

VICOR CORP
Form 10-K
March 03, 2011

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
Form 10-K

- ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**
For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010
- 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 0-18277
VICOR CORPORATION
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)
25 Frontage Road, Andover,
Massachusetts
(Address of principal executive offices)

04-2742817
(IRS employer identification no.)
01810
(Zip code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code:
(978) 470-2900

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Common Stock, \$.01 par Value

The NASDAQ Stock Market, LLC

(Title of Class)

(Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:
None

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was

required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

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

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

Large Accelerated Filer Accelerated Filer Non-accelerated Filer Smaller Reporting Company
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

The aggregate market value of the voting stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant was approximately \$246,164,100 as of June 30, 2010.

On February 28, 2011, there were 30,003,149 shares of Common Stock outstanding and 11,767,052 shares of Class B Common Stock outstanding.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the Company's definitive proxy statement (the Definitive Proxy Statement) to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Regulation 14A and relating to the Company's 2011 annual meeting of stockholders are incorporated by reference into Part III.

PART I

In this Annual Report on Form 10-K, unless the context indicates otherwise, references to Vicor, the Company, our company, we, us, our, and similar references, refer to Vicor Corporation.

This Annual Report on Form 10-K contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The words believes, expects, anticipates, intend, estimate, plans, assumes, may, will, would, should, project, and other similar expressions identify forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements also include statements regarding: the level of customer orders and the delivery lead times associated therewith; the derivation of a portion of our sales in each quarter from orders booked in the same quarter; our plans to invest in research and development and expanded manufacturing capacity; our belief regarding currency risk being mitigated because of limited foreign exchange fluctuation exposure; our continued success depending in part on its ability to attract and retain qualified personnel; our belief that cash generated from operations and the total of our cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments will be sufficient to fund operations for the foreseeable future; our intention regarding protecting our rights under our patents; and our expectation that no current litigation or claims will have a material adverse impact on its financial position or results of operations. These statements are based upon our current expectations and estimates as to the prospective events and circumstances that may or may not be within our control and as to which there can be no assurance. Actual results could differ materially from those implied by forward-looking statements as a result of various factors, including our ability to: hire and retain key personnel; develop and market new products and technologies cost effectively and on a timely basis; leverage our new technologies in standard products to promote market acceptance of our new approach to power system architecture; leverage design wins into increased product sales; continue to meet requirements of key customers and prospects; enter into licensing agreements increasing our market opportunity and accelerating market penetration; realize significant royalties under such licensing agreements; achieve sustainable bookings rates for our products across both markets and geographies; improve manufacturing and operating efficiencies; successfully enforce our intellectual property rights; successfully defend outstanding litigation; and maintain an effective system of internal controls over financial reporting, including our ability to obtain required financial information for investments on a timely basis, our ability to assess the value of assets, including illiquid investments, and the accounting therefor. These and other factors that may influence actual results are described in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, including but not limited to those described under Part I, Item 1 Business, under Part I, Item 1A Risk Factors, under Part I, Item 3 Legal Proceedings, and under Part II, Item 7 Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations. The discussion of our business contained herein, including the identification and assessment of factors that may influence actual results, may not be exhaustive. Therefore, the information presented should be read together with other documents we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission from time to time, including Forms 10-Q and 8-K, which may supplement, modify, supersede or update the factors discussed in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. We do not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statements as a result of future events or developments.

ITEM 1. BUSINESS

Overview

We design, develop, manufacture and market modular power components and complete power systems. Power systems are incorporated into virtually all electronic equipment. In equipment utilizing Alternating Current (AC) voltage from a primary source (for example, a wall outlet), a power system converts AC voltage into the stable Direct Current (DC) voltage necessary to power subsystems and/or individual applications or loads. In many electronic devices, this DC voltage may be further converted to one or more lower voltages required by a range of loads. In

equipment utilizing DC voltage from a primary source (for example, a generator or battery pack), the initial DC voltage frequently requires further conversion to one or more lower voltages. Because numerous applications requiring different DC voltages and varied power ratings may exist within an electronic device, and system power architectures themselves vary, we offer an extensive range of products and accessories in a myriad of application-specific configurations.

Since our founding, our product strategy has been driven by innovations in design, largely enabled by our focus on the development of differentiated technologies, which often are implemented in proprietary semiconductor circuitry. Many of our products incorporate a high frequency electronic power conversion technology called zero current / zero voltage switching (ZCS/ZVS), which enabled the design of DC-DC converter modules that were much smaller and more efficient than conventional alternatives. Emphasizing the superior power density and performance advantages of this technology, our primary product strategy since our founding has been to offer a comprehensive range of component-level building blocks to configure a power system specific to a customer's needs. Since introducing and popularizing the encapsulated brick during the 1980s, our product focus has been on high density DC-DC converters, which provide the isolation, transformation, regulation, filtering, and/or input protection necessary to power and protect sophisticated electronic loads. A secondary and highly complementary product strategy has been to incorporate our component-level building blocks into complete power systems representing turnkey AC-DC and DC-DC solutions for our customers' power needs.

Our product strategy is now increasingly focused on the next generation of component-level building block, the V*I Chip™ module, which incorporates our latest advances in ZCS/ZVS technology and other proprietary power conversion innovations. We believe V*I Chip converters offer unprecedented power conversion density (i.e., the output power in Watts as a function of the size of the component in cubic inches), performance (i.e., benchmarks related to the capabilities of the component, such as conversion efficiency), and flexibility (i.e., the ability of our customers to implement a broad range of possible configurations).

The applications in which these power conversion and power management products are used are in the higher-performance, higher-power segments of the power systems market, including, in alphabetical order, aerospace and defense electronics, enterprise and high performance computing, industrial automation, telecommunications and networking infrastructure, test and measurement instrumentation, and vehicles and transportation. Our products are sold worldwide to customers ranging from global original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) and their contract manufacturers to smaller, independent manufacturers of highly specialized electronic devices.

Our business segments are organized by key product lines:

Our Brick Business Unit (BBU) segment designs, develops, manufactures and markets modular power converters in two formats: our well-established encapsulated modules, known as bricks, and our newer line of modular power converters that incorporate our V*I Chip technology into innovative packaging, which we market as VI Brick™ modules. The BBU also designs, develops, manufactures and markets a line of configurable products, which are complete power supplies assembled using our modular power components. The BBU includes the operations of our Westcor™ division, which is focused only on AC-input configurable products, the operations of Vicor Custom Power™ (previously known as Vicor Integration Architects™), which is our turnkey custom power solutions business, and Vicor Japan Company, Ltd. (VJCL), our Japanese subsidiary.

Our V*I Chip Business Unit (V*I Chip) consists of V*I Chip Corporation, a wholly-owned subsidiary that designs, develops, manufactures and markets a range of advanced power conversion components, including those that enable our Factorized Power Architecture™ (FPA). In 2003, we introduced FPA, a new power system architecture based on an array of proprietary power conversion innovations building upon our long-standing leadership in the design of power conversion technologies. We believe FPA provides power system designers enhanced performance at a lower cost than can be attained with conventional power architectures. In 2010, we introduced two new power converter products, the PFM™ and the DCM™, which exploit proprietary V*I Chip power conversion innovations. The PFM and DCM can be used either as components of FPA or other power system distribution architectures. As V*I Chip converters and FPA represent innovative alternatives to such conventional products and architectures, we established a separate

business unit to enable the organizational focus necessary to support early adopters of these disruptive technologies.

Our Picor Business Unit (Picor) consists of Picor Corporation, a majority-owned subsidiary of Vicor. Picor is a fables (i.e., it utilizes third parties to manufacture its products) designer, developer,

and marketer of high performance integrated circuits and related products for use in a variety of power system applications. Picor develops these products to be incorporated into Vicor's products, to be sold as a complement to our products, or for sale to third parties for separate applications. Much of the differentiation of our BBU and V*I Chip products has been a result of implementation of our power conversion innovations in proprietary semiconductor circuitry. Because of the considerable design expertise embodied in this captive organization and the potential for success as a merchant vendor of an expanding portfolio of proprietary products, we established Picor as a separate business unit to enable organizational focus and to facilitate a distinct go-to-market strategy.

Vicor B.V., a wholly-owned subsidiary incorporated in the Netherlands, serves as a European distribution center. VLT, Inc. is our wholly-owned licensing subsidiary. VICR Securities Corporation is our wholly-owned subsidiary established to hold certain investment securities.

We are headquartered in Andover, Massachusetts, where our manufacturing facility is located. V*I Chip Corporation also is headquartered in Andover, Massachusetts. Our Westcor division has a design and assembly facility in Sunnyvale, California. Our VJCL subsidiary, which is engaged in sales and customer support activities exclusively for the Japanese market, is located in Tokyo, Japan. Our six Vicor Custom Power locations are geographically distributed around the United States. We have customer support and engineering offices, which we call Technical Support Centers, in the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, and Hong Kong, China. Picor Corporation is headquartered in North Smithfield, Rhode Island.

All of the above named entities are consolidated in the financial statements presented herein.

We were incorporated in Delaware in 1981, and our common stock was listed on the NASDAQ National Market System in April 1990 under the ticker symbol of VICR.

We maintain a website with the address www.vicorpower.com and make available free of charge through this website our Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to these reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act), as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish such material to, the Securities and Exchange Commission. The information contained on our website is not a part of, nor incorporated by reference into, this Annual Report on Form 10-K and shall not be deemed filed under the Exchange Act.

Market Background, Product Trends and Vicor Strategy

The market for power supplies and their enabling components continues to evolve in response to advancing technologies and corresponding changes in customer requirements. Similarly, we evolved our strategy to address evolving market challenges and opportunities. Many of the ongoing changes in the market, particularly in those segments in which we compete, have been characterized by improvement in product performance (e.g., power conversion efficiency), reduction in product form factor (i.e., size), and increased design flexibility (i.e., the ability of customers to address their power requirements with a broad range of alternative solutions). Product trends have been characterized by the disaggregation of the functions of power components such as DC-DC converters, thereby driving further improvement in overall power supply performance, further reduction in form factor, and greater flexibility in the way designers implement power supply solutions.

In 1984, we introduced an enhancement of the standardized, high-density power converter to the market: the fully-encapsulated brick, utilizing our ZCS/ZVS technology, in standardized dimensions of 4.6 x 2.4 x 0.5 . Our innovative, patented technology provided superior efficiency and overall performance in a small form factor, while

full encapsulation provided not only full shielding from environmental influences, but enhanced thermal performance characteristics. Such thermal performance enhancement has been critical to the differentiated performance of our power converters, as the by-product of voltage conversion is heat, which must be dissipated in order to assure the performance of the converter itself and the overall system to which it is delivering power.

In response to market and technology trends and changes in our customer requirements, we have implemented a strategy addressing both the realities of the current power conversion marketplace and our

vision of the long-term direction of that marketplace. Our strategy involves maintaining a viable, profitable legacy business, while investing in the next generation of power management components.

Our early technical and performance leadership contributed to the development of an image in the market as a power component innovator. The BBU experienced strong revenue growth and robust profitability during the 1980s and 1990s, as important markets for our products expanded. However, a significant amount of our revenue was derived from the telecommunications infrastructure market and, when that market collapsed in the early 2000s, we had to reassess our product portfolio and overall competitive positioning. Many of our domestic competitors faced the same circumstances and reoriented their strategies to serve high volume applications of large OEMs. In doing so, they moved much of their manufacturing from the United States to lower cost countries where the contract manufacturers used by their OEM customers were based. We chose not to follow these competitors, remained a domestic manufacturer, and shifted our competitive positioning to one based on mass customization, thereby offering customers a wider range of possible solutions than those offered by our competitors.

As a part of our repositioning, we invested significantly in new product designs that emphasized low cost and flexible manufacturing, as well as the plant equipment and information technology necessary to support such low cost and flexible manufacturing, as well as shorter delivery lead times. We also modified our go-to-market strategy to emphasize serving lower volume customers requiring higher value solutions. As such, today our product portfolio is extremely broad, while our customer base and the market segments we serve are far more diverse than prior to the change in our go-to-market strategy. Our mass customization model allows us to profitably meet the specific design and volume requirements of numerous, relatively low volume customers, while avoiding the costs associated with maintaining extensive inventories of finished goods. Our decision to not pursue higher volume commodity opportunities constrained our growth during the economic recovery from 2004 into 2008, but our profitability during this period benefited from our value-added approach. We believe this approach has contributed to reduced volatility of our financial performance during the current period of economic decline, as our customers rely on us for power conversion solutions they generally cannot obtain from our volume-oriented, commodity-focused competitors.

At the same time we undertook a repositioning of the BBU, our legacy business, we announced our vision for the future of component-based power conversion: FPA and V*I Chip modules. Since our founding, our products have been based on advanced, highly-differentiated designs. Much of our intellectual property is patented or otherwise proprietary to us. However, as is typical across the information technology and electronics markets, the segments in which we have competed matured relatively quickly and became characterized by product commoditization and price competition. Given our extensive experience with power conversion technologies and our understanding of trends in both technology and our markets, we concluded the appropriate complement to maintaining our legacy business would be to seek to redefine the competitive landscape in the long-term in targeted market segments with our innovative, flexible new power distribution architecture and our next generation of advanced designs appropriate for applications requiring highly differentiated performance (i.e., conversion efficiency) and power density.

Picor is a highly complementary element of our strategy to redefine the competitive landscape in the long term. Many of the differentiated capabilities of our Brick and V*I Chip products have been a result of implementation of our power conversion innovations in proprietary semiconductor circuitry. Most notably, proprietary, highly advanced microcontroller circuits are found in many of our most successful switching power components. While the majority of Picor's activities to date have involved supplying integrated circuits for internal use, Picor's strategy is to become a merchant vendor of innovative power management circuitry, whether in individual packages, multi-chip modules, or subassemblies. Picor's product roadmap includes the development of integrated power management products targeted at lower power applications. As such, Picor's current and planned products represent a complement to FPA and V*I Chip modules.

An important element of our strategy is to protect our competitive leadership with domestic and foreign patents and patent applications that cover our products and much of their enabling technologies. We believe our competitive leadership is further protected by proprietary trade secrets associated with our use of certain

components and materials of our own design, as well as our significant experience with manufacturing, packaging and testing these complex devices.

We continue to believe traditional power architectures, in the longer run, may not provide the performance necessary to address future power system requirements, given the trends toward lower bus and load voltages, higher currents, more and diverse on-board voltages, and the higher speeds and performance demands of numerous complex loads. Our overall strategy is to develop differentiated products to address these trends, while providing competitively superior performance and reliability at a lower overall cost.

Our Products

Our website, www.vicorpower.com, sets forth detailed information describing all of products and the applications for which they may be used. The information contained on our website is not a part of, nor incorporated by reference into, this Annual Report on Form 10-K and shall not be deemed filed under the Exchange Act.

Our principal product lines are:

Bricks: Modular Power Converters

Brick DC-DC power converters are well-established as an important enabling component of conventional power systems architectures. The BBU currently offers seven families of high power density, component-level DC-DC power converters: the VI-200tm, VI-J00tm, MI-200tm, MI-J00tm, Maxi, Mini and Micro families. Designed to be mounted directly on a printed circuit board chassis using contemporary manufacturing processes, each brick family is a comprehensive set of products offered in a wide range of input voltage (10 to 425 Volts DC) and output power (10 to 600 Watts). This allows end users to select power component products appropriate to their individual applications. The product families differ in maximum power ratings, performance characteristics, package size and, in certain cases, characteristics specific to the targeted market.

All of our traditional brick modules are encapsulated with a dielectric, elastomeric, thermally conductive material, thereby providing electrical insulation, thermal conductivity, and environmental protection of the electronic circuitry.

Our Custom Module Design Systemtm (CMDS), a core component of the Vicor Power Bench tool suite on our website, is a proprietary system enabling our customers to specify on-line, and verify in real time, the performance and attributes of its DC-DC converters. Not merely a product configuration tool like those offered by competitors, the CMDS enables the comprehensive design of DC-DC converters in all of our established brick form factors (i.e., full, half and quarter size), using patented web-based technology. CMDS is an important element of our mass customization strategy.

The VI Brick combines the superior technical attributes of our V*I Chip technology with robust packaging offering superior thermal characteristics and facilitating a range of board mounting alternatives. VI Brick models include high current density / low voltage DC-DC converters, a wide range of highly efficient bus converters, and individual models for both regulation and transformation. We continue to focus our product development efforts within the BBU on the design of VI Brick modules. During 2010, we introduced the VI Brick PFMtm, an innovative AC-DC converter using V*I Chip technology. The module incorporates active power factor correction and operates over a wide rectified AC input voltage range providing a regulated and isolated 48 Volt direct current output at up to 330 Watts. The high efficiency (93%) of the module and its thermally adept VI Brick package provide a flexible AC to DC power component.

Accessory Power System Components

Accessory power system components, used with our component-level power converters, integrate other important functions of the power system, facilitating the design of complete power systems by interconnecting several modules. These other functions include input filtering, power factor correction, transient protection and AC line rectification. In general, our broad line of proprietary accessory components are used to condition

and/or filter the input and output voltages of the modular power components, and therefore represents an important complement to our converter component lines.

Examples of accessory products include our VI-HAM™ (Harmonic Attenuator Module), a universal-AC-input, power-factor-correcting front end for use with compatible DC-DC power converters, and our VI-AIM™ (AC Input Module), which provides input filtering, transient protection and rectification of the AC line.

