock-preparation; fluid-handling; and doctoring, cleaning, and filtration. The doctoring, cleaning, and filtration product line was formerly presented separately as the doctoring and water-management product lines.

- Stock-preparation: custom-engineered systems and equipment, as well as standard individual components, for pulping, de-inking, screening, cleaning, and refining primarily recycled fiber for preparation for entry into the paper machine; recausticizing and evaporation equipment and systems used in the production of virgin pulp;
- Fluid-handling: rotary joints, precision unions, steam and condensate systems, components, and controls used primarily in the dryer section of the papermaking process and during the production of corrugated boxboard, metals, plastics, rubber, textiles, chemicals, and food; and

-**Doctoring, Cleaning, and Filtration:** doctoring systems and related consumables that continuously clean rolls to keep paper machines running efficiently; doctor blades made of a variety of materials to perform functions including cleaning, creping, web removal, flaking, and the application of coatings; profiling systems that control moisture, web curl, and gloss during paper converting; and systems and equipment used to continuously clean paper machine fabrics and rolls, drain water from pulp mixtures, form the sheet or web, and filter the process water for reuse.

KADANT INC.

Overview (continued)

Fiber-based Products

We produce biodegradable, absorbent granules from papermaking byproducts for use primarily as carriers for agricultural, home lawn and garden, and professional lawn, turf and ornamental applications, as well as for oil and grease absorption.

Discontinued Operation

In 2005, our Kadant Composites LLC subsidiary (Composites LLC) sold substantially all of its assets to a third party. Under the terms of the asset purchase agreement, Composites LLC retained certain liabilities associated with the operation of the business prior to the sale, including the warranty obligations related to products manufactured prior to the sale date. All activity related to this business is classified in the results of the discontinued operation in the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements.

On October 24, 2011, we, our Composites LLC subsidiary, and other co-defendants entered into an agreement to settle a nationwide class action lawsuit related to defective composites decking building products manufactured by Composites LLC between April 2002 and October 2003. To participate in the settlement, eligible settlement class members were required to file a proof of claim on or before September 10, 2012. The claim administrator is currently reviewing claims and will complete payment to eligible claimants by December 14, 2012. In the third quarter of 2012, we reduced the accrual for the payment of claims by \$1.5 million based on the claims submitted to date. As of September 29, 2012, we have accrued \$1.1 million for the payment of claims. If the actual claims submitted and approved under the settlement agreement exceed the amount of this reserve, we will reflect the amount of the additional claims in the results of the discontinued operation in future periods, up to a maximum of \$5.0 million.

International Sales

During the first nine months of 2012 and 2011, approximately 61% and 63%, respectively, of our sales were to customers outside the United States, principally in Europe and China. We generally seek to charge our customers in the same currency in which our operating costs are incurred. However, our financial performance and competitive position can be affected by currency exchange rate fluctuations affecting the relationship between the U.S. dollar and foreign currencies. We seek to reduce our exposure to currency fluctuations through the use of forward currency exchange contracts. We may enter into forward contracts to hedge certain firm purchase and sale commitments denominated in currencies other than our subsidiaries' functional currencies. These contracts hedge transactions principally denominated in U.S. dollars.

Application of Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations are based upon our condensed consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The preparation of these condensed consolidated financial statements requires us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of our condensed consolidated financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Our actual results may differ from these estimates.

Critical accounting policies are defined as those that reflect significant judgments and uncertainties, and could potentially result in materially different results under different assumptions and conditions. We believe that our most critical accounting policies, upon which our financial condition depends and which involve the most complex or subjective decisions or assessments, are those described in “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” under the section captioned “Application of Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates” in Part I, Item 7, of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). There have been no material changes to these critical accounting policies since fiscal year-end 2011 that warrant disclosure.

KADANT INC.

Overview (continued)

Industry and Business Outlook

Our products are primarily sold to the global pulp and paper industry. In North America, although the economic recovery has been sluggish, the paper industry has performed relatively well and analysts expect paper producer margins to remain fairly stable in the near term. In addition, input costs appear to be under control and inventories are fairly low. However, our bookings in North America were down 10% sequentially and 24% in the third quarter of 2012 compared to the prior year period reflecting a general slowdown in activity, particularly for capital orders. In Europe, the increasing uncertainty resulting primarily from sovereign debt issues continues to impact the economy and the region has slipped into a recession going into 2013. This macro environment has impacted the demand for paper products, and as a result has affected the demand for our products. Our bookings in Europe were down 25% sequentially and 48% in the third quarter of 2012 compared to the prior year period due to the economic uncertainty in Europe, as well as the timing of capital orders. In China, while the economy has continued to slow, our bookings increased 31% sequentially in the third quarter of 2012 and more than doubled compared to a relatively weak third quarter of 2011. Although the rate of growth has slowed, the economy continues to absorb the capacity that has recently come online. While we believe some producers are beginning to make plans for capacity expansion, the timing of orders remains uncertain. Some of our customers in China have delayed new projects in response to these market conditions. In emerging markets, such as Brazil and India, we believe the long-term business outlook is promising, with growth in paper production projected by RISI (Resource Information Systems Inc.) to be nearly 6% annually from a base year of 2010 through 2016.

For the fourth quarter of 2012, we expect to achieve diluted earnings per share (EPS) from continuing operations of \$0.35 to \$0.37, on revenues of \$77 to \$79 million. For the full year 2012, we expect to achieve diluted EPS from continuing operations of \$2.18 to \$2.20 on revenues of \$331 to \$333 million, revised from our previous guidance from continuing operations of \$2.05 to \$2.10 on revenues of \$325 to \$330 million.

Results of Operations

Third Quarter 2012 Compared With Third Quarter 2011

The following table sets forth our unaudited condensed consolidated statement of income expressed as a percentage of total revenues from continuing operations for the third fiscal quarters of 2012 and 2011. The results of operations for the fiscal quarter ended September 29, 2012 are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the full fiscal year.

	Three Months Ended			
	September 29, 2012		October 1, 2011	
Revenues	100	%	100	%
Costs and Operating Expenses:				
Cost of revenues	57		57	
Selling, general, and administrative expenses	30		31	

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Research and development expenses	2	2		
Other income	–	(3)	
	89	87		
Operating Income	11	13		
Interest Income	–	–		
Interest Expense	–	–		
Income from Continuing Operations Before Provision for Income Taxes	11	13		
Provision for Income Taxes	2	1		
Income from Continuing Operations	9	%	12	%

KADANT INC.

Results of Operations (continued)

Revenues

Revenues for the third quarters of 2012 and 2011 from our Papermaking Systems segment and Fiber-based Products business are as follows:

(In thousands)	Three Months Ended	
	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011
Revenues:		
Papermaking Systems	\$85,211	\$82,883
Fiber-based Products	1,390	1,475
	\$86,601	\$84,358

Papermaking Systems Segment. Revenues increased \$2.3 million to \$85.2 million in the third quarter of 2012 from \$82.9 million in the third quarter of 2011, including a \$3.6 million decrease from the unfavorable effects of currency translation. Revenues in our doctoring, cleaning, and filtration product line increased \$2.5 million, or 10%, due to increased demand for our capital products at our Chinese and European operations.

Fiber-based Products. Revenues decreased \$0.1 million, or 6%, to \$1.4 million in the third quarter of 2012 from \$1.5 million in the third quarter of 2011 due to decreased demand for our biodegradable granular products.

Papermaking Systems Segment by Product Line. The following table presents revenues for our Papermaking Systems segment by product line, the changes in revenues by product line between the third quarters of 2012 and 2011, and the changes in revenues by product line between the third quarters of 2012 and 2011 excluding the effect of currency translation. The increase (decrease) in revenues excluding the effect of currency translation represents the increase (decrease) resulting from the conversion of third quarter of 2012 revenues in local currency into U.S. dollars at the third quarter of 2011 exchange rates, and then comparing this result to the actual revenues in the third quarter of 2011. The presentation of the changes in revenues by product line excluding the effect of currency translation is a non-GAAP (generally accepted accounting principles) measure. We believe this non-GAAP measure helps investors gain a more complete understanding of our underlying operations especially when comparing such results to prior periods. This non-GAAP measure should not be considered superior to or a substitute for the corresponding GAAP measure.

