INTEST CORP Form 10-K March 31, 2011

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K	
(Mark One)	
[X] ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 ( For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010)	OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 or
[ ] TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO S OF 1934	ECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT
For the transition period from	to
Commiss	ion File Number 0-22529
inTEST Corporation	
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)	
DELAWARE	22-2370659
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)	(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)
804 EAST GATE DRIVE, SUITE 200 MT. LAUREL, NEW JERSEY	08054
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)	(Zip Code)
Registrant's telephone nur	mber, including area code: (856) 505-8800

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

Title of Each Class

Name of Each Exchange on
Which Registered

Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share NASDAQ

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

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes / / No /X/ Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes / / No /X/

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject

to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes /X/ 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. /X/

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

Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) / Smaller reporting company /X/

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

The aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates computed by reference to the price at which the common equity was last sold on June 30, 2010 (the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter), was: \$26.183,645.

The number of shares outstanding of the registrant's Common Stock, as of March 15, 2011, was 10,344,226.

#### DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the definitive proxy statement of the Registrant for the Registrant's 2011 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission within 120 days after the end of the fiscal year covered by this Report, are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Report.

# inTEST CORPORATION FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

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# PART I

Item 1.

# BUSINESS

Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

From time to time, we make written or oral "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, including statements contained in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, (including this Report on Form 10-K), our annual report to stockholders and in other communications. These statements do not convey historical information, but relate to predicted or potential future events, such as statements of our plans, strategies and intentions, or our future performance or goals. Our forward-looking statements can often be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "believes," "expects," "intends," "may," "will," "should" or "anticipates" or similar terminology, and include, but are not limited to, statements made in this Report regarding:

- the sufficiency of cash balances, lines of credit and net cash from operations;
- ♦ the indicators of a change in the industry cycles in the integrated circuit, or IC, and automatic test equipment, or ATE, industries:
- developments and trends in the IC and ATE industries;
- the possibility of future acquisitions or dispositions;
- our cost-containment initiatives;
- the implementation of current and future facility consolidations and restructuring initiatives;
- ♦ costs associated with compliance with new SEC regulations;
- ♦ the development of new products and technologies by us or our competitors;
- the availability of materials used to manufacture our products;
- ♦ the availability of qualified personnel;
- ♦ general economic conditions;
- net revenues generated by foreign subsidiaries;
- ♦ exchange rate fluctuations;
- variable product warranty costs;
- pressure on prices from OEM customer supply line managers;
- ♦ stock price fluctuations;
- the anticipated market for our products; and
- other projections of net revenues, taxable earnings (loss), net earnings (loss), net earnings (loss) per share, capital expenditures and other financial items, including savings we expect to achieve or other effects of any of the foregoing matters.

Investors and prospective investors are cautioned that such forward-looking statements are only projections based on current estimations. These statements involve risks and uncertainties and are based upon various assumptions. We discuss many of these risks and uncertainties under Item 1A "Risk Factors," below, and elsewhere in this Report. These risks and uncertainties, among others, could cause our actual future results to differ materially from those described in our forward-looking statements or from our prior results. We are not obligated to update these forward-looking statements, even though our situation may change in the future.

# **INTRODUCTION**

We are an independent designer, manufacturer and marketer of mechanical, thermal and electrical products that are used by semiconductor manufacturers in conjunction with automatic test equipment, or ATE, in the testing of integrated circuits, or ICs. Our high performance products are designed to enable semiconductor manufacturers to improve the efficiency of their IC test processes and, consequently, their profitability. We supply our products worldwide to major semiconductor manufacturers and semiconductor test subcontractors directly and through leading ATE manufacturers. Our largest customers include Analog Devices, Inc., ASE, Inc., Cypress Semiconductor Corporation, Emerson Electric Co., Freescale Semiconductor, Inc., Hakuto Co. Ltd., JDS Uniphase Corporation, ST Microelectronics, Inc., Teradyne, Inc. and Texas Instruments Incorporated.

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inTEST CORPORATION FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

#### **BUSINESS** (Continued)

The consolidated entity is comprised of inTEST Corporation (parent) and our wholly-owned subsidiaries. inTEST Corporation was incorporated in New Jersey in 1981 and reincorporated in Delaware in April 1997. We manage our business as three product segments, as more fully discussed under "Our Segments" below, which consist of our Mechanical Products, Thermal Products and Electrical Products segments.

#### **Business Environment**

Changes in global economic conditions affect the demand for products which contain semiconductors which in turn has a significant impact on the demand for ATE. In recent years, the global economy and financial markets experienced extreme disruption which caused a significant weakening in both consumer and business demand for products which contain semiconductors, which in turn caused the ATE utilization rates at our customers to decline materially from normal levels. As a result, we experienced significant declines in the bookings and sales of our products during late 2008 and early 2009. This downward trend reversed in the second half of 2009 and we have experienced significant growth in both the bookings and sales of our products during 2010. We currently expect demand to continue to be strong throughout 2011, although our ability to forecast business cycles remains limited.

As a result of the deterioration in our business in late 2008 and early 2009, we took a number of steps to reduce our fixed operating costs and preserve cash. Our goal was to reduce our fixed cost structure to a level better aligned with the reduced level of demand we were experiencing so that when business conditions improved, we would return to profitability on a lower level of revenues. Our business results improved in late 2009 and throughout 2010, and the benefits of our restructuring efforts enabled us to achieve record profitability during 2010 with strong growth in our working capital. These cost-containment actions and business conditions are more fully discussed in Item 7 "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" below.

### **INDUSTRY**

### **Overview**

Historically, the semiconductor market has been characterized by rapid technological change, wide fluctuations in demand and shortening product life cycles. Designers and manufacturers of a variety of electronic and industrial products, such as cell phones, telecom and datacom systems, Internet access devices, computers, transportation and consumer electronics, require increasingly complex ICs to provide improved end-product performance demanded by their customers. Semiconductor manufacturers generally compete based on product performance and price. We believe that testing costs represent a significant portion of the total cost of manufacturing ICs. Semiconductor manufacturers remain under pressure to maximize production yields and reduce testing costs. At the same time, the growing complexity of ICs has increased the difficulty of maximizing test yields. In order to address these market trends, semiconductor manufacturers strive for more effective utilization of ATE, smaller test areas and increased wafer level testing.

Demand for new ATE and related equipment depends upon several factors, including the demand for products that incorporate ICs, the increasing complexity of ICs and the emergence of new IC design, production and packaging technologies. Some of the evolutionary changes in IC technologies include the shift to 300 mm wafers in production, system-on-a-chip, or SOC, where digital, analog and memory functions are combined on a single IC, and chip scale packaging. As a result of these and other advances, semiconductor manufacturers may require additional ATE not only to handle increases in production but also to handle the more sophisticated testing requirements of ICs.

### IC Test Process

Semiconductor manufacturers typically produce ICs in multiples of several hundred on a silicon wafer which is later separated or "diced" into individual ICs. Extended leads are then attached to the individual ICs, for later connection to other electrical components. In most cases, the ICs are then encapsulated in a plastic, ceramic or other protective housing. These process steps are called "packaging."

Wafers are tested before being diced and packaged, to ensure that only properly functioning ICs are packaged. This testing step has several names, including "front-end test," "wafer test," "wafer probe" or "wafer sort." In front-end test, an electronic handling device known as a wafer prober automatically positions the wafer under a probe card which is electronically

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# inTEST CORPORATION FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Item 1.

#### **BUSINESS** (Continued)

connected to a "test head," which connects electrically to a test system. During front-end testing there is a growing trend of thermally conditioning the wafer during test, especially in the memory and automotive markets. Once the good ICs have been identified, they are packaged.

The packaged ICs also require testing, called "back-end test" or "final test," to determine if they meet design and performance specifications. Packaged ICs are tested after loading into another type of electronic handling device called a "package handler" or "handler," which then transfers the packaged ICs into a test socket which is attached to the test head. These handlers may be temperature controlled for testing. "Wafer probers" and "handlers" are sometimes referred to in this Report collectively as "electronic device handlers."

Testers range in price from approximately \$100,000 to over \$3.0 million each, depending primarily on the complexity of the IC to be tested and the number of test heads (typically one or two) with which each tester is configured. Probers and handlers range in price from approximately \$50,000 to \$500,000. A typical test floor of a large semiconductor manufacturer may have 100 test heads and 100 probers or 250 handlers supplied by various vendors for use at any one time.