Configurable Products

Utilizing our modular power components as core elements, we have developed several configurable product families that provide complete power solutions configured to a customer's specific needs. These products exploit the benefits and flexibility of the modular approach to offer higher performance, higher power densities, lower costs, and faster delivery than many competitive offerings. Configurable products are designed, developed and manufactured by the BBU, which offers a range of AC-DC and DC-DC products, by its Westcor division, which focuses on high-power AC-DC power supplies, and by VJCL, which offers configurable power supplies addressing the specific requirements of Japanese customers.

Most information technology, process control, and industrial electronic products operate directly off of AC lines and, as such, require circuitry to convert AC line voltage into the required DC voltage. Our configurable AC-DC power systems, the FlatPAC™, VIPAC™ Power System, and LoPAC™ families, incorporate front-end AC-DC circuitry subassemblies, thereby providing a complete power solution from AC line input to one or more DC outputs. These configurable products are characterized by their low-profile design and are configurable in a range of sizes and outputs up to 1,500 Watts.

Many telecommunications switching, transportation and defense electronic products are powered from central DC sources (e.g., generators or banks of batteries). Our configurable DC-DC power systems, the VIPAC Array, ComPAC™, and MegaMod™ families, also are characterized by a low-profile design, including rugged, compact assemblies for chassis-mounted, bulk power applications.

Our highest power configurable product line, the MegaPAC™ family, is also among our most flexible solutions. A MegaPAC consists of a fan-cooled chassis with up to 10 slots into which are placed ConverterPAC™ modules, which incorporate our brick power conversion modules, allowing for a broad range of customer-specific configurations. The MegaPAC itself can be configured to accept either AC or DC inputs, and output power can be as high as 4,000 Watts with up to 20 outputs.

The VIPAC family of power systems is a class of user defined, integrated modular power solution that leverages the latest advances in Maxi, Mini, and Micro DC-DC converter technology and modular front ends. VIPAC combines application specific front end units, a choice of advantageous chassis styles and, in AC input versions, remotely located hold-up capacitors to provide fast, flexible and highly reliable power solutions for a wide range of demanding applications.

The web-based Vicor Computer Assisted Design (VCAD) tool, a component of Vicor PowerBench, can be utilized by the customer to specify and verify, in real time, that customer's desired configuration of our VIPAC family of configurable products from a broad range of inputs, outputs, packaging and optional features. Similarly, our web-based Vicor System Product Online Configurator (VSPOC), also a component of Vicor PowerBench, allows customers to configure and order Westcor AC-DC power supplies.

Customer Specific Power System Products

Certain customers rely on us to design, develop and manufacture customized power systems to meet performance and/or form factor requirements that cannot be met with off-the-shelf system solutions. By utilizing our power components as building-blocks in developing these custom power systems, we have been able to meet such customers needs with reliable, high power density, turnkey solutions. These low-volume, high value-add products, besides meeting customers specific requirements, frequently are designed to function reliably in the harsh environments associated with aerospace and defense applications.

We pursue custom opportunities through our Vicor Custom Power network, which consists of six regional design, assembly and customer support locations. Of the six locations, one is a division, three are either wholly-owned or majority-owned subsidiaries, and two are less than 50%-owned subsidiaries.

V*I Chip Products

We have pioneered an innovative new board level power architecture, FPA, which separates (or factorizes) the basic functions of DC-DC power conversion (voltage transformation, regulation, and isolation) into separate power components called V*I Chip modules. Our V*I Chip converters represent the next generation of modular power components, providing power systems designers the ability to address increasingly challenging requirements. With each new generation of microprocessor, application specific integrated circuit, and memory, the trend has been toward lower voltages, higher currents, higher speeds and more on-board voltages. System designers must contend with a range of lower voltages, improve overall power system efficiency, and deliver the solution in an ever-smaller form factor.

We believe FPA provides power system designers superior power density, conversion efficiency, transient responsiveness, noise performance, reliability, and design flexibility at a lower overall cost than attained with conventional board level power architectures. We currently offer three V*I Chip modules for implementation of FPA designs: the BCM™ (Bus Converter Module), an intermediate bus converter; the PRM™ (Pre-Regulator Module), a non-isolated regulator; and the VTM™ (Voltage Transformation Module), an isolated current multiplier. All three modules are offered in full (i.e., 1.1 square inch) and half (i.e., 0.57 square inch) modules.

The BCM provides an isolated, unregulated intermediate bus voltage, at efficiencies up to 96%, to power non-isolated converters at the point-of-load from a narrow range DC input. The PRM is a non-isolated regulator, operating at up to 97% efficiency, capable of both boosting (i.e., increasing) and bucking (i.e., reducing) an input voltage and providing a regulated, adjustable output voltage or factorized bus . VTMs are designed to meet the demands of advanced microprocessor and memory applications at the point of load with fixed ratio voltage transformation with extremely fast transient response, while providing isolation from input to output.

We have successfully deployed V*I Chip modules in FPA implementations in several demanding application categories for which they are well suited, including high performance computing, advanced test and measurement, and defense electronics.

As addressed above in the context of its use in a VI Brick product, in 2010 V*I Chip introduced the PFM converter, an isolated AC-DC module offering active PFC. The PFM has dimensions of 1.92 x 1.91 x 0.37 (approximately twice size of a full size BCM, PRM or VTM module).

Picor Products

Picor designs, develops, and markets high performance integrated circuits and related products for use in a variety of power system applications. Picor is pursuing a merchant strategy and offers a growing range of products for sale to third parties.

In 2010, Picor introduced the Cool-Power™ module, a DC-DC converter delivering 60 Watts of output power in half the size of competitive solutions. Picor's product portfolio includes a range of Cool-ORing® full-function Active ORing solutions and discrete Active ORing controllers. These solutions address the requirements of redundant power architectures implemented in today's high-availability systems such as enterprise servers, high performance computing, and telecom and communications infrastructure systems. Picor also offers a range of QuietPower™ output (QPO) and input (QPI) electromagnetic interference filters differentiated by their small, surface mount

System-in-Package and low cost. Products are targeted at a range of industry and customer applications.

MIL-COTS Products

We offer versions of our commercial-off-the-shelf brick converters and accessories, configurable power supplies, and V*I Chip converters meeting certain specification standards established by the U.S. Department of Defense. Such MIL-COTS products meet the performance and reliability requirements associated with use in harsh and demanding environments.

Sales and Marketing

We sell our products in North America and South America through a network of independent sales representative organizations and in other areas of the world through independent distributors. Sales activities are managed by a staff of Area Sales Directors, Regional and National Account Sales Managers, and sales personnel in the following locations: our world headquarters in Andover, Massachusetts; a Technical Support Center in Lombard, Illinois; our Westcor division in Sunnyvale, California; Vicor Custom Power locations in Cedar Park (Austin), Texas, Milwaukie (Portland), Oregon, and Oceanside (San Diego), California; our subsidiary in Tokyo, Japan; and our Technical Support Centers in Munich, Germany, Camberley, Surrey, England, Milan, Italy, Paris, France, and Hong Kong, China.

International sales, as a percentage of total net revenues, were approximately 49% in 2010, 41% in 2009, and 42% in 2008, respectively.

Because of the technically complex nature of our products, we maintain a staff of Field Applications Engineers to support our sales activities. Field Application Engineers provide direct technical sales support worldwide by reviewing new applications and technical matters with existing and potential customers. Product Line Engineers, located in our Andover headquarters, support field application engineers assigned to all of our locations.

We generally warrant our products for a period of two years.

During 2010, we introduced an electronic commerce capability through our website, www.vicorpower.com. Registered customers in the U.S., Canada and certain European countries are now able to purchase prototype quantities of selected products online. We intend to expand our online capability in the near future to include customers from other countries.

We also sell directly to customers through Vicor Expresstm, an in-house distribution group. Through advertising and periodic mailing of its catalogs, Vicor Express generally offers customers rapid delivery on small quantities of certain standard products. Through Vicor B.V., Vicor Express operates in Germany, France, Italy and England.

Applications and Customers

The applications in which our power conversion and power management products are used are in the higher-performance, higher-power segments of the power systems market. Our products are sold worldwide to customers ranging from global OEMs and their contract manufacturers to smaller, independent manufacturers of highly specialized electronic devices. For the years ended December 31, 2010, two customers accounted for approximately 12.3% and 11.5% of net revenues, respectively. During 2009 and 2008, no single customer accounted for more than 10% of our net revenues.

Backlog

As of December 31, 2010, we had a backlog of approximately \$78,900,000 compared to \$57,200,000 on December 31, 2009. Backlog is comprised of orders for products for which shipment is scheduled within the next 12 months. A portion of our sales in any quarter is, and will continue to be, derived from orders booked in the same quarter.

Research and Development

As a basic element of our long-term strategy, we are committed to the continued advancement of power conversion technology and power component product development. We invested approximately \$36,000,000, \$31,600,000, and \$31,400,000 in research and development in 2010, 2009, and 2008, respectively. Investment in research and development represented approximately 14.4%, 16.0%, and 15.3% of net revenues in 2010, 2009, and 2008, respectively. We intend to continue to invest a significant percentage of revenues in research and development activities.

Manufacturing and Quality Assurance

Our principal manufacturing processes consist of assembly of electronic components onto printed circuit boards, automatic testing of components, wave, reflow and infrared soldering of assembled components, encapsulation of converter subassemblies, final environmental stress screening of certain products and product test using automatic test equipment.

We continue to pursue a manufacturing strategy based upon the phased acquisition and/or fabrication, qualification and integration of automated manufacturing equipment to reduce manufacturing costs, increase product quality and reliability and enable rapid and effective expansion of capacity, as needed. We intend to make continuing investments in manufacturing equipment, particularly for our V*I Chip and VI Brick products and replacement of manufacturing equipment utilized by the BBU.

Components and materials used in our products are purchased from a variety of vendors. Most of the components are available from multiple sources. In instances of single source items, we maintain levels of inventories we consider to be appropriate to enable meeting the delivery requirements of customers. Incoming components, assemblies and other parts are subjected to several levels of inspection procedures.

Our compliance with applicable environmental laws has not had a material effect on our financial condition or operating results.

Product quality and reliability are a critical to our success and, as such, we emphasize quality and reliability in our design and manufacturing activities. We follow industry best practices in manufacturing and are compliant with ISO 9001 certification standards (as set forth by the International Organization for Standardization). Our quality assurance practices include rigorous testing and, as necessary, burn-in of our products using automated equipment.

Competition

The power conversion industry is highly competitive. It remains highly fragmented, despite significant consolidation during the prior decade. Numerous power supply manufacturers target market segments and applications similar to those we target. Several of these competitors have significantly greater financial and marketing resources and longer operating histories than we do.

With the BBU, our strategy is largely based on differentiated responsiveness to customer requirements enabled by our mass customization capabilities. We believe we have a strong competitive position, particularly with customers who need small, high density power system solutions requiring a variety of input-output configurations. We compete on the basis of differentiation, offering a broad product line and mass customization abilities. We also compete by emphasizing technical innovation, product performance, and service and technical support. We believe the principal competitive variables in the market segments in which the BBU competes are price, performance, and the level of service and technical support offered.

With V*I Chip, our strategy is largely based on differentiated products offered to, at least during the early adoption of such products, a limited number of larger potential customers well-positioned to benefit from the advantages offered by our products (e.g., global original equipment manufacturers in computing, networking, and test and measurement). V*I Chip currently competes with vendors of power component solutions, many of which are the manufacturers with which the BBU competes. In the coming years, we anticipate a significantly broadened market for V*I Chip, as awareness of the advantages of V*I Chip spreads and a broader audience of potential customers is reached. We also anticipate the introduction of the PFM and DCM concepts will accelerate adoption of our broadened V*I Chip product line, as we will be well-positioned to offer comprehensive AC-DC and DC-DC solutions across a wider range of

applications.

Picor and, to a lesser extent, V*I Chip compete with suppliers of integrated circuits for power conversion applications, many of which have significantly greater financial and marketing resources and longer operating histories. We believe Picor is developing a strong competitive position based on innovative semiconductor design and PSiP packaging. Based on Picor's expanding product roadmap, we anticipate Picor will experience

more direct competition with these larger suppliers, as we target their customers with our increasingly silicon-centric power conversion solutions.

Patents and Intellectual Property

We believe our patents afford advantages by building fundamental and multilayered barriers to competitive encroachment upon key features and performance benefits of our principal product families. Our patents cover the fundamental conversion topologies used to achieve the performance attributes of our converter product lines; converter array architectures; product packaging design; product construction; high frequency magnetic structures; as well as automated equipment and methods for circuit and product assembly.

We have been issued 129 patents in the United States (which expire between 2010 and 2026). We also have a number of patent applications pending in the United States, Europe and the Far East. We intend to vigorously protect our rights under these patents. Although we believe patents are an effective way of protecting our technology, there can be no assurances that our patents will prove to be enforceable.

Licensing

In addition to generating revenue from product sales, licensing is an element of our strategy for building worldwide product and technology acceptance and market share. In granting licenses, we generally retain the right to use our patented technologies and manufacture and sell our products in all licensed geographic areas and fields of use. Licenses are granted and administered through our wholly-owned subsidiary, VLT, Inc., which owns our patents. Revenues from licensing arrangements have not exceeded 10% of our consolidated revenues in any of the last three fiscal years.

Employees

As of December 31, 2010, we had approximately 1,002 full time employees and 68 part time employees.

We believe our continued success depends, in part, on our ability to attract and retain qualified personnel. Although there is strong demand for qualified personnel, we have not to date experienced difficulty in attracting and retaining sufficient engineering and technical personnel to meet our needs (see Part I, Item 1A Risk Factors).

None of our employees are subject to a collective bargaining agreement.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

This Annual Report on Form 10-K contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Actual results could differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements as a result of, among other factors, the risk factors set forth below.

Our future operating results are difficult to predict and are subject to fluctuations.

Our future operating results, including revenues, gross margins, operating expenses and net income (loss), have fluctuated on a quarterly and annual basis, are difficult to predict, and may be materially affected by a number of factors, many of which are beyond our control, including:

the effects of adverse economic conditions in the United States and international markets, especially in light of the continued challenges in global credit and financial markets;

changes in customer demand for our products and for end products that incorporate our products;

the timing of our new product announcements or introductions, as well as those by our competitors;

our ability to effectively coordinate changes in the mix of products we manufacture and sell, while managing our ongoing transition in organizational focus from traditional brick power components to our new V*I Chip, VI Brick and Picor products;

the level of demand and purchase orders from our customers, and our ability to adjust to changes in demand and purchase order patterns;

changes in order lead times and our turns volumes (i.e., the volumes of purchase orders received and shipped within an individual quarter);

the timing, delay or cancellation of significant customer orders and our ability to manage inventory;

the ability of our third party suppliers, subcontractors and manufactures to supply us with sufficient quantities of high quality products or components, on a timely basis;

the effectiveness of our efforts to reduce product costs and manage operating expenses;

our ability to utilize our manufacturing facilities at efficient levels, maintaining production capacity and manufacturing yields;

the ability to hire, retain and motivate qualified employees to meet the demands of our customers;

intellectual property disputes;

potential significant litigation-related costs;

costs related to compliance with increasing worldwide environmental and other regulations; and

the effects of public health emergencies, natural disasters, security risk, terrorist activities, international conflicts and other events beyond our control.

As a result of these and other factors, we cannot assure you that we will not experience significant fluctuations in future operating results on a quarterly or annual basis. In addition, if our operating results do not meet the expectations of investors, the market price of our common stock may decline.

Our stock price has been volatile and may fluctuate in the future.

The trading price of our common stock has and may continue to fluctuate significantly. Such fluctuations may be influenced by many factors, including:

the recent unprecedented volatility of the financial markets;

uncertainty regarding the prospects of domestic and foreign economies;

uncertainty regarding domestic and international political conditions, including tax policies;

our performance and prospects;

the performance and prospects of our major customers;

investor perception of our company and the industry in which we operate;

the absence of earnings estimates and supporting research by investment analysts;

the liquidity of the market for our common stock;

the uncertainty of the declaration and payment of future cash dividends on our common stock; and

the concentration of ownership of our common stock by Dr. Vinciarelli, our Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer, and President.

Public stock markets have recently experienced extreme price and trading volume volatility. This volatility significantly and negatively affected the market prices of securities of many technology companies, including the market price of our common stock in late 2008 and early 2009. The return of such volatility could result in broad market fluctuations that could materially and adversely affect the market price of our common stock for indefinite periods. In addition, fluctuations in our stock price, volume of shares traded, and changes in our trading multiples may make our stock attractive to certain categories of investors who often shift funds into and out of stocks rapidly, exacerbating price fluctuations in either direction.

The ownership of our common stock is concentrated between Dr. Vinciarelli and a limited number of institutional investors. Dr. Vinciarelli owned, as of December 31, 2010, 9,675,480 shares of our common stock, as well as 11,023,648 shares of our Class B common stock (convertible on a one-for-one basis into common stock), together representing 50.5% of total issued and outstanding shares. Certain institutional investors have been long-term owners of our common stock and held in aggregate, as of September 30, 2010 (the most recent reporting date for institutional holders), over 15% of our issued and outstanding shares. Accordingly, the market float for our common stock and average daily trading volumes are relatively small, which can negatively impact investors' ability to buy or sell shares of our common stock in a timely manner.

We do not actively communicate with investment analysts and, as a consequence, there are no earnings estimates or supporting research coverage of our company. Because operating results have fluctuated on a quarterly and annual basis, investors may have difficulty in assessing our current and future performance.

In the past, we have declared and paid cash dividends on our common stock. The payment of dividends is based on the periodic determination by the Board of Directors that we have adequate capital to fund anticipated operating requirements and that excess cash is available for distribution to shareholders via a dividend. We have no formal policy regarding dividends and, as such, investors cannot make assumptions regarding the possibility of future dividend payments nor the amounts and timing thereof.

