

BADGER METER INC
Form 10-K
March 05, 2013

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, 2012
BADGER METER, INC.
4545 W. Brown Deer Road
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53223
(414) 355-0400
A Wisconsin Corporation
IRS Employer Identification No. 39-0143280
Commission File No. 001-06706

The Company has the following classes of securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

| Title of class: | Name of each exchange on which registered: |
|------------------------------|---|
| Common Stock | New York Stock Exchange |
| Common Share Purchase Rights | New York Stock Exchange |

The Company does not have any securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act.

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the Company (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 Company was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

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

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

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|-------------------------|----|---------------------------|----|
| Large accelerated filer | .. | Accelerated filer | ý |
| Non-accelerated filer | .. | 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 Common Stock held by non-affiliates of the Company as of June 29, 2012 was \$510,127,001. For purposes of this calculation only, (i) shares of Common Stock are deemed to have a market value of \$37.55 per share, the closing price of the Common Stock as reported on the New York Stock Exchange on June 29, 2012, and (ii) each of the Company's executive officers and directors is deemed to be an affiliate of the Company.

As of February 6, 2013, there were 14,309,738 shares of Common Stock outstanding with a par value of \$1 per share.

Portions of the Company's Proxy Statement for the 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, which will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission under Regulation 14A within 120 days after the end of the registrant's fiscal year, are incorporated by reference from the definitive Proxy Statement into Part III of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Special Note Regarding Forward Looking Statements

Certain statements contained in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, as well as other information provided from time to time by Badger Meter, Inc. (the "Company") or its employees, may contain forward looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward looking statements. The words "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "expect," "think," "should," "could" and "objective" or similar expressions are used to identify forward looking statements. All such forward looking statements are based on the Company's then current views and assumptions and involve risks and uncertainties. Some risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in forward looking statements include those described in Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012 that include, among other things:

- the continued shift in the Company's business from lower cost, manually read meters toward more expensive, value-added automatic meter reading (AMR) systems, advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) systems and advanced metering analytics (AMA) systems that offer more comprehensive solutions to customers' metering needs;
- the success or failure of newer Company products;
- changes in competitive pricing and bids in both the domestic and foreign marketplaces, and particularly in continued intense price competition on government bid contracts for lower cost, manually read meters;
- the actions (or lack thereof) of the Company's competitors;
- changes in the Company's relationships with its alliance partners, primarily its alliance partners that provide radio solutions, and particularly those that sell products that do or may compete with the Company's products;
 - changes in the general health of the United States and foreign economies, including to some extent such things as the length and severity of global economic downturns, the ability of municipal water utility customers to authorize and finance purchases of the Company's products, the Company's ability to obtain financing, housing starts in the United States, and overall industrial activity;
- the timing and impact of government programs to stimulate national and global economies;
- changes in the cost and/or availability of needed raw materials and parts, such as volatility in the cost of brass castings as a result of fluctuations in commodity prices, particularly for copper and scrap metal at the supplier level, foreign-sourced electronic components as a result of currency exchange fluctuations and/or lead times, and plastic resin as a result of changes in petroleum and natural gas prices;
- the Company's expanded role as a prime contractor for providing complete connectivity systems to governmental entities, which brings with it added risks, including but not limited to, the Company's responsibility for subcontractor performance, additional costs and expenses if the Company and its subcontractors fail to meet the timetable agreed to with the governmental entity, and the Company's expanded warranty and performance obligations;
- the Company's ability to successfully integrate acquired businesses or products;
- changes in foreign economic conditions, particularly currency fluctuations in the United States dollar, the Euro and the Mexican peso;
- the loss of certain single-source suppliers; and
- changes in laws and regulations, particularly laws dealing with the use of lead (which can be used in the manufacture of certain meters incorporating brass housings) and the United States Federal Communications Commission rules affecting the use and/or licensing of radio frequencies necessary for radio products.

All of these factors are beyond the Company's control to varying degrees. Shareholders, potential investors and other readers are urged to consider these factors carefully in evaluating the forward looking statements contained in this Annual Report on Form 10-K and are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward looking statements. The forward looking statements made in this document are made only as of the date of this document and the Company assumes no obligation, and disclaims any obligation, to update any such forward looking statements to reflect subsequent events or circumstances.

PART I

ITEM 1. BUSINESS

Badger Meter, Inc. (the “Company”) is a leading innovator, manufacturer and marketer of products incorporating flow measurement and control technologies serving markets worldwide. The Company was incorporated in 1905.

Throughout this 2012 Annual Report on Form 10-K, the words “we”, “us” and “our” refer to the Company.

Available Information

The Company's Internet address is <http://www.badgermeter.com>. The Company makes available free of charge (other than an investor's own Internet access charges) through its Internet website its Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports, on the same day they are electronically filed with, or furnished to, the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Company is not including the information contained on or available through its website as a part of, or incorporating such information by reference into, this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Market Overview, Products, Systems and Solutions

The core competency of the Company is flow measurement solutions. The Company is a leading innovator, manufacturer and marketer of flow measurement and control products, serving water and gas utilities, municipalities and industrial customers worldwide. Measuring a wide variety of liquids ranging from water and oil to lubricants in industrial processes, the Company's products are known for their high degree of accuracy, long-lasting durability and ability to provide valuable and timely measurement information to customers. The Company's product lines fall into three categories: sales of water meters and related technologies to municipal water utilities (municipal water), sales of meters to various industries for water and other fluids (industrial flow) and sales of concrete vibrators and gas meter radios to unique markets (specialty products). The Company estimates that over 75% of its products are used in water applications when all categories are grouped together.

Municipal water, the largest category by sales volume, includes water meters and related technologies and services used by water utilities as the basis for generating water and wastewater revenues. The key market for the Company's water meter products is North America, primarily the United States, because the meters are designed and manufactured to conform to standards promulgated by the American Water Works Association. Sales of water meters and related technologies and services are commonly referred to as residential or commercial water meter sales, the latter referring to larger sizes of meters.

Industrial flow includes products sold worldwide to measure and control materials flowing through a pipe or pipeline including water, air, steam, oil, and other liquids and gases. These meters and valves are used in a variety of applications, such as water/wastewater; heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC); oil and gas; chemical and petrochemical; food and beverage; and pharmaceutical production.

Specialty products include sales of radio technology to natural gas utilities for installation on their gas meters, and concrete vibrators.

For municipal water, residential and commercial water meters are generally classified as either manually read meters or remotely read meters via radio technology. A manually read meter consists of a water meter and a register that gives a visual meter reading display. Meters equipped with radio transmitters (endpoints) use encoder registers to

convert the measurement data from the meter into an encrypted digital format which is then transmitted via radio frequency to a receiver that collects and formats the data appropriately for water utility billing systems. Mobile systems, referred to as automatic meter reading (AMR) systems, have been the primary technology deployed by water utilities over the past two decades, providing accurate and cost-effective billing data. In an AMR system, a vehicle equipped for meter reading purposes, including a radio receiver, computer and reading software, collects the data from the utility's meters.

Fixed network advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) systems continue to build interest among water utilities. These systems incorporate a network of permanent data collectors or gateway receivers that are always active or listening for the radio transmission from the utilities' meters. AMI systems eliminate the need for utility personnel to drive through service territories to collect meter reading data. These systems provide the utilities with more frequent and diverse data from the utilities' meters at specified intervals.

In 2011, the Company introduced what it believes will be the next generation of metering technology, advanced metering analytics (AMA), along with a host of automated utility management tools to facilitate the ability of water and gas utilities to increase their productivity and revenue, as well as proactively utilize their data. AMA is comprised of ReadCenter® Analytics software coupled with ORION® SE two-way fixed network or GALAXY® one-way fixed network technology, which is complemented by a family of highly accurate and reliable water meters.

The ORION SE system can operate as a mobile AMR system, a fixed network AMI system, or both. For example, a water or gas utility can begin deployment in mobile mode and migrate to a fixed network system. Also, if the system is operating in fixed network mode and the collector network goes down, the system will automatically revert to mobile mode, allowing the utility to continue collecting readings. Once the collector network is back up, it will automatically revert back to its fixed network mode. By using AMA, utilities will be able to proactively manage their day-to-day operations through powerful analytics-based software and a fixed network meter reading system.

The Company's net sales and corresponding net earnings depend on unit volume and product mix, with the Company generally earning higher margins on meters equipped with radio technology. In addition to selling its proprietary radio products, including the ORION radio technologies and GALAXY AMI/AMA system, the Company also remarkets the Itron® radio products under a license and distribution agreement with Itron. The Company's proprietary radio products generally result in higher margins than the remarketed, non-proprietary technology products. The Company also sells registers and endpoints separately to customers who wish to upgrade their existing meters in the field.

The proprietary ORION endpoint technology has been licensed to other technology providers on a non-exclusive basis, including those providing radio products that communicate over power lines, broadband networks, and proprietary radio frequency networks, allowing ORION a distinct advantage in the radio solutions market. In addition, the ORION universal gateway receiver transmits data over a variety of public wireless networks, which allows for strategic deployments, such as monitoring large commercial users.

Water meter replacement and the adoption and deployment of new technology comprise the majority of water meter product sales, including radio products. To a much lesser extent, housing starts also contribute to the new product sales base. Over the last decade, there has been a growing trend in the conversion from manually read water meters to radio technology. This conversion rate is accelerating and contributes to an increased water meter and radio solutions base of business. The Company estimates that less than 30 percent of water meters installed in the United States have been converted to a radio solutions technology. The Company's strategy is to fulfill customers' metering expectations and requirements with its proprietary meter reading systems or other systems available through its alliance partners in the marketplace.

