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

(Mark One)

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

For the Fiscal Year Ended January 1, 2010.

Or

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

For the Transition Period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

Commission File Number 001-33076

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**

(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or  
organization)

**14-1951112**

(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**2401 East Katella Avenue, Suite 300, Anaheim, California 92806**

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

**(800) 424-9144**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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

**Common Stock, \$0.01 par value**  
(Title of class)

**NASDAQ Global Market**  
(Name of exchange)

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

**None**

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

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Yes ☐ No ☒

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

Indicate by check mark 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 (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes ☐ No ☐

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

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

Large accelerated filer ☐

Accelerated filer ☐

Non-accelerated filer ☐

(Do not check if a  
smaller reporting company)

Smaller reporting company ☒

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, as reported on the NASDAQ Global Market, as of the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter was \$10.5 million.

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

On March 29, 2010, 7,228,683 shares of the registrant's common stock were issued and outstanding.

#### **DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

Part III of this Form 10-K incorporates information by reference from the registrant's definitive proxy statement for the 2010 Annual Meeting to be filed on or prior to April 21, 2010.

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## PART I

### ITEM 1. BUSINESS

#### Overview

We are a provider of outsourced services to small and mid-sized public agencies and large public utilities in California, New York and, to a lesser extent, other states throughout the United States. Outsourcing enables these agencies to provide a wide range of specialized services, without having to incur and maintain the overhead necessary to develop staffing in-house. We provide a broad range of services to public agencies and to a lesser extent, private industry, including:

- Civil Engineering;
- Building and Safety Services;
- Geotechnical Engineering;
- Energy Efficiency Consulting;
- Financial and Economic Consulting; and
- Disaster Preparedness and Homeland Security.

We operate our business through a network of offices located primarily in California and New York. We also have operations in Arizona and, to a lesser extent, other states throughout the United States. As of January 1, 2010, we had a staff of 466 which includes licensed engineers and other professionals. Based on our 2008 revenue, we ranked 164 out of 500 top design firms in Engineering News-Record's 2009 Design Survey. Our traditional clients have been public agencies in communities with populations ranging from 10,000 to 300,000 people. We believe communities of this size are underserved by large outsourcing companies that tend to focus on securing large federal and state projects, as well as projects for the private sector. We also serve large public utilities which serve major metropolitan communities. We strive to establish close working relationships with our public agency clients and, over time, to expand the breadth and depth of the services we provide to them.

While we currently serve communities throughout the country, our business with public agencies is concentrated in California and neighboring states. We provide services to approximately 60% of the 480 incorporated cities and over 60% of the 58 counties in California. We also serve special districts, school districts, a range of public agencies, and to a lesser extent, private industry. Our business with large public utilities is concentrated in California and New York.

General economic conditions have continued to decline due to a number of factors including slower economic activity, a lack of available credit, decreased consumer confidence and reduced corporate profits and capital spending. These conditions have led to a slowdown in construction, particularly residential housing construction, in the western United States. As a result of this slowdown, both our engineering services segment and public finance services segment have suffered declines in revenue and operating margin compression. As a result, we have made several reductions in workforce and facility leases in order to align resources to workload and reduce costs. Should the economic slowdown continue for longer than expected or worsen, we will need to evaluate further reductions in headcount and facilities in business lines that are underperforming. We will also continue to focus on reducing discretionary expenditures and the efficient procurement of necessary services. See "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operation."

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We were founded over 40 years ago and Willdan Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation, was formed in 2006 to serve as our holding company. Today, we consist of a family of wholly-owned companies that operate within the following segments:

*Engineering Services.* Our Engineering Services segment includes the operations of our subsidiaries, Willdan Engineering, Willdan Geotechnical, Willdan Energy Solutions, Willdan Resource Solutions, and Public Agency Resources (PARs). These businesses collectively provide engineering-related services, geotechnical engineering services, environmental engineering and environmental related services and energy efficiency, water conservation, sustainability and renewable energy services. Additionally, PARs primarily provides staffing to Willdan Engineering. For fiscal years 2009 and 2008, revenue for the Engineering Services segment represented approximately 75% and 78%, respectively, of our overall contract revenue.