Test head manipulators, also referred to as positioners, facilitate the movement of the test head to the electronic device handler. Docking hardware mechanically connects the test head to the wafer prober or handler. Tester interface products provide the electrical connection between the test head and the wafer or packaged IC. Traditionally, temperature management products are used in back-end test to allow a manufacturer to test packaged ICs under the extreme temperature conditions in which the IC may be required to operate. However, we believe that temperature-controlled testing will be an increasingly important part of front-end wafer testing as more parameters traditionally tested for in back end-test are moved to front-end test.

# Trends in IC Testing

ATE is used to identify unacceptable packaged ICs and bad die on wafers. ATE assists IC manufacturers in controlling test costs by performing IC testing in an efficient and cost-effective manner. In order to provide testing equipment that can help IC manufacturers meet these goals, we believe the ATE industry must address

### the following issues:

Change in Technology. End-user applications are demanding ICs with increasingly higher performance, greater speeds, and smaller sizes. ICs that meet these higher standards are more complex and dense. SOC designs are likely to be more in demand in the future. These technology trends have significant implications for the IC testing process, including:

- ♦ the need for test heads of higher complexity;
- ♦ higher signal densities;
- increasing test speeds; and
- a new generation of testers for SOC and other technologies.

### Need for Plug-Compatibility and Integration

. Semiconductor manufacturers need test methodologies that will perform increasingly complex tests while lowering the overall cost of testing. This can require combining ATE manufactured by various companies into optimally performing systems. Semiconductor manufacturers have to work closely with various test hardware, software, interface and component vendors to resolve design and compatibility issues in order to make these vendors' products plug-compatible with test equipment manufactured by other vendors.

Testing Under Extreme Conditions. ICs will have to perform across a wider spectrum of temperature and environmental conditions than ever before because of the growing complexity of products in which they are deployed. Temperature testing will likely find an increasing role in front-end, wafer level testing. Creating a uniform thermal profile over much larger wafer areas represents a significant engineering and design challenge for ATE manufacturers.

Demand for Higher Levels of Technical Support. As IC testing becomes more complex, semiconductor manufacturers demand higher levels of technical support on a routine basis. ATE manufacturers must commit appropriate resources to technical support in order to develop close working relationships with their customers. This level of support also requires close proximity of service and support personnel to customers' facilities.

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# inTEST CORPORATION FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Item 1.

**BUSINESS** (Continued)

### Cost Reduction Through Increased Front-End Testing

. As the cost of testing ICs increases, semiconductor manufacturers will continue to look for ways to streamline the testing process to make it more cost-effective, such as the recent trend to use massive parallel test, in which semiconductor manufacturers test multiple ICs on the wafer simultaneously. We believe that this factor will lead to more front-end, wafer-level testing.

### **OUR SOLUTIONS**

Historically, we have focused our development efforts on designing and producing high quality products that provide superior performance and cost-effectiveness. We have sought to address each manufacturer's individual needs through innovative and customized designs, use of the best materials available, quality manufacturing practices and personalized service. We have designed solutions to overcome the evolving challenges facing the ATE industry, which we believe provide the following advantages:

Scalable, Universal, High Performance Interface Technology. Our universal test head manipulators provide a high degree of positioning flexibility with a minimum amount of effort. As a result, our products can be used in virtually any test setting. Our manipulator products are designed to accommodate the increased size of test heads. Our docking hardware offers precise control over the connection to test sockets,

probing assemblies and interface boards, reducing downtime and minimizing costly damage to fragile components. Our tester interface products optimize the integrity of the signals transmitted between the test head and the device under test by being virtually transparent to the test signals. This results in increased accuracy of the test data and may thus enable improved test yields. We believe that these characteristics will gain even more significance as testing becomes even more demanding.

Compatibility and Integration. A hallmark of our products has been, and continues to be, compatibility with a wide variety of ATE. Our mechanical products are all designed to be used with otherwise incompatible ATE. We believe this integrated approach to ATE facilitates smooth changeover from one tester to another, longer lives for interface components, better test results, increased ATE utilization and lower overall test costs.

Temperature-Controlled Testing. Our Thermostream (R) products are used by manufacturers in a number of industries to stress test a variety of semiconductor and electronic components, PC boards and sub-assemblies. Our Thermochuck (R) products are used by semiconductor manufacturers for front-end temperature stress screening at the wafer level. Factors motivating manufacturers to use temperature testing include design characterization, failure analysis and quality control as well as determining performance under extreme operating temperatures, all of which contribute to manufacturing cost savings. Our acquisition of Sigma Systems Corporation ("Sigma"), in October 2008, has significantly increased our product offerings in the area of temperature-controlled testing. Sigma's thermal platforms and temperature and humidity chambers can accommodate large thermal masses and are found in both laboratory and production environments.

Worldwide Customer Service and Support. We have long recognized the need to maintain a physical presence near our customers' facilities. As of December 31, 2010, we had domestic manufacturing facilities in New Jersey, Massachusetts and California and provided service to our customers from sales and service offices in the U.S., U.K., Germany and Singapore. Our engineers are easily accessible to, and can work directly with, most of our customers from the time we begin developing our initial proposal, through the delivery, installation and use of the product by our customer. In this way, we are able to develop and maintain close relationships with our customers.

### **OUR STRATEGIES**

In the last several years we have had to balance our actions to achieve appropriate adjustments to our operating structure and yet meet the needs of our customers in the changing business environment. In addition, we remain committed to our goals of being recognized in our markets as the designer and manufacturer of the highest quality and most cost effective products and becoming the key supplier of all of our customers' ATE needs, other than probers, handlers and testers. Our strategies to achieve these goals include the following:

*Providing Technologically Advanced Solutions*. We are committed to designing and producing only the highest quality products which incorporate innovative designs to achieve optimal cost-effectiveness and functionality for each customer's particular situation. Our engineering and design staff is continually engaged in developing new and improved products and manufacturing processes.

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# inTEST CORPORATION FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Item 1.

**BUSINESS** (Continued)

### Leveraging Our Strong Customer Relationships

. Our technical personnel work closely with ATE manufacturers to design tester interface and docking hardware that are compatible with their ATE. As a result, we are often privy to proprietary technical data and information about these manufacturers' products. We believe that because we do not compete with ATE manufacturers in the prober, handler and tester markets, we have been able to establish strong collaborative relationships with these manufacturers that enable us to develop ancillary ATE products on an accelerated basis.

Maintaining Our International Presence. Our existing and potential customers are concentrated in certain regions throughout the world. We believe that we must maintain a presence in the markets in which our customers operate. We currently have offices in the U.S., U.K., Germany and Singapore.

Pursuing Synergistic Acquisitions. A key element of our growth strategy has been to acquire businesses, technologies or products that are complementary to our current product offerings. Since our initial public offering in 1997, we have acquired several businesses which have enabled us to expand our line of product offerings and have given us the opportunity to market a broader range of products to our customer base

and, in the case of both the Temptronic acquisition in 2000 and the Sigma acquisition in 2008, provided access to markets that are less sensitive to cyclicality than the ATE market. We seek to make acquisitions that will further expand our product lines as well as increase our exposure to markets outside of the ATE market.

Pursuing Revenue Growth Opportunities Outside the Semiconductor ATE Market. Another element of our growth strategy is to pursue revenue growth opportunities in markets we have not traditionally served, such as the automotive, medical/pharmaceutical, electronic, aerospace/defense, communications and consumer electronics. We believe that we may be able to reduce some of the cyclicality that we have historically experienced by further diversifying our revenue streams outside the semiconductor ATE market. We see the most potential for this within our Thermal Products segment. For the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009 approximately \$8.0 million or 17% and \$2.5 million or 11%, respectively, of our consolidated net revenues were derived from markets outside semiconductor test. These revenues were all generated by our Thermal Products segment. We cannot determine at this time whether we will continue to be successful in building our sales in these non-traditional markets or what the growth rate of our sales in these markets will be in future periods.

Controlling costs. At the same time as we are pursuing growth opportunities, we will seek ways to more aggressively streamline our cost structure, so that we are positioned to offer products at prices that provide the margin for a reasonable profit as well as the resources for continual product development.

### **OUR SEGMENTS**

Our business is managed as three segments, which are also our reporting units: Mechanical Products, Thermal Products and Electrical Products.