Industrial flow and specialty products serve niche flow measurement and control applications across a broad industrial spectrum. Specialized communication protocols that control the entire flow measurement process drive these markets. The Company's specific flow measurement and control applications and technologies serve the flow measurement market through both customized and standard precision flow measurement technologies.

The Company's products are primarily manufactured and assembled in the Company's Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Racine, Wisconsin; Tulsa, Oklahoma; Scottsdale, Arizona; Nogales, Mexico; Neuffen, Germany; Brno, Czech Republic; and Bern, Switzerland facilities.

The Company's products are sold throughout the world through employees, resellers and representatives. Depending on the customer mix, there can be a moderate seasonal impact on sales, primarily relating to higher sales of certain municipal water products during the spring and summer months. No single customer accounts for more than 10 percent of the Company's sales.

Competition

There are competitors in each category in which the Company sells its products, and the competition varies from moderate to intense. Major competitors for utility water meters include Sensus USA Inc., Neptune Technology Group, Inc., Elster AMCO Metering, LLC and Master Meter, Inc. The Company's primary competitors for water utility radio products are Itron, Inc., Neptune Technology Group, Inc. and Sensus USA Inc. While the Company sells its own proprietary radio systems (ORION and GALAXY), it is also a reseller of the Itron products. A number of the Company's competitors in certain markets have greater financial resources than the Company. However, the Company believes it currently provides the leading technology in water meters and radio water systems. As a result of significant research and development activities, the Company enjoys favorable patent positions and trade secret protections for several of its technologies and products.

There are many competitors in the industrial flow and specialty products markets due to the various markets and applications being served. For example, major competitors in the industrial flow markets include Emerson Electric Company, Krohne Messtechnik GmbH, Endress & Hauser Management AG, and Yokogawa Electric Corporation. In the HVAC market, the key competitor is Onicon Inc. In upstream oil and gas, Cameron International Corporation is the primary competitor. The Company competes with AW-Lake Company in the measurement of on-machine hydraulic fluids. With the acquisition of Racine Federated, Inc. in January 2012, the Company has a large portfolio of metering technology to compete in these markets.

Backlog

The Company's total backlog of unshipped orders at December 31, 2012 and 2011 was \$34.8 million and \$33.4 million, respectively. The backlog is comprised of firm orders and signed contractual commitments, or portions of such commitments, that call for shipment within 12 months. Backlog can be significantly affected by the timing of orders for large projects and the amounts can vary due to the timing of work performed.

Raw Materials

Raw materials used in the manufacture of the Company's products include purchased castings made of metal or alloys (such as brass, which uses copper as its main component, aluminum, stainless steel and cast iron), plastic resins, glass, microprocessors and other electronic subassemblies and components. There are multiple sources for these raw materials, but the Company relies on single suppliers for certain brass castings and certain electronic subassemblies. The Company believes these items would be available from other sources, but that the loss of certain suppliers would result in a higher cost of materials, delivery delays, short-term increases in inventory and higher quality control costs in the short term. The Company carries business interruption insurance on key suppliers. The Company's purchases of raw materials are based on production schedules, and as a result, inventory on hand is generally not exposed to price fluctuations. World commodity markets and currency exchange rates may also affect the prices of material purchased in the future. The Company does not hold significant amounts of precious metals.

Research and Development

Expenditures for research and development activities relating to the development of new products, the improvement of existing products and manufacturing process improvements were \$9.6 million in 2012 compared to \$8.1 million in 2011 and \$7.2 million in 2010. Research and development activities are primarily sponsored by the Company. The Company also engages in some joint research and development with other companies.

Intangible Assets

The Company owns or controls several trade secrets and many patents, trademarks and trade names in the United States and other countries that relate to its products and technologies. No single patent, trademark, trade name or trade secret is material to the Company's business as a whole.

Environmental Protection

The Company is subject to contingencies related to environmental laws and regulations. The Company is named as one of many potentially responsible parties in two landfill lawsuits. The landfill sites are impacted by the Federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act and other environmental laws and regulations. At this time, the Company does not believe the ultimate resolution of these matters will have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position or results of operations, either from a cash flow perspective or on the financial statements as a whole. This belief is based on the Company's assessment of its limited past involvement

with these landfill sites as well as the substantial involvement of and government focus on other named third parties with these landfill sites. However, due to the inherent uncertainties of such proceedings, the Company cannot predict the ultimate outcome of any of these matters. A future change in circumstances with respect to these specific matters or with respect to sites formerly or currently owned or operated by the Company, off-site disposal locations used by the Company, and property owned by third parties that is near such sites, could result in future costs to the Company and such amounts could be material. Expenditures for compliance with environmental control provisions and regulations during 2012, 2011 and 2010 were not material.

Employees

The Company and its subsidiaries employed 1,366 persons at December 31, 2012, 133 of whom are covered by a collective bargaining agreement with District 10 of the International Association of Machinists. The Company is currently

operating under a five-year contract with the union, which expires on October 31, 2016. The Company believes it has good relations with the union and all of its employees.

The following table sets forth certain information regarding the Executive Officers of the Registrant.

| Name | Position | Age at 2/29/2013 |
|----------------------|--|---------------------|
| Richard A. Meeusen | Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer | 58 |
| Richard E. Johnson | Senior Vice President — Finance, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer | 58 |
| Fred J. Begale | Vice President — Engineering | 48 |
| William R. A. Bergum | Vice President — General Counsel and Secretary | 48 |
| Gregory M. Gomez | Vice President — Business Development | 48 |
| Horst E. Gras | Vice President — International Operations | 57 |
| Raymond G. Serdynski | Vice President — Manufacturing | 56 |
| Beverly L. P. Smiley | Vice President — Controller | 63 |
| Kimberly K. Stoll | Vice President — Sales and Marketing | 46 |
| Dennis J. Webb | Vice President — Customer Solutions | 65 |

There are no family relationships between any of the executive officers. Officers are elected annually at the first meeting of the Board of Directors held after each annual meeting of the shareholders. Each officer holds office until his or her successor has been elected or until his or her death, resignation or removal. There is no arrangement or understanding between any executive officer and any other person pursuant to which he or she was elected as an officer.

Mr. Meeusen has served as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer for more than five years.

Mr. Johnson has served as Senior Vice President - Finance, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer for more than five years.

Mr. Begale was elected Vice President - Engineering in December 2010. Mr. Begale served as Vice President - Business Development from April 2009 to December 2010, and Director - Business Development from March 2007 to April 2009.

Mr. Bergum has served as Vice President - General Counsel and Secretary for more than five years.

Mr. Gomez was elected Vice President - Business Development in December 2010. Mr. Gomez served as Vice President - Engineering from February 2008 to December 2010, and Director of Engineering from July 2007 to February 2008.

Mr. Gras has served as Vice President - International Operations for more than five years.

Mr. Serdynski was elected Vice President - Manufacturing in February 2008. Mr. Serdynski served as Director of Manufacturing Operations prior to that.

Ms. Smiley has served as Vice President - Controller for more than five years.

Ms. Stoll was elected Vice President - Sales and Marketing in February 2012. Ms. Stoll served as Vice President - Marketing from April 2009 to February 2012, and served as Director - Utility Marketing from August 2008 to April 2009. Prior to August 2008, Ms. Stoll was Marketing Manager at Dorner Manufacturing from April 2007 to June 2008.

Mr. Webb was elected Vice President - Customer Solutions in February 2012. Mr. Webb served as Vice President - Sales from April 2009 to February 2012, and Vice President - Sales and Marketing from February 2008 to April 2009. Mr. Webb served as Vice President - Sales, Marketing and Engineering prior to that.

Foreign Operations and Export Sales

The Company distributes its products through employees, resellers and representatives throughout the world. Additionally, the Company has a sales, distribution and manufacturing facility in Neuffen, Germany; sales and customer service offices in Mexico, Singapore, China and Slovakia; manufacturing facilities in Nogales, Mexico; and manufacturing and sales facilities in Brno, Czech Republic and Bern, Switzerland. The Company exports products from the United States that are manufactured in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Racine, Wisconsin; Tulsa, Oklahoma and Scottsdale, Arizona.

Information about the Company's foreign operations and export sales is included in Note 10 "Industry Segment and Geographic Areas" in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II, Item 8 of this 2012 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Financial Information about Industry Segments

The Company operates in one industry segment as an innovator, manufacturer and marketer of products incorporating flow measurement and control technologies as described in Note 10 "Industry Segment and Geographic Areas" in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II, Item 8 of this 2012 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

Shareholders, potential investors and other readers are urged to consider the significant business risks described below in addition to the other information set forth or incorporated by reference in this 2012 Annual Report on Form 10-K, including the "Special Note Regarding Forward Looking Statements" at the front of this 2012 Annual Report on Form 10-K. If any of the events contemplated by the following risks actually occur, our financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected. The following list of risk factors may not be exhaustive. We operate in a continually changing business, economic and geopolitical environment, and new risk factors may emerge from time to time. We can neither predict these new risk factors with certainty nor assess the precise impact, if any, on our business, or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may adversely impact our results of operations. While there is much uncertainty, we do analyze the risks we face, perform a probability assessment of their impacts and attempt to soften their potential impact when and if possible.

Competitive pressures in the marketplace could decrease our revenues and profits.