(In millions)	Three Months Ended			Increase (Decrease) Excluding Effect of Currency Translation
	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011	Increase (Decrease)	
Papermaking Systems Product Lines:				
Stock-Preparation	\$34.5	\$33.0	\$1.5	\$2.7

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Doctoring, Cleaning, and Filtration (a)	27.1	24.6	2.5	3.5
Fluid-Handling	23.6	25.3	(1.7)	(0.3)
	\$85.2	\$82.9	\$2.3	\$5.9

(a) New product line presentation in the third quarter of 2012. Information was formerly presented separately as doctoring, water-management, and other product lines. Prior period amounts have been recasted to conform to the current presentation.

Revenues in our stock-preparation product line in the third quarter of 2012 increased \$2.7 million, or 8%, excluding a \$1.2 million unfavorable effect of currency translation, compared to the third quarter of 2011, due to increased sales of our capital products at our North American and European operations, offset in part by a decrease at our Chinese operations. Revenues from our doctoring, cleaning, and filtration product line in the third quarter of 2012 increased \$3.5 million, or 14%, excluding a \$1.0 million unfavorable effect of currency translation, compared to the prior year period primarily due to increased demand for

KADANT INC.

Results of Operations (continued)

capital products at our Chinese and European operations. In our fluid-handling product line, revenues in the third quarter of 2012 decreased \$0.3 million, or 1%, excluding a \$1.4 million unfavorable effect of currency translation, compared to the prior year period primarily due to decreased demand for our parts and consumables products at our European operations, offset in part by increased sales of our capital products in other regions.

Gross Profit Margin

Gross profit margins for the third quarters of 2012 and 2011 are as follows:

	Three Months Ended			
	September		October 1,	
	29,		2011	
	2012			
Gross Profit Margin:				
Papermaking Systems	43.6	%	42.8	%
Fiber-based Products	30.4		36.5	
	43.4	%	42.7	%

Papermaking Systems Segment. The gross profit margin in the Papermaking Systems segment increased to 43.6% in the third quarter of 2012 from 42.8% in the third quarter of 2011. This increase resulted primarily from higher gross profit margins in our stock-preparation product line due to higher margins on several large projects in North America and China. This increase was offset in part by an increase in the third quarter of 2012 in the proportion of lower-margin capital products to total revenues compared to the third quarter of 2011.

Fiber-based Products. The gross profit margin in our Fiber-based Products business decreased to 30.4% in the third quarter of 2012 from 36.5% in the third quarter of 2011 as a result of decreased manufacturing efficiency due to lower sales volumes.

Operating Expenses

Selling, general, and administrative expenses as a percentage of revenues were 30% and 31% in the third quarters of 2012 and 2011, respectively. Selling, general, and administrative expenses increased \$0.1 million to \$26.2 million in the third quarter of 2012 from \$26.1 million in the third quarter of 2011, including a \$1.0 million decrease from the favorable effect of currency translation.

Total stock-based compensation expense was \$1.3 million and \$1.0 million in the third quarters of 2012 and 2011, respectively, and is included in selling, general, and administrative expenses in the accompanying condensed consolidated statement of income. As of September 29, 2012, unrecognized compensation cost related to stock-based compensation was approximately \$5.6 million, which will be recognized over a weighted average period of 1.6 years.

Research and development expenses were \$1.5 million and \$1.4 million in the third quarters of 2012 and 2011, respectively, and represented 2% of revenues in both periods.

Other Income

Other income was \$2.3 million in the third quarter of 2011 associated with a gain from the sale of real estate in China.

Interest Income

Interest income was \$0.1 million in the third quarters of 2012 and 2011.

Interest Expense

Interest expense decreased \$0.1 million, or 14%, to \$0.2 million in the third quarter of 2012 from \$0.3 million in the third quarter of 2011 primarily due to lower outstanding borrowings in the 2012 period, offset in part by a higher average effective interest rate compared to the 2011 period.

KADANT INC.

Results of Operations (continued)

Provision for Income Taxes

Our provision for income taxes was \$2.1 million and \$0.8 million in the third quarters of 2012 and 2011, respectively, and represented 21% and 7% of pre-tax income. The effective tax rate of 21% in the third quarter of 2012 was lower than our statutory rate primarily due to the expected utilization of foreign tax credits in the U.S. that were fully reserved in prior periods and the distribution of worldwide earnings. The increase in the expected utilization of foreign tax credits was due to an increase in estimated current year income and foreign source income in the U.S. For the full year 2012, we estimate that we will be able to utilize approximately \$2.7 million of foreign tax credit carryforwards. The effective tax rate of 7% in the third quarter of 2011 was lower than our statutory rate primarily due to the inclusion of a discrete tax benefit of \$2.1 million from the recognition of previously unrecognized tax benefits that resulted primarily from the favorable settlement of a tax audit in a non-U.S. jurisdiction, as well as the expiration of statutes of limitations in various jurisdictions. Also contributing to the effective tax rate of 7% in the third quarter of 2011 was the expected utilization of foreign tax credits that were fully reserved in prior periods and the favorable geographic distribution of worldwide earnings.

We have established valuation allowances related to certain domestic and foreign deferred tax assets and tax credits. The valuation allowance as of December 31, 2011 was \$21.0 million, consisting of \$8.1 million in the U.S. and \$12.9 million in foreign jurisdictions. Compliance with Accounting Standards Codification 740, "Income Taxes", requires us to periodically evaluate the necessity of establishing or adjusting a valuation allowance for deferred tax assets depending on whether it is more likely than not that a related tax benefit will be recognized in future periods. When assessing the need for a valuation allowance in a tax jurisdiction, we evaluate the weight of all available evidence to determine whether it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred income tax assets will not be realized. As part of this evaluation, we consider our cumulative three-year history of earnings before income taxes, taxable income in prior carryback years, future reversals of existing taxable temporary differences, prudent and feasible tax planning strategies, and expected future results of operations. As of September 29, 2012, we have maintained a valuation allowance in the U.S. primarily against certain of its foreign tax credits due to the uncertainty of income beyond 2012. Our full valuation allowance in certain foreign jurisdictions was maintained as of September 29, 2012 as a result of certain foreign subsidiaries being in a three-year cumulative loss position and the uncertainty of future profitability.

Income from Continuing Operations

Income from continuing operations decreased \$2.2 million to \$7.7 million in the third quarter of 2012 from \$9.9 million in the third quarter of 2011. This decrease was primarily due to a decrease in operating income of \$0.9 million and a \$1.3 million increase in our provision for income taxes (see Revenues, Gross Profit Margin, Other Income, and Provision for Income Taxes discussed above). The decrease in operating income of \$0.9 million in the third quarter of 2012 compared to the prior year period was due to a \$2.3 million gain on the sale of real estate in the third quarter of 2011, offset in part by an increase in gross margins.

Income (Loss) from Discontinued Operation

Income from the discontinued operation was \$0.8 million in the third quarter of 2012 compared to a loss of \$1.2 million in the third quarter of 2011. The results in both periods were primarily due to adjustments associated with the

reserve for the payment of claims related to the Composites LLC class action settlement.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

Intangibles—Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Testing Indefinite-Lived Intangible Assets for Impairment. In July 2012, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2012-02, “Intangibles-Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Testing Indefinite-Lived Intangible Assets for Impairment.” The guidance in this ASU gives us the option to first perform a qualitative assessment to determine whether it is more likely than not (a likelihood of more than 50%) that an indefinite-lived intangible asset is impaired. If we determine that it is more likely than not that the fair value of such an asset exceeds its carrying amount, we would not need to calculate the fair value of the asset in that year. However, if we conclude otherwise, we must calculate the fair value of the asset, compare that value with its carrying amount, and record an impairment charge, if any. This guidance is effective for annual and interim impairment tests performed for fiscal years beginning after September 15, 2012, although early adoption is permitted. We are currently evaluating when we will adopt this ASU, but such adoption is not expected to have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

KADANT INC.