During 2009, our Mechanical Products segment consisted of our manufacturing operation in Cherry Hill, New Jersey as well as our subsidiaries in Singapore (inTEST Pte) and Japan (inTEST KK). During the fourth quarter of 2009, we completed the closure of inTEST KK in Japan. Effective January 1, 2010, our Singapore operation (inTEST Pte), which no longer manufactures mechanical products, became part of our Thermal Products segment, which historically sold its thermal products through this operation while it was also a manufacturing operation for the Mechanical Products segment.

During 2009, our Thermal Products segment consisted of our subsidiaries in Sharon, Massachusetts (Temptronic Corporation and Sigma Systems Corp) and Germany (Temptronic GmbH). We consolidated the operations of Sigma from its El Cajon, CA facility into Temptronic's Sharon, MA facility in December 2009. As noted in the prior paragraph, effective January 1, 2010, our Singapore operation (inTEST Pte) became part of the Thermal Products segment.

Our Electrical Product segment consists of our subsidiary in San Jose, California (inTEST Silicon Valley Corporation).

Semiconductor manufacturers use our mechanical products during testing of wafers and specialized packaged ICs. They use our thermal and electrical products in both front-end and back-end testing of ICs. These ICs include microprocessors, digital signal processing chips, mixed signal devices, MEMS (Micro-Electro-Mechanical Systems), application specific ICs and specialized memory ICs, and are used primarily in the automotive, aerospace, computer, consumer products and telecommunications industries. We custom design most of our products for each customer's particular combination of ATE.

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# inTEST CORPORATION FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Item 1.

**BUSINESS** (Continued)

# Mechanical Products

Manipulator Products. We offer four lines of manipulator products: the in2(R), the M Series, the Aero Series and the Cobal Series. These free-standing universal manipulators can hold a variety of test heads and enable an operator to reposition a test head for alternate use with any one of several probers or handlers on a test floor. Certain members of the Aero family are also available as a lower-cost solution for dedicated prober-only or handler-only test cell applications.

The in2(R) and Cobal Series of manipulator products incorporate our balanced floating-head design. This design permits a test head weighing up to 3,000 pounds to be held in an effectively weightless state, so it can be moved manually or with optional powered assistance, up or down, right or left, forward or backward and rotated around each axis (known as six degrees of motion freedom) by an operator using a modest amount of force. The same design features enable the operator to dock the test head without causing inadvertent damage to the fragile electrical contacts. As a result, after testing a particular production lot of ICs, the operator can quickly and easily disconnect a test head that is held in an in2(R) manipulator and equipped with our docking hardware and dock it to another electronic device handler for testing either a subsequent lot of the same packaged ICs or to test different ICs. The in2(R) and Cobal Series manipulators range in price from approximately \$12,000 to \$80,000.

The M Series line of manipulator products consists of the M400 and M500 manipulators. These compact universal manipulators are designed to handle test heads weighing less than 550 pounds. The up and down movement is counter-balanced by an air-pressure-based floating state technology. The M Series manipulators range in price from approximately \$12,000 to \$30,000.

The Aero Series of manipulator products consists of the Aero 450H and Aero 150P manipulators. These manipulators are designed to handle test heads weighing less than 1,500 pounds. The up and down movement is supported by an air-pressure-based floating state technology. The Aero Series manipulators range in price from \$10,000 to \$30,000.

Docking Hardware Products. Our docking hardware products protect the delicate interface contacts and ensure proper repeatable and precise alignment between the test head's interface board and the prober's probing assembly or the handler's test socket as they are brought together, or "docked." A simple cam action docks and locks the test head to the prober or handler, thus eliminating motion of the test head relative to the prober or handler. This minimizes deterioration of the interface boards, test sockets and probing assemblies which is caused by constant vibration during testing. Our docking hardware products are used primarily with floating-head universal manipulators when maximum mobility and inter-changeability of handlers and probers between test heads is required. By using our docking hardware products, semiconductor manufacturers can achieve cost savings through improved ATE utilization, improved accuracy and integrity of test results, and reduced repairs and replacements of expensive ATE interface products.

We believe our docking hardware products offer our customers the ability to make various competing brands of test heads compatible with various brands of probers and handlers by only changing interface boards. This is called "plug-compatibility." Plug-compatibility enables increased flexibility and utilization of test heads, probers and handlers purchased from various manufacturers. We believe that because we do not compete with ATE manufacturers in the sale of probers, handlers or testers, ATE manufacturers are willing to provide us with the information that is integral to the design of plug-compatible products. Our docking hardware products range in price from approximately \$2,000 to \$25,000.

### Thermal Products

Our thermal products are sold into the environmental test market encompassing a wide variety of industries including aerospace, automotive, communications, consumer electronics, defense, medical and semiconductor industries. Our thermal products enable a manufacturer to test semiconductor wafers and ICs, electronic components and assemblies, mechanical assemblies and electromechanical assemblies. These products provide the ability to characterize and stress test a variety of materials over extreme and variable temperature conditions that can occur in actual use.

ThermoChuck(R) Products: Our ThermoChuck(R) precision vacuum platform assemblies, used primarily in the semiconductor industry, quickly change and stabilize the temperature of semiconductor wafers accurately and uniformly during testing without removing the wafer from its testing environment. Such temperatures can range from as low as -65 degrees Celsius to as high as +400 degrees Celsius. ThermoChucks(R) are incorporated into wafer prober equipment for laboratory analysis and for in-line production testing of semiconductor wafers. ThermoChuck(R) products range in price from approximately \$16,000 to \$90,000.

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# inTEST CORPORATION FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Item 1.

**BUSINESS** (Continued)

ThermoStream(R) Products

 $: Our\ ThermoStream(R)\ products\ are\ used\ in\ the\ semiconductor\ industry\ as\ a\ stand-alone\ temperature\ management\ tool,\ or\ in\ a\ variety\ of\ electronic\ test\ applications\ as\ part\ of\ our\ MobileTemp(TM)\ systems.\ ThermoStream(R)\ products\ provide\ a\ source\ of\ heated\ and\ cooled\ air\ products\ provide\ a\ source\ of\ heated\ and\ cooled\ air\ products\ provide\ a\ source\ of\ heated\ and\ cooled\ air\ products\ provide\ a\ products\ provide\ a\ products\ provide\ a\ products\ provide\ products\ products\ products\ products\ products\ provide\ products\ produ$ 

which can be directed over the component or device under test. These systems are capable of controlling temperatures to within +/- 0.1 degree Celsius over a range of -90 degrees Celsius to as high as +225 degrees Celsius within 1.0 degree Celsius of accuracy. As a stand-alone tool, ThermoStreams(R) provide a temperature-controlled air stream to rapidly change and stabilize the temperature of packaged ICs and other devices.

Our MobileTemp(TM) Series combines our ThermoStream(R) products with our family of exclusive, high-speed ThermoChambers(TM) to offer thermal test systems with fast, uniform temperature control in a compact package enabling temperature testing at the test location. MobileTemp(TM) Systems are designed specifically for small thermal-mass applications beyond the semiconductor market and have found application in the automotive, electronic, fiber optic, medical and oil field service industries testing such things as electronic sub-assemblies, sensor assemblies, and printed circuit boards.

Traditionally, our customers used ThermoStream(R) products primarily in engineering, quality assurance and small-run manufacturing environments. However, increasingly, our customers use ThermoStream(R) products in longer-run production applications. ThermoStream(R) and MobileTemp(TM) products range in price from approximately \$6,000 to \$50,000.

Our acquisition of Sigma has significantly broadened our product line and provided access to a wide array of market applications. Sigma products are used to test or condition products in almost every market, including food, pharmaceutical, medical, electronic test, and material test, to name a few.

Thermal Chambers: Our chamber products are available in a variety of sizes, from small bench-top units to chambers with internal volumes of twenty-seven cubic feet and greater and with temperature ranges as wide as of -190 degrees Celsius to +500 degrees Celsius. Chambers can be designed to utilize liquid nitrogen or liquid carbon dioxide cooling or mechanical refrigeration, and sometimes both. These chambers can accommodate large thermal masses and are found in both laboratory and production environments. Chambers are priced from \$10,000 to \$60,000.

Thermal Platforms: Our platforms are available in surface sizes ranging from 7.2 square inches to 396 square inches. They provide a flat, thermally conductive, precisely temperature controllable surface that is ideal for conditioning and testing devices with a flat surface. Platforms are available with temperature ranges as broad as -185 degrees Celsius to +250 degrees Celsius. Thermal platforms can be designed to utilize either liquid nitrogen or liquid carbon dioxide cooling or mechanical refrigeration. Platforms offer virtually unimpeded access to the device under test and their easy access and compact size makes them ideal for convenient bench-top use. Platforms are priced from \$6,500 to \$65,000.