Competitive pressures in the marketplace for our products could adversely affect our competitive position, leading to a possible loss of market share or a decrease in prices, either of which could result in decreased revenues and profits. We operate in an environment where competition varies from moderate to intense and a number of our competitors have greater financial resources. Our competitors also include alliance partners that sell products that do or may compete with our products, particularly those that provide radio solutions. The principal elements of competition for our most significant product applications, residential and commercial water meters for the municipal water utility market (with various radio technology systems), are price, product technology, quality and service. The competitive environment is also affected by the movement toward radio technologies and away from manually read meters, the demand for replacement units and, to some extent, such things as global economic conditions, the timing and size of governmental programs such as stimulus fund programs, the ability of municipal water utility customers to authorize and finance purchases of our products, our ability to obtain financing, housing starts in the United States, and overall economic activity. For our industrial flow and specialty products, the competitive environment is affected by the general economic health of various industrial sectors particularly in the United States and Europe.

The inability to develop technologically advanced products could harm our future success.

We believe that our future success depends, in part, on our ability to develop technologically advanced products that meet or exceed appropriate industry standards. Although we believe that we currently have a competitive advantage in this area, maintaining such advantage will require continued investment in research and development, sales, marketing and manufacturing capabilities. There can be no assurance that we will have sufficient resources to make such investments or that we will be able to make the technological advances necessary to maintain such competitive advantage. If we are unable to maintain our competitive advantage, our future financial performance may be adversely affected. We are not currently aware of any emerging standards or new products that could render our existing

products obsolete.

The inability to obtain adequate supplies of raw materials and component parts at favorable prices could decrease our profit margins and negatively impact timely delivery to customers.

We are affected by the availability and prices for raw materials, including purchased castings made of metal or alloys (such as brass, which uses copper as its main component, aluminum, stainless steel and cast iron), plastic resins, glass, microprocessors and other electronic subassemblies, and components that are used in the manufacturing process. The inability to obtain adequate supplies of raw materials and component parts for our products at favorable prices could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations by decreasing profit margins and by negatively impacting timely deliveries to customers. In the past, we have been able to offset increases in raw materials and component parts by increased sales prices, active materials management, product engineering programs and the diversity of materials used

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in the production processes. However, we cannot be certain that we will be able to accomplish this in the future. Since we do not control the actual production of these raw materials and component parts, there may be delays caused by an interruption in the production of these materials for reasons that are beyond our control. World commodity markets and inflation may also affect raw material and component part prices.

New regulations related to conflict minerals may force us to incur additional expenses.

The Securities and Exchange Commission recently adopted additional disclosure requirements related to certain minerals sourced from the Democratic Republic of Congo and surrounding countries, or “conflict minerals,” that are necessary to the functionality of a product manufactured, or contracted to be manufactured, by a Securities and Exchange Commission reporting company. The minerals that the final rules cover are commonly referred to as “3TG” and include tin, tantalum, tungsten and gold. Implementation of the new disclosure requirements could affect the sourcing and availability of some of the materials that we use in the manufacture of our products. Our supply chain is complex, and if we are not able to conclusively verify the origins for all conflict minerals used in our products or that our products are “conflict free,” then we may face reputational challenges with customers or investors. We could also incur significant costs related to the compliance process, including potential difficulty or added costs in satisfying the disclosure requirements.

Economic conditions could cause a material adverse impact on our sales and operating results.

As a supplier of products, the majority of which are to water utilities, we may be adversely affected by global economic conditions and delays in governmental programs created to stimulate the economy that affect our customers, including independent distributors, large city utilities, private water companies and numerous smaller municipal water utilities. These customers may delay capital projects, including non-critical maintenance and upgrades, or may not have the ability to authorize and finance purchases during economic downturns or instability in world markets. We also sell products for other applications to reduce our dependency on the municipal water market. A significant downturn in this market could cause a material adverse impact on sales and operating results. Therefore, a downturn in general economic conditions, as well as in the municipal water market, and delays in the timing or amounts of possible economic stimulus fund programs or the availability of funds to municipalities could result in a reduction in demand for our products and services and could harm the business.

Failure to manufacture quality products could have a material adverse effect on our business.

If we fail to maintain and enforce quality control and testing procedures, our products will not meet required performance standards. Product quality and performance are a priority for us since our products are used in various applications where precise control of fluids is essential. Although we believe we have a very good reputation for product quality, any future production and/or sale of substandard products would seriously harm our reputation, resulting in both a loss of current customers to competitors and damage to our ability to attract new customers. In addition, if any of our products prove to be defective, we may be required to participate in a recall involving such products. A successful claim brought against us with respect to a defective product in excess of available insurance coverage, if any, or a requirement to participate in a major product recall, could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition.

Litigation against us could be costly, time consuming to defend and could adversely affect our profitability.

From time to time, we are subject to legal proceedings and claims that arise in the ordinary course of business. For example, we may be subject to workers' compensation claims, employment/labor disputes, customer and supplier disputes, product liability claims, intellectual property disputes and contractual disputes related to warranties arising

out of the conduct of our business. Litigation may result in substantial costs and may divert management's attention and resources, which could adversely affect our profitability or financial condition.

Changes in environmental or regulatory requirements could entail additional expenses that could decrease our profitability.

We cannot predict the nature, scope or effect of future environmental or regulatory requirements to which our operations might be subject or the manner in which existing or future laws will be administered or interpreted. Compliance with such laws or regulations may entail additional expenses that could decrease profitability. We are subject to a variety of environmental laws, such as lead content in certain meters incorporating brass housings, and regulatory laws affecting the use and/or licensing of radio frequencies necessary for radio products, as well as regulations related to customs and trade practices. Currently, the cost of complying with existing laws is included as part of our on-going expenses and does not have a material effect on our business or financial position, but a change in the future could adversely affect our profitability.

Risks related to foreign markets could decrease our profitability.

Since we sell products worldwide as well as manufacture products in several countries, we are subject to risks associated with doing business internationally. These risks include such things as changes in foreign currency exchange rates, changes in a specific country's or region's political or economic conditions, potentially negative consequences from changes in tax laws or regulatory requirements, differing labor regulations, and the difficulty of managing widespread operations.

An inability to attract and retain skilled employees could negatively impact our growth and decrease our profitability.

Our success depends on our continued ability to identify, attract, develop and retain skilled personnel throughout our organization. Current and future compensation arrangements, including benefits, may not be sufficient to attract new employees or retain existing employees, which may hinder our growth.

Rising healthcare and retirement benefit costs could increase cost pressures and decrease our profitability.

We estimate liabilities and expenses for retirement plans and other postretirement benefits that require the use of assumptions relating to the rates used to discount the future estimated liability, rate of return on any assets and various assumptions related to the age and cost of the workforce. Actual results may differ from the estimates and have a material adverse effect on future results of operations or on the financial statements as a whole. Rising healthcare and retirement benefit costs in the United States may also add to cost pressures and decrease our profitability.

A failure to maintain good corporate governance practices could damage our reputation and adversely affect our future success.

We have a history of good corporate governance, including procedures and processes that are required by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and related rules and regulations, such as board committee charters, and a code of business conduct that defines how employees interact with our various stakeholders and addresses issues such as confidentiality, conflict of interest and fair dealing. Failure to maintain these corporate governance practices could harm our reputation and have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

Failure to successfully integrate acquired businesses or products could adversely affect our operations.

As part of our business strategy, we continue to evaluate and may pursue selected business or product acquisition opportunities that we believe may provide us with certain operating and financial benefits. If we complete any such acquisitions, they may require integration into our existing business with respect to administrative, financial, sales, marketing, manufacturing and other functions to realize these anticipated benefits. If we are unable to successfully integrate a business or product acquisition, we may not realize the benefits identified in our due diligence process, and our financial results may be negatively impacted. Additionally, significant unexpected liabilities may arise during or after completion of an acquisition.

ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

The principal facilities utilized by the Company at December 31, 2012 are listed below. The Company owns all such facilities in fee simple except as noted. The Company believes that its facilities are generally well maintained and have sufficient capacity for its current needs.

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| Location | Principal use | Approximate area (square feet) | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA | Manufacturing and offices | 323,500 | |
| Racine, Wisconsin, USA | Manufacturing and offices | 134,000 | (1) |
| Scottsdale, Arizona, USA | Manufacturing and offices | 23,000 | (2) |
| Tulsa, Oklahoma, USA | Manufacturing and offices | 59,500 | |
| Brno, Czech Republic | Manufacturing and offices | 27,800 | |
| Neuffen, Germany | Manufacturing and offices | 21,500 | |
| Nogales, Mexico | Manufacturing and offices | 140,000 | |
| Nogales, Mexico | Manufacturing and offices | 41,300 | |
| Bern, Switzerland | Manufacturing and offices | 1,100 | (3) |

(1) Leased facility. Lease term expires December 31, 2025.

(2) Leased facility. Lease term expires June 30, 2014.

(3) Building is owned, but land is leased from the government. Lease term expires October 18, 2021.

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

In the normal course of business, the Company is named in legal proceedings from time to time. There are currently no material legal proceedings pending with respect to the Company. The more significant legal proceedings are discussed below.

Like other companies in recent years, the Company is named as a defendant in numerous pending multi-claimant/multi-defendant lawsuits alleging personal injury as a result of exposure to asbestos, manufactured by third parties, and integrated into or sold with a very limited number of the Company's products. The Company is vigorously defending itself against these claims. Although it is not possible to predict the ultimate outcome of these matters, the Company does not believe the ultimate resolution of these issues will have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position or results of operations, either from a cash flow perspective or on the financial statements as a whole. This belief is based in part on the fact that no claimant has proven or substantially demonstrated asbestos exposure caused by products manufactured or sold by the Company and that a number of cases have been voluntarily dismissed.