Dr. Vinciarelli owns 93.7% of our issued and outstanding Class B shares, which possess 10 votes per share. (Dr. Estia J. Eichten, a member of our Board of Directors, owns the balance of Class B shares issued and outstanding.) As such, Dr. Vinciarelli, controlling in aggregate 81.3% of share voting power, has effective control of the governance of the Company.

The ongoing disruptions in the global economy, as well as continued uncertainty in global financial markets, could materially and adversely affect our business and results of operations.

While global credit and financial markets appear to be recovering from extreme disruptions experienced over the past two years, uncertainty about continuing economic stability remains. Global financial markets continue to experience disruptions, including diminished liquidity and credit availability. In particular, the recent European debt crisis and related financial restructuring efforts has contributed to the instability in global credit markets. Further disruption and deterioration in economic conditions may reduce customer purchases of our products, thereby reducing our revenues and earnings. In addition, such adverse conditions may, among other things, result in increased price competition for our products, increased risk of excess and obsolete

inventories, increased risk in the collectability of our accounts receivable from our customers, increased risk in potential reserves for doubtful accounts and write-offs of accounts receivable, and higher operating costs as a percentage of revenues. The recent debt crisis in certain European countries could cause the value of the Euro to deteriorate, thus reducing the purchasing power of our European customers. Any of these items individually, or in combination, could materially and adversely affect our business and the results of operations. In 2009, we took actions to address the effects of the economic crisis, including a reduction in force and the implementation of cost control and reduction efforts. While these actions contributed to the positive operating results in 2010, it is possible that we may need to take further cost control and reduction efforts if economic conditions deteriorate again.

We compete with many companies possessing far greater resources.

Some of our competitors have greater financial, manufacturing, technical, sales and marketing resources than we have. We compete with domestic and foreign manufacturers of integrated power supplies and power conversion components. With the growth of our V*I Chip and Picor product lines, we increasingly are competing with global manufacturers of power management products. Competition is generally based on design and quality of products, product performance, features and functionality, and product pricing, availability and capacity, with the relative importance of these factors varying among products, markets and customers. Existing or new competitors may develop products or technologies that more effectively address the demands of our customers and markets with enhanced performance, features and functionality or lower cost. If we fail to continue to develop and commercialize leading-edge technologies and products that are cost effective and maintain high standards of quality, and introduce them to the market on a timely basis, our competitive position and results of operations could be materially adversely affected.

Our future success increasingly depends upon our ability to develop and market differentiated, leading-edge power conversion products for larger customers, potentially contributing to lengthy product development and sales cycles that may result in significant expenditures before revenues are generated.

The power system industry and the industries in which many of our customers operate are characterized by intense competition, rapid technological change, product obsolescence and price erosion for mature products, each of which could have an adverse effect on our results of operations. We are following a strategy based on the development of differentiated products addressing what we believe to be the long-term limitations of traditional power architectures. The development of such new products is often a complex, time-consuming and costly process involving significant investment in research and development, with no assurance of return on investment. There can be no assurance we will be able to develop and introduce new and improved products in a timely or efficient manner or new and improved products, if developed, will achieve market acceptance.

Our future success depends substantially upon customer acceptance of our innovative products. As we have been in the early stages of market penetration for these products, we have experienced lengthy periods during which we have focused our product development efforts on the specific requirements of a limited number of large customers, followed by further periods of delay before meaningful purchase orders are received. These lengthy development and sales cycle times increases the possibility that a customer may decide to cancel or change product plans, which could reduce or eliminate our sales to that customer. As a result, we may incur significant product development expenses, as well as significant sales and marketing expenses, before we generate the related revenues for these products. Furthermore, we may never generate the anticipated revenues from a product after incurring such expenses if our customer cancels or changes its product plans.

Our future operating results are dependent on the growth in our customers' businesses and on our ability to identify and enter new markets.

We manufacture modular power components and power systems that are incorporated into our customers' electronic products. Our growth is therefore dependent on the growth in the sales of our customers' products as well as the development by our customers of new products. If we fail to anticipate changes in our customers' businesses and their changing product needs or successfully identify and enter new markets, our results of operations and financial position could be negatively impacted. We cannot assure you that the

markets we serve will grow in the future, that our existing and new products will meet the requirements of these markets or that we can maintain adequate gross margins or profits in these markets.

In particular, revenue growth in the V*I Chip segment and the Vicor Custom Power group over the last several years has come from either a limited number of customers or from a limited number of significant customer programs. A decline in or deferral of demand from one or several of these large customers or the discontinuation of certain programs, or declines in our other end-user markets in general, could have a material adverse impact on our results of operations. In 2009 and 2010 several large customers, due to uncertain conditions in their own businesses, deferred placing purchase orders with us and/or deferred delivery of scheduled product shipments. As a result, we incurred additional costs associated with managing our inventory levels and scheduling our production activity. In addition, our increased focus on either a limited number of customers or a limited number of significant customer programs, as well as our experience with the deferred purchase orders and/or delivery of certain scheduled product shipments, have contributed to large variances in our reported quarterly ratio of bookings to billings. Accordingly, comparison of our book to bill ratios on a quarter-to-quarter basis can be misleading and may not accurately represent revenue trends.

We rely on third-party vendors and subcontractors for supply of components and assemblies and, therefore, cannot control their availability or quality.

We depend on third party vendors and subcontractors to supply components and assemblies used in our products, some of which are sole-sourced. If suppliers or subcontractors cannot provide their products or services on time or to our specifications, we may not be able to meet the demand for our products and our delivery times may be negatively affected. In addition, we cannot directly control the quality of the products and services provided by third parties. In order to grow, we may need to find new or change existing suppliers and subcontractors. This could cause disruptions in production, delays in the shipping of product or increases in prices paid to third-parties.

We may not be able to procure necessary key components for our products, or we may purchase excess raw material inventory or unusable inventory, possibly impacting our results of operations.

The power systems industry, and the electronics industry as a whole, can be subject to pronounced business cycles and otherwise subject to sudden and sharp changes in demand. Our success, in part, is dependent on our ability to forecast and procure inventories of raw materials and components to match production schedules and customer delivery requirements. Many of our products, notably V*I Chip modules and Picor PSiPs, require raw materials and components supplied by a limited number of vendors and, in some instances, a single vendor. During periods of demand growth, key materials and components required to build our products may become unavailable in the timeframe required for us to meet our customers' needs. Our inability to secure sufficient materials and components to build products for our customers could negatively impact our sales and operating results. We may choose to mitigate this risk by increasing the levels of inventory for certain raw materials and components. Such increased inventory levels may increase the potential risk for excess and obsolescence should our forecasts fail to materialize or if there are negative factors impacting our customers' end markets, leading to order cancellation. If we purchase excess inventory or determine certain inventory is unusable, we may have to record additional inventory reserves or write-off the unneeded inventory, which could have a material adverse effect on our gross margins and on our results of operations.

Our revenues and profits may not increase enough to offset the expense of additional production capacity.

We have made significant additions to our manufacturing equipment and capacity over the past several years, including equipment for both our new V*I Chip products and for BBU products. During 2010, we added equipment to the V*I Chip production lines that more than doubled production capacity. We have also replaced certain equipment and added new, more efficient equipment for certain processes on the BBU production lines. If overall revenue levels

do not increase enough to offset the increased fixed costs, or significant revenues do not materialize for the V*I Chip products, or if there is deterioration in our overall business, our future operating results could be adversely affected. In addition, asset values could be impaired if the additional capacity is underutilized for an extended period of time, resulting in impairment charges that could have a material adverse effect on our financial position and results of operations.

If we were unable to use our manufacturing facility in Andover, Massachusetts, we would not be able to manufacture for an extended period of time.

All modular power components, whether for direct sale to customers or for sale to our subsidiaries and divisions for incorporation into their respective products, are manufactured at our Andover, Massachusetts, production facility. Substantial damage to this facility due to fire, natural disaster, power loss or other events could interrupt manufacturing. Any prolonged inability to utilize all or a significant portion of this facility could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

We are exposed to foreign economic, political and other risks.

International sales have been and are expected to be a significant component of total sales. Dependence on unaffiliated third party distributors for our international sales exposes us to special risks, such as foreign economic and political instability, foreign currency controls and market fluctuations, trade barriers and tariffs, foreign regulations and exchange rates. Our international customers' business may be negatively affected by the current crisis in the global credit and financial markets. Sudden or unexpected changes in the foregoing could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

We may be unable to adequately protect our proprietary rights, which may limit our ability to compete effectively.

We operate in an industry in which the ability to compete depends on the development or acquisition of proprietary technologies that must be protected to preserve the exclusive use of such technologies. We devote substantial resources to establish and protect our patents and proprietary rights, and we rely on patent and intellectual property law to protect such rights. This protection, however, may not prevent competitors from independently developing products similar or superior to our products. We may be unable to protect or enforce current patents, may rely on unpatented technology that competitors could restrict, or may be unable to acquire patents in the future, and this may have a material adverse effect on our competitive position. In addition, the intellectual property laws of foreign countries may not protect our rights to the same extent as those of the United States. We have been and may need to continue to defend or challenge patents. We have incurred and expect to incur significant costs in and devote significant resources to these efforts which, if unsuccessful, may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial position.

We may face intellectual property infringement claims that could be costly to resolve.

The power supply industry is characterized by vigorous protection and pursuit of intellectual property rights. We may in the future receive communications from third parties asserting that our products or manufacturing processes infringe on a third party's patent or other intellectual property rights. In January 2011, we were named in a complaint for patent infringement filed by SynQor, Inc. (see Part I - Item 3- Legal Proceedings). In the event a third party makes a valid intellectual property claim against us and a license is not available to us on commercially reasonable terms, or at all, we could be forced to either redesign or stop production of products incorporating that technology, and our operating results could be materially and adversely affected. In addition, litigation may be necessary to defend us against claims of infringement, and this litigation could be costly and divert the attention of key personnel. An adverse outcome in these types of matters could have a material adverse impact on the results of our operations and financial condition.

We may face legal claims and litigation from product warranty or other claims that could be costly to resolve.

We may in the future encounter legal action from customers, vendors or others concerning product warranty or other claims. We generally offer a two-year warranty from the date title passes from us for all of our standard products. We

invest significant resources in the testing of our products; however, if any of our products contain defects, we may be required to incur additional development and remediation costs, pursuant to our warranty policies. These issues may divert our technical and other resources from other product development efforts and could result in claims against us by our customers or others, including liability for

costs associated with product returns, which may adversely impact our operating results. If any of our products contains defects, or has reliability, quality or compatibility problems, our reputation may be damaged, which could make it more difficult for us to sell our products to existing and prospective customers and could adversely affect our operating results.

Our ability to successfully implement our business strategy may be limited if we do not retain our key personnel and attract and retain skilled and experienced personnel.

Our success depends on our ability to retain the services of our executive officers. The loss of one or more members of senior management could materially adversely affect our business and financial results. In particular, we are dependent on the services of Dr. Vinciarelli, our founder, Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer, and President. The loss of the services of Dr. Vinciarelli could have a material adverse effect on our development of new products and on our results of operations. In addition, we depend on highly skilled engineers and other personnel with technical skills that are in high demand and are difficult to replace. Our continued operations and growth depend on our ability to attract and retain skilled and experienced personnel in a very competitive employment market. If we are unable to attract and retain these employees, our ability to successfully implement our business strategy may be harmed.

Funds associated with our investments in auction rate securities may not be accessible at par value in the short term, and given this illiquidity, we may be required to make additional adjustments to their carrying value.

As of December 31, 2010, we held \$19,075,000 of auction rate securities at par value, consisting of collateralized debt obligations, supported by pools of student loans, sponsored by state student loan agencies and corporate student loan servicing firms. We purchased these securities through the investment banking affiliate of Bank of America, N.A. Before February 2008, the investment banks conducting the periodic Dutch auctions by which interest rates for the securities had been established had committed their capital to support such auctions in the event of insufficient third-party investor demand. Starting the week of February 11, 2008, a substantial number of auctions failed, as demand from third-party investors weakened and the investment banks conducting the auctions chose not to commit capital to support such auctions (i.e., investment banks chose not to purchase securities themselves in order to balance supply and demand, thereby facilitating a successful auction, as they had done in the past). We accepted a settlement offer from UBS AG (UBS) in November 2008, and, as called for in the settlement, UBS purchased the then outstanding par value of \$8,600,000 of auction rate securities purchased through UBS on June 30, 2010. However, we have received no settlement offer from Bank of America to date. While we do not currently anticipate the lack of liquidity of our auction rate securities to adversely affect our ability to conduct business, the funds associated with auction rate securities may not be accessible until a successful auction occurs, a buyer is found outside of the auction process, the security is called or the underlying securities have matured.

In order to record the value of our auction rate securities appropriately each quarter, we have estimated their market value and recorded an impairment charge. Deemed available-for-sale, these securities are carried at fair value, with unrealized gains and losses, net of tax, attributable to credit loss recorded through the statement of operations and unrealized gains and losses, net of tax, attributable to other non-credit factors reported in Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income, a component of Stockholders' Equity. We periodically evaluate if an investment is considered impaired, whether impairment is other than temporary, and the measurement of an impairment loss.

The following circumstances, among others, may cause us to record such impairment charges to our Consolidated Statements of Operations:

the default of an issuer or a specific security of that issuer;

the significant deterioration of the credit rating of a security or its issuer;

a tender offer for a specific security from the issuer valuing the security at less than par that is accepted by the number of holders necessary to require all holders to tender their securities; and

development of a robust secondary market for auction rate securities, establishing an active market value for our securities or similar securities that represents a substantial discount to par.

Such impairment charges or, in the event of a sale, realized losses could be material in amount and be detrimental to our financial position, potentially impacting our ability to fund operations.

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

Our effective tax rate has been difficult to predict in recent reporting periods due to the volatility of our financial performance, as well as a range of factors outside of our control. Factors that may increase our future effective tax rate include: increases in tax rates in various jurisdictions; 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; and changes in tax laws or the interpretation of such tax laws. Any significant increase in our future effective tax rates could adversely impact our net income in future periods.

If we fail to maintain an effective system of internal controls or discover material weaknesses in our internal controls over financial reporting, we may not be able to report our financial results accurately or timely or detect fraud, which could have a material adverse effect on our business.

An effective internal control environment is necessary for the Company to produce reliable financial reports and is an important part of its effort to prevent financial fraud. Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 requires our management to report on, and our independent registered public accounting firm to attest to, the effectiveness of our internal control structure and procedures for financial reporting. We have an ongoing program to perform the system and process evaluation and testing necessary to comply with these requirements and to continuously improve and remediate internal controls over financial reporting.

While management evaluates the effectiveness of our internal controls on a regular basis, these controls may not always be effective. There are inherent limitations on the effectiveness of internal controls, including collusion, management override, and failure in human judgment. In addition, control procedures are designed to reduce rather than eliminate business risks. In the event that our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, or independent registered public accounting firm determines that our internal controls over financial reporting are not effective as defined under Section 404, we may be unable to produce reliable financial reports or prevent fraud, which could materially adversely affect our business. In addition, we may be subject to sanctions or investigation by government authorities or self-regulatory organizations, such as the Securities and Exchange Commission or The NASDAQ Stock Market, LLC. Any such actions could affect investor perceptions of the Company and result in an adverse reaction in the financial markets due to a loss of confidence in the reliability of our financial statements, which could cause the market price of our common shares to decline or limit our access to capital.

ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

We have not received written comments from the Securities and Exchange Commission regarding our periodic or current reports under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, that were received 180 days or more before December 31, 2010 and remain unresolved. There are no unresolved comments from the Securities and Exchange Commission as of December 31, 2010.

ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

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Our corporate headquarters building in Andover, Massachusetts, which we own, provides approximately 90,000 square feet of office space for our sales, marketing, engineering and administration personnel.

We also own a building of approximately 230,000 square feet in Andover, Massachusetts, which houses all Massachusetts manufacturing activities.

Our Westcor division owns and occupies a building of approximately 31,000 square feet in Sunnyvale, California.

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

As disclosed in prior filings, we received total payments of \$1,770,000 in the second quarter of 2007 in full settlement of patent infringement litigation against Artesyn Technologies, Inc., Lucent Technologies Inc., and the Tyco Power Systems, a unit of Tyco International Ltd. (which had acquired the Power Systems business of Lucent Technologies). The full amount of the payments, net of a \$177,000 contingency fee we had accrued for our litigation counsel, was included in the second quarter of 2007 in (Gain) loss from litigation-related and other settlements, net in the Consolidated Statement of Operations. We were subsequently informed by its litigation counsel that the full amount of the contingency fee was waived and, therefore, the related accrual of \$177,000 was reversed in the second quarter of 2008.

On February 22, 2007, we announced an agreement in principle with Ericsson, Inc., the U.S. affiliate of LM Ericsson, to settle a lawsuit brought by Ericsson against us in California state court. Under the terms of the settlement agreement entered into on March 29, 2007, after a court ordered mediation, we paid \$50,000,000 to Ericsson, of which \$12,800,000 was reimbursed by our insurance carriers. Accordingly, we recorded a net loss of \$37,200,000 from the litigation-related settlements in the fourth quarter of 2006. We have been seeking further reimbursement from its insurance carriers. On November 14, 2008, a jury in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts found in favor of us in a lawsuit against certain of its insurance carriers with respect to the Ericsson settlement. The jury awarded \$17,300,000 in damages to us, although the verdict is subject to challenge in the trial court and on appeal. Both parties filed certain motions subsequent to the ruling and, on March 2, 2009, the judge in the case rendered his decision on the subsequent motions, reducing the jury award by \$4,000,000. On March 26, 2009, the U.S. District Court, District of Massachusetts (the Court) issued its judgment in the matter, affirming the award of \$13,300,000, plus prejudgment interest from the date of breach on March 29, 2007 through March 26, 2009, the date of judgment in the amount of approximately \$3,179,000. The insurance carriers have filed their appeal to this total judgment in the amount of approximately \$16,479,000. No final and collectible judgment yet has been entered by the court.