*Public Finance Services.* Our Public Finance Services segment consists of the operations of our subsidiary, Willdan Financial Services (WFS), which offers financial and economic consulting services to public agencies. For fiscal years 2009 and 2008, contract revenue for the Public Finance Services segment represented approximately 19% of our overall contract revenue.

*Homeland Security Services.* Our Homeland Security Services segment consists of the operations of our subsidiary, Willdan Homeland Solutions, which offers homeland security, public safety consulting and management consulting services. We formed this subsidiary in fiscal year 2004 and began operations in the second half of fiscal year 2005. For fiscal years 2009 and 2008, contract revenue for our Homeland Security Services segment represented approximately 6% and 3%, respectively, of our overall contract revenue.

### **Our Markets**

We provide engineering, public finance and homeland security services primarily to mid-size government agencies and large public utilities. We believe the market for these privatized governmental services is, and will be, driven by a number of factors, including:

- Population growth, which leads to a need for increased capacity in government services and infrastructure;
- Demand by constituents for a wider variety of services;
- Increased demand for services and solutions that provide energy efficiency, sustainability, water conservation and renewable energy;
- The creation of new municipalities and the growth of smaller communities, which creates the need to obtain highly specialized services without incurring the costs of hiring permanent staffing and the associated support structure;
- The deterioration of local infrastructures, especially in aging areas; and
- Government funding programs, such as federal homeland security grants and various state legislation, that provide funds for local communities to provide services to their constituents.

### **Engineering Services**

Engineering services encompass a variety of disciplines associated with the design and construction of public infrastructure improvements. We expect continued population growth in California and other western states to place a significant strain on the infrastructure in those areas, driving the need for both new infrastructure and the rehabilitation of aging structures. Federal, state and local governments have responded to this need by proposing an increase in their funding of infrastructure related activities, and voters in California and Arizona have, in recent years, passed sales tax increases to fund transportation improvements.

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Private industry and public agencies, in response to an increased awareness of global warming and climate change issues among their constituents, are increasingly seeking out cost-effective solutions, turn-key solutions that provide innovative resource management, energy efficiency, resource conservation and sustainability services. State and local governments are frequently turning to specialized resource conservation firms to strike the balance between environmental responsibility and economic competitiveness. Consultants have the expertise to develop efficient and cost effective solutions. The use of energy efficiency services, including audits, program design, benchmark analysis, metering and partnerships with local governments and utilities, provides city, local and state governments with the ability to realize long-term savings.

### ***Public Finance Services***

Public agencies face an increasing burden to raise the necessary funding to build, improve and maintain infrastructure and to provide services to their local communities. While tax revenues are a primary source of funding, in California there are property tax and spending limits that curtail the generation of these funds. Alternatives include the issuance of tax-exempt securities; the formation of special financing districts to assess property owners on a parcel basis for infrastructure and public improvements, such as assessment districts and community facilities districts (known as Mello-Roos districts in California); the implementation of development impact fee programs that require developers to bear the cost of the impact of development on local infrastructure; user fee programs that pass costs along to the actual users of services; optimization of utility rates; and special taxes enacted by voters for specific purposes.

Public agencies frequently contract with private consultants to provide the advance studies, manage the processes and provide the administration necessary to support these methods. Consultants have the expertise necessary to form the special financing districts and produce an impact fee study used to develop a schedule of developer fees. Privatized services are also utilized to implement the programs or revised rate schedules, and in the case of special financing districts, administer the districts through the life of the bonds. Consultants also frequently provide the services necessary to comply with federal requirements for tax-exempt debt, such as arbitrage rebate calculations and continuing disclosure reports. Use of such services allows public agencies to capitalize on innovative public finance techniques without incurring the cost of developing in-house expertise.