The Company has been named as a defendant in one pending patent infringement lawsuit. The lawsuit alleges the Company and other parties infringed a patent on a metering data feature. The Company believes this claim is without merit and it is vigorously defending its interests. As part of its contracts, the Company indemnifies certain customers and alliance partners for intellectual property infringement claims on its products. Some of those types of parties are also named defendants in this lawsuit. Although it is not possible to predict the ultimate outcome of this matter, the Company does not believe the ultimate resolution of this issue will have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position or results of operations, either from a cash flow perspective or on the financial statements as a whole.

The Company is subject to contingencies related to environmental laws and regulations. Information about the Company's compliance with environmental regulations is included in Part I, Item 1 of this 2012 Annual Report on Form 10-K under the heading "Environmental Protection."

ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable.

PART II

ITEM 5. MARKET FOR THE REGISTRANT'S COMMON STOCK, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Information required by this Item is set forth in Note 11 "Unaudited: Quarterly Results of Operations, Common Stock Price and Dividends" in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II, Item 8 of this 2012 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

The following information in Item 5 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K is not deemed to be "soliciting material" or to be "filed" with the Securities and Exchange Commission or subject to Regulation 14A or 14C under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or to the liabilities of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and will not be deemed to be incorporated by reference into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933 or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, except to the extent the Company specifically incorporates it by reference into such a filing.

The following graph compares on a cumulative basis the yearly percentage change since January 1, 2007 in (a) the total shareholder return on the Common Stock with (b) the total return on the Russell 2000 Index, and (c) the total return of the peer group made up of 15 companies in similar industries and with similar market capitalization.

The graph assumes \$100 invested on December 31, 2006. It further assumes the reinvestment of dividends. The returns of each component company in the peer groups have been weighted based on such company's relative market capitalization.

| December 31 | | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | |
|--------------------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| Badger Meter, Inc. | Return % | | (34.78) |)% 39.11 | % 12.55 | %(32.27 |)% 63.98 | % |
| | Cum \$ | \$ 100.00 | \$ 65.22 | \$ 90.72 | \$ 102.11 | \$ 69.15 | \$ 113.40 | |
| Russell 2000 Index | Return % | | (33.78) |)% 27.17 | % 26.86 | %(4.17 |)% 16.35 | % |
| | Cum \$ | \$ 100.00 | \$ 66.22 | \$ 84.22 | \$ 106.84 | \$ 102.38 | \$ 119.12 | |
| Peer Group | Return % | | (25.92) |)% 13.47 | % 24.87 | %(2.85 |)% 38.16 | % |
| | Cum \$ | \$ 100.00 | \$ 74.08 | \$ 84.06 | \$ 104.96 | \$ 101.97 | \$ 140.88 | |

The Peer Group consists of A.O. Smith Corp. (AOS), Badger Meter, Inc. (BMI), CIRCOR International, Inc. (CIR), Colfax Corporation (CFX), ESCO Technologies Inc. (ESE), Flow International Corporation (FLOW), Franklin Electric Co, Inc. (FELE), Fuel Systems Solutions, Inc. (FSYS), Gorman-Rupp Company (GRC), Lindsay Corporation (LNN), Measurement

Specialties, Inc. (MEAS), MFRI, Inc. (MFRI), Mueller Water Products (MWA), Robbins & Myers, Inc. (RBN), and Watts Water Technologies, Inc. (WTS).

ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

BADGER METER, INC.

Ten Year Summary of Selected Consolidated Financial Data

| | Years ended December 31, | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| (In thousands except per share data) | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 | 2003 |
| Operating results | | | | | | | | | | |
| Net sales | \$319,660 | 262,915 | 276,634 | 250,337 | 279,552 | 234,816 | 229,754 | 203,637 | 188,663 | 168,728 |
| Research and development | \$9,857 | 8,086 | 7,164 | 6,910 | 7,136 | 5,714 | 5,458 | 5,343 | 4,572 | 6,070 |
| Earnings from continuing operations before income taxes | \$43,471 | 27,349 | 44,438 | 42,333 | 39,555 | 29,325 | 27,489 | 25,664 | 20,325 | 15,658 |
| Earnings from continuing operations | \$28,032 | 19,161 | 28,662 | 26,780 | 25,084 | 18,386 | 16,568 | 16,164 | 12,056 | 9,798 |
| Earnings (loss) from discontinued operations (1) | n/a | n/a | n/a | 7,390 | n/a | (1,929) | (9,020) | (2,911) | (2,423) | (2,221) |
| Net earnings | \$28,032 | 19,161 | 28,662 | 34,170 | 25,084 | 16,457 | 7,548 | 13,253 | 9,633 | 7,577 |
| Earnings from continuing operations to sales | 8.8% | 7.3% | 10.4% | 10.7% | 9.0% | 7.8% | 7.2% | 7.4% | 6.4% | 5.8% |
| Per Common share | | | | | | | | | | |
| Basic earnings from continuing operations | \$1.96 | 1.28 | 1.92 | 1.81 | 1.72 | 1.29 | 1.19 | 1.20 | 0.91 | 0.76 |
| Basic earnings (loss) from discontinued operations | n/a | n/a | n/a | 0.50 | n/a | (0.13) | (0.65) | (0.22) | (0.18) | (0.17) |
| Total basic earnings | \$1.96 | 1.28 | 1.92 | 2.31 | 1.72 | 1.16 | 0.54 | 0.98 | 0.73 | 0.59 |
| Diluted earnings (loss) from continuing operations | \$1.95 | 1.27 | 1.91 | 1.79 | 1.69 | 1.26 | 1.15 | 1.15 | 0.89 | 0.75 |
| Diluted earnings (loss) from discontinued operations | n/a | n/a | n/a | 0.49 | n/a | (0.13) | (0.63) | (0.20) | (0.18) | (0.17) |
| Total diluted earnings | \$1.95 | 1.27 | 1.91 | 2.28 | 1.69 | 1.13 | 0.52 | 0.95 | 0.71 | 0.58 |
| Cash dividends declared: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Common Stock | \$0.66 | 0.60 | 0.52 | 0.46 | 0.40 | 0.34 | 0.31 | 0.29 | 0.28 | 0.27 |
| Price range - high | \$48.60 | 45.47 | 45.49 | 44.90 | 62.74 | 46.43 | 32.20 | 25.63 | 16.00 | 9.94 |
| Price range - low | \$29.30 | 26.86 | 32.58 | 22.50 | 17.58 | 23.00 | 19.51 | 13.23 | 8.53 | 6.13 |
| Closing price | \$47.41 | 29.43 | 44.22 | 39.82 | 29.02 | 44.95 | 27.70 | 19.62 | 14.98 | 9.54 |
| Book value * | \$11.96 | 11.85 | 11.19 | 9.65 | 7.50 | 6.33 | 5.07 | 5.36 | 4.77 | 4.19 |
| Shares outstanding at year-end | | | | | | | | | | |
| Common Stock | \$14,314 | 15,123 | 15,048 | 14,973 | 14,808 | 14,519 | 14,154 | 13,696 | 13,444 | 13,170 |
| Financial position | | | | | | | | | | |
| Working capital * | \$27,294 | 78,782 | 64,658 | 60,419 | 35,740 | 38,725 | 33,648 | 32,923 | 25,461 | 25,946 |
| Current ratio * | 1.3 to 1 | 4.5 to 1 | 3.0 to 1 | 3.3 to 1 | 1.7 to 1 | 1.9 to 1 | 1.7 to 1 | 1.8 to 1 | 1.6 to 1 | 1.7 to 1 |
| Net cash provided by operations | \$34,801 | 31,317 | 18,396 | 36,588 | 26,143 | 27,934 | 16,750 | 18,361 | 6,297 | 15,221 |
| Capital expenditures | \$8,202 | 5,336 | 9,238 | 7,750 | 13,237 | 15,971 | 11,060 | 9,088 | 5,582 | 5,214 |
| Total assets | \$290,453 | 218,910 | 215,864 | 191,016 | 195,358 | 150,301 | 139,383 | 145,867 | 142,961 | 133,851 |
| Short-term and current portion of long-term debt | \$66,730 | 1,790 | 12,878 | 8,003 | 19,670 | 13,582 | 17,037 | 13,328 | 22,887 | 9,188 |
| Long-term debt | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | 5,504 | 3,129 | 5,928 | 15,360 | 14,819 | 24,450 |
| Shareholders' equity (2) | \$171,247 | 179,281 | 168,383 | 144,461 | 111,023 | 91,969 | 71,819 | 73,416 | 64,066 | 55,171 |
| | 28.0% | 1.0% | 7.1% | 5.2% | 18.5% | 15.4% | 26.8% | 30.1% | 37.0% | 37.9% |

Debt as a percent of total debt
and equity *

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Return on shareholders' equity * | 16.4% | 10.7% | 17.0% | 18.5% | 22.6% | 20.0% | 23.1% | 22.0% | 18.8% | 17.8% |
| Price/earnings ratio * | 24.3 | 23.2 | 23.2 | 22.2 | 17.2 | 35.7 | 24.1 | 17.1 | 16.8 | 12.7 |

(1) The Company's French operations have been presented as discontinued operations through 2007, the years of ownership. In 2009, discontinued operations represented the recognition of previously unrecognized tax benefits for certain deductions that were taken on prior tax returns related to the shutdown of the Company's French operations.

(2) The Company adopted the provisions of the Financial Standards Accounting Board Accounting Standards Codification 715, "Compensation - Retirement Benefits" on December 31, 2006, with respect to recognizing the funded status of pension and postretirement benefit plans, and at December 31, 2008, with respect to changing the measurement date.

* Description of calculations as of the applicable year end:

Book value per share equals total shareholders' equity at year-end divided by the number of common shares outstanding.

Working capital equals total current assets less total current liabilities.

Current ratio equals total current assets divided by total current liabilities.