Results of Operations (continued)

Comprehensive Income. In June 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-05, “Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Presentation of Comprehensive Income”. The new guidance eliminates the current option to report other comprehensive income and its components in the statement of stockholders’ equity. Instead, the new rule requires an entity to present net income and other comprehensive income in one continuous statement, referred to as the statement of comprehensive income, or in two separate but consecutive statements. While the new guidance changes the presentation of comprehensive income, there are no changes to the components that are recognized in net income or other comprehensive income under current accounting guidance. In addition, in December 2011, the FASB issued an amendment to this accounting standard which defers the requirement to present certain components of reclassifications of other comprehensive income on the face of the income statement for all periods presented. During the deferral, entities should continue to report reclassifications out of accumulated other comprehensive income consistent with the presentation requirements in effect prior to the issuance of this amendment. This new guidance is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011. We adopted this ASU in the first quarter of 2012 and have revised our presentation of comprehensive income in the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements.

Fair Value Measurements. In May 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-04, “Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820): Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs)”. ASU No. 2011-04 establishes a number of new requirements for fair value measurements. These include: (1) a prohibition on grouping financial instruments for purposes of determining fair value, except when an entity manages market and credit risks on the basis of the entity’s net exposure to the group; (2) an extension of the prohibition against the use of a blockage factor to all fair value measurements (that prohibition currently applies only to financial instruments with quoted prices in active markets); and (3) a requirement that for recurring Level 3 fair value measurements, entities disclose quantitative information about unobservable inputs, a description of the valuation process used and qualitative details about the sensitivity of the measurements. In addition, for items not carried at fair value but for which fair value is disclosed, entities will be required to disclose the level within the fair value hierarchy that applies to the fair value measurement disclosed. This ASU is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011. We adopted this ASU in the first quarter of 2012, which did not have an impact on our condensed consolidated financial statements.

First Nine Months 2012 Compared With First Nine Months 2011

The following table sets forth our unaudited condensed consolidated statement of income expressed as a percentage of total revenues from continuing operations for the first nine months of 2012 and 2011. The results of operations for the first nine months of 2012 are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the full fiscal year.

	Nine Months Ended			
	September		October 1,	
	29,		2011,	
	2012		2011	
Revenues	100	%	100	%
Costs and Operating Expenses:				
Cost of revenues	56		55	

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Selling, general, and administrative expenses	30	32		
Research and development expenses	2	2		
Other expense (income)	–	(1)	
	88	88		
Operating Income	12	12		
Interest Income	–	–		
Interest Expense	–	–		
Income from Continuing Operations Before Provision for Income Taxes	12	12		
Provision for Income Taxes	3	2		
Income from Continuing Operations	9	% 10	%	

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KADANT INC.

Results of Operations (continued)

Revenues

Revenues for the nine months of 2012 and 2011 from our Papermaking Systems segment and Fiber-based Products business are as follows:

(In thousands)	Nine Months Ended	
	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011
Revenues:		
Papermaking Systems	\$245,322	\$230,038
Fiber-based Products	8,374	8,457
	\$253,696	\$238,495

Papermaking Systems Segment. Revenues increased \$15.3 million, or 7%, to \$245.3 million in the first nine months of 2012 from \$230.0 million in the first nine months of 2011, including a \$7.9 million decrease from the unfavorable effects of currency translation. Revenues in our doctoring, cleaning, and filtration product line increased \$10.8 million, or 16%, primarily due to higher demand for capital products. Revenues in our stock-preparation product line increased \$7.2 million, or 8%, due to higher demand for capital products at our North American operations, and to a lesser extent, our European operations. Partially offsetting these increases was a decrease in demand for capital products at our Chinese operations.

Papermaking Systems Segment by Product Line. The following table presents revenues for our Papermaking Systems segment by product line, the changes in revenues by product line between the first nine months of 2012 and 2011, and the changes in revenues by product line between the first nine months of 2012 and 2011 excluding the effect of currency translation. The increase in revenues excluding the effect of currency translation represents the increase resulting from the conversion of first nine months of 2012 revenues in local currency into U.S. dollars at the first nine months of 2011 exchange rates, and then comparing this result to the actual revenues in the first nine months of 2011. The presentation of the changes in revenues by product line excluding the effect of currency translation is a non-GAAP measure. We believe this non-GAAP measure helps investors gain a more complete understanding of our underlying operations especially when comparing such results to prior periods. This non-GAAP measure should not be considered superior to or a substitute for the corresponding GAAP measure.

(In millions)	Nine Months Ended			Increase Excluding Effect of Currency Translation
	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011	Increase (Decrease)	
Papermaking Systems Product Lines:				
Stock-Preparation	\$95.9	\$88.7	\$7.2	\$9.3
Doctoring, Cleaning, and Filtration (a)	79.7	68.9	10.8	13.5
Fluid-Handling	69.7	72.4	(2.7)	0.4

\$245.3	\$230.0	\$15.3	\$23.2
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(a) New product line presentation in the first nine months of 2012. Information was formerly presented separately as doctoring, water-management, and other product lines. Prior period amounts have been recasted to conform to the current presentation.

Revenues in our stock-preparation product line in the first nine months of 2012 increased \$9.3 million, or 11%, excluding a \$2.1 million unfavorable effect of currency translation, compared to the first nine months of 2011, due to higher demand for capital products at our North American operations, and to a lesser extent, our European operations. Partially offsetting these increases was a decrease in demand for capital products at our Chinese operations. Revenues from our doctoring, cleaning and filtration product line in the first nine months of 2012 increased \$13.5 million, or 20%, excluding a \$2.7 million unfavorable effect of currency translation, compared to the prior year period primarily due to increased demand for capital products. In our fluid-handling product line, revenues in the first nine months of 2012 increased \$0.4 million, or 1%, excluding a \$3.1 million unfavorable effect of currency translation, compared to the prior year period primarily due to increased demand for capital products at our North American operations, offset in part by a decrease at our European operations.

KADANT INC.

Results of Operations (continued)

Gross Profit Margin

Gross profit margins for the first nine months of 2012 and 2011 are as follows:

	Nine Months Ended			
	September 29, 2012		October 1, 2011	
Gross Profit Margin:				
Papermaking Systems	44.0	%	45.0	%
Fiber-based Products	50.7		50.3	
	44.3	%	45.2	%

Papermaking Systems Segment. The gross profit margin in the Papermaking Systems segment decreased to 44.0% in the first nine months of 2012 from 45.0% in the first nine months of 2011. This decrease resulted primarily from lower gross profit margins in our fluid-handling product line.

Fiber-based Products. The gross profit margin in our Fiber-based Products business increased to 50.7% in the first nine months of 2012 from 50.3% in the first nine months of 2011 due to manufacturing efficiencies.

Operating Expenses

Selling, general, and administrative expenses as a percentage of revenues were 30% and 32% in the first nine months of 2012 and 2011, respectively. Selling, general, and administrative expenses increased \$1.4 million, or 2%, to \$77.8 million in the first nine months of 2012 from \$76.4 million in the first nine months of 2011, including a \$2.4 million decrease from the favorable effect of currency translation.

Total stock-based compensation expense was \$3.6 million and \$2.9 million in the first nine months of 2012 and 2011, respectively, and is included in selling, general, and administrative expenses in the accompanying condensed consolidated statement of income.

Research and development expenses increased \$0.3 million to \$4.4 million in the first nine months of 2012 compared to \$4.1 million in the first nine months of 2011 and represented 2% of revenues in both periods.

Other Expense (Income)

Other expense consisted of accelerated depreciation of \$0.3 million in the first nine months of 2012 due to the anticipated disposal of equipment in China related to a facility consolidation. Other income was \$2.3 million in the first nine months of 2011 associated with a gain on the sale of real estate in China.

Interest Income

Interest income decreased to \$0.2 million in the first nine months of 2012 from \$0.3 million in the first nine months of 2011 primarily due to lower average interest rates in the 2012 period and, to a lesser extent, lower average cash

balances compared to the 2011 period.