### Electrical Products

Our electrical products, which include various types of tester interfaces, provide the electrical connections between the tester and the wafer prober or IC handler to carry the electrical signals between the tester and the probe card on the prober or the test socket on the handler. Our designs optimize the integrity of the transmitted signal which increases the accuracy of the test data. Therefore, our tester interfaces can be used with high speed, high frequency, digital or mixed signal testers used in testing more complex ICs. Because our tester interface products enable the tester to provide more reliable yield data, our interfaces may also reduce IC production costs. We design standard and modular interface products to address most possible tester/prober combinations on the market today. In addition, we provide a custom design service that will allow any of our customers to use virtually any tester, prober or handler combination with any type of device, such as analog, digital, mixed signal and radio frequency. For example, our Centaur(R) modular interface is designed to provide flexibility and scalability through the use of replaceable signal modules which can be easily changed on the test floor as our customers' testing requirements change. In addition to the Centaur(R) modular interface, we also offer over 200 different types of tester interface models that we custom designed for our customers' specific applications. These products range in price from approximately \$5,000 to \$60,000.

### Financial Information About Product Segments and Geographic Areas

Please see Note 17 of our consolidated financial statements included in Item 8 of this Report on Form 10-K for additional data regarding net revenues, profit or loss and total assets of each of our segments and revenues attributable to foreign countries.

### MARKETING, SALES AND CUSTOMER SUPPORT

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inTEST CORPORATION FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Item 1.

#### **BUSINESS** (Continued)

We market and sell our products primarily in markets where semiconductors are manufactured. North American and European semiconductor manufacturers have located most of their back-end factories in Southeast Asia. The front-end wafer fabrication plants of U.S. semiconductor manufacturers are primarily in the U.S. Likewise, European, Taiwanese, South Korean and Japanese semiconductor manufacturers generally have located their wafer fabrication plants in their respective countries.

Mechanical and Electrical Products: In North America, we sell to semiconductor manufacturers principally through the use of independent, commissioned sales representatives. North American sales representatives also coordinate product installation and support with our technical staff and participate in trade shows.

Our internal sales staff handles sales to ATE manufacturers and is responsible for a portfolio of customer accounts and for managing certain independent sales representatives. In addition, our account managers are responsible for pricing, quotations, proposals and transaction negotiations, and they assist with applications engineering and custom product design. Technical support is provided to North American customers and independent sales representatives by employees based in New Jersey, California and Texas.

In Europe we sell to semiconductor and ATE manufacturers through our internal sales staff and through the use of independent sales representatives. In China, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan and Thailand, we sell through the use of independent sales representatives who are supervised by our internal sales staff. International sales representatives are responsible for sales, installation, support and trade show participation in their geographic market areas. Technical support is provided to Asian customers primarily by employees based in Malaysia, the Philippines and Taiwan.

Thermal Products: We market our thermal products under the inTEST Thermal Solutions name and sales to ATE manufacturers are handled directly by our own sales force. Sales to semiconductor manufacturers and customers in other industries in the U.S. are handled through independent sales representative organizations. In Singapore and Malaysia, our sales and service are handled through our internal sales and service staff. In the rest of Asia, our sales are handled through distributors. In Europe, sales managers at our office in Germany, as well as regional distributors and independent sales representatives, sell to semiconductor manufacturers and customers in other industries. We visit our distributors regularly and have trained them to sell and service all of our thermal products.

# **CUSTOMERS**

We market all of our products to end users, which include semiconductor manufacturers and third-party foundries, test and assembly houses as well as original equipment manufacturers ("OEMs"), which include ATE manufacturers and their third-party outsource manufacturing partners. In the case of thermal products, we also market our products to independent testers of semiconductors, manufacturers of electronic, automotive and aeronautical products, and semiconductor research facilities. Our customers use our products principally in production testing, although our ThermoStream(R) products traditionally have been used largely in engineering development and quality assurance. We believe that we sell to most of the major semiconductor manufacturers in the world.

Texas Instruments Incorporated accounted for 14% of our consolidated net revenues in both 2010 and 2009, respectively. Teradyne, Inc. accounted for 11% of our consolidated net revenues in 2010. While all three of our operating segments sold to these customers, these revenues were primarily generated by our Mechanical Products and Electrical Products segments. Our ten largest customers accounted for approximately 49% and 42% of our net revenues in 2010 and 2009, respectively. The loss of any one or more of our largest customers, or a reduction in orders by a major customer, could materially reduce our net revenues or otherwise materially

affect our business, financial condition, or results of operations.

Our largest customers include:

**ATE Manufacturers** 

Semiconductor Manufacturers

Teradyne, Inc.

Analog Devices, Inc.

ASE, Inc.

**Other** 

Cypress Semiconductor Corporation

Emerson Electric Co.

Freescale Semiconductor, Inc.

Hakuto Co. Ltd.

ST Microelectronics, Inc

JDS Uniphase Corporation

Texas Instruments Incorporated.

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# inTEST CORPORATION FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Item 1.

**BUSINESS** (Continued)

#### MANUFACTURING AND SUPPLY

As of December 31, 2010, our principal manufacturing operations consisted of assembly and testing at our facilities in New Jersey, Massachusetts and California. We had manufacturing operations in Singapore at our inTEST Pte operation through the end of the second quarter of 2009. In April 2009, we approved the suspension of manufacturing operations at our Singapore operation, which had manufactured products for our Mechanical Products segment. All Mechanical Products segment manufacturing is now centralized in our Cherry Hill, New Jersey facility. In January 2011, we relocated our Mechanical Products segment manufacturing operations and our corporate offices to a new, smaller facility in Mt. Laurel, New Jersey.

In December 2009, we consolidated the operations of Sigma from its facility in El Cajon, California to Temptronic's facility in Sharon, Massachusetts. In February 2011, we relocated Temptronic's facility to a new, smaller facility in Mansfield, Massachusetts.

The consolidation and relocations of manufacturing operations were done to reduce our fixed operating costs and streamline operations as more fully discussed in Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" below.

We assemble most of our products from a combination of standard components and custom parts that have been fabricated to our specifications by either third-party manufacturers or our own fabrication operation in New Jersey. Our practice is to use the highest quality raw materials and components in our products. The primary raw materials used in fabricated parts are all widely available. We purchase substantially all of our components from multiple suppliers. Although we purchase certain raw materials and components from single suppliers, we believe that all materials and components are available in adequate amounts from other sources.

We conduct inspections of incoming raw materials, fabricated parts and components using sophisticated measurement equipment. This includes testing with coordinate measuring machines in all but one of our manufacturing facilities to ensure that products with critical dimensions meet our specifications. We have designed our inspection standards to comply with applicable MIL specifications and ANSI standards.

In 2001, we obtained ISO 9001:1994 certification at our New Jersey facility. During 2003, we made the determination to upgrade to ISO 9001:2000 at our New Jersey facility, which was completed in 2007. In May 2003, our San Jose, California facility obtained ISO 9001:2000 certification. Neither our New Jersey nor our San Jose, California facility have completed their 2009 ISO audits due to the loss of most of our internal ISO auditors in our reductions in force. As a result, we are no longer ISO 9001 certified, although we continue to employ all the practices embodied in this standard. Our Massachusetts facility completed ISO 9001:2000 certification in November 2004 and upgraded to ISO 9001:2008 in November 2009.

#### ENGINEERING AND PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

Our success depends on our ability to provide our customers with products and solutions that are well engineered, and to design those products and solutions before, or at least no later than, our competitors. As of December 31, 2010, we employed a total of 26 engineers, who were engaged full time in engineering and product development. In addition, when the demands of engineering and product development projects exceed the capacity or knowledge of our in-house staff, we retain temporary third-party engineering and product development consultants to assist us. Our practice in many cases is to assign engineers to work with specific customers, thereby enabling us to develop the relationships and exchange of information that is most conducive to successful product development and enhancement. In addition, some of our engineers are assigned to new product research and development and have worked on such projects as the development of new types of universal manipulators, the redesign and development of new thermal products and the development of high performance interfaces.

Since most of our products are customized, we consider substantially all of our engineering activities to be engineering and product development. We spent approximately \$3.0 million in 2010 and \$2.4 million in 2009 on engineering and product development, respectively.