### ***Homeland Security Services***

After September 11, 2001, the need to protect civil infrastructure and implement additional security measures became a priority at all levels of government. In addition to the threat of terrorism, Hurricanes Katrina and Rita highlighted the vulnerability of our country's infrastructure to natural disasters. These events placed an increased burden on local and regional public agencies to be prepared to respond. In addition to fire and safety personnel, agencies responsible for the physical safety of infrastructure elements, such as water and wastewater systems, ports and airports, roads and highways, bridges and dams, are under increased pressure to prepare for natural and man-made disasters. Accordingly, the federal government now considers public works staff members to be "first responders" to such incidents and we believe that agencies are allocating resources accordingly.

For fiscal year 2010, under the Department of Homeland Security Grant Program, (HSGP), the federal government will provide approximately \$1.8 billion to the states, which in turn will disburse these funds to local law enforcement and other agencies. The federal Department of Homeland Security, or DHS, has designated 64 metropolitan areas throughout the country to receive almost half of the HSGP funds through a program called the DHS Urban Areas Security Initiative, or UASI. Designated UASI metropolitan areas include eight metropolitan areas in California and the Phoenix, Arizona; Tucson, Arizona; Denver, Colorado; and Las Vegas, Nevada metropolitan areas. Homeland security funding has remained constant over the last three fiscal years and we do not anticipate a change in funding levels at the federal or state levels in the foreseeable future.

## Our Services

We specialize in providing privatized services to public agencies. Our core client base is composed of cities, counties, special districts, other local and state agencies, tribal governments, large utilities and to a lesser extent, private industry.

We are organized to profitably manage numerous small to mid-size contracts at the same time. With our focus on local and regional agencies, typical contracts can range from \$1,000 to over \$1,000,000 in contract revenue. Our typical project contracts have a duration of less than 12 months, although we have city services contracts that have been in effect for over 27 years. At January 1, 2010, we had approximately 2,200 open projects.

We offer services in three segments: Engineering Services, Public Finance Services, and Homeland Security Services. The interfaces and synergies among these segments are key elements of our strategy. Management established these segments based upon the services provided, the different marketing strategies associated with these services and the specialized needs of their respective clients. The following table presents, for the periods indicated, the approximate percentage of our consolidated contract revenue attributable to each segment:

|                            | Fiscal Year |      |      |
|----------------------------|-------------|------|------|
|                            | 2009        | 2008 | 2007 |
| Engineering Services       | 75%         | 78%  | 82%  |
| Public Finance Services    | 19%         | 19%  | 16%  |
| Homeland Security Services | 6%          | 3%   | 2%   |

See Item 8 of Part II, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" for additional segment information.

## Engineering Services

We provide a broad range of engineering services to the public sector and limited services to the private sector. In general, contracts for engineering services (as opposed to construction contracts) are awarded by public agencies based primarily upon the qualifications of the engineering professional, rather than the proposed fees. Many jobs are awarded without a mandated proposal process, especially if an agency has a longstanding relationship with an engineering professional with relevant expertise. A substantial percentage of our engineering-related work is for existing clients that we have served for many years.

Our broad range of engineering services are listed in the following table and described individually below:

|  |  |
|--|--|
| City Engineering                       | Geotechnical Engineering                           |
| Building and Safety                    | Flood Control                                      |
| Public Works and Infrastructure Design | Code Enforcement                                   |
| Construction Management                | Energy Efficiency                                  |
| Traffic Engineering                    | Sustainability                                     |
| Water and Wastewater Engineering       | Water Conservation                                 |
| Structural Engineering                 | Environmental                                      |
| Planning                               | Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emission Reduction Strategies |
| Landscape Architecture                 | Climate Action Plans                               |

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*City Engineering.* We specialize in providing engineering services tailored to the unique needs of municipalities. City Engineering can range from staffing an entire engineering department to carrying out specific projects within a municipality, such as developing a pavement management program or reviewing engineering plans on behalf of a city. This is the core of our original business and was the first service offered when we were founded.

*Building and Safety.* Our building and safety services can range from managing and staffing an entire municipal building department to providing specific outsourced services, such as plan review and field inspections. Other aspects of this discipline include performing accessibility compliance and providing disaster recovery teams, energy compliance evaluations, permit processing and issuance, seismic retrofitting programs, and structural plan review. Many of our building and safety services engagements are with municipalities and counties where we supplement the capacity of in-house staff.