Our decision to enter into the settlement followed an adverse ruling by the court in January 2007 in connection with a settlement between Ericsson and co-defendants Exar Corporation (Exar) and Rohm Device USA, LLC (Rohm), two of our component suppliers prior to 2002. Our writ of mandate appeal of this ruling was denied in April, 2007. In September 2007, we filed a notice of appeal of the court's decision upholding the Ericsson-Exar-Rohm settlement. In December 2007, the court awarded Exar and Rohm amounts for certain statutory and discovery costs associated with this ruling. As such, we accrued \$240,000 in the second quarter of 2007, included in (Gain) loss from litigation-related and other settlements, net in the Consolidated Statements of Operations, of which \$78,000 of the award was paid in the second quarter of 2008. On February 9, 2009, the Court of Appeals issued its opinion affirming the judgment for Exar and Rohm in full. During the third quarter of 2009, we completed negotiations with Exar and Rohm, resulting in separate settlement agreements calling for a final payment to Exar of \$70,000 and no additional payment due Rohm. As a result of the settlements, we reversed a remaining excess accrual of approximately \$96,000 in the third quarter of 2009, which is recorded in Gain from litigation-related and other settlements, net in the accompanying Consolidated Statement of Operations.

During the third quarter of 2009, we entered into a release and settlement agreement with a vendor over alleged product performance issues with certain products the vendor had sold to us. We received a payment of \$750,000 in consideration for the settlement, which is recorded in Gain from litigation-related and other settlements, net in the accompanying Consolidated Statement of Operations.

On January 28, 2011, SynQor, Inc. (SynQor) filed a complaint for patent infringement against Ericsson, Inc. (Ericsson), Cisco Systems, Inc. (Cisco) and us in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas. This immediately followed a complaint filed by us on January 26, 2011 in U.S. District Court for the District of

Massachusetts, in which we sought a declaratory judgment that our bus converter products do not infringe any valid claim of certain of SynQor's U.S. patents, and that the claims of those patents are invalid. With respect to us, SynQor's complaint alleges that our products, including, but not limited to, unregulated bus converters used in intermediate bus architecture power supply systems, infringe certain SynQor patents.

SynQor seeks, amongst other items, an injunction against further infringement and an award of unspecified compensatory and enhanced damages, interest, costs and attorney fees. On February 8, 2011, SynQor filed a motion for preliminary injunction seeking an order enjoining us from manufacturing, using, selling, and offering for sale in the United States and/or importing into the United States certain identified unregulated bus converters, as well as any other bus converters not significantly different from those products. On February 17, 2011, we dismissed our Massachusetts action without prejudice to allow the litigation to proceed in Texas. We do not believe any of our products, including our unregulated bus converters, infringe any valid claim of the SynQor patents, either alone or when used in an intermediate bus architecture implementation. We believe SynQor's claims lack merit and therefore plan to vigorously defend ourselves against SynQor's patent infringement allegations.

We are involved in certain other litigation and claims incidental to the conduct of its business. While the outcome of lawsuits and claims against us cannot be predicted with certainty, we do not expect any current litigation or claims to have a material adverse impact on our financial position or results of operations.

ITEM 4. (REMOVED AND RESERVED)

PART II

ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

Our Common Stock is listed on The NASDAQ Stock Market, LLC, under the trading symbol VICR. Shares of our Class B Common Stock are not registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, are not listed on any exchange nor traded on any market, and are subject to transfer restrictions under our Restated Certificate of Incorporation, as amended.

The following table sets forth the quarterly high and low sales prices for the Common Stock as reported by The NASDAQ Stock Market for the periods indicated:

2010	High	Low
First Quarter	\$ 14.31	\$ 7.98
Second Quarter	16.24	10.87
Third Quarter	16.35	11.98
Fourth Quarter	19.50	14.65
2009	High	Low
First Quarter	\$ 6.75	\$ 3.86
Second Quarter	7.30	4.63
Third Quarter	7.97	6.42
Fourth Quarter	9.68	6.50

As of February 28, 2011, there were 228 holders of record of our Common Stock and 16 holders of record of our Class B Common Stock. These numbers do not reflect persons or entities that hold their stock in nominee or street name through various brokerage firms.

Dividend Policy

Dividends are declared at the discretion of our Board of Directors and depend on actual cash from operations, our financial condition and capital requirements, and any other factors the Board of Directors may consider relevant.

On June 28, 2010, the Company's Board of Directors approved a cash dividend of \$0.30 per share of the Company's stock. The total dividend of approximately \$12,506,000 was paid on July 30, 2010 to shareholders of record at the close of business on July 16, 2010.

From time to time, excess cash held at the subsidiary level is transferred to the Company via cash dividends. Because we own less than 100% of the common stock of certain subsidiaries, such subsidiary dividends can result in payments to outside shareholders of those subsidiaries. During the year ending December 31, 2009, two subsidiaries paid a total of \$4,690,000 in cash dividends on subsidiary common stock, of which \$3,421,000 was paid to the Company and \$1,269,000 was paid to outside shareholders (i.e., paid to certain subsidiary employees who own common stock in the subsidiary). During the year ending December 31, 2010, three subsidiaries paid a total of \$5,457,000 in cash dividends, of which \$4,905,000 was paid to the Company and \$552,000 was paid to outside shareholders. Dividends paid to outside shareholders are accounted for as a reduction in noncontrolling interest.

Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

Period	Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased	Average Price Paid per Share (or Unit)	Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	Maximum Number (of Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares (or Units) that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs
October 1 - 31, 2010	-	\$ -	-	\$ 8,541,000
November 1 - 30, 2010	-	\$ -	-	\$ 8,541,000
December 1 - 31, 2010	-	\$ -	-	\$ 8,541,000
Total	-	\$ -	-	\$ 8,541,000

In November 2000, our Board of Directors authorized the repurchase of up to \$30,000,000 of our Common Stock (the November 2000 Plan). The November 2000 Plan authorizes us to make such repurchases from time to time in the open market or through privately negotiated transactions. The timing and amounts of stock repurchases are at the discretion of management based on its view of economic and financial market conditions. We did not repurchase shares of Common Stock during the year ended December 31, 2010.

Stockholder Return Performance Graph

The graph set forth below presents the cumulative, five-year stockholder return for each of the Corporation's Common Stock, the Standard & Poor's 500 Index (S&P 500 Index), a value-weighted index made up of 500 of the largest, by market capitalization, listed companies, and the Standard & Poor's SmallCap 600 Index (S&P SmallCap 600 Index), a value-weighted index of 600 listed companies with market capitalizations between \$200,000,000 and \$1,000,000,000.

The graph assumes an investment of \$100 on December 31, 2005, in each of our Common Stock, the S&P 500 Index, and the S&P SmallCap 600 Index, and assumes reinvestment of all dividends. The historical information set forth below is not necessarily indicative of future performance.

**Comparison of Five Year Cumulative Return
Among Vicor Corporation, S&P 500 Index
and S&P SmallCap 600 Index**

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Vicor Corporation	\$ 100.00	\$ 71.62	\$ 103.31	\$ 45.02	\$ 63.34	\$ 113.84
S&P 500 Index	\$ 100.00	\$ 115.79	\$ 122.16	\$ 76.97	\$ 97.32	\$ 111.99
S&P SmallCap 600 Index	\$ 100.00	\$ 115.11	\$ 114.77	\$ 79.12	\$ 99.35	\$ 125.48

ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The following selected consolidated financial data with respect to our statements of operations for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009, and 2008, and with respect to our balance sheets as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, are derived from our Consolidated Financial Statements, which appear elsewhere in this report and which have been audited by Grant Thornton LLP, our independent registered public accounting firm. The following selected consolidated financial data with respect to our statements of operations for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006, and with respect to our balance sheets as of December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006 are derived from our Consolidated Financial Statements, which are not included herein.

Statement of Operations Data	2010	Year Ended December 31,			2006
		2009	2008	2007	
		(In thousands, except per share data)			
Net revenues	\$ 250,733	\$ 197,959	\$ 205,368	\$ 195,827	\$ 192,047
Income (loss) from operations	29,122	4,773	(1,142)	1,071	(33,182)
Consolidated net income (loss)	33,539	4,093	(1,778)	5,874	(28,497)
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interest	214	1,295	1,817	539	562
Net income (loss) attributable to Vicor Corporation	33,325	2,798	(3,595)	5,335	(29,059)
Net income (loss) per share basic and diluted attributable to Vicor Corporation	0.80	0.07	(0.09)	0.13	(0.69)
Weighted average shares basic	41,700	41,665	41,651	41,597	41,839
Weighted average shares diluted	41,772	41,671	41,651	41,687	41,839
Cash dividends per share	\$ 0.30	\$ -	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.27

Balance Sheet Data	2010	2009	As of December 31,		2006
			2008	2007	
			(In thousands)		
Working capital	\$ 105,454	\$ 74,791	\$ 65,297	\$ 114,924	\$ 123,467
Total assets	204,912	180,577	171,922	192,458	247,461
Total liabilities	25,900	24,511	20,496	23,978	73,696
Total equity	179,012	156,066	151,426	168,480	173,765

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

We design, develop, manufacture and market modular power components and complete power systems based upon a portfolio of patented technologies. We sell our products primarily to customers in the higher-performance, higher-power segments of the power systems market, including aerospace and defense electronics, enterprise and high performance computing, industrial equipment and automation, telecommunications and network infrastructure, and vehicles and transportation through a network of independent sales representative organizations in North and South

America and, internationally, through independent distributors. International sales as a percentage of total revenues were approximately 49% in 2010, 41% in 2009 and 42% in 2008, respectively.

We have organized our business segments according to our key product lines. The BBU segment designs, develops, manufactures and markets modular power converters and configurable products, and also includes the operations of our Westcor division, the six entities comprising Vicor Custom Power, and the BBU activities through VJCL. The V*I Chip segment includes V*I Chip Corporation which designs, develops, manufactures

and markets our FPA products. V*I Chip activities conducted through VJCL are included in the V*I Chip segment. Picor develops, manufactures and markets integrated circuits and related products for use in a variety of power management and power system applications. Picor develops these products to be sold as part of Vicor's products or to be sold to third parties for separate applications.

For the year ended December 31, 2010, revenues increased to \$250,733,000 from \$197,959,000 in 2009. We had income before taxes of \$29,619,000 in 2010 as compared to \$5,455,000 in 2009. We reported net income in 2010 of \$33,325,000 as compared to \$2,798,000 in 2009, and a diluted income per share of \$0.80 in 2010 as compared with a diluted income per share of \$0.07 in 2009. The gross margin for 2010 increased to 45.7%, compared with 44.2% in 2009. The primary components of the increase in gross margin dollars and percentage were the increase in net revenues and lower BBU Andover and V*I Chip per unit production costs. During the third and fourth quarters of 2010, respectively, the Company recorded non-recurring, non-cash tax benefits of \$5,158,000, or approximately \$0.12 per diluted share, and \$1,159,000, or approximately \$0.03 per diluted share, due to the release of portions of its deferred tax valuation allowance (See Note 14).

The book to bill ratio, calculated as the dollar amount of orders placed with scheduled delivery dates within one year divided by the net revenues in the respective period, for the third and fourth quarters of 2010 was 1.02:1 and 0.66:1, respectively. The book to bill ratio for the year ended December 31, 2010 was 1.09:1, compared to 1.03:1 for the year ended December 31, 2009. We ended 2010 with approximately \$78,900,000 in backlog, representing the total of purchase orders received for which product has not yet been shipped, compared to \$57,200,000 at the end of 2009.

Operating expenses for 2010 increased \$2,577,000, or 3.1%, to \$85,398,000 from \$82,821,000 in 2009, principally due to increases in research and development of \$4,345,000, selling, general and administrative expenses of \$1,485,000, and a decrease in Gain from litigation-related and other settlements, net of \$846,000, offset by a decrease in aggregate pre-tax severance charges of \$4,099,000 in connection with workforce reductions implemented during 2009. The key increases in research and development expenses were compensation expenses of \$2,101,000, outside services of \$787,000, deferred costs of \$454,000, project materials of \$328,000, facilities expenses of \$152,000, employment recruiting of \$117,000, depreciation and amortization of \$110,000, and set-up and tooling charges of \$100,000. The key increases in selling, general and administrative expenses were commissions expense of \$543,000, advertising expenses of \$465,000, outside services of \$237,000, travel expenses of \$185,000, employment advertising and recruiting of \$136,000, and facilities expense of \$114,000, offset by a decrease in legal fees of \$302,000.

During the third quarter of 2009, we entered into a release and settlement agreement with a vendor over alleged product performance issues with certain products the vendor had sold to us. We received a payment of \$750,000 in consideration for the settlement, which is recorded in Gain from litigation-related and other settlements, net in the accompanying Consolidated Statement of Operations. In addition, we completed negotiations with Exar and Rohm, resulting in separate settlement agreements calling for a final payment to Exar of \$70,000 and no additional payment due Rohm. As a result of the settlements, we reversed a remaining excess accrual of approximately \$96,000 in the third quarter of 2009, which is recorded in Gain from litigation-related and other settlements, net in the accompanying Consolidated Statement of Operations.

Other income, net decreased \$185,000 to \$497,000 from \$682,000 in 2009. The primary reasons for the decline were decreases in unrealized gain on trading securities of \$298,000, interest income of \$279,000, and foreign currency gains of \$193,000, offset by an increase in credit losses on available for sale securities of \$318,000 and gain on disposal of equipment of \$218,000.

In 2010, depreciation and amortization totaled \$10,222,000, and capital additions were \$12,103,000, compared to \$10,198,000 and \$10,643,000, respectively, for 2009.

Inventories increased by approximately \$14,132,000, or 66.2%, to \$35,489,000 in 2010 as compared with \$21,357,000 at the end of 2009 in order to meet the increase in demand across all three segments. V*I Chip, BBU, and Picor inventories increased approximately \$8,105,000, \$5,334,000, and \$693,000, respectively.

The following table sets forth certain items of selected consolidated financial information as a percentage of net revenues for the years ended December 31. This table and the subsequent discussion should be read in

conjunction with the selected financial data and the Consolidated Financial Statements and related footnotes contained elsewhere in this report.

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2010	2009	2008
Net revenues	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Gross margin	45.7%	44.2%	42.0%
Selling, general and administrative expenses	19.7%	24.2%	27.4%
Research and development expenses	14.4%	16.0%	15.3%
Income before income taxes	11.8%	2.8%	0.4%

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations discusses our Consolidated Financial Statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The preparation of these financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. On an ongoing basis, management evaluates its estimates and judgments, including those related to revenue recognition, allowance for doubtful accounts, product warranties, inventories, investments, intangible assets, income taxes, impairment of long-lived assets, share-based compensation, contingencies and litigation. Management bases its estimates and judgments on historical experience, knowledge of current conditions and on various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying value of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

We maintain allowances for doubtful accounts for estimated losses resulting from the inability of its customers to make required payments, based on assessments of customers' credit-risk profiles and payment histories. If the financial condition of our customers were to deteriorate, resulting in an impairment of their ability to make payments, additional allowances may be required.

Inventories

We employ a variety of methodologies to estimate allowances for its inventory for estimated obsolescence or unmarketable inventory, based upon its known backlog and historical usage, and assumptions about future demand and market conditions. For BBU products produced at our Andover facility, our principal manufacturing location, the model used is based upon a comparison of on-hand quantities to projected demand, such that amounts of inventory on hand in excess of a three-year projected usage are fully reserved. Since V*I Chip products are still at a relatively early stage, a one-year projected usage assumption is used. While we have used our best efforts and believe we have used the best available information to estimate future demand, due to uncertainty in the economy and our business and the inherent difficulty in predicting future demand, it is possible that actual demand for our products will differ from our estimates. If actual future demand or market conditions are less favorable than those projected by management, additional inventory reserves for existing inventories may need to be recorded in future periods.

Fair Value Measurements

We account for certain financial assets at fair value, defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability (i.e., an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. As such, fair value is a market-based measurement that is determined based on assumptions that market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability. If management made different assumptions or judgments, material differences in fair values could occur.

Short-Term and Long-Term Investments

Our short-term and long-term investments are classified as either trading or available-for-sale securities. Available-for-sale securities are carried at fair value, with unrealized gains and losses, net of tax, attributable to credit loss recorded through the statement of operations and unrealized gains and losses, net of tax, attributable to other non-credit factors reported in Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income, a component of Total Equity. In determining the amount of credit loss, we compare the present value of cash flows expected to be collected to the amortized cost basis of the securities, considering credit default risks probabilities and changes in credit ratings as significant inputs, among other factors. Trading securities are carried at fair value, with unrealized gains and losses recognized through the statement of operations each reporting period. We periodically evaluate if an investment is considered impaired, whether an impairment is other than temporary, and the measurement of an impairment loss. We consider a variety of impairment indicators such as, but not limited to, a significant deterioration in the earnings performance, credit rating, or asset quality of the investment.

As of December 31, 2010, we held \$19,075,000 of auction rate securities at par value. These auction rate securities consist of collateralized debt obligations, supported by pools of student loans, sponsored by state student loan agencies and corporate student loan servicing firms. The interest rates for these securities are reset at auction at regular intervals ranging from seven to 90 days. The auction rate securities held by us traded at par prior to February 2008 and are callable at par at the option of the issuer.