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# inTEST CORPORATION FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Item 1.

BUSINESS (Continued)

#### PATENTS AND OTHER PROPRIETARY RIGHTS

Our policy is to protect our technology by filing patent applications for the technologies that we consider important to our business. We also rely on trade secrets, copyrights and unpatentable know-how to protect our proprietary rights. It is our practice to require that all of our employees and third-party product development consultants assign to us all rights to inventions or other discoveries relating to our business that were made while working for us. In addition, all employees and third-party product development consultants agree not to disclose any private or confidential information relating to our technology, trade secrets or intellectual property.

As of December 31, 2010, we held 53 active U.S. patents and had 16 pending U.S. patent applications covering various aspects of our technology. Our U.S. patents expire at various times beginning in 2011 and extending through 2027. During 2010, we had six U.S. patents expire and three U.S. patents were issued. We also hold foreign patents and file foreign patent applications, in selected cases corresponding to our U.S. patents and patent applications, to the extent management deems appropriate.

While we believe that our patents and other proprietary rights are important to our business, we also believe that, due to the rapid pace of technological change in the semiconductor equipment industry, the successful manufacture and sale of our products also depends upon our engineering, manufacturing, marketing and servicing skills. In the absence of patent protection, we would be vulnerable to competitors who attempt to copy or imitate our products or processes. We believe our intellectual property has value, and we have taken in the past, and will take in the future, actions we deem appropriate to protect such property from misappropriation. There can be no assurance, however, that such actions

will provide meaningful protection from competition. For additional information regarding risks related to our intellectual property, see "Risk Factors."

#### **COMPETITION**

We operate in an increasingly competitive environment within each of our product segments. Some of our competitors have greater financial resources and more extensive design and production capabilities than we do. Certain markets in which we operate have recently become more fragmented, with smaller companies entering the market. These new smaller entrants typically have much lower levels of fixed operating overhead than we do, which enables them to be profitable with lower priced products. In order to remain competitive with these and other companies, we must be able to continue to commit a significant portion of our personnel, financial resources, research and development and customer support to developing new products and maintaining customer relationships worldwide.

Our competitors include independent manufacturers, ATE manufacturers and, to a lesser extent, semiconductor manufacturers' in-house ATE interface groups. Competitive factors in our market include price, functionality, timely product delivery, customer service, applications support, product performance and reliability. We believe that our long-term relationships with the industry's leading semiconductor manufacturers and other customers, and our commitment to, and reputation for, providing high quality products, are important elements in our ability to compete effectively in all of our markets.

Our principal competitors for manipulator products are Esmo AG, Reid-Ashman Manufacturing and Advantest Corporation. Our principal competitors for docking hardware products include Esmo AG, Knight Automation and Reid-Ashman Manufacturing. We also compete with the ATE manufacturer Teradyne (who is also our customer) on the sale of docking hardware and manipulators.

Our principal competitors for Thermostream products are Thermonics and FTS Systems. Our principal competitors for Thermochuck products include ERS Electronik GmbH, Advances Temperature Systems GmbH and Espec Corp. Our principal competitors for environmental chambers are Thermotron Industries, Cincinnati Sub-Zero Products, Inc. and Espec Corp. Our principal competitor for thermal platforms is Environmental Stress Systems Inc.

Our principal competitors for tester interface products are Reid-Ashman Manufacturing, Esmo AG and Integrated Test Corporation.

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# inTEST CORPORATION FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Item 1.

**BUSINESS** (Continued)

# **BACKLOG**

At December 31, 2010, our backlog of unfilled orders for all products was approximately \$6.1 million compared with approximately \$4.6 million at December 31, 2009. Our backlog includes customer orders which we have accepted, substantially all of which we expect to deliver in 2011. While backlog is calculated on the basis of firm purchase orders, a customer may cancel an order or accelerate or postpone currently scheduled delivery dates. Our backlog may be affected by the tendency of customers to rely on shorter lead times available from suppliers, including us, in periods of depressed demand. In periods of increased demand, there is a tendency towards longer lead times that has the effect of increasing backlog. As a result of these factors, our backlog at a particular date is not necessarily indicative of sales for any future period.

### **EMPLOYEES**

At December 31, 2010, we had 128 full time employees, including 59 in manufacturing operations, 45 in customer support/operations and 24 in

administration. Substantially all of our key employees are highly skilled and trained technical personnel. None of our employees are represented by a labor union, and we have never experienced a work stoppage. From time to time we retain third-party contractors to assist us in manufacturing operations and engineering and product development projects.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Our Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to these reports that are filed with the SEC pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, are available free of charge through our website (www.intest.com) as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file them with, or furnish them to, the SEC.

### Item 1A. RISK FACTORS

The following are some of the factors that could materially and adversely affect our future performance or could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in our forward-looking statements. The risks and uncertainties described below are not the only ones facing us and we cannot predict every event and circumstance that may adversely affect our business. However, these risks and uncertainties are the most significant factors that we have identified at this time. If one or more of these risks actually occurs, our business, results of operations, and/or financial condition would likely suffer, and the price of our stock could be negatively affected.

# Our sales are affected by the cyclicality of the semiconductor industry, which causes our operating results to fluctuate significantly.

Our business depends in significant part upon the capital expenditures of semiconductor manufacturers. Capital expenditures by these companies depend upon, among other things, the current and anticipated market demand for semiconductors and the products that utilize them. Typically, semiconductor manufacturers curtail capital expenditures during periods of economic downtown. Conversely, semiconductor manufacturers increase capital expenditures when market demand requires the addition of new or expanded production capabilities or the reconfiguration of existing fabrication facilities to accommodate new products. These market changes have contributed in the past, and will likely continue to contribute in the future, to fluctuations in our operating results.

# Global economic conditions have had an impact on our business and may continue to do so.

Demand for our products and our operating results depend on worldwide economic conditions and their impact on levels of business and consumer spending. Such conditions deteriorated significantly in many countries and regions in late 2008 and throughout 2009. While economic conditions began to improve during late 2009 in many countries and regions, they still remain below historical levels and may remain depressed for the foreseeable future. More recently, political instability in the Middle East and North Africa has negatively impacted global financial markets. In the past, these uncertainties have caused our customers to cancel or postpone deliveries of ordered systems and not to place new orders. Continued global economic uncertainties could depress future sales of our products and services.

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# inTEST CORPORATION FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Item 1A. RISK FACTORS

(Continued)

New statutory and regulatory requirements, tax increases and changes in government spending could adversely affect our operating results.

The federal government has launched an aggressive statutory and regulatory agenda with the goal of enacting social and economic reforms. This agenda includes health care reform legislation and financial system regulatory reform, as well as proposed climate change and other environmental legislation and regulations. In addition, many state and local governments are faced with budget crises that are causing these bodies to consider enacting significant tax increases, reducing or eliminating the use of net operating loss carryforwards or making significant budget cuts. Our sales and results of operations may be adversely affected by these new legal requirements and government actions.

It is uncertain how the applicable government agencies will enact the regulations necessary to carry out the statutory requirements. Accordingly, we cannot determine the costs and other effects of new legal requirements with certainty. For example, new legislation or regulations may cause us to experience increased costs as a direct result of our compliance efforts. At this point, we are unable to determine the impact that newly enacted federal healthcare legislation could have on our employer-sponsored medical plans. We may also indirectly experience increased costs to the extent such legal requirements increase the prices of goods and services that we purchase as a result of increased compliance costs to the vendors who provide these costs and services to us or the reduced availability of raw materials that we need to purchase. In addition, we cannot determine the impact that new legal requirements, tax increases or state and local government spending cuts will have on the business operations of our customers, where significant increases in operating costs due to the costs to comply with new legal requirements or tax increases may reduce their future product development and capital spending budgets, both of which may adversely impact our future revenues and profitability.

### Our operating results often change significantly from quarter to quarter and may cause fluctuations in our stock price.