Debt as a percent of total debt and equity equals total debt (the sum of short-term debt, current portion of long-term debt and long-term debt) divided by the sum of total debt and total shareholders' equity at year-end. The debt of the discontinued French operations is included in this calculation through 2007, the years of ownership, although there was no debt at the end of 2007 related to the French operations.

Return on shareholders' equity equals earnings from continuing operations divided by total shareholders' equity at year-end.

Price/earnings ratio equals the closing stock price for common stock divided by diluted earnings per share from continuing operations.

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

BUSINESS DESCRIPTION AND OVERVIEW

The core competency of the Company is flow measurement solutions. The Company is a leading innovator, manufacturer and marketer of flow measurement and control products, serving water and gas utilities, municipalities and industrial customers worldwide. Measuring a wide variety of liquids ranging from water and oil to lubricants in industrial processes, the Company's products are known for their high degree of accuracy, long-lasting durability and ability to provide valuable and timely measurement information to customers. The Company's product lines fall into three categories: sales of water meters and related technologies to municipal water utilities (municipal water), sales of meters to various industries for water and other fluids (industrial flow) and sales of concrete vibrators and gas meter radios to unique markets (specialty products). The Company estimates that over 75% of its products are used in water applications when all categories are grouped together.

Municipal water, the largest category by sales volume, includes water meters and related technologies and services used by water utilities as the basis for generating water and wastewater revenues. The key market for the Company's water meter products is North America, primarily the United States, because the meters are designed and manufactured to conform to standards promulgated by the American Water Works Association. Sales of water meters and related technologies and services are commonly referred to as residential or commercial water meter sales, the latter referring to larger sizes of meters.

Industrial flow includes products sold worldwide to measure and control materials flowing through a pipe or pipeline including water, air, steam, oil, and other liquids and gases. These meters and valves are used in a variety of applications, such as water/wastewater; heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC); oil and gas; chemical and petrochemical; food and beverage; and pharmaceutical production.

Specialty products include sales of radio technology to natural gas utilities for installation on their gas meters, and concrete vibrators.

Additional information about the Company's business is described in Part 1, Item 1 "Business" under the heading "Market Overview, Products, Systems and Solutions" in this 2012 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Business Trends

Increasingly, the electric utility industry relies on AMI technology for two-way communication to monitor and control electrical devices at the customer's site. Although the Company does not sell products for electric market applications, the trend toward AMI affects the markets in which the Company does participate, particularly for those customers in the water utility market that are interested in more frequent and diverse data collection. Specifically, AMI and AMA technologies enable water utilities to capture readings from each meter at more frequent and variable intervals.

The Company sells its technology solutions to meet customer requirements. Since the technology products have comparable margins, any change in the mix between AMR, AMI or AMA is not expected to have a significant impact on the Company's net sales related to meter reading technology.

There are approximately 53,000 water utilities in the United States and the Company estimates that less than 30 percent of them have converted to a radio solutions technology. Although there is growing interest in AMI and AMA communication by water utilities, the vast majority of utilities installing such technology continue to select AMR technologies for their applications. The Company's ORION technology has experienced rapid acceptance in the United States as an increasing number of water utilities have selected ORION as their AMR solution. The Company anticipates that even with growing interest in AMI and AMA, AMR will continue to be the primary product of choice for a number of years. For many

water utilities, AMR technology is simply the most cost-effective solution available today. However, with the introduction of AMA, the Company believes it is well-positioned to meet customers' future needs.

Acquisitions

On January 31, 2012, the Company completed its acquisition of 100% of the outstanding common stock of Racine Federated, Inc. ("Racine Federated") of Racine, Wisconsin and its subsidiary Premier Control Technologies, Ltd. ("PCT") located in Thetford, England for approximately \$57.3 million in cash, plus a working capital adjustment of \$0.3 million. During the fourth quarter of 2012, the Company sold PCT for a nominal amount after the majority of its functions were absorbed by the Company's European subsidiary. The Company also merged Racine Federated into Badger Meter, Inc. on December 31, 2012. Racine Federated manufactures and markets flow meters for the water industry as well as various industrial metering and specialty products. These products complement and expand the Company's existing lines for the global flow measurement business. This acquisition is further described in Note 3 "Acquisitions" in the accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II, Item 8 of this 2012 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

On January 26, 2011, the Company purchased Remag, AG ("Remag") of Bern, Switzerland for \$4.9 million. Remag distributes a line of precision flow measurement products, some of which they manufacture, for the global industrial market. Their small turbine meters complement and expand the Company's existing line of industrial flow products. This acquisition is further described in Note 3 "Acquisitions" in the accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II, Item 8 of this 2012 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

On April 1, 2010, the Company purchased Cox Instruments, LLC ("Cox") of Scottsdale, Arizona, and its subsidiary Flow Dynamics, Inc. for \$7.8 million. Cox Instruments and Flow Dynamics manufacture and market precision high performance flow meters that are used in demanding applications such as aerospace, custody transfer and flow measurement test stands. The Company merged the two entities into a wholly-owned subsidiary named Cox Flow Measurement, Inc. on April 1, 2010, and merged the subsidiary into Badger Meter, Inc. on December 31, 2010. This acquisition is further described in Note 3 "Acquisitions" in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II, Item 8 of this 2012 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Revenue and Product Mix

Prior to the Company's introduction of its own proprietary radio products, for example ORION and GALAXY, Itron water utility-related products were a dominant radio products contributor to the Company's results. Itron products are sold under an agreement between the Company and Itron, Inc. that has been renewed multiple times and is in effect until early 2016. The Company's radio products directly compete with Itron water radio products. In recent years, many of the Company's customers have selected the Company's proprietary products over Itron products. While the Company's proprietary product sales are generally greater than those of the Itron licensed products, the Company expects that Itron products will remain a significant component of sales to water utilities. Continuing substantial sales in both product lines underscores the continued acceptance of radio technology by water utilities and affirms the Company's strategy of selling Itron products in addition to its own proprietary products.

As the industry continues to evolve, the Company has been vigilant in anticipating and exceeding customer expectations. In 2011, the Company introduced AMA as a hardware and software solution for water and gas utilities, which it believes will help maintain the Company's position as a market leader. The Company continues to seek opportunities for additional revenue enhancement. For instance, the Company is periodically asked to oversee and perform field installation of its products for certain customers. The Company assumes the role of general contractor, hiring installation subcontractors and supervising their work. The Company also supports its product and technology sales with the sale of extended service programs that provide additional services beyond the standard warranty. In

recent years, the Company has sold ORION radio technology to natural gas utilities for installation on their gas meters. With the exception of a large sale of gas radios to one particular customer, the revenues from such products and services are not yet significant and the Company is uncertain of the potential growth achievable for such products and services in future periods.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Net Sales

Net sales in 2012 increased \$56.8 million, or 21.6%, to \$319.7 million from \$262.9 million in 2011. The overall increase was due to the inclusion of Racine Federated's net sales for eleven months of the year and higher municipal water sales, offset somewhat by lower sales of radios to natural gas utilities. Racine Federated's sales for the eleven months ended

December 31, 2012 were \$41.3 million.

Municipal water sales increased \$22.9 million, or 12.0%, to \$213.2 million in 2012 from \$190.3 million in 2011. These sales represented 66.7% of total net sales in 2012 compared to 72.4% in 2011. The sales increase was due to higher sales of residential meters sold with technology as well as higher commercial meter sales. Sales of meters with technology increased 11.6% for the year due to higher volumes of product sold. Sales of manually read residential meters were essentially flat between years. Commercial water meter sales increased 19.5% in 2012 compared to 2011 due to higher volumes of product sold. The Company believes the net overall increase for the year was due to normal buying patterns beginning to resume after a period where there were (and still are) negative factors affecting market conditions. These factors include lingering concerns about municipal spending, which have resulted in delayed buying decisions, and slower housing starts. In addition, the Company's introduction in 2011 of the next generation of the ORION product lengthened the sales cycle for water utilities as they evaluate this new technology. Weather may have also played a role as poor weather in the Midwest and Northeast had a negative impact on sales in early 2011 due to its effects on budget demands and installation rates, which did not recur in early 2012.

Industrial flow products represented 29.0% of total net sales in 2012 compared to 21.5% in 2011. These sales increased \$36.2 million, or 64.0%, to \$92.8 million from \$56.6 million in 2011. As previously noted, Racine Federated was acquired on January 31, 2012 and Racine Federated's sales were included from that point forward. Within this product grouping, Racine Federated's sales were \$32.6 million. The remainder of the increase was due to higher sales in most of the remaining industrial flow product lines.

Specialty products represented 4.3% of total net sales in 2012 compared to 6.1% in 2011. These sales decreased \$2.3 million in 2012, or 14.4%, to \$13.7 million from \$16.0 million in 2011. Included in this product grouping was \$8.7 million of sales from Racine Federated. Without these sales, specialty products would have shown a larger sales decrease due to lower sales of radios into the natural gas market. The 2011 sales included higher sales of radios to one particular natural gas customer that did not recur in 2012.

International sales for municipal water meters and related technologies are generally made to customers in Canada and Mexico, which use similar mechanical technology and standards as customers in the U.S. International sales for industrial flow and specialty products are generally made throughout the world. In Europe, sales are made primarily in Euros. Other international sales are made in U.S. dollars or local currencies. International sales increased 53.8% to \$48.6 million in 2012 from \$31.6 million in 2011 primarily due to the addition of Racine Federated's product lines.

Net sales in 2011 decreased \$13.7 million, or 5.0%, to \$262.9 million from \$276.6 million in 2010. The overall decrease was the net result of lower volumes sold for the Company's municipal water products, offset somewhat by higher sales of industrial flow and specialty products. Higher prices in certain product lines also helped offset the lower municipal water product sales.