Interest Expense

Interest expense decreased \$0.2 million, or 23%, to \$0.6 million in the first nine months of 2012 from \$0.8 million in the first nine months of 2011 primarily due to lower outstanding borrowings in the 2012 period, offset in part by a higher average effective interest rate compared to the 2011 period.

KADANT INC.

Results of Operations (continued)

Provision for Income Taxes

Our provision for income taxes was \$7.9 million and \$6.0 million in the first nine months of 2012 and 2011, respectively, and represented 27% and 21% of pre-tax income. The effective tax rate of 27% in the first nine months of 2012 was lower than our statutory rate primarily due to the expected utilization of foreign tax credits in the U.S. that were fully reserved in prior periods and the distribution of worldwide earnings. The increase in the expected utilization of foreign tax credits was due to an increase in estimated current year income and foreign source income in the U.S. For the full year 2012, we estimate that we will be able to utilize approximately \$2.7 million of foreign tax credit carryforwards. The effective tax rate of 21% in the first nine months of 2011 was lower than our statutory rate primarily due to the inclusion of a discrete tax benefit of \$1.9 million due to the recognition of previously unrecognized tax benefits that resulted primarily from the favorable settlement of a tax audit in a non-U.S. jurisdiction, as well as the expiration of statutes of limitations in various jurisdictions. Also contributing to the effective tax rate of 21% in the first nine months of 2011 was the expected utilization of foreign tax credits that were fully reserved in prior periods and the favorable geographic distribution of worldwide earnings.

Income from Continuing Operations

Income from continuing operations decreased \$1.8 million to \$21.4 million in the first nine months of 2012 from \$23.2 million in the first nine months of 2011. The decrease in the 2012 period was primarily due to a \$1.9 million increase in our provision for income taxes (see Provision for Income Taxes discussed above).

Income (Loss) from Discontinued Operation

Income from the discontinued operation was \$0.8 million in the first nine months of 2012 compared to a loss of \$1.2 million in the first nine months of 2011. The results in both periods were primarily due to adjustments associated with the reserve for the payment of claims related to the Composites LLC class action settlement.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Consolidated working capital, including the discontinued operation, was \$100.0 million at September 29, 2012, compared with \$78.5 million at December 31, 2011. Included in working capital are cash and cash equivalents of \$53.3 million and restricted cash of \$0.1 million at September 29, 2012, compared with cash and cash equivalents of \$47.0 million and restricted cash of \$0.7 million at December 31, 2011. At September 29, 2012, \$43.7 million of cash and cash equivalents were held by our foreign subsidiaries.

First Nine Months of 2012

Our operating activities provided cash of \$16.4 million in the first nine months of 2012, including \$17.7 million of cash provided by our continuing operations and \$1.4 million of cash used in our discontinued operation. A decrease in other current liabilities used cash of \$10.0 million in the first nine months of 2012 primarily due to incentive payments and decreases in customer deposits and billings in excess of costs due to the timing of deposits and billings. A decrease in accounts payable used cash of \$5.9 million in the first nine months of 2012 due to the timing of payments and an increase in unbilled contract costs and fees used cash of \$3.9 million associated with revenue recognized under the percentage-of-completion method. These uses of cash were offset in part by cash provided by a decrease in

inventories of \$7.4 million primarily due to the shipment of several larger system orders in China.

Our investing activities used cash of \$1.0 million in the first nine months of 2012, including \$1.5 million to purchase property, plant, and equipment, offset in part by \$0.4 million of proceeds from the sale of property, plant, and equipment.

Our financing activities used cash of \$9.7 million in the first nine months of 2012, including \$9.8 million for the repurchase of our common stock on the open market and \$5.4 million for principal payments on our debt obligations. These uses of cash were offset in part by \$5.0 million received from borrowings under the 2012 Credit Agreement in the first nine months of 2012.

KADANT INC.

Liquidity and Capital Resources (continued)

First Nine Months of 2011

Our operating activities provided cash of \$19.6 million in the first nine months of 2011. An increase in other current liabilities provided cash of \$12.2 million in the first nine months of 2011. This increase was primarily associated with an increase of \$5.5 million in billings in excess of costs and fees due to the timing of billings, and an increase in the receipt of customer deposits of \$5.3 million. An increase in inventories used cash of \$14.5 million in the first nine months of 2011, as we completed the manufacture of large stock-preparation systems delivered later in 2011 and in early 2012. In addition, in the first nine months of 2011 an increase in accounts receivable associated with increased revenues used cash of \$4.8 million, and an increase in unbilled contract costs and fees due to the timing of billings used cash of \$1.0 million.

Our investing activities used cash of \$19.0 million in the first nine months of 2011 primarily for the acquisition of M-Clean AB, a European-based supplier of equipment that cleans paper machine fabrics and rolls, for approximately \$14.9 million, net of cash acquired. We also used cash of \$5.5 million for purchases of property, plant, and equipment in the first nine months of 2011. These uses of cash were offset, in part, by proceeds of \$2.3 million from the sale of property, plant and equipment in the first nine months of 2011.

Our financing activities used cash of \$16.4 million in the first nine months of 2011, including principal payments of \$10.9 million on our outstanding debt obligations and \$9.4 million for the repurchase of our common stock on the open market. During the first nine months of 2011, we also designated \$1.2 million of cash as restricted for use as collateral for bank guarantees. All of these bank guarantees expired by September 30, 2012. These uses of cash were offset, in part, by borrowings of \$5.0 million made under our revolving credit facility during the first nine months of 2011.

2012 Revolving Credit Facility

On August 3, 2012, we entered into a five-year unsecured revolving credit facility (2012 Credit Agreement) in the aggregate principal amount of up to \$100 million. The 2012 Credit Agreement also includes an uncommitted unsecured incremental borrowing facility of up to an additional \$50 million. The principal on any borrowings made under the 2012 Credit Agreement is due on August 3, 2017. Interest on any loans outstanding under the 2012 Credit Agreement accrues and is payable quarterly in arrears at one of the following rates selected by us: (i) the highest of (a) the federal funds rate plus 0.50% plus an applicable margin of 0% to 1%, (b) the prime rate, as defined, plus an applicable margin of 0% to 1%, and (c) the Eurocurrency rate, as defined, plus 0.50% plus an applicable margin of 0% to 1% or (ii) the Eurocurrency rate, as defined, plus an applicable margin of 1% to 2%. The applicable margin is determined based upon the ratio of our total debt to EBITDA, as defined in the 2012 Credit Agreement. For this purpose, total debt is defined as total debt less up to \$25 million of unrestricted domestic cash.

Our obligations under the 2012 Credit Agreement may be accelerated upon the occurrence of an event of default under the 2012 Credit Agreement, which includes customary events of default including without limitation payment defaults, defaults in the performance of affirmative and negative covenants, the inaccuracy of representations or warranties, bankruptcy- and insolvency-related defaults, defaults relating to such matters as the Employment Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), unsatisfied judgments, the failure to pay certain indebtedness, and a change of control default. In addition, the 2012 Credit Agreement contains negative covenants applicable to us and our subsidiaries, including financial covenants requiring us to comply with a maximum consolidated leverage ratio of 3.5

to 1, a maximum annual capital expenditure of \$25 million, and a minimum consolidated interest coverage ratio of 3 to 1, and restrictions on liens, indebtedness, fundamental changes, dispositions of property, making certain restricted payments (including dividends and stock repurchases), investments, transactions with affiliates, sale and leaseback transactions, swap agreements, changing our fiscal year, arrangements affecting subsidiary distributions, entering into new lines of business, and certain actions related to the discontinued operation. As of September 29, 2012, we were in compliance with these covenants.

Loans under the 2012 Credit Agreement are guaranteed by certain of our domestic subsidiaries pursuant to a Guarantee Agreement, effective August 3, 2012.

KADANT INC.

Liquidity and Capital Resources (continued)

Commercial Real Estate Loan

On May 4, 2006, we borrowed \$10 million under a promissory note (2006 Commercial Real Estate Loan). The 2006 Commercial Real Estate Loan is repayable in quarterly installments of \$125 thousand over a ten-year period with the remaining principal balance of \$5 million due upon maturity. As of September 29, 2012, the remaining balance on the 2006 Commercial Real Estate Loan was \$6.9 million.