During the last several years, our operating results have fluctuated significantly from quarter to quarter. We believe that these fluctuations occur primarily due to the cycles of demand in the semiconductor manufacturing industry. In addition to the changing cycles of demand in the semiconductor manufacturing industry, other factors that have caused our quarterly operating results to fluctuate in the past, and that may cause fluctuations and losses in the future, include:

- ♦ the current worldwide economic slowdown;
- ♦ changes in the buying patterns of our customers;
- changes in our market share;
- ♦ the technological obsolescence of our inventories;
- quantities of our inventories greater than is reasonably likely to be utilized in future periods;
- ♦ significant product warranty charges;
- ♦ the recording of valuation allowances against deferred tax assets;
- ♦ competitive pricing pressures;
- the impairment of our assets due to reduced future demand for our products;
- ♦ excess manufacturing capacity;
- our ability to control operating costs;
- ${\color{blue} \bullet}$  costs associated with implementing our restructuring initiatives;
- ♦ delays in shipments of our products;
- ♦ the mix of our products sold;
- ♦ the mix of customers and geographic regions where we sell our products;
- changes in the level of our fixed costs;
- costs associated with the development of our proprietary technology;
- costs and timing of integration of our acquisitions and plant consolidations and relocations;
- our ability to obtain raw materials or fabricated parts when needed;
- increases in costs of raw materials;
- cancellation or rescheduling of orders by our customers;

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# inTEST CORPORATION FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

### Item 1A. RISK FACTORS (Continued)

- changes in government regulations; and
- political or economic instability.

Because the market price of our common stock has tended to vary based on, and in relation to, changes in our operating results, fluctuations in the market price of our stock are likely to continue as variations in our quarterly results continue.

# We have experienced varying levels of product warranty costs and cannot predict the level of such costs that we may incur in future periods.

We accrue product warranty charges quarterly, based upon our historical claims experience. In addition, from time to time, we accrue additional amounts based upon known product warranty issues, such as product retrofits. For the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, our product warranty charges were \$187,000 and \$63,000, or 0.4% and 0.3% of net revenues, respectively. The level of our product warranty charges both in absolute dollars and as a percentage of net revenues is affected by a number of factors including the cyclicality of demand in the ATE industry, the prototype nature of much of our business, the complex nature of many of our products, the introduction of new product "families" which typically have higher levels of warranty claims than existing product families and, at our discretion, providing warranty repairs or replacements to customers after the contractual warranty period has expired in order to promote strong customer relations. If our products have reliability, quality or other problems, or the market perceives our products to be deficient, we may suffer reduced orders, higher manufacturing costs, delays in collecting accounts receivable and higher service, support and warranty expenses.

# Our business is subject to intense competition.

We face significant competition throughout the world in each of our product segments. Some of our competitors have substantial financial resources and more extensive design and production capabilities than we do. In order to remain competitive, we must be able to continually commit a significant portion of our personnel and financial resources to developing new products and maintaining customer satisfaction worldwide. We expect our competitors to continue to improve the performance of their current products and introduce new products or technologies. Over the last several years, in response to significant declines in global demand for our products, some competitors have reduced their product pricing significantly, which has led to intensified price based competition, which could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

# We generate a large portion of our sales from a small number of customers. If we were to lose one or more of our large customers, operating results could suffer dramatically.

Texas Instruments Inc. accounted for 14% of our consolidated net revenues in both 2010 and 2009, respectively, and Teradyne, Inc. accounted for 11% of our consolidated net revenues in 2010. While all three of our operating segments sold to these customers, these revenues were primarily generated by our Mechanical Products and Electrical Products segments. Our ten largest customers accounted for approximately 49% and 42% of our net revenues in 2010 and 2009, respectively. The loss of any one or more of our largest customers, or a reduction in orders by a major customer, could materially reduce our net revenues or otherwise materially affect our business, financial condition or results of operations.

# Changes in the buying patterns of our customers have affected, and may continue to affect, demand for our products and our gross and net operating margins. Such changes in patterns are difficult to predict and may not be immediately apparent.

In addition to the cyclicality of the semiconductor market, demand for our products and our gross and net operating margins have also been affected by changes in the buying patterns of our customers. We believe that in recent years there have been a variety of changes within the ATE market, including, for example, changing product requirements, longer time periods between new product offerings by OEMs and changes in customer

buying patterns. In particular, demand for our mechanical and electrical products, which are sold exclusively within the ATE industry, and our operating margins in these product segments have been affected by shifts in the competitive landscape, including (i) customers placing heightened emphasis on shorter lead times (which places increased demands on our available engineering and production capacity increasing unit costs) and ordering in smaller quantities (which prevents us from acquiring component materials in larger volumes at lower cost and

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# inTEST CORPORATION FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Item 1A. RISK FACTORS

(Continued)

increasing unit costs), (ii) the increasing practice of OEM manufacturers to specify other suppliers as primary vendors, with less frequent opportunities to compete for such designations, (iii) customers requiring products with a greater range of use at the lowest cost, and (iv) customer supply line management groups demanding lower prices and spreading purchases across multiple vendors. These shifts in market practices have had, and may continue to have, varying degrees of impact on our net revenues and our gross and net operating margins. Such shifts are difficult to predict and may not be immediately apparent, and the impact of these practices is difficult to quantify from period to period. There can be no assurance that we will be successful in implementing effective strategies to counter these shifts.

Our customers' purchasing patterns can vary significantly from month to month and cannot be easily predicted, thus resulting in fluctuations in our backlog and quarterly results.

Our backlog at December 31, 2010 was \$6.1 million compared to \$4.6 million at December 31, 2009. Our backlog at the beginning of a quarter typically does not include all orders necessary to achieve our sales objectives for that quarter. Orders in our backlog are subject to cancellation, delay or rescheduling by our customers with limited or no penalties or ability to collect bill back amounts. Throughout recent years, we have experienced customer-requested shipment delays and order cancellations, and we believe it is probable that orders will be cancelled and/or delayed in the future. In addition, during a downturn, some of our customers may rely on short lead times generally available from suppliers, including us, whereas in periods of stronger demand, and longer lead times, customers need to book orders earlier.

We have experienced problems with several customers in collecting outstanding accounts receivable due to cash flow difficulties related to the global economic recession.

Historically, the majority of our customers have paid their outstanding accounts receivable due to us within 30 to 60 days of the shipment date. During 2009 and the first half of 2010, as a result of the global economic recession, we have seen many of our customers delay the payment of their outstanding amounts due to us. In addition, we had two customers enter bankruptcy, which caused us to either fully write off or partially write off the outstanding amounts they owed us. Recently, business conditions have improved and, as a result, we have seen our customers return to more historically normal payment patterns. However, should economic or business conditions deteriorate again, we may have additional customers seek relief under bankruptcy that would delay the collection of other outstanding accounts receivable or cause additional write offs of accounts receivable as bad debt. As a result, we may need to begin to factor our accounts receivable or obtain secured lines of credit at interest rates much higher than we have historically been offered for such lines of credit in

order to maintain reasonable levels of cash to operate our business.

If we do not continue to retain the services of key personnel, relationships with, and sales to, some of our customers could suffer, which could have a negative effect on our business.

The loss of key personnel could adversely affect our ability to manage our business effectively. Our future success will depend largely upon the continued services of our senior management and other key employees. During 2009, in response to the significant operating losses we have sustained and in an effort to conserve cash, we implemented workforce reductions, temporary salary reductions and furloughs, reduced or eliminated certain employee benefits and closed facilities. These actions had a negative impact on overall employee morale. In response to improved business conditions, in late 2009, we eliminated all furloughs for employees in our operations and restored salaries for employees and board retainers for directors on January 1, 2010 and restored the 401(k) Plan discretionary matching contribution for all domestic employees on April 1, 2010. In addition, due to improvements in our profitability, we were able to provide salary increases to our employees in 2010 for the first time in several years. As global economic conditions improve and employment opportunities increase, if we are unable to increase employee salaries and maintain employee benefits which have been previously reduced or eliminated, we may not be able to retain our senior management and other key employees. Our business could suffer if we are unable to retain one of more of our senior officers or other key employees.

Our industry is subject to rapid technological change, and our business prospects would be negatively affected if we are unable to quickly and effectively respond to innovation in the semiconductor industry.

Semiconductor technology continues to become more complex as manufacturers incorporate ICs into an increasing variety of products. This trend, and the changes needed in automatic testing systems to respond to developments in the semiconductor industry, are likely to continue. We cannot be certain that we will be successful or timely in developing, manufacturing or

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# inTEST CORPORATION FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Item 1A. RISK FACTORS

(Continued)

selling products that will satisfy customer needs or that will attain market acceptance. Our failure to provide products that effectively and timely meet customer needs or gain market acceptance will negatively affect our business prospects.

If we are not able to obtain patents on or otherwise preserve and protect our proprietary technologies, our business may suffer.