Municipal water sales represented 72.4% of total net sales in 2011 compared to 79.4% in 2010. These sales decreased in 2011 by \$29.2 million, or 13.3%, to \$190.3 million from \$219.5 million. The decline was due primarily to lower volumes of the Company's residential technology products, as well as lower sales of commercial and manually read residential meters, offset by somewhat higher prices in certain product lines. The Company believes the net decrease in municipal water sales was due to a continuation of certain factors, including concerns over municipal spending that continue to delay order decisions, slower housing starts and the Company's introduction in early 2011 of the next generation of the ORION product that caused water utilities to take time to evaluate this new technology. In addition, poor weather in the Midwest and Northeast had a negative impact on sales in early 2011 due to its effects on budget demands and installation rates.

Industrial flow products represented 21.5% of total net sales in 2011 compared to 16.6% in 2010. These sales increased \$10.7 million, or 23.3%, to \$56.6 million in 2011 compared to \$45.9 million in 2010. The increase was due in part to the addition of \$3.3 million of sales from the acquisition of Remag, which was not included in the 2010 results. Most of the other industrial flow product line sales increased in 2011 over 2010.

Specialty products represented 6.1% of total net sales in 2011 compared to 4.0% in 2010. These sales increased \$4.8 million in 2011, or 42.9%, to \$16.0 million from \$11.2 million in 2010. The increase was primarily due to a larger sale of gas radios to one particular natural gas customer in 2011.

International sales increased 2.5% to \$31.6 million in 2011 from \$30.8 million in 2010 primarily due to higher industrial flow product sales of valves and electromagnetic meters in Europe as the global economy slowly recovers.

Gross Margins

Gross margins as a percentage of sales were 38.2%, 34.2% and 37.2% for 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The percentage increase in 2012 was due in part to the addition of Racine Federated's products, whose margins are generally a higher percentage than the Company's overall weighted margin percentage. Margins also increased due to lower costs for castings which fluctuate with the metals market, and higher sales volumes in general which increase overall factory utilization. Offsetting these factors was the impact of lower sales of radios to natural gas utilities.

Gross margins were lower in 2011 compared to 2010 due to significantly higher commodity costs, particularly copper, mitigated somewhat by higher prices charged for the Company's products as well as cost reductions as the Company began to transition additional operations to its Mexican facilities. This transition was completed in the second quarter of 2011. Approximately 70 positions were transferred from the Milwaukee facility to the Mexican facility as part of a plan to move production to lower-cost facilities.

Operating Expenses

Selling, engineering and administration expenses in 2012 increased \$15.5 million, or 24.9%, over 2011's expenses. The increase was primarily attributable to the acquisition of Racine Federated and amortization of intangibles acquired, which were not included in the results for 2011. The remainder of the increase was due to higher employee incentives and normal inflationary increases, offset by continuing cost control measures. In addition, the 2012 amounts include a \$1.0 million charge in connection with the write down of the Company's investment in an emerging technology company and a \$1.1 million non-cash pension charge as a result of payouts from the pension plan occurring faster than the assumed rate.

Selling, engineering and administration costs increased \$4.3 million, or 7.4%, in 2011 compared to 2010. The increase was due in part to the inclusion of Remag's expenses which were not included in the 2010 amounts and expenses for the acquisition of Cox, which were included in results for only nine months of 2010. Other reasons for the increase include higher amortization of various intangibles and software as well as higher costs associated with the technical support of the Company's products. In addition, expenses for 2011 include approximately \$1.1 million of charges associated with the acquisition of Racine Federated that was acquired on January 31, 2012 as well as a non-cash pension curtailment charge as a result of contract negotiations with the Company's only union in which the union agreed to freeze its defined benefit plan at December 31, 2011 and participate in the Company's defined contribution plan. The 2010 amounts include a one-time credit of \$0.7 million for the fair value of land received in settlement of claims against a building contractor.

Operating Earnings

Operating earnings in 2012 increased \$17.0 million, or 61.8%, to \$44.5 million compared to \$27.5 million in 2011, as a net result of the higher sales of municipal water and industrial flow products, offset somewhat by higher selling, engineering and administration expenses. In addition, lower costs of certain raw materials also contributed to the increased operating earnings.

Operating earnings in 2011 decreased \$17.3 million, or 38.6%, to \$27.5 million compared to \$44.8 million in 2010. The decrease was due to lower sales as a result of lower volumes of product sold, as well as increased selling, engineering and administration expenses.

Interest Expense, Net

Interest expense, net was \$1.0 million in 2012 compared to \$0.2 million in 2011. The increase was due primarily to higher borrowings in 2012 associated with the acquisition of Racine Federated and the Company's stock repurchase program.

Interest expense, net was \$0.2 million in 2011 compared to \$0.4 million in 2010. The decrease was due primarily to lower borrowings in 2011.

Income Taxes

Income taxes as a percentage of earnings before income taxes were 35.5%, 29.9%, and 35.5% for 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The 2011 results include recognition of previously unrecognized tax benefits for certain deductions that were taken on prior tax returns. These benefits total approximately \$1.3 million and were recognized in earnings in 2011 due to the realization that such benefits became more likely than not upon the conclusion of an IRS audit of the Company's 2009 Federal income tax return. Without these benefits, the provision for income taxes as a percentage of earnings before income

taxes for 2011 would have been 34.8%. The increase in 2012 from 2011 was due to less foreign income, which was taxed at lower rates.

The decrease in the effective tax rate between 2011 and 2010 was due to the recognition of previously unrecognized tax benefits discussed above and higher foreign income taxed at lower rates.

Earnings and Diluted Earnings Per Share

As a result of the increased operating earnings, offset somewhat by a higher effective tax rate, net earnings were \$28.0 million in 2012 compared to \$19.2 million in 2011. On a diluted basis, earnings per share were \$1.95 in 2012 compared to \$1.27 in 2011.

As a result of the lower operating earnings, mitigated somewhat by a lower effective tax rate, net earnings were \$19.2 million in 2011 compared to \$28.7 million in 2010. On a diluted basis, earnings per share were \$1.27 in 2011 compared to \$1.91 in 2010.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

The main sources of liquidity for the Company are cash from operations and borrowing capacity. Cash provided by operations in 2012 was \$34.8 million compared to \$31.3 million in 2011. The increase in cash provided by operations in 2012 compared to 2011 was due to significantly higher earnings, offset by higher inventory balances and a pension plan contribution made in 2012.

Receivables at December 31, 2012 were \$45.6 million compared to \$41.2 million in 2011. The increase was due in part to the addition of Racine Federated in 2012 and the resulting increase in sales. The Company believes its net receivables balance is fully collectible.

Inventories at December 31, 2012 were \$61.0 million compared to \$49.4 million at December 31, 2011. The increase was primarily due to the addition of Racine Federated in 2012 with the remainder due to the timing of purchases.

Property, plant and equipment increased as a net result of capital expenditures and the acquisition of Racine Federated's property, plant and equipment, offset by depreciation expense. Capital expenditures totaled \$8.2 million in 2012, \$5.3 million in 2011 and \$9.2 million in 2010. These amounts vary due to the timing of capital expenditures. The Company believes it has adequate capacity to increase production levels with minimal additional capital expenditures.

Intangible assets increased to \$58.4 million at December 31, 2012 from \$33.7 million at December 31, 2011 primarily due to the acquisition of Racine Federated and the resulting valuation of its intangible assets, partially offset by amortization expense. Also, as a result of that acquisition, goodwill increased to \$35.9 million at December 31, 2012 compared to \$9.4 million at December 31, 2011.

Short-term debt increased from December 31, 2011 to December 31, 2012 as the Company borrowed funds for its acquisition of Racine Federated and for its stock repurchase program. Cash generated from operations was used to pay down some of this debt in 2012. At the end of 2012, debt represented approximately 28.0% of the Company's total capitalization. The Company is in compliance with the financial covenants associated with the debt. None of the debt is secured by the Company's assets.

Payables increased at December 31, 2012 to \$15.6 million compared to \$11.4 million at December 31, 2011. The 2012 amount includes \$4.6 million owed to the sellers of Racine Federated that is to be paid July 31, 2013. The

remainder of the increase was due to the timing of purchases. Accrued compensation and employee benefits increased \$3.1 million between years primarily due to higher employee incentives.

Warranty and other after-sale costs decreased \$0.7 million to \$0.9 million at December 31, 2012 compared to \$1.6 million at December 31, 2011. The 2011 amount included a reserve for a specific known issue that was resolved in 2012.

Other accrued employee benefits decreased to \$8.9 million at December 31, 2012 from \$10.0 million at December 31, 2011 primarily due to payouts of certain deferred compensation amounts.

Deferred income taxes (current assets and long-term liabilities) switched from a net asset of \$5.7 million to a net liability of \$4.8 million primarily due to the purchase of Racine Federated and the inclusion of its resulting temporary

differences.

The overall reduction in total shareholders' equity from \$179.3 million at December 31, 2011 to \$171.2 million at December 31, 2012 was the result of net earnings and stock options exercised, offset by dividends paid and \$30.0 million of Common Stock repurchased and retired by the Company under a stock repurchase program.

The Company's financial condition remains strong. In May 2012, the Company signed a new credit agreement which increased its principal line of credit from \$90.0 million to \$125.0 million with its primary lender for a three year period. The line will be permanently reduced by \$16.7 million annually beginning in 2013. While the facility is unsecured, there are a number of financial covenants with which the Company is in compliance. The Company believes that its operating cash flows, available borrowing capacity, and its ability to raise capital provide adequate resources to fund ongoing operating requirements, future capital expenditures and the development of new products. The Company continues to take advantage of its local commercial paper market and carefully monitors the current borrowing market. The Company had \$67.4 million of unused credit lines available at December 31, 2012.