Our obligations under the 2006 Commercial Real Estate Loan may be accelerated upon the occurrence of an event of default under the 2006 Commercial Real Estate Loan and the mortgage and security agreements, which includes customary events of default including, without limitation, payment defaults, defaults in the performance of covenants and obligations, the inaccuracy of representations or warranties, bankruptcy- and insolvency-related defaults, liens on the properties or collateral and uninsured judgments. In addition, the occurrence of an event of default under the 2012 Credit Agreement or any successor credit facility would be an event of default under the 2006 Commercial Real Estate Loan.

Interest Rate Swap Agreements

To hedge the exposure to movements in the three-month LIBOR rate on outstanding debt, on February 13, 2008, we entered into a swap agreement (2008 Swap Agreement). The 2008 Swap Agreement has a five-year term and a \$15 million notional value, which decreased to \$5 million on December 30, 2011. Under the 2008 Swap Agreement, on a quarterly basis we receive a three-month LIBOR rate and pay a fixed rate of interest of 3.265%. We also entered into a swap agreement in 2006 (2006 Swap Agreement) to convert the 2006 Commercial Real Estate Loan from a floating to a fixed rate of interest. The 2006 Swap Agreement has the same terms and quarterly payment dates as the corresponding debt, and reduces proportionately in line with the amortization of the 2006 Commercial Real Estate Loan. Under the 2006 Swap Agreement, we receive a three-month LIBOR rate and pay a fixed rate of interest of 5.63% plus an applicable margin. As of September 29, 2012, all of our outstanding debt was hedged through interest rate swap agreements, which had an unrealized loss of \$1.2 million. Our management believes that any credit risk associated with the 2006 and 2008 Swap Agreements is remote based on our financial position and the creditworthiness of the financial institution issuing the swap agreements.

The counterparty to the swap agreement could demand an early termination of the swap agreement if we are in default under the 2012 Credit Agreement, or any agreement that amends or replaces the 2012 Credit Agreement in which the counterparty is a member, and we are unable to cure the default. An event of default under the 2012 Credit Agreement includes customary events of default and failure to comply with financial covenants, including a maximum consolidated leverage ratio of 3.5 to 1, a maximum annual capital expenditure of \$25 million, and a minimum consolidated interest charge coverage ratio of 3 to 1. The unrealized loss of \$1.2 million as of September 29, 2012 represents the estimated amount that we would pay to the counterparty in the event of an early termination.

Additional Liquidity and Capital Resources

On October 26, 2011, our board of directors authorized and announced the repurchase by us of up to \$30 million of our equity securities during the period from November 6, 2011 to November 6, 2012. As of September 29, 2012, we had repurchased 669,725 shares of our common stock for \$14.6 million under this authorization. On October 29, 2012, our board of directors approved the repurchase by us of up to \$20 million of our equity securities during the period from November 7, 2012 to November 7, 2013.

It is our intention to reinvest indefinitely the earnings of our international subsidiaries in order to support the current and future capital needs of their operations. Through September 29, 2012, we have not provided for U.S. income taxes on approximately \$120.0 million of unremitted foreign earnings. The U.S. tax cost has not been determined due to the fact that it is not practicable to estimate at this time. The related foreign tax withholding, which would be required if we were to remit the foreign earnings to the U.S., would be approximately \$1.5 million.

As of September 29, 2012, we have accrued \$1.1 million for the payment of claims related to the Composites LLC class action settlement. If the actual claims submitted and approved under the settlement agreement exceed the amount of this reserve, we will reflect the amount of the additional claims in the results of the discontinued operation in future periods, up to a maximum of \$5.0 million.

KADANT INC.

Liquidity and Capital Resources (continued)

Although we currently have no material commitments for capital expenditures, we plan to make expenditures of approximately \$3 to \$4 million during the remainder of 2012 for property, plant, and equipment.

In the future, our liquidity position will be primarily affected by the level of cash flows from operations, cash paid to satisfy debt repayments, capital projects, stock repurchases, claims related to the discontinued composite building products business, or additional acquisitions, if any. We believe that our existing resources, together with the cash available from our credit facilities and the cash we expect to generate from continuing operations, will be sufficient to meet the capital requirements of our current operations for the foreseeable future.

Item 3 – Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Our exposure to market risk from changes in interest rates and foreign currency exchange rates has not changed materially from our exposure at year-end 2011 as disclosed in Item 7A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011, filed with the SEC.

Item 4 – Controls and Procedures

(a) Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Our management, under the supervision and with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of September 29, 2012. The term “disclosure controls and procedures,” as defined in Securities Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e), means controls and other procedures of a company that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the company in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported, within the time periods specified in the SEC’s rules and forms. Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by a company in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to the company’s management, including its principal executive and principal financial officers, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. Management recognizes that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving their objectives and management necessarily applies its judgment in evaluating the cost-benefit relationship of possible controls and procedures. Based upon the evaluation of our disclosure controls and procedures as of September 29, 2012, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that as of September 29, 2012, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective at the reasonable assurance level.

(b) Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There have not been any changes in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) during the fiscal quarter ended September 29, 2012 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

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PART II – OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1 – Legal Proceedings

Not applicable.

Item 1A – Risk Factors

In connection with the “safe harbor” provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, we wish to caution readers that the following important factors, among others, in some cases have affected, and in the future could affect, our actual results and could cause our actual results in 2012 and beyond to differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statements made by us, or on our behalf.

Our business is dependent on worldwide and local economic conditions as well as the condition of the pulp and paper industry.

We sell products worldwide primarily to the pulp and paper industry, which is a cyclical industry. Generally, the financial condition of the global pulp and paper industry corresponds to general worldwide economic conditions, as well as to a number of other factors, including pulp and paper production capacity relative to demand in the geographic markets in which we compete. A significant portion of our revenues are to customers based in Europe. The economic recession in Europe and continued uncertainty due to the risk of sovereign debt defaults by certain European countries and the costs associated with resolving the sovereign debt crisis adversely affected our revenues and bookings in Europe in the third quarter of 2012. In addition, reported economic growth rates in China have slowed more than expected. The increased uncertainty in the global economic outlook, and weaker economic conditions in Europe in particular, have negatively affected, and may in the future negatively affect, demand for our customers’ products, and as a consequence, our products and services, especially our capital equipment products. Also, uncertainty regarding economic conditions has caused, and may in the future cause, liquidity and credit issues for many businesses, including our customers in the pulp and paper industry as well as other industries, and may result in their inability to fund projects, capacity expansion plans, and to some extent, routine operations and capital expenditures. These conditions have resulted, and may in the future result, in a number of structural changes in the pulp and paper industry, including decreased spending, mill closures, consolidations, and bankruptcies, all of which negatively affect our business, revenue, and profitability. Financial and economic turmoil affecting the worldwide economy or the banking system and financial markets, in particular, due to political or economic developments could cause the expectations for our business to differ materially in the future.

Our financial performance will be negatively impacted if there are delays in customers securing financing or our customers become unable to secure such financing, due to any number of factors including a tightening of monetary policy. The inability of our customers to obtain credit may affect our ability to recognize revenue and income, particularly on large capital equipment orders from new customers for which we may require letters of credit. We may also be unable to issue letters of credit to our customers, which are required in some cases to guarantee performance, during periods of economic uncertainty.

Paper producers have been, and may in the future be, negatively affected by higher operating costs. Paper companies curtail their capital and operating spending during periods of economic uncertainty and are cautious about resuming spending as market conditions improve. As paper companies consolidate operations in response to market weakness, they frequently reduce capacity, increase downtime, defer maintenance and upgrades, and postpone or even cancel capacity addition or expansion projects. It is especially difficult to accurately forecast our revenues and earnings per share during periods of economic uncertainty.

A significant portion of our international sales has, and may in the future, come from China and we operate several manufacturing facilities in China, which exposes us to political, economic, operational and other risks.