We have obtained domestic and foreign patents covering some of our products which expire between the years 2011 and 2027, and we have applications pending for additional patents. Some of our products utilize proprietary technology that is not covered by a patent or similar protection, and, in many cases, cannot be protected. We cannot be certain that:

- any additional patents will be issued on our applications;
- any patents we own now or in the future will protect our business against competitors that develop similar technology or products;
- our patents will be held valid if they are challenged or subjected to reexamination or reissue;
- others will not claim rights to our patented or other proprietary technologies; or
- others will not develop technologies which are similar to, or can compete with, our unpatented proprietary technologies.

If we cannot obtain patent or other protection for our proprietary technologies, our ability to compete in our markets could be impaired.

### Claims of intellectual property infringement by or against us could seriously harm our businesses.

From time to time, we may be forced to respond to or prosecute intellectual property infringement claims to defend or protect our rights or a customer's rights. These claims, regardless of merit, may consume valuable management time, result in costly litigation or cause product shipment delays. Any of these factors could seriously harm our business and operating results. We may have to enter into royalty or licensing agreements with third parties who claim infringement. These royalty or licensing agreements, if available, may be costly to us. If we are unable to enter into royalty or licensing agreements with satisfactory terms, our business could suffer. In instances where we have had reason to believe that we may be infringing the patent rights of others, or that someone may be infringing our patent rights, we have asked our patent counsel to evaluate the validity of the patents in question, as well as the potentially infringing conduct. If we become involved in a dispute, neither the third parties nor the courts are bound by our counsel's conclusions.

# We seek to acquire additional businesses. If we are unable to do so, our future rate of growth may be reduced or limited.

A key element of our growth strategy is to acquire businesses, technologies or products that expand and complement our current businesses. We may not be able to execute our acquisition strategy if:

- we are unable to identify suitable businesses or technologies to acquire;
- we do not have the cash or access to required capital at the necessary time; or
- we are unwilling or unable to outbid larger, more resourceful companies.

Our acquisition strategy involves financial and management risks which may adversely affect our results in the future.

If we acquire additional businesses, technologies or products, we will face the following additional risks:

- future acquisitions could divert management's attention from daily operations or otherwise require additional management, operational and financial resources;
- we might not be able to integrate future acquisitions into our business successfully or operate acquired businesses profitably;

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# inTEST CORPORATION FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Item 1A. RISK FACTORS

(Continued)

- we may realize substantial acquisition related expenses which would reduce our net earnings in future years; and
- our investigation of potential acquisition candidates may not reveal problems and liabilities of the companies that we acquire.

If any of the events described above occur, our earnings could be reduced. If we issue shares of our stock or other rights to purchase our stock in connection with any future acquisitions, we would dilute our existing stockholders' interests and our earnings per share may decrease. If we issue debt in connection with any future acquisitions, lenders may impose covenants on us which could, among other things, restrict our ability to increase capital expenditures or to acquire additional businesses.

# A substantial portion of our customers are located outside the U.S., which exposes us to foreign political and economic risks.

We have operated internationally for many years and expect to expand our international operations as necessary to continue expansion of our sales and service to our non-U.S. customers. Our foreign subsidiaries generated 10% and 14% of consolidated net revenues in 2010 and 2009, respectively. Export sales from our U.S. manufacturing facilities totaled \$27.3 million, or 59% of consolidated net revenues, in 2010 and \$11.7 million, or 50% of consolidated net revenues, in 2009. We expect our international revenues will continue to represent a significant portion of total net revenues. However, in addition to the risks generally associated with sales and operations in the U.S., sales to customers outside the U.S. and operations in foreign countries are subject to additional risks, which may, in the future, affect our operations. These risks include:

- political and economic instability in foreign countries;
- the imposition of financial and operational controls and regulatory restrictions by foreign governments;
- the need to comply with a wide variety of U.S. and foreign import and export laws;
- ♦ trade restrictions:
- changes in tariffs and taxes;
- ♦ longer payment cycles;
- ♦ fluctuations in currency exchange rates; and
- the greater difficulty of administering business abroad.

A significant portion of our cash position is maintained overseas.

While much of our cash is in the U.S., a significant portion is generated from and maintained by our foreign operations. Our financial condition and results of operations could be adversely impacted if we are unable to maintain a sufficient level of cash flow in the U.S. to address our cash requirements or we are unable to efficiently and timely repatriate cash from overseas. Any payment of distributions, loans or advances to us by our foreign subsidiaries could be subject to restrictions on, or taxation of, dividends or repatriation of earnings under applicable local law, monetary transfer restrictions and foreign currency exchange regulations in the jurisdictions in which our subsidiaries operate. If we are unable to repatriate the earnings of our subsidiaries it could have an adverse impact on our ability to redeploy earnings in other jurisdictions where they could be used more profitably.

# Changes in securities laws and regulations have increased, and may continue to increase, our costs of compliance with such laws and regulations.

Changes in securities laws and regulations have increased our legal compliance and financial reporting costs. Additional recent changes and future changes in securities regulations are expected to continue to affect our costs. We are continuing to evaluate and monitor regulatory developments and cannot estimate the timing or magnitude of additional costs we may incur as a result.

# The inability to maintain effective internal control over financial reporting may result in a loss of investor confidence in the accuracy and completeness of our financial reporting.

Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and the accompanying rules and regulations promulgated by the SEC to implement that law require us to include in our Annual Reports on Form 10-K a report by our management regarding the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting. During our assessment process, if our management identifies one

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# inTEST CORPORATION FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

### Item 1A. RISK FACTORS (Continued)

or more material weaknesses in our internal controls over financial reporting that cannot be remediated in a timely manner, we may be unable to assert that our internal control is effective. While our assessment (as reported in Item 9A of this Report) is that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2010, the effectiveness of our internal control in future periods cannot be assured, and the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting may deteriorate. If we are unable to assert that our internal control over financial reporting is effective as of any future date, we could lose investor confidence in the accuracy and completeness of our financial reports, which could have an adverse effect on our

stock price.

### Item 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

### **Item 2. PROPERTIES**

At December 31, 2010, we leased 6 facilities worldwide. The following chart provides information regarding each of our principal facilities that we occupied at December 31, 2010.

Location at	Lease Expiration	Approx. Square Footage	Principal Uses	New <u>Location</u>	New Lease Expiration	Approx. Square Footage
<u>December 31, 2010</u>						
Cherry Hill, NJ	9/10*	80,000	Corporate headquarters and Mechanical Products segment operations.	Mt. Laurel, NJ	4/21	54,897
Sharon, MA	2/11	62,400	Thermal Products segment operations.	Mansfield, MA	8/21	52,700
San Jose, CA	4/12	25,088	Electrical Products segment operations.	N/A	N/A	N/A

<sup>\*</sup> On month-to-month extension at December 31, 2010.

We relocated our corporate headquarters and our Mechanical Products segment's design, manufacturing, service and sales operations from our Cherry Hill, New Jersey facility to a 54,897 square foot facility located in Mt. Laurel, New Jersey in January 2011. This lease expires in April 2021. We relocated our Thermal

Products segment's design, manufacturing, service and sales operations from our Sharon, Massachusetts facility, to an approximately 52,700 square foot facility located in Mansfield, Massachusetts in February 2011. This lease expires in August 2021.

When the lease for our current facility in San Jose, CA expires in April 2012, we expect to relocate this operation to a smaller facility in the same general area. While we have just begun our search for a new facility for this operation, we believe that adequate space is readily available in this market at rates that are the same or less than the rate we currently pay. All of our facilities have space to accommodate our needs for the foreseeable future.

### Item 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

From time to time we may be a party to legal proceedings occurring in the ordinary course of business. We are not currently involved in any material legal proceedings.

### Item 4. [Removed and Reserved]

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# inTEST CORPORATION FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

### PART II

Item 5.

# MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Our common stock is traded on NASDAQ under the symbol "INTT." The following table sets forth the high and low sale prices of our common stock, as reported on the NASDAQ Capital Market, for the periods indicated. Sale prices have been rounded to the nearest full cent.

	Sales Price		
	<u>High</u>	Low	
2010	\$2.05	\$1.30	
First Quarter			
Second Quarter	4.65	1.52	
Third Quarter	4.34	2.38	
-	3.46	2.15	
Fourth Quarter			
<u>2009</u>			

First Quarter	.38	.11	
	.32	.11	
Second Quarter			
	.50	.16	
Third Quarter			
	2.26	.31	
Fourth Quarter			

On March 15, 2011, the closing price for our common stock as reported on the NASDAQ Capital Market was \$3.44. As of March 15, 2011, we had 10,344,226 shares outstanding that were held of record by approximately 750 beneficial and record holders.