Until February 2008, the auction rate securities market was liquid, as the investment banks conducting the periodic Dutch auctions by which interest rates for the securities had been established had committed their capital to support such auctions in the event of insufficient third-party investor demand. Starting the week of February 11, 2008, a substantial number of auctions failed, as demand from third-party investors weakened and the investment banks conducting the auctions chose not to commit capital to support such auctions (i.e., investment banks chose not to purchase securities themselves in order to balance supply and demand, thereby facilitating a successful auction, as they had done in the past). The consequences of a failed auction are (a) an investor must hold the specific security until the next scheduled auction (unless that investor chooses to sell the security to a third party outside of the auction process) and (b) the interest rate on the security generally resets to an interest rate set forth in each security's indenture.

As of December 31, 2010, we held auction rate securities that had experienced failed auctions totaling \$19,075,000 at par value, all of which had been purchased through and are held by a broker-dealer affiliate of Bank of America, N.A. (the Failed Auction Securities). The majority of the Failed Auction Securities held by us were AAA/Aaa rated by the major credit rating agencies, with all of the securities collateralized by student loans, of which most are guaranteed by the U.S. Department of Education under the Federal Family Education Loan Program. Management is not aware of any reason to believe any of the issuers of the Failed Auction Securities held by us are presently at risk of default. Through December 31, 2010, we have continued to receive interest payments on the Failed Auction Securities in accordance with the terms of their respective indentures. We believe that all of our auction rate security investments will ultimately be liquidated without significant loss primarily due to the overall quality of the issues held and the collateral securing the substantial majority of the underlying obligations. However, current conditions in the auction rate securities market have led us to conclude the recovery period for the Failed Auction Securities exceeds 12 months. As a result, we have continued to classify the Failed Auction Securities as long-term as of December 31, 2010.

Long-Lived Assets

We evaluate the recoverability of our identifiable intangible assets, goodwill and other long-lived assets when events or circumstances indicate a potential impairment. We periodically assess the remaining use of fixed assets based upon operating results and cash flows from operations. Equipment has been written-down as a result of these assessments as

necessary. Goodwill is tested for potential impairment at least annually at the reporting unit level.

Stock-Based Compensation

We record stock-based compensation expense based on the fair value of stock-based awards measured at the grant date and recognized over the relevant service period. We estimate the fair value of each stock-based award on the measurement date using either the current market price or the Black-Scholes option valuation model. The Black-Scholes option valuation model incorporates assumptions as to stock price volatility, the expected life of options, forfeiture rate, a risk-free interest rate and dividend yields.

During 2010, we granted stock-based awards with performance-based vesting provisions tied to achievements of certain performance conditions. For performance-based awards, we assess, on an ongoing basis, the probability of whether the performance criteria will be achieved. If and when achievement of the performance criteria is deemed probable, we begin to recognize the associated compensation expense for the stock options over the relevant performance period.

Many of these assumptions are highly subjective and require the exercise of management judgment. If management made different estimates or judgments, material differences in the amount of stock-based compensation could occur.

Product Warranties

We generally warrant our products for a period of two years. We maintain allowances for estimated product returns under warranty based upon a review of known or potential product failures in the field and upon historical patterns of product returns. If unforeseen product issues arise or product returns increase above expected rates, additional allowances may be required.

Income Taxes

We recognize deferred tax assets and liabilities using enacted rates for the effect of temporary differences between the book and tax bases of recorded assets and liabilities. We reduce deferred tax assets by a valuation allowance if it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. Prior to September 30, 2010, we maintained a valuation allowance against a significant portion of our deferred tax assets, consisting of net operating loss carryforwards, tax credit carryforwards and deductible temporary differences. Based on our pre-tax income for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 being sufficient to fully utilize our net operating loss carryforwards, a history of cumulative earnings before taxes for financial reporting purposes over a 12-quarter period, and expected future taxable income, we determined it was more likely than not a significant portion of the deferred tax assets would be realized. As a result, at September 30, 2010, we determined that it was appropriate to reverse a portion of its valuation allowance by \$5,158,000 as a discrete benefit for income taxes for certain deductible temporary differences expected to be realized in future periods. An additional benefit of \$1,159,000 was recorded in the fourth quarter of 2010. We could not make such a determination in the prior quarters of fiscal 2010 due to a lack of confidence in being able to accurately forecast the expected ordinary income (loss) for the year largely due to global economic conditions and the possible impact continued economic and business uncertainty would have on our business at those times.

As of December 31, 2010, we have a remaining valuation allowance of approximately \$10,259,000 against certain deferred tax assets, for which realization cannot be considered more likely than not at this time. Such deferred tax assets principally relates to tax credit carryforwards in certain state tax jurisdictions for which sufficient taxable income for utilization cannot be projected at this time or the credits may expire without being utilized. We assess the need for the valuation allowance on a quarterly basis. The valuation allowance against these deferred tax assets may require adjustment in the future based on changes in the mix of temporary differences, changes in tax laws, and operating performance. In addition, the assessment of the valuation allowance requires us to make estimates of future

taxable income and to estimate reversals of temporary differences. Changes in the assumptions or other circumstances may require additional valuation allowances if actual reversals of temporary differences differ from those estimates. If and when we determine the valuation allowance should be released, the adjustment would result in a tax benefit in the Consolidated Statements of Operations and may include a portion to be accounted for through Additional paid-in capital ,

a component of Stockholders' Equity. The amount of the tax benefit to be recorded in a particular quarter could be material.

We follow a two-step process to determine the amount of tax benefit to recognize in our financial statements. First, the tax position must be evaluated to determine the likelihood that it will be sustained upon examination by a tax authority. If the tax position is deemed more-likely-than-not to be sustained, the tax position is then assessed to determine the amount of benefit to recognize in the financial statements. The amount of the benefit that may be recognized is the largest amount that has a greater than 50 percent likelihood of being realized upon ultimate settlement. If the tax position does not meet the more-likely-than-not threshold then it is not recognized in the financial statements. We accrue interest and penalties, if any, related to unrecognized tax benefits as a component of income tax expense. If the judgments and estimates made by us are not correct, the unrecognized tax benefits may have to be adjusted, and the adjustments could be material.

Contingencies

From time to time, we receive notices of product failure claims, infringement of patent or intellectual property rights of others or for other claims. In fact, we have recently been named in a complaint for patent infringement filed by SynQor, Inc. in January 2011 (see Part I - Item 3 - Legal Proceedings). We assess each matter to determine if a contingent liability should be recorded. In making this assessment, we may consult, depending on the nature of the matter, with external legal counsel and technical experts. Based on the information we obtain, combined with our judgment regarding all the facts and circumstances of each matter, we determine whether it is probable that a contingent loss may be incurred and whether the amount of such loss can be reasonably estimated. Should a loss be probable and reasonably estimable, we record a loss. In determining the amount of the loss, we consider advice received from experts in the specific matter, current status of legal proceedings, if any, prior case history and other factors. Should the judgments and estimates made by us be incorrect, we may need to record additional contingent losses that could materially adversely impact our results of operations and financial position.

Year ended December 31, 2010 compared to Year ended December 31, 2009

Net revenues for fiscal 2010 were \$250,733,000, an increase of \$52,774,000 or 26.7%, as compared to \$197,959,000 for the same period in 2009.

The components of revenue for the years ended December 31 were as follows (dollars in thousands):

	2010	2009	Increase	
			\$	%
BBU	\$ 217,018	\$ 186,980	\$ 30,038	16.1%
V*I Chip(1)	28,972	8,960	20,012	223.3%
Picor	4,743	2,019	2,724	134.9%
Total	\$ 250,733	\$ 197,959	\$ 52,774	26.7%

(1) V*I Chip products sold by VJCL are included in the V*I Chip amounts in both years. The 2009 amounts were previously included in BBU.

Overall orders for fiscal year 2010 increased by 33.5% compared with 2009. This increase was caused by increases in BBU, V*I Chip, and Picor orders during the period of 18.3%, 197.1% and 174.5%, respectively. The book-to-bill ratio for fiscal year 2010 was 1.09:1 as compared to 1.03:1 in 2009.

Gross margin for fiscal 2010 increased \$26,926,000, or 30.7%, to \$114,520,000 from \$87,594,000 in 2009. Gross margin as a percentage of net revenues increased to 45.7% from 44.2% compared to the same period a year ago. The primary components of the increase in gross margin dollars and percentage were the increase in net revenues and lower BBU Andover and V*I Chip per unit productions costs.

Selling, general and administrative expenses were \$49,417,000 for 2010, an increase of \$1,485,000, or 3.1%, as compared to \$47,932,000 for the same period in 2009. As a percentage of net revenues, selling, general and administrative expenses decreased to 19.7% from 24.2%, due to the increase in net revenues.

The components of the \$1,485,000 increase were as follows (in thousands):

		Increase (decrease)		
Commissions expense	\$	543	8.6%	(1)
Advertising expenses		465	19.0%	(2)
Outside services		237	23.1%	(3)
Travel expenses		185	10.8%	(4)
Employment advertising and recruiting		136	111.4%	(5)
Facilities expense		114	8.6%	
Telephone		98	9.9%	
Audit and tax fees		64	5.1%	
Legal fees		(302)	(28.5)%	(6)
Depreciation and amortization		(167)	(4.9)%	(7)
Other, net		112	0.4%	
	\$	1,485	3.1%	

- (1) Increase primarily attributed to the increase in net revenues, subject to changes in the mix of revenues subject to commissions.
- (2) Increase primarily attributed to the increase trade publication advertising and increased participation in trade shows, primarily by V*I Chip.
- (3) Increase primarily attributed to the outsourcing of certain information technology functions that were performed in-house in prior periods.
- (4) Represents an overall increase in travel across all business units.
- (5) Increase due to increase in recruiting costs for newly hired personnel.
- (6) Decrease primarily attributed to a decrease in activity associated with the Company's litigation brought against certain of its insurance carriers with respect to the Ericsson, Inc. settlement of product liability litigation in 2010 compared to 2009.
- (7) Decrease due to certain fixed assets becoming fully depreciated during 2010.

Research and development expenses increased \$4,345,000, or 13.7%, to \$35,981,000 in 2010 from \$31,636,000 in 2009. As a percentage of net revenues, research and development decreased to 14.4% from 16.0%, due to the increase in net revenues.

The components of the \$4,345,000 increase were as follows (in thousands):

			Increase	
Compensation	\$	2,101	8.8%	(1)
Outside services/subcontract labor		787	98.1%	(2)
Deferred costs		454	53.6%	(3)
Project materials		328	11.3%	(4)
Facilities expenses		152	8.8%	
Employment recruiting		117	132.3%	(5)
Depreciation and amortization		110	7.6%	
Set-up and tooling charges		100	47.1%	
Other, net		196	13.2%	
	\$	4,345	13.7%	

- (1) Increase primarily attributed to an increase in research and development personnel for the BBU and V*I Chip business units, annual compensation adjustments in May 2010, and an increase in fringe expense due to increase in premiums for employee health benefits.
- (2) Increase primarily attributed to increased use of outside services and subcontract labor due to increased activity at Vicor Custom subsidiaries, in lieu of hiring permanent employees.
- (3) Increase primarily attributed to a decrease as compared to the prior year, in the deferral of costs capitalized for certain non-recurring engineering projects for which the related revenues have been deferred.
- (4) Increase primarily attributed to an increase in project materials associated with the development of V*I Chip and Picor products.
- (5) Increase primarily attributed to relocation costs for newly hired research and development personnel for the V*I Chip business unit.

During 2009, we initiated and completed workforce reductions and pre-tax charges were recorded for the cost of severance and other employee-related costs involving cash payments during 2009 and 2010 based on each employee's length of service. Total severance charges of \$4,099,000 were recorded in 2009.

During the third quarter of 2009, we entered into a release and settlement agreement with a vendor over alleged product performance issues with certain products the vendor had sold to us. We received a payment of \$750,000 in consideration for the settlement, which is recorded in *Gain from litigation-related and other settlements, net* in the accompanying Consolidated Statement of Operations. In addition, we completed negotiations with Exar and Rohm, resulting in separate settlement agreements calling for a final payment to Exar of \$70,000 and no additional payment due Rohm. As a result of the settlements, we reversed a remaining excess accrual of approximately \$96,000 in the third quarter of 2009, which is recorded in *Gain from litigation-related and other settlements, net* in the accompanying Consolidated Statement of Operations.

The major changes in the components of the *Other income, net* for the years ended December 31 were as follows (in thousands):

	2010	2009	Increase (decrease)
Interest income	\$ 438	\$ 717	\$ (279)
Unrealized gain on trading securities	970	1,268	(298)
Unrealized loss on auction rate securities rights	(962)	(964)	2
Credit losses on available for sale securities	(146)	(464)	318
Foreign currency (losses) gains, net	(158)	35	(193)
Gain on disposal of equipment	248	30	218
Other	107	60	47
	\$ 497	\$ 682	\$ (185)

The unrealized gains (losses) and estimated credit loss on our auction rate securities and securities rights results from the change in the estimate fair value of these investments as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, compared to December 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively. The decrease in interest income is due to lower average balances on certain of our cash accounts that bear interest as well as a decrease in interest rates. Our exposure to market risk for fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates relates primarily to the operations of VJCL. The functional currency of our subsidiaries in Europe and Hong Kong is the U.S. dollar.

Income before income taxes was \$29,619,000 in 2010 compared to \$5,455,000 for 2009.

The (benefit) provision for income taxes and the effective income tax rate for the years ended December 31 were as follows (dollars in thousands):

	2010	2009
(Benefit) provision for income taxes	\$ (3,920)	\$ 1,362
Effective income tax rate	(13.2%)	25.0%

The increase in the benefit for income taxes and the decrease in the effective income tax rate for the year ended December 31, 2010, compared to 2009, was principally due to the tax benefits of (\$5,158,000) and (\$1,159,000) recorded as a result of reversing portions of our deferred tax valuation allowance in the third and fourth quarters of 2010, respectively, partially offset by an increase in federal, state and foreign income taxes as compared to 2009. Please see Note 14 of the Consolidated Financial Statements for a discussion of the accounting for the tax benefit, deferred tax assets and deferred tax valuation allowances.

Net income of noncontrolling interest decreased \$1,081,000 from \$1,295,000 for 2009 to \$214,000 in 2010. This was due to lower net income at certain entities in which we hold a noncontrolling interest.

Basic and diluted income per share attributable to Vicor Corporation was \$0.80 for the year ended December 31, 2010 compared to \$0.07 for the year ended December 31, 2009.

Year ended December 31, 2009 compared to Year ended December 31, 2008

Net revenues for fiscal 2009 were \$197,959,000, a decrease of \$7,409,000 or 3.6%, as compared to \$205,368,000 for the same period in 2008.

The components of revenue for the years ended were as follows (dollars in thousands):

	2009	2008	Increase (decrease)	
			\$	%
BBU	\$ 186,980	\$ 189,360	\$ (2,380)	(1.3)%
V*I Chip (1)	8,960	14,991	(6,031)	(40.2)%
Picor	2,019	1,017	1,002	98.5%
Total	\$ 197,959	\$ 205,368	\$ (7,409)	(3.6)%

(1) V*I Chip products sold by VJCL are included in the V*I Chip amounts in 2009. The 2009 amounts were previously included in BBU. Sales of V*I Chip products by VJCL in 2008 were not material.

Overall orders for fiscal year 2009 decreased by 3.6% compared with 2008. This decrease was caused by a decrease in BBU orders during the period of 4.8%, offset by an increase in V*I Chip orders of 6.1% and an increase in Picor orders of 140.1%. The book-to-bill ratio for fiscal year 2009 and 2008 was 1.03:1.

Gross margin for fiscal 2009 increased \$1,309,000, or 1.5%, to \$87,594,000 from \$86,285,000 in 2008. Gross margin as a percentage of revenues increased to 44.2% from 42.0% compared to the same period a year ago. The increase in gross margin dollars and gross margin percentage was the result of a more favorable product mix, principally due to increased shipments of higher gross margin products from the Vicor Custom Power subsidiaries and a decrease in shipments of lower gross margin V*I Chip products. Lower production costs also contributed to the higher gross margin.

Selling, general and administrative expenses were \$47,932,000 for 2009, a decrease of \$8,274,000, or 14.7%, as compared to \$56,206,000 for the same period in 2008. As a percentage of net revenues, selling, general and administrative expenses decreased to 24.2% from 27.4%.

The components of the \$8,274,000 decrease were as follows (in thousands):

		Increase (decrease)		
Compensation	\$	(3,000)	(10.6)%	(1)
Legal fees		(1,672)	(61.7)%	(2)
Audit and tax fees		(923)	(42.6)%	(3)
Advertising expenses		(886)	(27.9)%	(4)
Travel expenses		(657)	(29.2)%	(5)
Training expenses		(245)	(17.0)%	
Depreciation and amortization		(197)	(5.8)%	
International office expenses		(104)	(28.5)%	
Employment advertising and recruiting		(97)	(87.0)%	
Facilities expense		(53)	(3.3)%	
Stockholder reporting		(82)	(32.7)%	
Commissions expense		75	1.2%	
Other, net		(433)	(10.9)%	
	\$	(8,274)	(14.7)%	

- (1) Decrease primarily attributable to the workforce reductions completed in 2009.
- (2) Decrease primarily attributed to a decrease in activity associated with our lawsuit brought against certain of its insurance carriers with respect to the Ericsson, Inc. settlement of product liability litigation in 2009 compared to 2008.
- (3) Decrease primarily attributed to the late filings of our 2007 Forms 10-Q and additional work related to accounting for our investment in GWS in the first quarter of 2008.
- (4) Decrease primarily attributed to decreased advertising in trade publications.
- (5) Represents an overall reduction in travel across all business units and functional groups.