We have historically had significant revenues from China, operate significant manufacturing facilities in China, and manufacture and source equipment and components from China. As a result, we are exposed to increased risk in the event of economic slowdowns, changes in the policies of the Chinese government, political unrest, unstable economic conditions, or other developments in China or in U.S.-China relations that are adverse to trade, including enactment of protectionist legislation or trade or currency restrictions. Policies of the Chinese government to target slower economic growth to avoid inflation may negatively affect our business in China if customers are unable to expand capacity or obtain financing for expansion or improvement projects.

Our bookings activity from China tends to be more variable than in other geographic regions, as the China pulp and paper industry historically has experienced, and in the future may experience, periods of significant capacity expansion to meet demand followed by a period of stagnant activity while overcapacity is absorbed. These cycles result in periods of significant bookings

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activity for our capital products and increased revenues followed by a significant decrease in bookings or potential delays in shipments and order placements by our customers as they attempt to balance supply and demand. As a consequence, our bookings and revenues in China tend to be uneven and difficult to predict. Paper companies in China have brought and are scheduled to bring online capacity additions; however, this capacity growth has been uneven and the larger paper producers have delayed, and may in the future delay, additional new capacity start-ups in reaction to softer market conditions. In general, as significant capacity additions come online and the economic growth rate slows, paper producers have deferred and could in the future defer further investments or the delivery of previously-ordered equipment until the market absorbs the new production. This negatively affected our bookings and revenues in China in the first half of 2012, and may in the future negatively affect our bookings and revenues in China.

In addition, orders from customers in China, particularly for large stock-preparation systems that have been tailored to a customer's specific requirements, have credit risks higher than we generally incur elsewhere, and some orders are subject to the receipt of financing approvals from the Chinese government or can be impacted by the availability of credit and more restrictive monetary policies. For this reason, we generally do not record signed contracts from customers in China for large stock-preparation systems as orders until we receive the down payments for such contracts. The timing of the receipt of these orders and the down payments are uncertain and there is no assurance that we will be able to recognize revenue on these contracts. Delays in the receipt of payments and letters of credit affect when revenues can be recognized on these contracts, making it difficult to accurately forecast our future financial performance. We may experience a loss if a contract is cancelled prior to the receipt of a down payment in the event we commence engineering or other work associated with the contract. We typically have inventory awaiting shipment to customers. We could have excess and obsolete inventory if contracts are cancelled and we cannot re-sell the equipment. In addition, we may experience a loss if the contract is cancelled, or the customer does not fulfill its obligations under the contract, prior to the receipt of a letter of credit or final payments covering the remaining balance of the contract, which could represent 80% or more of the total order.

We generally recognize revenue in China upon shipment once we have secured final payment. In some cases, we will be unable to recognize any revenue on completed orders until after installation or acceptance of the equipment. Furthermore, customers in China often demand that deliveries of previously-ordered equipment be delayed to future periods for any number of reasons. These factors have caused, and will in the future cause, our revenues recognized in China to vary greatly from period to period and be difficult to predict.

We may be unable to adjust operating costs and manufacturing sufficiently in China to meet demand.

The demand for our products in China can vary significantly from period to period. For example, we experienced a large increase in demand for our stock-preparation products in China in late 2010 and early 2011, followed by several quarters of lower bookings. In periods of increased demand we may hire additional workers and may shift some production to our other manufacturing plants outside China. If we are unable to meet increased demand we could be exposed to contractual penalties and our business and reputation could suffer. In addition, shifting to higher-cost production facilities outside China generally reduces our gross profit margins on these products. In periods of lower demand, we may seek to furlough or lay off workers or consolidate production in our manufacturing plants in China. We may be unable to adjust our operations to meet demand for a number of reasons, including our inability to obtain necessary government or labor union approvals. Our financial performance could suffer if we were unable to sufficiently adjust our operating costs or manufacturing to meet demand.

Commodity or component price increases and significant shortages of commodities and component products may adversely impact our financial results or our ability to meet commitments to customers.

We use steel, stainless steel, brass, bronze, and other commodities to manufacture our products. We also use natural gas in the production of our fiber-based granular products. As a result, unanticipated increases in the prices of such commodities could increase our costs more than expected, negatively impacting our business, results of operations and financial condition if we are unable to fully offset the effect of these increased costs through price increases, productivity improvements, or cost reduction programs.

We rely on suppliers to secure commodity and component products required for the manufacture of our products. A disruption in deliveries to or from suppliers or decreased availability of such components or commodities could have an adverse effect on our ability to meet our commitments to customers or increase our operating costs. We believe our sources of raw materials and component products will generally be sufficient for our needs in the foreseeable future. However, our business, results of operations or financial condition could be negatively impacted if supply is insufficient for our operations.

We are dependent on two paper mills for the fiber used in the manufacture of our fiber-based granular products. From time to time we have experienced, and may in the future experience, some difficulty obtaining sufficient raw material to operate at optimal production levels. We continue to work with the mills to ensure a stable supply of raw material. To date, we have been able to meet all of our customer delivery requirements, but there can be no assurance that we will be able to meet future delivery requirements. Although we believe our relationships with the mills are good, the mills could decide not to continue to supply sufficient papermaking byproducts, or may not agree to continue to supply such products on commercially reasonable terms. If the

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mills were unable or unwilling to supply us sufficient fiber, we would be forced to find one or more alternative sources of supply of this raw material. We may be unable to find alternative supplies on commercially reasonable terms or could incur excessive transportation costs if an alternative supplier were found, which would increase our manufacturing costs, and might prevent prices for our products from being competitive or require closure of this business.

Our business is subject to economic, currency, political, and other risks associated with international sales and operations.

During the first nine months of 2012 and 2011, approximately 61% and 63%, respectively, of our sales were to customers outside the United States, principally in Europe and China. In addition, we operate several manufacturing operations worldwide, including those in China, Europe, Mexico, and Brazil. International revenues and operations are subject to a number of risks, including the following:

- agreements may be difficult to enforce and receivables difficult to collect through a foreign country's legal system,
- foreign customers may have longer payment cycles,
- foreign countries may impose additional withholding taxes or otherwise tax our foreign income, impose tariffs, adopt other restrictions on foreign trade, impose currency restrictions or enact other protectionist or anti-trade measures,
- worsening economic conditions may result in worker unrest, labor actions, and potential work stoppages,
- political unrest may disrupt commercial activities of ours or our customers,
- it may be difficult to repatriate funds, due to unfavorable domestic and foreign tax consequences or other restrictions or limitations imposed by foreign governments, and
- the protection of intellectual property in foreign countries may be more difficult to enforce.

Although we seek to charge our customers in the same currency in which our operating costs are incurred, fluctuations in currency exchange rates may affect product demand and adversely affect the profitability in U.S. dollars of products we provide in international markets. In addition, our inability to repatriate funds could adversely affect our ability to service our debt obligations. Any of these factors could have a material adverse impact on our business and results of operations. Furthermore, while some risks can be hedged using derivatives or other financial instruments, or may be insurable, such attempts to mitigate these risks may be costly and not always successful.

We are subject to intense competition in all our markets.

We believe that the principal competitive factors affecting the markets for our products include quality, price, service, technical expertise, and product performance and innovation. Our competitors include a number of large multinational corporations that may have substantially greater financial, marketing, and other resources than we do. As a result, they may be able to adapt more quickly to new or emerging technologies and changes in customer requirements, or to devote greater resources to the promotion and sale of their services and products. Competitors' technologies may prove to be superior to ours. Our current products, those under development, and our ability to develop new technologies may not be sufficient to enable us to compete effectively. Competition, especially in China, has increased as new companies enter the market and existing competitors expand their product lines and manufacturing operations.

Adverse changes to the soundness of our suppliers and customers could affect our business and results of operations.

All of our businesses are exposed to risk associated with the creditworthiness of our key suppliers and customers, including pulp and paper manufacturers and other industrial customers, many of which may be adversely affected by volatile conditions in the financial markets, worldwide economic downturns, and difficult economic conditions. These conditions could result in financial instability, bankruptcy, or other adverse effects at any of our suppliers or

customers. The consequences of such adverse effects could include the interruption of production at the facilities of our suppliers, the reduction, delay or cancellation of customer orders, delays in or the inability of customers to obtain financing to purchase our products, and bankruptcy of customers or other creditors. Any adverse changes to the soundness of our suppliers or customers may adversely affect our cash flow, profitability and financial condition.