We have not paid dividends on our common stock since our initial public offering in 1997, and we do not plan to pay cash dividends in the foreseeable future. Our current policy is to retain any future earnings for reinvestment in the operation and expansion of our business, including possible acquisitions of other businesses, technologies or products. Payment of any future dividends will be at the discretion of our Board of Directors. In addition, our current credit agreement prohibits us from paying cash dividends without the lender's prior consent.

Item 6.

### SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The following table contains certain selected consolidated financial data of inTEST and is qualified by the more detailed Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes thereto included elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K and should be read in conjunction with "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and the other financial information included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

	Years Ended December 31,				
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	2007	<u>2006</u>
	(in	thousands	s, except p	er share d	lata)
Condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations Data:					
	\$46,204	\$23,499	\$38,790	\$48,705	\$62,346
Net revenues					
	22,145	7,813	13,785	18,695	26,307
Gross margin					
	7,350	(5,046)	(9,440)	(6,853)	3,520
Operating income (loss)					
N	7,252	(4,843)	(9,133)	(6,739)	2,871
Net earnings (loss)					
Net earnings (loss) per common share:					
	\$0.72	\$(0.49)	\$(0.97)	\$(0.73)	\$0.32
Basic					
	\$0.72	\$(0.49)	\$(0.97)	\$(0.73)	\$0.31
Diluted					

Weighted average common shares outstanding:

Basic	10,019	9,975	9,465	9,215	9,047
Diluted	10,142	9,975	9,465	9,215	9,188

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# inTEST CORPORATION FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Item 6.

### **SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA** (Continued)

	As of December 31,				
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet Data:	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u> (in	2008 thousand	<u>2007</u> ds)	<u>2006</u>
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet Bata.	ф. c 00 <b>7</b>	<b>.</b>	A 5 105	<b>010 015</b>	Φ12.1 <b>7</b> .1
	\$ 6,895	\$ 2,647	\$ 7,137	\$12,215	\$13,174
Cash and cash equivalents					
	11,793	6,252	10,680	18,649	20,393
Working capital					
	21,408	15 144	20 492	27,723	35,759
Total assets	21,100	13,111	20,172	21,123	33,737
Total assets		1 1 4 4	1.500	0	1.6
Y	-	1,144	1,526	8	16
Long-term debt, net of current portion					
	16,104	8,594	13,467	21,507	26,822
Total stockholders' equity					

Item 7.

# MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

### Risk Factors and Forward-Looking Statements

In addition to historical information, this discussion and analysis contains statements relating to possible future events and results that are considered "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements can often be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "believes," "expects," "intends," "may," "will," "should" "or anticipates" or similar terminology. See Part I, Item 1 - "Business - Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" for examples of statements made in this Report which may be "forward-looking statements." These statements involve risks and uncertainties and are based on various assumptions. Although we believe that our expectations are based on reasonable assumptions, investors and prospective investors are cautioned that such statements are only projections, and there cannot be any assurance that these events or results will occur.

Information about the primary risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual future results to differ materially from our historic results or the results described in the forward-looking statements made in this report or presented elsewhere by Management from time to time are included in Part I, Item 1A - "Risk Factors."

### Overview

This MD&A should be read in conjunction with the accompanying consolidated financial statements.

Our business and results of operations are substantially dependent upon the demand for ATE by semiconductor manufacturers and companies that specialize in the testing of ICs. Demand for ATE is driven by semiconductor manufacturers that are opening new, or expanding existing, semiconductor fabrication facilities or upgrading existing equipment, which in turn is dependent upon the current and anticipated market demand for semiconductors and products incorporating semiconductors. In the past, the semiconductor industry has been highly cyclical with recurring periods of oversupply, which often have a severe impact on the semiconductor industry's demand for ATE, including the products we manufacture. This can cause wide fluctuations in both our orders and net revenues and, depending on our ability to react quickly to these shifts in demand, can significantly impact our results of operations. These industry cycles are difficult to predict and in recent years have become more volatile and, in certain cases, shorter in duration. Because the industry cycles are generally characterized by sequential periods of growth or declines in orders and net revenues during each cycle, year over year comparisons of operating results may not always be as meaningful as comparisons of periods at similar points in either up or down cycles. In addition, during both downward and upward cycles in our industry, in any given quarter, the trend in both our orders and net revenues can be erratic. This can occur, for example, when orders are canceled or currently scheduled delivery dates are accelerated or postponed by a significant customer or when customer forecasts and general business conditions fluctuate during a quarter.

We believe that purchases of most of our products are typically made from semiconductor manufacturers' capital expenditure budgets. Certain portions of our business, however, are generally less dependent upon the capital expenditure budgets of the end users. For example, purchases of certain related ATE interface products, such as sockets and interface boards, which must be replaced periodically, are typically made from the end users' operating budgets. In addition, purchases of certain of our products, such as docking hardware, for the purpose of upgrading or improving the utilization, performance and efficiency of existing ATE, tend to be counter cyclical to sales of new ATE. Moreover, we believe a portion of our sales of thermal products results from the increasing need for temperature testing of circuit boards and specialized components that do not have the design or quantity to be tested in an electronic device handler. In addition, we market our Thermostream temperature

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# inTEST CORPORATION FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Item 7.

# MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

management systems in industries outside semiconductor test, such as the automotive, aerospace, medical and telecommunications industries. We believe that these industries usually are less cyclical than the ATE industry.

While the majority of our orders and net revenues are derived from the ATE market, our operating results do not always follow the overall trend in the ATE market in any given period. We believe that these anomalies

may be driven by a variety of changes within the ATE market, including, for example, changing product requirements, longer time periods between new product offerings by OEMs and changes in customer buying patterns. In particular, demand for our mechanical and electrical products, which are sold exclusively within the ATE industry, and our operating margins in these product segments have been affected by shifts in the competitive landscape, including (i) customers placing heightened emphasis on shorter lead times (which places increased demands on our available engineering and production capacity increasing unit costs) and ordering in smaller quantities (which prevents us from acquiring component materials in larger volumes at lower cost and increasing unit costs), (ii) the increasing practice of OEM manufacturers to specify other suppliers as primary vendors, with less frequent opportunities to compete for such designations, (iii) the increased role of third-party test and assembly houses in the ATE market and their requirement of products with a greater range of use at the lowest cost, and (iv) customer supply line management groups demanding lower prices and spreading purchases across multiple vendors. These shifts in market practices have had, and may continue to have, varying levels of impact on our operating results, which are difficult to quantify or predict from period to period. Management has taken, and will continue to take, such actions it deems appropriate to adjust our strategies, products and operations to counter such shifts in market practices as they become evident.

### Net Revenues and Orders

The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, a breakdown of the net revenues from unaffiliated customers both by product segment and geographic area (based on the location to which the goods are shipped).

	Years Ended December 31.
Net revenues from unaffiliated customers	<u>2010</u> <u>2009</u>
Mechanical Products	\$20,087 \$ 8,593
Thermal Products	18,194 13,448
Electrical Products	7,973 2,760 (50(1,302
Intersegment sales	) ) ) \$46,204 \$23,499
Intersegment sales:	
Mechanical Products	\$ 9 \$ 11
Thermal Products	- 946 41 345
Electrical Products	

\$50 \$1,302

Net revenues from unaffiliated customers (net of intersegment sales):

Mechanical Products \$20,078 \$ 8,582

Thermal Products 18,194 12,502

<u>7,932</u> <u>2,415</u>

**Electrical Products** 

<u>\$46,204</u> <u>\$23,499</u>

Years Ended December 31.

Net revenues from unaffiliated customers: 2010 2009

U.S. \$17,510 \$10,072

<u>28,694</u> <u>13,427</u>

Foreign

<u>\$46,204</u> <u>\$23,499</u>

Our consolidated net revenues for the year ended December 31, 2010 increased \$22.7 million or 97% as compared to 2009. For the year ended December 31, 2010, net revenues (net of intersegment sales) of our Mechanical, Thermal and Electrical

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# inTEST CORPORATION FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Item 7.

# MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

Products segments increased \$11.5 million or 134%, \$5.7 million or 46% and \$5.5 million or 228%, respectively, compared to 2009. The increase in our consolidate