Research and development expenses increased \$238,000, or 0.8%, to \$31,636,000 in 2009 from \$31,398,000 in 2008. As a percentage of net revenues, research and development increased to 16.0% from 15.3%.

The components of the \$238,000 increase were as follows (in thousands):

		Increase (decrease)		
Project materials	\$	710	19.5%	(1)
Picor non-recurring engineering charges		371	(79.2)%	(2)
Set-up and tooling expenses		55	38.0%	
Travel expenses		(83)	(30.2)%	
Compensation		(380)	(1.6)%	(3)

Deferred costs	(666)	(368.5)%	(4)
Other, net	231	4.5%	
	\$ 238	0.8%	

- (1) Increase primarily attributed to an increase in materials associated with the development of V*I Chip and Picor products.
- (2) The Picor business unit provides engineering services to BBU and V*I Chip to support certain manufacturing processes and research and development activities. A decline in services related to manufacturing processes resulted in an increase in the amount of charges allocated to research and development expense.
- (3) Decrease primarily attributable to the workforce reduction completed in the first quarter of 2009.

- (4) Decrease primarily attributed to an increase in deferred costs capitalized for certain non-recurring engineering projects for which the related revenues have been deferred.

On January 14, 2009, senior management authorized and we announced a plan to reduce our workforce by approximately eight percent by the end of January 2009. Senior management authorized additional reductions to our workforce in the second and third quarters of 2009. We completed these reductions in workforce and recorded pre-tax charges for severance and other employee-related costs of \$4,099,000 for 2009.

During the third quarter of 2009, we entered into a release and settlement agreement with a vendor over alleged product performance issues with certain product the vendor had sold to us. We received a payment of \$750,000 in consideration for the settlement, which is recorded in *Gain from litigation-related and other settlements, net* in the accompanying Consolidated Statement of Operations. In addition, we completed negotiations with Exar and Rohm, resulting in separate settlement agreements calling for a final payment to Exar of \$70,000 and no additional payment due Rohm. As a result of the settlements, we reversed a remaining excess accrual of approximately \$96,000 in the third quarter of 2009, which is recorded in *Gain from litigation-related and other settlements, net* in the accompanying Consolidated Statement of Operations.

The major changes in the components of the *Other income, net* for the years ended December 31 were as follows (in thousands):

	2009	2008	Increase (decrease)
Interest income	\$ 717	\$ 2,138	\$ (1,421)
Unrealized gain (loss) on trading securities	1,268	(2,238)	3,506
Unrealized (loss) gain on auction rate securities rights	(964)	1,926	(2,890)
Credit losses on available for sale securities	(464)	-	(464)
Foreign currency gains, net	35	82	(47)
Gain on disposal of equipment	30	19	11
Other	60	101	(41)
	\$ 682	\$ 2,028	\$ (1,346)

The decrease in interest income is due to lower average balances on our cash equivalents and short and long-term investments as well as a decrease in interest rates. The unrealized gains (losses) and credit loss on our auction rate securities and securities rights results from the change in fair value of these investments during the period.

Income before income taxes was \$5,455,000 in 2009 compared to \$886,000 for 2008.

The provision for income taxes and the effective income tax rate for the years ended December 31 were as follows (dollars in thousands):

	2009	2008
Provision for income taxes	\$ 1,362	\$ 976

Effective income tax rate	25.0%	110.2%
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The lower effective income tax rate for the year ended December 31, 2009 compared to the same period in 2008 is principally due an increase in income before income taxes from \$886,000 in 2008 to \$5,455,000 in 2009, with only a \$386,000 increase in the provision for income taxes from 2008 to 2009. The provision for income taxes was higher in 2009 than 2008 due to a reduction in tax reserves due to closing tax periods in certain jurisdictions of \$1,123,000 in 2008, partially offset by higher estimated federal and state income taxes for one of the noncontrolling interests that is not part of our consolidated tax return in 2008 compared to 2009.

Loss from equity method investment (net of tax) decreased from \$1,688,000 in 2008 to \$0 in 2009. This was principally due to the equity method investment in GWS being adjusted for a decline in value judged to

be other than temporary of \$706,000 in the first quarter of 2008 and \$555,000 in the fourth quarter, respectively, the allocation of equity method losses for 2008, and bringing the investment balance in GWS to zero as of December 31, 2008.

Net income of noncontrolling interest decreased \$522,000 from \$1,817,000 for 2008 to \$1,295,000 in 2009. This was due to lower net income at certain entities in which we hold a noncontrolling interest.

Basic and diluted income (loss) per share attributable to Vicor Corporation was \$0.07 for the year ended December 31, 2009, compared to \$(0.09) for the year ended December 31, 2008.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

At December 31, 2010, we had \$49,279,000 in unrestricted cash and cash equivalents. The ratio of current assets to current liabilities was 5.6:1 at December 31, 2010, compared to 4.6:1 at December 31, 2009. Working capital increased \$30,663,000 to \$105,454,000 at December 31, 2010 from \$74,791,000 at December 31, 2009. The primary factors affecting the working capital increase were increases in inventories of \$14,132,000, accounts receivable of \$12,260,000, cash and cash equivalents of \$9,055,000, deferred tax assets of \$1,983,000, as well as a decrease in deferred revenue of \$1,832,000, offset by increases in accounts payable of \$2,541,000, accrued compensation and benefits of \$1,032,000, as well as decreases in short term investments of \$2,583,000 and other current assets of \$1,948,000. The primary source of cash for the year ended December 31, 2010, was \$16,894,000 from operating activities and \$14,860,000 in net sales of short-term and long-term investments. The primary use of cash for the year ended December 31, 2010 was \$12,103,000 for the purchase of equipment, \$12,506,000 for the payments of common stock dividends, and \$552,000 for the payments of noncontrolling interest dividends, discussed below.

As of December 31, 2010, we held \$19,075,000 of auction rate securities classified as long-term investments. Please see Note 4 of the Consolidated Financial Statements for a discussion of the securities and our accounting treatment thereof.

In November 2000, our Board of Directors authorized the repurchase of up to \$30,000,000 of Common Stock (the November 2000 Plan). The November 2000 Plan authorizes us to make such repurchases from time to time in the open market or through privately negotiated transactions. The timing and amounts of stock repurchases are at the discretion of management based on its view of economic and financial market conditions. We did not repurchase shares of Common Stock during the year ended December 31, 2010. As of December 31, 2010, we had approximately \$8,541,000 remaining under the November 2000 Plan.

On June 28, 2010, our Board of Directors approved a cash dividend of \$0.30 per share of the Company's common stock. The total dividend of approximately \$12,506,000 was paid on July 30, 2010, to shareholders of record at the close of business on July 16, 2010.

During the year ending December 31, 2010, three subsidiaries paid a total of \$5,457,000 in dividends, of which \$552,000 was paid to outside shareholders. Dividends paid to outside shareholders are accounted for as a reduction in noncontrolling interest.

The table below summarizes our contractual obligations as of December 31, 2010 (in thousands):

	Payments Due by Period	
Less than		More Than

Contractual Obligations	Total	1 Year	Years 2 & 3	Years 4 & 5	5 Years
Operating lease obligations	\$ 2,607	\$ 1,264	\$ 1,059	\$ 284	\$ -
Purchase obligations	1,332	305	625	402	-
	\$ 3,939	\$ 1,569	\$ 1,684	\$ 686	\$ -

We also have a contract with a third-party to supply nitrogen for our manufacturing and research and development activities. Under the contract, we are obligated to pay a minimum of \$300,000 annually, subject to semi-annual price adjustments, through March 2015.

In addition to the amounts shown in the table above, approximately \$958,000 of unrecognized tax benefits have been recorded as liabilities, and we are uncertain as to if or when such amounts may be settled. Related to these unrecognized tax benefits, we have also recorded a liability for potential interest and penalties of approximately \$77,000 on December 31, 2010.

Our primary liquidity needs are for making continuing investments in manufacturing equipment, particularly equipment to increase capacity for our V*I Chip products and to upgrade equipment for BBU production. We believe cash generated from operations and the total of its cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments will be sufficient to fund planned operations and capital equipment purchases for the foreseeable future. We have approximately \$2,080,000 of capital expenditure commitments, principally for manufacturing equipment, as of December 31, 2010.

Based on our ability to access cash and other short-term investments and our expected operating cash flows, we do not anticipate that the current lack of liquidity of our auction rate securities will affect our ability to execute our current operating plan.

We do not consider the impact of inflation and changing prices on our business activities or fluctuations in the exchange rates for foreign currency transactions to have been significant during the last three fiscal years.

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

We are exposed to a variety of market risks, including changes in interest rates affecting the return on our cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments and fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates. As our cash and cash equivalents consist principally of money market securities, which are short-term in nature, we believe our exposure to market risk on interest rate fluctuations for these investments is not significant. Our short-term and long-term investments consist mainly of municipal and corporate debt securities, of which the Failed Auction Securities represent a significant portion. While the Failed Auction Securities are all highly rated investments, generally with AAA/Aaa ratings, continued failure to sell at their reset dates could negatively impact the carrying value of the investments, in turn leading to impairment charges in future periods. Changes in the fair value of the Failed Auction Securities attributable to credit loss are recorded through earnings, with the remainder of any change recorded in Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income. Should a decline in the value of the Failed Auction Securities be other than temporary, the losses would be recorded in Other income (expense), net. We do not believe there was an other-than-temporary decline in value in these securities as of December 31, 2010. We estimate that our annual interest income would change by approximately \$1,200,000 in 2010 for each 100 basis point increase or decrease in interest rates.

Our exposure to market risk for fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates relates primarily to the operations of VJCL and changes in the dollar/yen exchange rate, as the functional currency of our subsidiaries in Europe and Hong Kong is the U.S. dollar. Therefore, we believe market risk is mitigated since these operations are not materially exposed to foreign exchange fluctuations. Relative to foreign currency exposure against the yen existing on December 31, 2010, we estimate that a 10% unfavorable movement in the dollar/yen exchange rate would increase foreign currency loss by approximately \$157,000.

ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of
Vicor Corporation:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Vicor Corporation (a Delaware Corporation) and its subsidiaries (collectively, the Company) as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, and the related consolidated statements of operations, equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2010. Our audits of the basic financial statements included the financial statement schedule listed in the index appearing under Item 15(a)(2). These financial statements and financial statement schedule are the responsibility of the Company s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and financial statement schedule based on our audits.

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

In our opinion, the Consolidated Financial Statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Vicor Corporation and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for the three years in the period ended December 31, 2010 in conformity with accounting principles generally acceptable in the United States of America. Also in our opinion, the related financial statement schedule, when considered in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole, presents fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), Vicor Corporation and subsidiaries internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2010, based on criteria established in *Internal Control-Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) and our report dated March 3, 2011 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/ Grant Thornton LLP

Boston, Massachusetts
March 3, 2011

VICOR CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
December 31, 2010 and 2009
(In thousands, except per share data)

	2010	2009
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 49,279	\$ 40,224
Restricted cash equivalents	-	192
Short-term investments	-	2,583
Accounts receivable, less allowance of \$309 in 2010 and \$260 in 2009	38,825	26,565
Inventories, net	35,489	21,357
Deferred tax assets	2,164	181
Other current assets	2,397	4,345
 Total current assets	 128,154	 95,447
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	-	223
Long-term investments, net	18,417	29,995
Auction rate securities rights	-	962
Property, plant and equipment, net	50,848	49,009
Long-term deferred tax assets	2,805	-
Other assets	4,688	4,941
	\$ 204,912	\$ 180,577
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 11,999	\$ 9,458
Accrued compensation and benefits	6,772	5,740
Accrued expenses	3,138	2,618
Accrued severance charges	-	259
Income taxes payable	102	60
Deferred revenue	689	2,521
 Total current liabilities	 22,700	 20,656
Long-term deferred revenue	2,178	2,196
Long-term income taxes payable	1,022	384
Deferred income taxes	-	1,275
Commitments and contingencies (Note 15)	-	-
Equity:		
Vicor Corporation stockholders' equity:		
Preferred Stock, \$.01 par value, 1,000,000 shares authorized; no shares issued		
Class B Common Stock: 10 votes per share, \$.01 par value, 14,000,000 shares authorized, 11,767,052 shares issued and outstanding	118	118
	385	384

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Common Stock: 1 vote per share, \$.01 par value, 62,000,000 shares authorized
 38,400,897 shares issued and 30,002,499 shares outstanding (38,296,408 shares
 issued and 29,898,010 shares outstanding in 2009)

Additional paid-in capital	163,933	161,746
Retained earnings	133,791	112,972
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(1,369)	(1,608)
Treasury stock at cost: 8,398,398 shares in 2010 and 2009	(121,827)	(121,827)
Total Vicor Corporation stockholders' equity	175,031	151,785
Noncontrolling interest	3,981	4,281
Total equity	179,012	156,066
	\$ 204,912	\$ 180,577

See accompanying notes.

VICOR CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
Years Ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008
(In thousands, except per share amounts)

	2010	2009	2008
Net revenues	\$ 250,733	\$ 197,959	\$ 205,368
Cost of revenues	136,213	110,365	119,083
Gross margin	114,520	87,594	86,285
Operating expenses:			
Selling, general and administrative	49,417	47,932	56,206
Research and development	35,981	31,636	31,398
Severance charges	-	4,099	-
Gain from litigation-related and other settlements, net	-	(846)	(177)
Total operating expenses	85,398	82,821	87,427
Income (loss) from operations	29,122	4,773	(1,142)
Other income, net:			
Total other than temporary impairment (losses) gains on available-for-sale securities	(271)	759	-
Portion of gains (losses) recognized in other comprehensive income	125	(1,223)	-
Net impairment losses recognized in earnings	(146)	(464)	-
Other income, net	643	1,146	2,028
Total other income, net	497	682	2,028
Income before income taxes	29,619	5,455	886
(Benefit) provision for income taxes	(3,920)	1,362	976
Loss from equity method investment (net of tax)	-	-	1,688
Consolidated net income (loss)	33,539	4,093	(1,778)
Less: Net income attributable to noncontrolling interest	214	1,295	1,817
Net income (loss) attributable to Vicor Corporation	\$ 33,325	\$ 2,798	\$ (3,595)
Net income (loss) per common share attributable to Vicor Corporation:			
Basic	\$ 0.80	\$ 0.07	\$ (0.09)
Diluted	\$ 0.80	\$ 0.07	\$ (0.09)
Shares used to compute net income (loss) per common share attributable to Vicor Corporation:			
Basic	41,700	41,665	41,651
Diluted	41,772	41,671	41,651

Cash dividends declared per share	\$	0.30	\$	-	\$	0.30
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See accompanying notes.

VICOR CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
Years Ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008
(In thousands)

	2010	2009	2008
Operating activities:			
Consolidated net income (loss)	\$ 33,539	\$ 4,093	\$ (1,778)
Adjustments to reconcile consolidated net income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	10,222	10,198	10,515
Deferred income taxes	(6,274)	(74)	127
Unrealized (gain) loss on trading securities	(970)	(1,268)	2,238
Unrealized loss on auction rate security rights	962	964	-
Stock compensation expense	871	657	1,121
Gain on disposal of equipment	(249)	(30)	(22)
Excess tax benefit of share-based compensation	(213)	-	-
Credit loss on available for sale securities	146	464	-
(Decrease) increase in long-term deferred revenue	(18)	1,078	1,076
Severance charges	-	4,099	-
Unrealized gain on acquisition of auction rate security rights	-	-	(1,926)
Loss from equity method investee (net of tax)	-	-	1,688
Change in current assets and liabilities, net	(21,122)	4,617	(3,976)
Net cash provided by operating activities	16,894	24,798	9,063
Investing activities:			
Purchases of investments	(908)	(1,695)	(11,574)
Sales and maturities of investments	15,768	6,650	28,004
Additions to property, plant and equipment	(12,103)	(10,643)	(8,265)
Purchase of equity method investment	-	-	(1,000)
Proceeds from sale of equipment	421	32	25
Change in restricted cash	415	322	215
Decrease (increase) in other assets	172	(572)	(229)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	3,765	(5,906)	7,176
Financing activities:			
Proceeds from issuance of Common Stock	1,104	-	202
Common stock dividends paid	(12,506)	-	(12,494)
Noncontrolling interest dividends paid	(552)	(1,269)	(1,168)
Excess tax benefit of share-based compensation	213	-	-
Net cash used in financing activities	(11,741)	(1,269)	(13,460)
Effect of foreign exchange rates on cash	137	(38)	(157)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	9,055	17,585	2,622
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	40,224	22,639	20,017

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Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 49,279	\$ 40,224	\$ 22,639
Change in assets and liabilities:			
Accounts receivable	(11,926)	2,148	3,684
Inventories, net	(13,928)	5,291	(3,311)
Other current assets	2,050	(2,065)	559
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	3,881	2,550	(4,410)
Accrued severance	(259)	(3,840)	-
Accrual for litigation settlement	-	(162)	(78)
Income taxes payable	892	(1,164)	(141)
Deferred revenue	(1,832)	1,859	(279)
	\$ (21,122)	\$ 4,617	\$ (3,976)
Supplemental disclosures:			
Cash paid during the year for income taxes, net of refunds	\$ 1,113	\$ 3,122	\$ 602

See accompanying notes.