OFF-BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS

The Company had no off-balance sheet arrangements at December 31, 2012.

CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

In 2010, the Company restructured the outstanding debt of its Employee Savings and Stock Option Plan (the "ESSOP") by loaning the ESSOP \$0.5 million to repay a loan to a third party and loaning the ESSOP an additional \$1.0 million to purchase additional shares of the Company's Common Stock for future 401(k) savings plan matches under a program that will expire on December 31, 2020. Under this program, the Company agreed to pay the principal and interest on the new loan amount of \$1.5 million. The receivable from the ESSOP and the related obligation were therefore netted to zero on the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2012 and 2011. The terms of the loan call for equal payments of principal with the final payment due on December 31, 2020. At December 31, 2012, \$1.2 million of the loan balance remains.

The following table includes the Company's significant contractual obligations as of December 31, 2012. There are no undisclosed guarantees.

| | Payments due by period | | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| | Total | Less than 1 year | 1-3 years | 4-6 years | Beyond |
| | (In thousands) | | | | |
| Short-term debt | \$66,730 | \$66,730 | \$— | \$— | \$— |
| Operating leases | 14,061 | 1,788 | 3,729 | 975 | 7,569 |
| Total contractual obligations | \$80,791 | \$68,518 | \$3,729 | \$975 | \$7,569 |

Other than items included in the preceding table, as of December 31, 2012, the Company had no additional material purchase obligations other than those created in the ordinary course of business related to inventory and property, plant and equipment, which generally have terms of less than 90 days. The Company also has long-term obligations related to its pension and postretirement plans which are discussed in detail in Note 7 "Employee Benefit Plans" in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II, Item 8 of this 2012 Annual Report on Form 10-K. As of the most recent actuarial measurement date, the Company is not required to make a minimum contribution for its pension plan for the 2013 calendar year. Postretirement medical claims are paid by the Company as they are submitted, and they are anticipated to be \$0.5 million in 2013 based on actuarial estimates; however, these amounts can vary significantly from year to year because the Company is self-insured.

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND USE OF ESTIMATES

The Company's accounting policies are more fully described in Note 1 "Summary of Significant Accounting Policies" in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II, Item 8 of this 2012 Annual Report on Form 10-K. As discussed in Note 1, the preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. The Company's more significant estimates relate primarily to the following judgmental reserves: allowance for doubtful accounts, reserve for obsolete inventories, warranty and after-sale costs reserve, and the healthcare reserve for claims incurred, but not reported. Each of these reserves is evaluated quarterly and is reviewed with the Company's Disclosure Committee and

the Audit and Compliance Committee of the Board of Directors. The basis for the reserve amounts is determined by analyzing the anticipated exposure for each account, and then selecting the most likely amount based upon historical experience and various other considerations that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. These methods have been used for all years in the presented financials and have been used consistently throughout each year. Actual results may differ from these estimates if actual experiences vary from the Company's assumptions.

The criteria used for calculating each of the reserve amounts vary by type of reserve. For the allowance for doubtful accounts reserve, significant past due balances are individually reviewed for collectibility, while the balance of accounts are reviewed in conjunction with applying historical write-off ratios. The calculation for the obsolete inventories reserve is determined by analyzing the relationship between the age and quantity of items on hand versus estimated usage to determine if excess quantities exist. The calculation for warranty and after-sale costs reserve uses criteria that include known potential problems on past sales as well as historical claim experience and current warranty trends. The healthcare reserve for claims incurred, but not reported is determined by using medical cost trend analyses, reviewing subsequent payments made and estimating unbilled amounts. The changes in the balances of these reserves at December 31, 2012 compared to the prior year were due to normal business conditions and are not deemed to be significant. While the Company continually tries to improve its estimates, no significant changes in the underlying processes are expected in 2013.

The Company also uses estimates in four other significant areas: (i) pension and other postretirement obligations and costs, (ii) stock-based compensation, (iii) income taxes, and (iv) evaluating goodwill at least annually for impairment. The actuarial valuations of benefit obligations and net periodic benefit costs rely on key assumptions including discount rates and long-term expected returns on plan assets. The Company's discount rate assumptions for its pension and postretirement plans are based on the average yield of a hypothetical high quality bond portfolio with maturities that approximately match the estimated cash flow needs of the plans. The assumptions for expected long-term rates of return on assets for its pension plan are based on historical experience and estimated future investment returns, taking into consideration anticipated asset allocations, investment strategies and the views of various investment professionals. On December 31, 2010, the Company froze its pension plan for its non-union participants and formed a new defined contribution feature within the ESSOP plan in which each employee received a similar benefit. On December 31, 2011, the Company froze its pension plan for its union participants and included them in the same defined contribution feature within the ESSOP. The total cost of the Company's stock-based awards is equal to the grant date fair value per award multiplied by the number of awards granted, adjusted for forfeitures. Forfeitures are initially estimated based on historical Company information and subsequently updated over the life of the awards to ultimately reflect actual forfeitures, which could have an impact on the amount of stock compensation cost recognized from period to period. In calculating the provision for income taxes on an interim basis, the Company uses an estimate of the annual effective tax rate based upon the facts and circumstances known at each interim period. On a quarterly basis, the actual effective tax rate is adjusted as appropriate based upon the actual results compared to those forecasted at the beginning of the fiscal year. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The reserve for uncertainty in income taxes is a matter of judgment based on an evaluation of the individual facts and circumstances of each tax position in light of all available evidence, including historic data and current trends. A tax benefit is recognized when it is "more likely than not" to be sustained based solely on the technical merits of each tax position. The Company evaluates and updates all of these assumptions quarterly. Goodwill impairment, if any, is determined by comparing the fair value of the reporting unit with its carrying value and is reviewed at least annually. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

OTHER MATTERS

The Company is subject to contingencies related to environmental laws and regulations. The Company is named as one of many potentially responsible parties in two landfill lawsuits. The landfill sites are impacted by the Federal

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act and other environmental laws and regulations. At this time, the Company does not believe the ultimate resolution of these matters will have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position or results of operations, either from a cash flow perspective or on the financial statements as a whole. This belief is based on the Company's assessment of its limited past involvement with these landfill sites as well as the substantial involvement of and government focus on other named third parties with these landfill sites. However, due to the inherent uncertainties of such proceedings, the Company cannot predict the ultimate outcome of any of these matters. A future change in circumstances with respect to these specific matters or with respect to sites formerly or currently owned or operated by the Company, off-site disposal locations used by the Company, and property owned by third parties that is near such sites, could result in future costs to the Company and such amounts could be material. Expenditures for compliance with environmental control provisions and regulations during 2012, 2011 and 2010 were not material.

Like other companies in recent years, the Company is named as a defendant in numerous pending multi-claimant/multi-defendant lawsuits alleging personal injury as a result of exposure to asbestos, manufactured by third parties, and

integrated into or sold with a very limited number of the Company's products. The Company is vigorously defending itself against these claims. Although it is not possible to predict the ultimate outcome of these matters, the Company does not believe the ultimate resolution of these issues will have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position or results of operations, either from a cash flow perspective or on the financial statements as a whole. This belief is based in part on the fact that no claimant has proven or substantially demonstrated asbestos exposure caused by products manufactured or sold by the Company and that a number of cases have been voluntarily dismissed.

The Company has been named as a defendant in one pending patent infringement lawsuit. The lawsuit alleges the Company and other parties infringed a patent on a metering data feature. The Company believes this claim is without merit and it is vigorously defending its interests. As part of its contracts, the Company indemnifies certain customers and alliance partners for intellectual property infringement claims on its products. Some of those types of parties are also named defendants in this lawsuit. Although it is not possible to predict the ultimate outcome of this matter, the Company does not believe the ultimate resolution of this issue will have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position or results of operations, either from a cash flow perspective or on the financial statements as a whole.

See the "Special Note Regarding Forward Looking Statements" at the front of this Annual Report on Form 10-K and Part I, Item 1A "Risk Factors" in this Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012 for a discussion of risks and uncertainties that could impact the Company's financial performance and results of operations.

MARKET RISKS

In the ordinary course of business, the Company is exposed to various market risks. The Company operates in an environment where competition varies from moderate to intense. The Company believes it currently provides the leading technology in water meters and radio systems for water utilities. A number of the Company's competitors in certain markets have greater financial resources. Competitors also include alliance partners that sell products that do or may compete with our products, particularly those that provide radio solutions. In addition, the market's level of acceptance of the Company's newer products, such as the recently introduced AMA systems, may have a significant effect on the Company's results of operations. As a result of significant research and development activities, the Company enjoys favorable patent positions for several of its products.

The Company's ability to generate operating income and to increase profitability depends somewhat on the general health of the United States and foreign economies, including to some extent such things as the length and severity of global economic downturns, the timing and size of governmental programs such as stimulus fund programs, the ability of municipal water utility customers to authorize and finance purchases of the Company's products, the Company's ability to obtain financing, housing starts in the United States, and overall industrial activity. In addition, changes in governmental laws and regulations, particularly laws dealing with the use of lead or rules affecting the use and/or licensing of radio frequencies necessary for radio products may impact the results of operations. These factors are largely beyond the Company's control and depend on the economic condition and regulatory environment of the geographic region of the Company's operations.

The Company relies on single suppliers for certain castings and components in several of its product lines. Although alternate sources of supply exist for these items, the loss of certain suppliers could temporarily disrupt operations in the short term. The Company attempts to mitigate these risks by working closely with key suppliers, purchasing minimal amounts from alternative suppliers and by purchasing business interruption insurance where appropriate.