Changes in our effective tax rate may impact our results of operations.

We derive a significant portion of our revenue and earnings from our international operations, and are subject to income and other taxes in the U.S. and numerous foreign jurisdictions. A number of factors may increase our effective tax rate, including: increases in tax rates in various jurisdictions; unanticipated decreases in the amount of profit in jurisdictions with low statutory tax rates; the resolution of issues arising from tax audits with various tax authorities; changes in the valuation of our deferred tax assets and liabilities; adjustments to income taxes upon finalization of various tax returns; increases in expenses not deductible for tax purposes, including impairments of goodwill in connection with acquisitions; changes in available tax credits or our ability to utilize foreign tax credits; and changes in tax laws or the interpretation of such tax laws. Any significant increase in our future effective tax rates would adversely impact our net income for future periods.

We may be required to reorganize our operations in response to changing conditions in the worldwide economy and the pulp and paper industry, and such actions may require significant expenditures and may not be successful.

We have undertaken various restructuring measures in the past in response to changing market conditions in the countries in which we operate and in the pulp and paper industry in general, which have affected our business. We may engage in additional cost reduction programs in the future. We may not recoup the costs of programs we have already initiated, or other programs in which we may decide to engage in the future, the costs of which may be significant. In connection with any future plant closures, delays or failures in the transition of production from existing facilities to our other facilities in other geographic regions could also adversely affect our results of operations. In addition, it is difficult to accurately forecast our financial performance in periods of economic uncertainty in a region or globally, and the efforts we have made or may make to align our cost structure may not be sufficient or able to keep pace with rapidly changing business conditions. Our profitability may decline if our restructuring efforts do not sufficiently reduce our future costs and position us to maintain or increase our sales.

Adverse changes to the soundness of financial institutions could affect us.

We have relationships with many financial institutions, including lenders under our credit facilities and insurance underwriters, and from time to time, we execute transactions with counterparties in the financial industry, such as our interest rate swap arrangements and other hedging transactions. As a consequence of volatility in the financial markets, these financial institutions or counterparties could be adversely affected and we may not be able to access credit facilities in the future, complete transactions as intended, or otherwise obtain the benefit of the arrangements we have entered into with such financial parties, which could adversely affect our business and results of operations.

Our debt may adversely affect our cash flow and may restrict our investment opportunities.

On August 3, 2012, we replaced our existing unsecured revolving credit facility entered into in February 2008 with a five-year unsecured revolving credit facility (2012 Credit Agreement) in the aggregate principal amount of up to \$100 million. The 2012 Credit Agreement also includes an uncommitted unsecured incremental borrowing facility of up to an additional \$50 million. We had \$5 million outstanding under the 2012 Credit Agreement as of September 29, 2012 and have also borrowed additional amounts under another agreement to fund our operations. We may also obtain additional long-term debt and working capital lines of credit to meet future financing needs, which would have the effect of increasing our total leverage. Our indebtedness could have negative consequences, including:

- increasing our vulnerability to adverse economic and industry conditions,
- limiting our ability to obtain additional financing,
- limiting our ability to pay dividends on or to repurchase our capital stock,
- limiting our ability to complete a merger or an acquisition,
- limiting our ability to acquire new products and technologies through acquisitions or licensing agreements, and
- limiting our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and the industries in which we compete.

Our existing indebtedness bears interest at floating rates and as a result, our interest payment obligations on our indebtedness will increase if interest rates increase. As of September 29, 2012, all of our outstanding floating rate debt was hedged through interest rate swap agreements. The unrealized loss associated with these swap agreements was \$1.2 million as of September 29, 2012. This unrealized loss represents the estimated amount for which the swap agreements could be settled. The counterparty to the swap agreements could demand an early termination of the swap agreements if we are in default under the 2012 Credit Agreement, or any agreement that amends or replaces the 2012 Credit Agreement in which the counterparty is a member, and we are unable to cure the default. If these swap agreements were terminated prior to the scheduled maturity date and if we were required to pay cash for the value of the swap, we would incur a loss, which would adversely affect our financial results.

Our ability to satisfy our obligations and to reduce our total debt depends on our future operating performance and on economic, financial, competitive, and other factors beyond our control. Our business may not generate sufficient cash flows to meet these obligations or to successfully execute our business strategy. The 2012 Credit Agreement includes certain financial covenants, and our failure to comply with these covenants could result in an event of default under the 2012 Credit Agreement, the swap agreements, and our other credit facilities, and would have significant negative consequences for our current operations and our future ability to fund our operations and grow our business. If we are unable to service our debt and fund our business, we may be forced to reduce or delay capital expenditures or research and development expenditures, seek additional financing or equity capital, restructure or refinance our debt, or sell assets.

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Restrictions in our 2012 Credit Agreement may limit our activities.

Our 2012 Credit Agreement contains, and future debt instruments to which we may become subject may contain, restrictive covenants that limit our ability to engage in activities that could otherwise benefit us, including restrictions on our ability and the ability of our subsidiaries to:

- incur additional indebtedness,
- pay dividends on, redeem, or repurchase our capital stock,
- make investments,
- create liens,
- sell assets,
- enter into transactions with affiliates, and
- consolidate, merge, or transfer all or substantially all of our assets and the assets of our subsidiaries.

We are also required to meet specified financial covenants under the terms of our 2012 Credit Agreement. Our ability to comply with these financial restrictions and covenants is dependent on our future performance, which is subject to prevailing economic conditions and other factors, including factors that are beyond our control such as currency exchange rates, interest rates, changes in technology, and changes in the level of competition. Our failure to comply with any of these restrictions or covenants may result in an event of default under our 2012 Credit Agreement and other loan obligations, which could permit acceleration of the debt under those instruments and require us to repay the debt before its scheduled due date. If an event of default were to occur, we might not have sufficient funds available to make the payments required under our indebtedness. If we are unable to repay amounts owed under our debt agreements, those lenders may be entitled to foreclose on and sell the collateral that secures our borrowings under the agreements.

Our inability to successfully identify and complete acquisitions or successfully integrate any new or previous acquisitions could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Our strategy includes the acquisition of technologies and businesses that complement or augment our existing products and services. Any such acquisition involves numerous risks that may adversely affect our future financial performance and cash flows. These risks include:

- competition with other prospective buyers resulting in our inability to complete an acquisition or in us paying substantial premiums over the fair value of the net assets of the acquired business,
- inability to obtain regulatory approval, including antitrust approvals,
- difficulty in assimilating operations, technologies, products and the key employees of the acquired business,
- inability to maintain existing customers or to sell the products and services of the acquired business to our existing customers,
- diversion of management’s attention away from other business concerns,
- inability to improve the revenues and profitability or realize the cost savings and synergies expected of the acquisition,
- assumption of significant liabilities, some of which may be unknown at the time,
- potential future impairment of the value of goodwill and intangible assets acquired, and
- identification of internal control deficiencies of the acquired business.

In 2008, we recorded a \$40.3 million impairment charge to write down the goodwill associated with the stock-preparation reporting unit within our Papermaking Systems segment. We may incur additional impairment charges to write down the value of our goodwill and acquired intangible assets in the future if the assets are not

deemed recoverable, which could have a material adverse effect on our operating results.

Our inability to protect our intellectual property or defend ourselves against the intellectual property claims of others could have a material adverse effect on our business. In addition, litigation to enforce our intellectual property and contractual rights or defend ourselves could result in significant litigation or licensing expense.