VICOR CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EQUITY
Years Ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008
(In thousands)

	Class		Additional	Accumulated			Total		Total
	B	Common		Paid-In	Retained	Other	Treasury	Corporation	
	Common	Stock	Capital	Earnings	Comprehensive	Stock	Stockholders'	Interest	Equity
	Stock	Stock	Capital	Earnings	Income	Stock	Equity	Interest	Equity
					(Loss)				
Balance on December 31, 2007	\$ 118	\$ 384	\$ 159,332	\$ 126,263	\$ 170	\$ (121,827)	\$ 164,440	\$ 4,040	\$ 168,480
Issuance of Common Stock			202				202		202
Common stock dividends paid				(12,494)			(12,494)		(12,494)
Noncontrolling interest dividends paid								(1,168)	(1,168)
Stock-based compensation expense			1,121				1,121		1,121
Noncontrolling interest adjustment (1)			434				434	(434)	
Net loss				(3,595)			(3,595)	1,817	(1,778)
Realized loss on investments					(3,314)		(3,314)		(3,314)
Currency translation adjustments, net of tax \$226					377		377		377
Comprehensive loss							(6,532)		(4,715)
Balance on December 31, 2008	118	384	161,089	110,174	(2,767)	(121,827)	147,171	4,255	151,426

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Noncontrolling interest dividends paid								(1,269)	(1,269)
Stock-based compensation expense			657				657		657
Net income				2,798			2,798	1,295	4,093
Realized gain on investments					1,223		1,223		1,223
Currency translation adjustments, net of tax \$30					(64)		(64)		(64)
Comprehensive income							3,957		5,255
Balance on December 31, 2009	118	384	161,746	112,972	(1,608)	(121,827)	151,785	4,281	156,066
Shares of Common Stock		1	1,103				1,104		1,104
Common stock dividends paid				(12,506)			(12,506)		(12,506)
Noncontrolling interest dividend paid								(552)	(552)
Excess tax benefit of share-based compensation			213				213		213
Stock-based compensation expense			871				871		871
Net income				33,325			33,325	214	33,539
Realized gain on investments					(123)		(123)	(2)	(125)
Currency translation adjustments, net of tax \$169					362		362	40	402
Comprehensive income							33,564	252	33,816

Balance on
December 31, 2010 \$ 118 \$ 385 \$ 163,933 \$ 133,791 \$ (1,369) \$ (121,827) \$ 175,031 \$ 3,981 \$ 179,011

(1) A noncontrolling interest had a redemption of preferred stock that resulted in a \$434,000 adjustment to Additional Paid-In-Capital.

See accompanying notes.

VICOR CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS

Vicor Corporation (the Company or Vicor) designs, develops, manufactures and markets modular power converters, power system components, and power systems. The Company also licenses certain rights to its technology in return for ongoing royalties. The principal markets for the power converters and systems are large Original Equipment Manufacturers and their contract manufacturers, and smaller, lower volume users which are broadly distributed across several major market areas.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Principles of consolidation

The Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of the Company and its subsidiaries. All intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated upon consolidation. Certain of the Company's Vicor Custom Power entities are not majority owned by the Company. These entities are consolidated by the Company as management believes that the Company has the ability to exercise control over their activities and operations.

Revenue recognition

Product revenue is recognized in the period when persuasive evidence of an arrangement with a customer exists, the products are shipped and title has transferred to the customer, the price is fixed or determinable, and collection is considered probable. License fees are recognized as earned. The Company recognizes revenue on such arrangements only when the contract is signed, the license term has begun, all obligations have been delivered to the customer, and collection is probable. The Company evaluates revenue arrangements with potential multi-element deliverables to determine if there is more than one unit of accounting. A deliverable constitutes a separate unit of accounting when it has standalone value and there are no customer-negotiated refund or return rights for the undelivered elements. The selling price for each deliverable is based on vendor-specific objective evidence (VSOE) if available, third-party evidence (TPE) if VSOE is not available, or best estimate of selling price (BESP) if neither VSOE or TPE is available.

The Company enters into arrangements containing multiple elements which may include a combination of non-recurring engineering services (NRE), prototype units and production units. The Company has determined that the NRE and prototype units represent one unit of accounting and the production units a separate unit of accounting, based on an assessment of the respective standalone value. When possible, revenue is allocated to the elements based on VSOE or TPE for each element. For arrangements where VSOE or TPE cannot be established, the Company uses BESP for the allocation of arrangement consideration. The objective of BESP is to determine the price at which the Company would typically transact a standalone sale of the product or service. BESP is determined by considering a number of factors including the Company's pricing policies, internal costs and gross margin objectives, current market conditions, information gathered from experience in customer negotiations and the competitive landscape.

The Company defers revenue recognition for the NRE and prototype units until completion of the final milestone under the NRE arrangement. Recognition generally takes place within six to twelve months of the initiation of the arrangement. Revenue for the production units is recognized upon shipment, as for product revenue, as summarized above. For certain multiple-element arrangements entered into prior to January 1, 2009 which contained a combination of technical support services, NRE, minimum license payments and future royalties, separate units of accounting could not be established. Therefore, revenue under these arrangements is deferred and recognized over the

term of the arrangement. During 2010, 2009 and 2008, revenue recognized under multi-element arrangements accounted for less than 3% of net revenues.

VICOR CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Foreign currency translation

The financial statements of Vicor Japan Company, Ltd. (VJCL), a majority owned subsidiary, for which the functional currency is the Japanese yen, have been translated into U.S. dollars using the exchange rate in effect at the balance sheet date for balance sheet amounts and the average exchange rates in effect during the year for income statement amounts. The gains and losses resulting from the changes in exchange rates from year to year have been reported in other comprehensive income.

Transaction gains and losses and translation gains (losses) resulting from the remeasurement of foreign currency denominated assets and liabilities of the Company's foreign subsidiaries where the functional currency is the U.S. dollar are included in other income, net. Foreign currency gains (losses) included in other income, net, were approximately (\$158,000), \$35,000, and \$82,000 in 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include funds held in checking and money market accounts, certificates of deposit and debt securities with maturities of less than three months at the time of purchase. Cash and cash equivalents are valued at cost which approximates market value. The Company's money market securities, which are classified as cash equivalents on the balance sheet, are purchased and redeemed at par. The estimated fair value is equal to the cost of the securities and due to the nature of the securities there are no unrealized gains or losses at the balance sheet dates.

Restricted cash and short-term investments

Restricted cash and short-term investments represent the amount of cash and short-term investments required to be set aside as a guarantee for certain foreign letters of credit.

Short-term and long-term investments

The Company's principal sources of liquidity are its existing balances of cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments, as well as cash generated from operations. Consistent with the Company's investment policy guidelines, the Company can invest, and has historically invested, its cash balances in demand deposit accounts, money market funds, brokered certificates of deposit and auction rate securities meeting certain quality criteria. All of the Company's investments are subject to credit, liquidity, market, and interest rate risk.

The Company's short-term and long-term investments are classified as either available-for-sale or trading securities. Available-for-sale securities are recorded at fair value, with unrealized gains and losses, net of tax, attributable to credit loss recorded through the statement of operations and unrealized gains and losses, net of tax, attributable to other non-credit factors recorded in Accumulated other comprehensive loss, a component of Stockholders' Equity. In determining the amount of credit loss, the Company compares the present value of cash flows expected to be collected to the amortized cost basis of the securities, considering, among other factors, credit default risk probabilities and changes in credit ratings as significant inputs. Trading securities are recorded at fair value, with unrealized gains and losses recorded through the Consolidated Statements of Operations each reporting period.

The amortized cost of debt securities is adjusted for amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts to maturity, the net amount of which, along with interest and realized gains and losses, is included in Other income, net in the

Consolidated Statements of Operations. The Company periodically evaluates investments to determine if impairment is required, whether an impairment is other than temporary, and the measurement of an impairment loss. The Company considers a variety of impairment indicators such as, but not limited to, a significant deterioration in the earnings performance, credit rating, or asset quality of the investment.

VICOR CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Fair value measurements

The Company accounts for certain financial assets at fair value, defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability (i.e., an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. As such, fair value is a market-based measurement that should be determined based on assumptions that market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability. A three-level hierarchy is used to show the extent and level of judgment used to estimate fair value measurements:

- Level 1 Inputs used to measure fair value are unadjusted quoted prices available in active markets for the identical assets or liabilities as of the reporting date.
- Level 2 Inputs used to measure fair value, other than quoted prices included in Level 1, are either directly or indirectly observable as of the reporting date through correlation with market data, including quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets and quoted prices in inactive markets. Level 2 also includes assets and liabilities valued using models or other pricing methodologies that do not require significant judgment since the input assumptions used in the models, such as interest rates and volatility factors, are corroborated by readily observable data from actively quoted markets for substantially the full term of the financial instrument.
- Level 3 Inputs used to measure fair value are unobservable inputs supported by little or no market activity and reflect the use of significant management judgment. These values are generally determined using pricing models for which the assumptions utilize management's estimates of market participant assumptions.

The Company uses the fair value option for certain financial assets, which allows an entity the irrevocable option to elect fair value for the initial and subsequent measurement for specified financial assets and liabilities on a case-by-case basis.

Allowance for doubtful accounts

The Company maintains allowances for doubtful accounts for estimated losses resulting from the inability of its customers to make required payments, based on assessments of customers' credit-risk profiles and payment histories. If the financial condition of the Company's customers were to deteriorate, resulting in an impairment of their ability to make payments, additional allowances may be required. The Company does not require collateral from its customers.

Inventories

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost (determined using the first-in, first-out method) or net realizable value. The Company provides reserves for inventories estimated to be excess, obsolete or unmarketable. The Company's estimation process for assessing net realizable value is based upon its known backlog, projected future demand and expected market conditions. If the Company's estimated demand and/or market expectation were to change or if product sales were to decline, the Company's estimation process may cause larger inventory reserves to be recorded, resulting in larger charges to cost of revenues.

Concentrations of credit risk

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to significant concentrations of credit risk consist principally of cash and cash equivalents, short-term and long-term investments and trade accounts receivable. The Company maintains cash and cash equivalents and certain other financial instruments with various financial institutions. The Company's short-term and long-term investments consist of highly rated

VICOR CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(AAA/Aaa) municipal and corporate debt securities in which a significant portion are invested in auction rate securities. As of December 31, 2010, the Company was holding a total of approximately \$19,075,000 in auction rate securities, the significant majority of which are student loan backed securities. Through December 31, 2010, auctions held for all of the Company's auction rate securities have failed. The funds associated with auction rate securities that have failed auction may not be accessible until a successful auction occurs, a buyer is found outside of the auction process, the security is called, or the underlying securities have matured. If the credit rating of the issuer of any auction rate security held deteriorates, the Company may be required to adjust the carrying value of the investment for an other-than-temporary decline in value through an impairment charge. The Company's investment policy, approved by the Board of Directors, limits the amount the Company may invest in any issuer, thereby reducing credit risk concentrations. Concentrations of credit risk with respect to trade accounts receivable are limited due to the number of entities comprising the Company's customer base. As of December 31, 2010, one customer accounted for approximately 10.7% of trade account receivables. Credit losses have consistently been within management's expectations.

Goodwill, other intangible assets, and long-lived assets

The Company performs a test of goodwill for potential impairment at least annually. Values assigned to patents are amortized using the straight-line method over periods ranging from three to twenty years.

Long-lived assets such as property, plant and equipment and intangible assets, are included in impairment evaluations when events or circumstances exist that indicate the carrying amount of those assets may not be recoverable. If the impairment evaluation indicates the affected asset is not recoverable, the asset's carrying value would be reduced to fair value. No event has occurred that would suggest any impairment in the value of long-lived assets recorded in the accompanying Consolidated Financial Statements.

Other investments

The Company accounts for its investment in Great Wall Semiconductor Corporation (GWS) under the equity method of accounting.

Advertising expense

The cost of advertising is expensed as incurred. The Company incurred \$2,378,000, \$1,969,000 and \$2,735,000 in advertising costs during 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Product warranties

The Company generally offers a two-year warranty for all of its products. The Company provides for the estimated cost of product warranties at the time product revenue is recognized. Factors that affect the Company's warranty reserves include the number of units sold, historical and anticipated rates of warranty returns and the cost per return. The Company periodically assesses the adequacy of the warranty reserves and adjusts the amounts as necessary. Warranty obligations are included in Accrued expenses in the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheets.

Net income (loss) per common share

The Company computes basic earnings per share using the weighted average number of common shares outstanding and diluted earnings per share using the weighted average number of common shares outstanding plus the effect of outstanding dilutive stock options, if any. The following table sets forth the computation of

VICOR CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

basic and diluted income (loss) per share for the years ended December 31 (in thousands, except per share amounts):

	2010	2009	2008
Numerator:			
Net income (loss) attributable to Vicor Corporation	\$ 33,325	\$ 2,798	\$ (3,595)
Denominator:			
Denominator for basic income (loss) per share-weighted average shares (1)	41,700	41,665	41,651
Effect of dilutive securities:			
Employee stock options(2)	72	6	-
Denominator for diluted income (loss) per share adjusted weighted-average shares and assumed conversions(3)	41,772	41,671	41,651
Basic income (loss) per share	\$ 0.80	\$ 0.07	\$ (0.09)
Diluted income (loss) per share	\$ 0.80	\$ 0.07	\$ (0.09)

(1) Denominator represents weighted average number of Common Shares and Class B Common Shares outstanding.

(2) Options to purchase 345,998 and 720,823 shares of Common Stock were outstanding in 2010 and 2009, respectively, but were not included in the computation of diluted income per share because the options' exercise prices were greater than the average market price of the Common Stock and, therefore, the effect would have been antidilutive. Options to purchase 1,084,175 shares of Common Stock in 2008 were not included in the calculation of net loss per share as the effect would have been antidilutive.

(3) Denominator represents weighted average number of Common Shares and Class B Common Shares outstanding for the year, adjusted to include the dilutive effect, if any, of outstanding options.

Income taxes

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are determined based on the differences between financial reporting and tax bases of assets and liabilities and are measured using the enacted income tax rates and laws that are expected to be in effect when the temporary differences are expected to reverse. Deferred tax assets are reduced by a valuation allowance if it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. Additionally, deferred tax assets and liabilities are separated into current and noncurrent amounts based on the classification of the related assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes or the expected reversal.

The Company follows a two-step process to determine the amount of tax benefit to recognize. First, the tax position must be evaluated to determine the likelihood that it will be sustained upon examination by a tax authority. If the tax

position is deemed more-likely-than-not to be sustained, the tax position is then assessed to determine the amount of benefit to recognize in the financial statements. The amount of the benefit that may be recognized is the largest amount that has a greater than 50 percent likelihood of being realized upon ultimate settlement. If the tax position does not meet the more-likely-than-not threshold then it is not recognized in the financial statements. Additionally, the Company accrues interest and penalties, if any, related to unrecognized tax benefits as a component of income tax expense.

VICOR CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Stock-based compensation

The Company uses the Black-Scholes option-pricing model to calculate the grant-date fair value of stock option awards. The resulting compensation expense, net of expected forfeitures, for non performance-based stock options is recognized on a straight-line basis over the service period of the award, which is generally five years for stock options. For stock options with performance-based vesting provisions, recognition of compensation expense, net of expected forfeitures, commences if and when the achievement of the performance criteria is deemed probable. The compensation expense, net of expected forfeitures, for performance-based stock options is recognized over the relevant performance period.

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingencies at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Such estimates relate to the useful lives of fixed assets and identified intangible assets, fair value of short and long-term investments, allowances for doubtful accounts, the net realizable value of inventory, potential reserves relating to litigation matters, accrued liabilities, accrued taxes, deferred tax valuation allowances, assumptions pertaining to share-based payments and other reserves. Actual results could differ from those estimates, and such differences may be material to the financial statements.

Comprehensive (loss) income

The components of comprehensive income (loss) include, in addition to net income (loss), unrealized gains and losses on investments, net of tax and foreign currency translation adjustments related to VJCL.

Impact of recently issued accounting standards

Effective January 1, 2010, the Company adopted new accounting guidance related to the Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities. The new accounting standard replaces the quantitative-based risks and rewards calculation for determining which enterprise, if any, has a controlling financial interest in a variable interest entity with an approach focused on identifying which enterprise has the power to direct the activities of a variable interest entity that most significantly impact the entity's economic performance and (1) the obligation to absorb losses of the entity or (2) the right to receive benefits from the entity. The new standard also provides additional reconsideration events for determining whether an entity is a variable interest entity and requirements for ongoing assessments of whether an enterprise is the primary beneficiary of a variable interest entity. The adoption of this new accounting guidance did not have a material effect on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

Effective January 1, 2010, the Company adopted new accounting guidance on fair value measurements and disclosures. The new guidance requires more robust disclosures about (1) the different classes of assets and liabilities measured at fair value, (2) the valuation techniques and inputs used, (3) the activity in Level 3 fair value measurements, and (4) the transfers between Levels 1, 2, and 3. The adoption of this new accounting guidance did not have a material effect on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

VICOR CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

3. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS

Vicor currently grants stock options under the following equity compensation plans that are shareholder-approved:

Amended and Restated 2000 Stock Option and Incentive Plan (the Vicor 2000 Plan) Under the Vicor 2000 Plan, the Board of Directors or the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors may grant stock incentive awards based on the Company's Common Stock, including stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, performance shares, unrestricted stock, deferred stock and dividend equivalent rights. Awards may be granted to employees and other key persons, including non-employee directors. Discretionary awards of stock options to non-employee directors shall be in lieu of any automatic grant of stock options under the Company's 1993 Stock Option Plan (the Vicor 1993 Plan) and the Company's 1998 Stock Option and Incentive Plan (the Vicor 1998 Plan). Incentive stock options may be granted to employees at a price at least equal to the fair market value per share of the Common Stock on the date of grant, and non-qualified options may be granted to non-employee directors at a price at least equal to 85% of the fair market value of the Common Stock on the date of grant. A total of 4,000,000 shares of Common Stock have been reserved for issuance under the Vicor 2000 Plan. The period of time during which an option may be exercised and the vesting periods are determined by the Compensation Committee. The term of each option may not exceed ten years from the date of grant.