Raw materials used in the manufacture of the Company's products include purchased castings made of metal or alloys (such as brass, which uses copper as its main component, aluminum, stainless steel and cast iron), plastic resins, glass, microprocessors and other electronic subassemblies and components. The Company does not hold significant amounts

of precious metals. The price and availability of raw materials is influenced by economic and industry conditions, including supply and demand factors that are difficult to anticipate and cannot be controlled by the Company. Commodity risk is managed by keeping abreast of economic conditions and locking in purchase prices for quantities that correspond to the Company's forecasted usage.

The Company's foreign currency risk relates to the sales of products to foreign customers and purchases of material from foreign vendors. The Company uses lines of credit with U.S. and European banks to offset currency exposure related to European receivables and other monetary assets. As of December 31, 2012 and 2011, the Company's foreign currency net monetary assets were partially offset by comparable debt resulting in no material exposure to the results of operations. The Company believes the effect of a change in foreign currency rates will not have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position or results of operations, either from a cash flow perspective or on the financial statements as a whole.

The Company typically does not hold or issue derivative instruments and has a policy specifically prohibiting the use of such instruments for trading purposes.

The Company's short-term debt on December 31, 2012 was floating rate debt with market values approximating carrying value. Future annual interest costs for short-term debt will fluctuate based upon short-term interest rates. For the short-term debt on hand on December 31, 2012, the effect of a 1% change in interest rates is approximately \$0.7 million.

ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES OF MARKET RISK

Information required by this Item is set forth in Part II, Item 7 "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" under the heading "Market Risks" in this 2012 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTAL DATA

BADGER METER, INC.

Management's Annual Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

The Company's management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as such term is defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. The Company's internal control over financial reporting is designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Due to its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

The Company's management assessed the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2012 using the criteria set forth in Internal Control - Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. As allowed by the Securities and Exchange Commission guidance, management excluded from its assessment Racine Federated, Inc., which was acquired in 2012 and constituted 24.8% and 33.7% of total and net assets, respectively as of December 31, 2012, and 13.0% and 26.9% of net sales and net income, respectively, for the year then ended. Based on this assessment, the Company's management believes that, as of December 31, 2012, the Company's internal control over financial reporting was effective based on those criteria.

Ernst & Young LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, has audited the Consolidated Financial Statements included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K and, as part of its audit, has issued an attestation report, included herein, on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

BADGER METER, INC.

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Shareholders of Badger Meter, Inc.

We have audited Badger Meter, Inc.'s (the "Company") internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2012, based on criteria established in Internal Control-Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (the COSO criteria). Badger Meter, Inc.'s management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting included in the accompanying Management's Annual Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit 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 effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

As indicated in the accompanying Management's Annual Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting, management's assessment of and conclusion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting did not include the internal controls of Racine Federated, Inc. which is included in the 2012 consolidated financial statements of Badger Meter, Inc. and constituted 24.8% and 33.7% of total and net assets, respectively as of December 31, 2012, and 13.0% and 26.9% of net sales and net income, respectively, for the year then ended. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting of Badger Meter, Inc. also did not include an evaluation of the internal control over financial reporting of Racine Federated, Inc.

In our opinion, Badger Meter, Inc. maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2012, based on the COSO criteria.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheets of Badger Meter, Inc. as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, and the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income, shareholders' equity and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2012 and our report dated March 5, 2013, expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Milwaukee, Wisconsin
March 5, 2013

BADGER METER, INC.

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Shareholders of Badger Meter, Inc.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Badger Meter, Inc. (the "Company") as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, and the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income, shareholders' equity and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2012. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements 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 financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Badger Meter, Inc. at December 31, 2012 and 2011, and the consolidated results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2012, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), Badger Meter, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2012, based on criteria established in Internal Control-Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission and our report dated March 5, 2013 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Milwaukee, Wisconsin
March 5, 2013

BADGER METER, INC.
Consolidated Balance Sheets

| | December 31, | |
|---|------------------------|-----------|
| | 2012 | 2011 |
| | (Dollars in thousands) | |
| Assets | | |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash | \$6,554 | \$4,975 |
| Receivables | 45,584 | 41,168 |
| Inventories: | | |
| Finished goods | 19,872 | 13,476 |
| Work in process | 13,340 | 11,377 |
| Raw materials | 27,785 | 24,583 |
| Total inventories | 60,997 | 49,436 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 4,343 | 2,266 |
| Deferred income taxes | 3,896 | 3,350 |
| Total current assets | 121,374 | 101,195 |
| Property, plant and equipment, at cost: | | |
| Land and improvements | 8,919 | 8,011 |
| Buildings and improvements | 51,090 | 49,840 |
| Machinery and equipment | 92,751 | 87,077 |
| | 152,760 | 144,928 |
| Less accumulated depreciation | (82,276 |) (78,826 |
| Net property, plant and equipment | 70,484 | 66,102 |
| Intangible assets, at cost less accumulated amortization | 58,351 | 33,680 |
| Other assets | 4,314 | 6,259 |
| Deferred income taxes | — | 2,309 |
| Goodwill | 35,930 | 9,365 |
| Total assets | \$290,453 | \$218,910 |
| Liabilities and shareholders' equity | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Short-term debt | \$66,730 | \$1,790 |
| Payables | 15,551 | 11,365 |
| Accrued compensation and employee benefits | 9,821 | 6,734 |
| Warranty and after-sale costs | 881 | 1,593 |
| Income and other taxes | 1,097 | 931 |
| Total current liabilities | 94,080 | 22,413 |
| Other long-term liabilities | 1,086 | 1,078 |
| Deferred income taxes | 8,692 | — |
| Accrued non-pension postretirement benefits | 6,489 | 6,103 |
| Other accrued employee benefits | 8,859 | 10,035 |
| Commitments and contingencies (Note 6) | | |
| Shareholders' equity: | | |
| Common Stock, \$1 par; authorized 40,000,000 shares; issued 20,441,184 shares in 2012 and 21,292,030 shares in 2011 | 20,441 | 21,292 |
| Capital in excess of par value | 41,755 | 39,445 |
| Reinvested earnings | 155,694 | 166,271 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (13,948 |) (14,566 |

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| | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|---|
| Less: Employee benefit stock | (1,234 |) (1,485 |) |
| Treasury stock, at cost; 6,127,155 shares in 2012 and 6,169,329 shares in 2011 | (31,461 |) (31,676 |) |
| Total shareholders' equity | 171,247 | 179,281 | |
| Total liabilities and shareholders' equity | \$290,453 | \$218,910 | |
| See accompanying notes. | | | |

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BADGER METER, INC.
Consolidated Statements of Operations

| | Years ended December 31, | | |
|---|---|-----------|-----------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| | (In thousands except per share amounts) | | |
| Net sales | \$319,660 | \$262,915 | \$276,634 |
| Cost of sales | 197,414 | 173,095 | 173,810 |
| Gross margin | 122,246 | 89,820 | 102,824 |
| Selling, engineering and administration | 77,777 | 62,286 | 58,001 |
| Operating earnings | 44,469 | 27,534 | 44,823 |
| Interest expense, net | 998 | 185 | 385 |
| Earnings before income taxes | 43,471 | 27,349 | 44,438 |
| Provision for income taxes (Note 8) | 15,439 | 8,188 | 15,776 |
| Net earnings | \$28,032 | \$19,161 | \$28,662 |
| Earnings per share: | | | |
| Basic | \$1.96 | \$1.28 | \$1.92 |
| Diluted | \$1.95 | \$1.27 | \$1.91 |
| Shares used in computation of earnings per share: | | | |
| Basic | 14,332 | 14,971 | 14,906 |
| Impact of dilutive securities | 67 | 78 | 100 |
| Diluted | 14,399 | 15,049 | 15,006 |
| See accompanying notes. | | | |

BADGER METER, INC.

Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income

| | Years ended December 31, | | |
|---|--------------------------|----------|----------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| | (Dollars in thousands) | | |
| Net earnings | \$28,032 | \$19,161 | \$28,662 |
| Other comprehensive income : | | | |
| Foreign currency translation adjustment | 393 | (267 |) (282 |
| Employee benefit funded status adjustment, net of tax | 225 | (1,162 |) 1,730 |
| Comprehensive income | \$28,650 | \$17,732 | \$30,110 |
| See accompanying notes. | | | |

BADGER METER, INC.

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

| | Years ended December 31, | | | |
|---|--------------------------|----------|----------|---|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | |
| | (Dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Operating activities: | | | | |
| Net earnings | \$28,032 | \$19,161 | \$28,662 | |
| Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash provided by operations: | | | | |
| Depreciation | 7,587 | 7,144 | 6,704 | |
| Amortization | 4,467 | 2,347 | 1,755 | |
| Deferred income taxes | (551 |) (800 |) 1,981 | |
| Contributions to pension | (1,097 |) — | (4,700 |) |
| Gain on legal settlement | — | — | (740 |) |
| Noncurrent employee benefits | 122 | 4,704 | 2,266 | |
| Stock-based compensation expense | 1,266 | 1,470 | 1,365 | |
| Changes in: | | | | |
| Receivables | 812 | (616 |) (3,777 |) |
| Inventories | (4,743 |) 42 | (14,886 |) |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | (905 |) (850 |) 55 | |
| Liabilities other than debt | (188 |) (1,285 |) (289 |) |
| Total adjustments | 6,770 | 12,156 | (10,266 |) |
| Net cash provided by operations | 34,802 | 31,317 | 18,396 | |
| Investing activities: | | | | |
| Property, plant and equipment additions | (8,202 |) (5,336 |) | |