We seek patent and trade secret protection for significant new technologies, products, and processes because of the length of time and expense associated with bringing new products through the development process and into the marketplace. We own numerous U.S. and foreign patents, and we intend to file additional applications, as appropriate, for patents covering our products. Patents may not be issued for any pending or future patent applications owned by or licensed to us, and the claims allowed under any issued patents may not be sufficiently broad to protect our technology. Any issued patents owned by or licensed to us may be challenged, invalidated, or circumvented, and the rights under these patents may not provide us with competitive advantages. In addition, competitors may design around our technology or develop competing technologies. Intellectual property rights may also be unavailable or limited in some foreign countries, which could make it easier for competitors to capture increased market share. In addition, as our patents expire, we rely on trade secrets and proprietary know-how to protect our products. We cannot be sure the steps we have taken or will take in the future will be adequate to deter misappropriation of our proprietary information and intellectual property. Of particular concern are developing countries, such as China, where the laws, courts, and administrative agencies may not protect our intellectual property rights as fully as in the United States or Europe.

We seek to protect trade secrets and proprietary know-how, in part, through confidentiality and noncompetition agreements with our collaborators, employees, and consultants. These agreements may be breached, we may not have adequate remedies for any breach, and our trade secrets may otherwise become known or be independently developed by our competitors, or our competitors may otherwise gain access to our intellectual property.

We could incur substantial costs to defend ourselves in suits brought against us, including for alleged infringement of third party rights, or in suits in which we may assert our intellectual property or contractual rights against others. An unfavorable outcome of any such litigation could have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

Failure of our information systems or breaches of data security could impact our business.

We operate a geographically dispersed business and rely on the electronic storage and transmission of proprietary and confidential information, including technical and financial information, among our operations, customers and suppliers. In addition, for some of our operations, we rely on information systems controlled by third parties. System failures, network disruptions and breaches of data security could limit our ability to conduct business as normal, including our ability to communicate and transact business with our customers and suppliers; result in the loss or misuse of this information, the loss of business or customers, or damage to our brand or reputation; or interrupt or delay reporting our financial results. Such system failures or unauthorized access could be caused by external theft or attack, misconduct by our employees, suppliers, or competitors, or natural disasters. In addition, the cost and operational consequences of implementing further data protection measures could be significant.

Our share price fluctuates and experiences price and volume volatility.

Stock markets in general and our common stock in particular experienced significant price and volume volatility during the 2008 to 2009 economic recession and in the second half of 2011, and may experience significant price and volume volatility from time to time in the future. The market price and trading volume of our common stock may continue to be subject to significant fluctuations due not only to general stock market conditions but also to a change in sentiment in the market regarding our operations, business prospects, or future funding. Given the nature of the markets in which we participate and the volatility of orders, we may not be able to reliably predict future revenues and profitability, and unexpected changes may cause us to adjust our operations. A large proportion of our costs are fixed, due in part to our significant selling, research and development, and manufacturing costs. Thus, small declines in revenues could disproportionately affect our operating results. Other factors that could affect our share price and quarterly operating results include:

- failure of our products to pass contractually agreed upon acceptance tests, which would delay or prohibit recognition of revenues under applicable accounting guidelines,
- changes in the assumptions used for revenue recognized under the percentage-of-completion method of accounting,
 - fluctuations in revenues due to customer-initiated delays in product shipments,
- failure of a customer, particularly in Asia, to comply with an order's contractual obligations or inability of a customer to provide financial assurances of performance,
 - adverse changes in demand for and market acceptance of our products,
 - competitive pressures resulting in lower sales prices for our products,
 - adverse changes in the pulp and paper industry,
 - delays or problems in our introduction of new products,
 - delays or problems in the manufacture of our products,
- our competitors' announcements of new products, services, or technological innovations,
- contractual liabilities incurred by us related to guarantees of our product performance,
- increased costs of raw materials or supplies, including the cost of energy,
 - changes in the timing of product orders,
- impact of new acquisition accounting, including the treatment of acquisition and restructuring costs as period costs,
 - fluctuations in our effective tax rate,

- the operating and share price performance of companies that investors consider to be comparable to us, and
 - changes in global financial markets and global economies and general market conditions.

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Anti-takeover provisions in our charter documents and under Delaware law could prevent or delay transactions that our shareholders may favor.

Provisions of our charter and bylaws may discourage, delay, or prevent a merger or acquisition that our shareholders may consider favorable, including transactions in which shareholders might otherwise receive a premium for their shares. For example, these provisions:

- authorize the issuance of “blank check” preferred stock without any need for action by shareholders,
- provide for a classified board of directors with staggered three-year terms,
- require supermajority shareholder voting to effect various amendments to our charter and bylaws,
- eliminate the ability of our shareholders to call special meetings of shareholders,
- prohibit shareholder action by written consent, and
- establish advance notice requirements for nominations for election to our board of directors or for proposing matters that can be acted on by shareholders at shareholder meetings.

Prior to July 2011, we had a shareholder rights plan, which may have had anti-takeover effects under certain circumstances. This shareholder rights plan expired by its terms in July 2011 and was not renewed by our board of directors. However, our board of directors could adopt a new shareholder rights plan in the future that could have anti-takeover effects and might discourage, delay, or prevent a merger or acquisition that our board of directors does not believe is in our best interests and those of our shareholders, including transactions in which shareholders might otherwise receive a premium for their shares.

Item 2 – Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

The following table provides information about purchases by us of our common stock during the third quarter of 2012:

Period	Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities			Approximate Dollar Value of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans
	Total Number of Shares Purchased (1)	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans (1)	
7/1/12 – 7/31/12	–	–	–	\$ 16,647,475
8/1/12 – 8/31/12	56,094	\$ 22.22	56,094	\$ 15,401,277
9/1/12 – 9/29/12	–	–	–	\$ 15,401,277
Total:	56,094	\$ 22.22	56,094	

- (1) On October 26, 2011, our board of directors authorized and announced the repurchase by us of up to \$30 million of our equity securities during the period from November 6, 2011 to November 6, 2012. Repurchases may be made in public or private transactions, including under Securities Exchange Act Rule 10b-5-1 trading plans. In the third quarter of 2012, we repurchased 56,094 shares of our common stock for \$1.2 million under this authorization.

Item 6 – Exhibits

See Exhibit Index on the page immediately preceding the exhibits.

KADANT INC.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized as of the 7th day of November, 2012.

KADANT INC.

/s/ Thomas M. O'Brien
Thomas M. O'Brien
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial Officer)

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number	Description of Exhibit
31.1	Certification of the Principal Executive Officer of the Registrant Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
31.2	Certification of the Principal Financial Officer of the Registrant Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
32	Certification of the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer of the Registrant Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
10.1	Credit Agreement dated August 3, 2012, among Kadant Inc., the Foreign Subsidiary Borrowers from time to time parties thereto, the several banks and other financial institutions or entities from time to time parties thereto, RBS Citizens, N.A., as Administrative Agent and Multi-currency Administrative Agent (filed as Exhibit 99.1 to the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2012 [File No. 1-11406] and incorporated in this document by reference). (1)
10.2	Guarantee Agreement dated August 3, 2012, among Kadant Inc. and the Subsidiary Guarantors, in favor of RBS Citizens, N.A., as Administrative Agent for the several banks and other financial institutions or entities from time to time parties to the Credit Agreement dated as of August 3, 2012 (filed as Exhibit 99.2 to the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2012 [File No. 1-11406] and incorporated in this document by reference). (1)
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document.*
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document.*
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Calculation Linkbase Document.*
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Label Linkbase Document.*
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Presentation Linkbase Document.*
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Definition Linkbase Document.*

* Submitted electronically herewith.

(1) The schedules and exhibits to the Credit Agreement and schedules to the Guarantee Agreement have been omitted for this filing. Kadant will furnish copies of any of the schedules or exhibits to the U.S. Securities and Exchange

Commission upon request.

Attached as Exhibit 101 to this report are the following formatted in XBRL (Extensible Business Reporting Language): (i) Condensed Consolidated Statement of Income for the three months and nine months ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011, (ii) Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet at September 29, 2012 and December 31, 2011, (iii) Condensed Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income for the three and nine months ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011, (iv) Condensed Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows for the nine months ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011, and (v) Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

In accordance with Rule 406T of Regulation S-T, the XBRL-related information in Exhibit 101 to this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q is deemed not filed or part of a registration statement or prospectus for purposes of sections 11 or 12 of the Securities Act, is deemed not filed for purposes of section 18 of the Exchange Act, and otherwise is not subject to liability under these sections.

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