1998 Stock Option and Incentive Plan (the Vicor 1998 Plan) The Vicor 1998 Plan permitted the grant of share options to its employees and other key persons, including non-employee directors for the purchase of up to 2,000,000 shares of common stock. As a result of the approval of the Vicor 2000 Plan, no further grants were made under the Vicor 1998 Plan.

1993 Stock Option Plan (the Vicor 1993 Plan) The Vicor 1993 Plan permitted the grant of share options to its employees and non-employee directors for the purchase of up to 4,000,000 shares of common stock. As a result of the approval of the Vicor 2000 Plan, no further grants were made under the 1993 Plan.

Picor Corporation (Picor), a privately held majority-owned subsidiary of Vicor, currently grants stock options under the following equity compensation plan that has been approved by its Board of Directors:

2001 Stock Option and Incentive Plan, as amended (the 2001 Picor Plan) The 2001 Picor Plan permits the grant of share options to its employees and other key persons, including non-employee directors and full or part-time officers, for the purchase of up to 80,000,000 shares of common stock.

V*I Chip Corporation (V*I Chip), a privately held wholly-owned subsidiary of Vicor, currently grants stock options under the following equity compensation plan that has been approved by its Board of Directors:

*2007 Stock Option and Incentive Plan, as amended (the 2007 V*I Chip Plan)* The 2007 V*I Chip Plan permits the grant of share options to its employees and other key persons, including non-employee directors and full or part-time officers, for the purchase of up to 100,000,000 shares of common stock.

All non performance-based option awards are granted at an exercise price equal to or greater than the market price for Vicor at the date of the grant, and are granted at a price equal to or greater than the estimated fair value for both Picor and V*I Chip at the date of grant. Options generally vest over various periods of up to five years and may be exercised for up to 10 years from the date of grant, which is the maximum contractual term. The Company uses the graded

attribution method to recognize expense for all stock-based awards.

During the third quarter of 2010, the Company granted 1,243,750 non-qualified stock options under the Vicor 2000 Plan, with performance-based vesting provisions tied to achievement of certain quarterly revenue targets by the Brick Business Unit. Under the accounting rules for performance-based awards, the Company is

VICOR CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

required to assess, on an ongoing basis, the probability of whether the performance criteria will be achieved. If and when achievement is deemed probable, the Company will begin to recognize the associated compensation expense for the stock options over the relevant performance period. As of December 31, 2010, the Company determined that it was not probable that the revenue targets could be achieved and, accordingly, has not recorded compensation expense relating to these options since the grant date. The unrecognized compensation expense of these performance-based options was approximately \$7,790,000 as of December 31, 2010. The fair value for the options was estimated at the date of grant using the Black Scholes option pricing model.

On December 31, 2010, the Company granted 2,984,250 non-qualified stock options under the 2007 V*I Chip Plan with performance-based vesting provisions tied to achievement of certain margin targets by the V*I Chip Business Unit. As of December 31, 2010, the Company determined that it was probable that the margin targets could be achieved and, accordingly, will begin recording compensation expense relating to these options beginning January 1, 2011. The unrecognized compensation expense of these performance-based options was approximately \$1,481,000 as of December 31, 2010. The fair value for the options was estimated at the date of grant using the Black Scholes option pricing model.

Stock compensation expense for the years ended December 31 was as follows (in thousands):

	2010		2009		2008
Cost of revenues	\$ 19	\$	20	\$	52
Selling, general and administrative	618		456		818
Research and development	234		181		251
Total stock based compensation	\$ 871	\$	657	\$	1,121

The fair value for the options was estimated at the date of grant using a Black-Scholes option pricing model under all methods with the following weighted-average assumptions:

	Non Performance-based Stock Options			Performance-based Stock Options(1)
	2010	2009	2008	2010
Vicor:				
Risk-free interest rate	2.3%	1.1%	2.8%	2.0-2.7%
Expected dividend yield	1.6%	1.0%	2.6%	2.5%
Expected volatility	54%	67%	47%	55%
Expected lives (years)	3.9	2.7	3.1	6.5-9.5
V*I Chip:	2010	2009(2)	2008	2010
Risk-free interest rate	2.7%	-	3.7%	2.7%

Expected dividend yield	-	-	-	-
Expected volatility	49%	-	61%	49%
Expected lives (years)	6.5	-	6.5	6.5

Picor:	2010	2009(2)	2008
Risk-free interest rate	2.0%	-	3.7%
Expected dividend yield	-	-	-
Expected volatility	52%	-	56%
Expected lives (years)	6.5	-	6.5

(1) There were no Vicor or V*I Chip performance-based options granted prior to 2010.

(2) There were no Picor or V*I Chip options granted during 2009.

VICOR CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Risk-free interest rate:

Vicor The Company uses the yield on zero-coupon U.S. Treasury Strip securities for a period that is commensurate with the expected term assumption for each vesting period.

Picor The Company uses the yield to maturity of a seven-year U.S. Treasury bond, as it most closely aligns to the expected exercise period.

*V*I Chip* The Company uses the yield to maturity of a seven-year U.S. Treasury bond, as it most closely aligns to the expected exercise period.

Expected dividend yield:

Vicor The Company determines the expected dividend yield by annualizing the most recent prior cash dividends declared by the Company's Board of Directors and dividing that result by the closing stock price on the date of that dividend declaration. Dividends are not paid on options.

Picor Picor has not and does not expect to declare and pay dividends in the foreseeable future. Therefore, the expected dividend yield is not applicable.

*V*I Chip* V*I Chip has not and does not expect to declare and pay dividends in the foreseeable future. Therefore, the expected dividend yield is not applicable.

Expected volatility:

Vicor Vicor uses historical volatility to estimate the grant-date fair value of the options, using the expected term for the period over which to calculate the volatility (see below). The Company does not expect its future volatility to differ from its historical volatility. The computation of the Company's volatility is based on a simple average calculation of monthly volatilities over the expected term.

Picor As Picor is a nonpublic entity, historical volatility information is not available. An industry sector index of seven publicly traded fabless semiconductor firms was developed for calculating historical volatility for Picor. Historical prices for each of the companies in the index based on the market price of the shares on each day of trading over the expected term were used to determine the historical volatility.

*V*I Chip* As V*I Chip is a nonpublic entity, historical volatility information is not available. An industry sector index of twelve publicly traded fabless semiconductor firms was developed for calculating historical volatility for V*I Chip. Historical prices for each of the companies in the index based on the market price of the shares on each day of trading over the expected term were used to determine the historical volatility.

Expected term:

Vicor The Company uses historical employee exercise and option expiration data to estimate the expected term assumption for the Black-Scholes grant-date valuation. The Company believes that this historical data is currently the

best estimate of the expected term of options, and that generally all groups of the Company's employees exhibit similar exercise behavior.

*Picor and V*I Chip* Due to the lack of historical information, the simplified method as prescribed by the Security and Exchange Commission was used to determine the expected term on grant awards that meet the definition of plain vanilla. For options that did not meet the criteria of plain vanilla, the Company calculated the expected term based on its best estimate of what the expected term would be.

VICOR CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Forfeiture rate

The amount of stock-based compensation recognized during a period is based on the value of the portion of the awards that are ultimately expected to vest. Forfeitures are estimated at the time of grant and revised, if necessary, in subsequent periods if actual forfeitures differ from those estimates. The term *forfeitures* is distinct from *cancellations* or *expirations* and represents only the unvested portion of the surrendered option.

Vicor The Company currently expects that for Vicor options, based on an analysis of its historical forfeitures, that approximately 71% of its options will actually vest, and therefore has applied an annual forfeiture rate of 11.25% to all unvested options as of December 31, 2010. For 2009, the Company expected 75% of its options would actually vest and applied an annual forfeiture rate of 9.5%. This analysis is re-evaluated quarterly and the forfeiture rate is adjusted as necessary. Ultimately, the actual expense recognized over the vesting period will only be for those shares that vest.

Picor The Company currently expects that for Picor options, based on an analysis of its historical forfeitures, that approximately 94% of its options will actually vest, and therefore has applied an annual forfeiture rate of 2.0% to all unvested options as of December 31, 2010 and 2009. This analysis will be re-evaluated quarterly and the forfeiture rate will be adjusted as necessary. Ultimately, the actual expense recognized over the vesting period will only be for those shares that vest.

*V*I Chip* The Company currently expects that for V*I Chip options, based on an analysis of its historical forfeitures, that approximately 83% of its options will actually vest, and therefore has applied an annual forfeiture rate of 6.25% to all unvested options as of December 31, 2010 and 2009. This analysis will be re-evaluated quarterly and the forfeiture rate will be adjusted as necessary. Ultimately, the actual expense recognized over the vesting period will only be for those shares that vest.

Vicor Stock Options

A summary of the activity under the Company's stock option plans as of December 31, 2010 and changes during the year then ended, is presented below (in thousands except for share and weighted-average data):

	Options Outstanding	Weighted- Average Exercise Price	Weighted- Average Remaining Contractual Life in Years	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
Outstanding on December 31, 2009	765,563	17.11		
Granted	1,336,242	13.66		
Forfeited and expired	(198,989)	25.93		
Exercised	(104,489)	10.55		
Outstanding on December 31, 2010	1,798,327	13.95	7.76	\$ 5,204

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Exercisable on December 31, 2010	359,264	15.89	2.10	\$	939
Vested or expected to vest as of December 31, 2010 (1)	884,670	14.25	5.98	\$	2,678

(1) In addition to the vested options, the Company expects a portion of the unvested options to vest at some point in the future. Options expected to vest is calculated by applying an estimated forfeiture rate to the unvested options.

As of December 31, 2009 and 2008, the Company had shares exercisable of 575,482 and 883,696 respectively, for which the weighted average exercise prices were \$19.12 and \$17.57, respectively.

VICOR CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

During the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009, and 2008 under all plans, the total intrinsic value of Vicor options exercised (i.e. the difference between the market price at exercise and the price paid by the employee to exercise the options) was \$723,000, \$1,000 and \$109,000, respectively. The total amount of cash received by the Company from options exercised in 2010 was \$1,104,000. The total grant-date fair value of stock options that vested during the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 was approximately \$422,000, \$432,000, and \$462,000, respectively.

As of December 31, 2010, there was \$275,000 of total unrecognized compensation cost related to unvested non-performance share-based awards for Vicor. That cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 8.56 years for all Vicor awards. The expense will be recognized as follows: \$180,000 in 2011, \$61,000 in 2012, \$23,000 in 2013, \$9,000 in 2014, and 2,000 in 2015. In addition, as of December 31, 2010, there was \$7,790,000 of unrecognized compensation cost related to performance-based options, for which expensing has not commenced.

The weighted-average fair value of Vicor options granted was \$4.78, \$2.69 and \$3.32 in 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively. The weighted-average contractual life for Vicor options outstanding as of December 31, 2010 is 7.8 years.

Picor Stock Options

Under the 2001 Picor Plan, the Board of Directors of Picor may grant stock incentive awards based on the Picor Common Stock, including stock options, restricted stock or unrestricted stock. Awards may be granted to employees and other key persons, including non-employee directors and full or part-time officers. Incentive stock options may be granted to employees at a price at least equal to the fair market value per share of the Picor Common Stock, based on judgments made by the Company, on the date of grant. A total of 80,000,000 shares of Picor Common Stock have been reserved for issuance under the 2001 Picor Plan. The period of time during which an option may be exercised and the vesting periods are determined by the Picor Board of Directors. The term of each option may not exceed ten years from the date of grant.

A summary of the activity under the 2001 Picor Plan as of December 31, 2010 and changes during the year then ended, is presented below (in thousands except for share and weighted-average data):

	Options Outstanding	Weighted- Average Exercise Price	Weighted- Average Remaining Contractual Life in Years	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
Outstanding on December 31, 2009	5,021,040	0.62		
Granted	5,412,123	0.57		
Forfeited and expired	(431,400)	0.74		
Exercised	-	-		
Outstanding on December 31, 2010	10,001,763	0.59	6.80	\$ 610
Exercisable on December 31, 2010	4,213,640	0.56	3.04	\$ 610

Vested or expected to vest as of December 31, 2010 (1)	9,700,333	0.59	6.72	\$	610
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(1) In addition to the vested options, the Company expects a portion of the unvested options to vest at some point in the future. Options expected to vest is calculated by applying an estimated forfeiture rate to the unvested options.

VICOR CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

As of December 31, 2009 and 2008, Picor had shares exercisable of 3,977,940 and 3,526,220, respectively, for which the weighted average exercise prices were \$0.54 and \$0.49, respectively.

For years ended December 31, 2010, 2009, and 2008, Picor did not have any options exercised. The total grant-date fair value of stock options that vested during the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 was approximately \$68,000, \$189,000, and \$276,000, respectively.

As of December 31, 2010, there was \$1,571,000 of total unrecognized compensation cost related to unvested share-based awards for Picor. That cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 4.09 years for all Picor awards. The expense will be recognized as follows: \$475,000 in 2011, \$342,000 in 2012, \$300,000 in 2013, \$259,000 in 2014, and \$195,000 in 2015.

The weighted-average fair value of Picor options granted was \$0.60 in 2008. The weighted-average contractual life for Picor options outstanding as of December 31, 2010 is 6.8 years.

V*I Chip Stock Options

Under the 2007 V*I Chip Plan, the Board of Directors of V*I Chip may grant stock incentive awards based on the V*I Chip Common Stock, including stock options, restricted stock or unrestricted stock. Awards may be granted to employees and other key persons, including non-employee directors and full or part-time officers. Incentive stock options may be granted to employees at a price at least equal to the fair market value per share of the V*I Chip Common Stock, based on judgments made by the Company, on the date of grant. A total of 100,000,000 shares of V*I Chip Common Stock have been reserved for issuance under the 2007 V*I Chip Plan. The period of time during which an option may be exercised and the vesting periods are determined by the V*I Chip Board of Directors. The term of each option may not exceed ten years from the date of grant.

A summary of the activity under the 2007 V*I Chip Plan as of December 31, 2010 and changes during the year then ended, is presented below (in thousands except for share and weighted-average data):

	Options Outstanding	Weighted- Average Exercise Price	Weighted- Average Remaining Contractual Life in Years	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
Outstanding on December 31, 2009	7,617,500	1.00		
Granted	3,322,750	1.00		
Forfeited and expired	(150,000)	1.00		
Exercised	-	-		
Outstanding on December 31, 2010(2)	10,790,250	1.00	8.14	\$ -
Exercisable on December 31, 2010	4,436,200	1.00	6.41	\$ -

Vested or expected to vest as of December 31, 2010 (1)	10,202,748	1.00	8.06	\$	-
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- (1) In addition to the vested options, the Company expects a portion of the unvested options to vest at some point in the future. Options expected to vest is calculated by applying an estimated forfeiture rate to the unvested options.
- (2) Of the total V*I Chip options outstanding on December 31, 2010, 5,500,000 options have been granted to the Company's Chief Executive Officer.

VICOR CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

As of December 31, 2009 and 2008, V*I Chip had shares exercisable of 2,987,200 and 1,516,600, respectively, for which the weighted average exercise price was \$1.00. For the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, V*I Chip did not have any options exercised.

As of December 31, 2010, there was \$1,944,000 of total unrecognized compensation cost related to unvested share-based awards for V*I Chip. That cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 3.48 years for all V*I Chip awards. The expense will be recognized as follows: \$508,000 in 2011, \$426,000 in 2012, \$350,000 in 2013, \$330,000 in 2014 and \$330,000 in 2015.

The weighted-average fair value of V*I Chip options granted was \$0.43 in 2008. The weighted-average contractual life for V*I Chip options outstanding as of December 31, 2010 is 8.1 years.

401(k) Plan

The Company sponsors a savings plan available to all domestic employees, which qualifies under Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code. Employees may contribute to the plan from 1% to 20% of their pre-tax salary subject to statutory limitations. The Company matches employee contributions to the plan at a rate of 50% up to the first 3% of an employee's compensation. The Company's matching contributions currently vest at a rate of 20% per year based upon years of service. The Company's contribution to the plan was approximately \$760,000, \$697,000 and \$759,000 in 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Stock Bonus Plan

Under the Company's 1985 Stock Bonus Plan, as amended, shares of Common Stock may be awarded to employees from time to time as determined by the Board of Directors. On December 31, 2010, 109,964 shares were available for further award. All shares awarded to employees under this plan have vested. No further awards are contemplated under this plan at the present time.

4. SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM INVESTMENTS

As of December 31, 2010, the Company held par value of \$19,075,000 of auction rate securities. These auction rate securities consist of collateralized debt obligations, supported by pools of student loans, sponsored by state student loan agencies and corporate student loan servicing firms. The interest rates for these securities are reset at auction at regular intervals ranging from seven to 90 days. The auction rate securities held by the Company traded at par prior to February 2008 and are callable at par at the option of the issuer.

Until February 2008, the auction rate securities market was liquid, as the investment banks conducting the periodic Dutch auctions by which interest rates for the securities had been established had committed their capital to support such auctions in the event of insufficient third-party investor demand. Starting the week of February 11, 2008, a substantial number of auctions failed, as demand from third-party investors weakened and the investment banks conducting the auctions chose not to commit capital to support such auctions (i.e., investment banks chose not to purchase securities themselves in ord