*Public Works and Infrastructure Design.* This sector constitutes our traditional engineering design function. Our engineers design streets and highways, airport and transit facilities, freeway interchanges, high-occupancy vehicle lanes, pavement reconstruction, and other elements of city, county, and state infrastructure.

*Construction Management.* We provide construction management services to our public-sector clients. We provide inspection services, along with full construction management and support, depending on the client's needs and the scope of the specific project. Our construction management experience encompasses projects such as streets, bridges, sewers and storm drains, water systems, parks, pools, public buildings, and utilities.

*Traffic Engineering.* Our traffic engineering services include serving as the contract city traffic engineer in communities, as well as performing design and traffic planning projects for our clients. These services and projects include parking management studies, intersection analyses and improvements, traffic impact reports, and traffic signal and control systems.

*Water and Wastewater Engineering.* Our water and wastewater engineering services include design and project management of public water and wastewater facilities. Our core competencies include hydraulic modeling, master planning, rate studies and design and construction services. Our design experience includes reservoirs, pressure reducing stations, pump and lift stations, and pipeline alignment studies, as well as water/wastewater collection, distribution, and treatment facilities.

*Structural Engineering.* Our structural engineering services include bridge design, bridge evaluation and inspection, highway and railroad bridge planning and design, highway interchange design, railroad grade separation design, bridge seismic retrofitting, building design and retrofit, sound wall and retaining wall design, and planning and design for bridge rehabilitation and replacement.

*Planning.* As part of our planning services, we assist communities with implementation of general plans, land use enforcement, capital improvement planning, community development and redevelopment programs, and economic development strategies. For some cities, we provide staff to relieve peak workload situations or to fill vacant planning positions on an interim basis. We also prepare land use studies, environmental documentation services (NEPA/CEQA/EIR), and economic and community development plans, and can handle the development services function for emerging and newly incorporated cities.

*Landscape Architecture.* Our services in the area of landscape architecture include design, planning, landscape management, and urban forestry. Specific projects include park design and master planning, bidding and construction documents, water conservation plans, urban beautification programs, landscape maintenance management, site planning, and assessment district management.

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*Geotechnical Engineering.* We provide geotechnical and earthquake engineering services, including soils engineering, earthquake and seismic hazard studies, geology and hydrogeology engineering, and construction inspection. We operate a licensed, full-service geotechnical laboratory at our headquarters in Anaheim, California, which offers an array of testing services, including construction materials testing and inspection.

*Flood Control.* We provide a complete analysis and projection of storm flows for use in master drainage plans and for individual storm drain systems to reduce flooding in streets and adjacent properties.

*Code Enforcement* We assist municipalities with the development and implementation of neighborhood preservation programs and the staffing of code enforcement personnel.

*Energy Efficiency* We provide complete energy efficiency services, including comprehensive surveys and audits, marketing services, implementation services, program design, benchmark analysis, metering, and partnering with local governments and utilities. We also create and implement innovative information technology solutions for the energy industry.

*Sustainability.* We assist clients (including utilities, schools and private companies) in developing and managing facilities and infrastructures through a holistic, practical approach to sustainability. Our services in the area of sustainability cover renewable energy, master plans, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for buildings, GHG reduction strategies, and the development of California Assembly Bill No. 811 (AB-811) projects.

*Water Conservation.* We offer a full range of water and wastewater management services. Our services in the area of water conservation cover water efficiency hardware retrofits, comprehensive audits, and custom developed processes to ensure that the audits result in actual measurable installations of conservation measures. We work with local governments and water agencies, to provide solutions, from initial analysis and design to implementation.

*Environmental.* We provide environmental consulting and remediation services to cities, counties, and local governments. Our environmental services encompass many technical disciplines and programs, including human health and ecological risk assessment, toxicology, chemistry, geochemistry, hydrogeology, hazardous materials and waste management, surface and storm water management, remediation system selection and design, remediation construction management, and environmental compliance.

*Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emission Strategies.* We assist cities, counties, utilities, municipalities, and other clients with development of strategies to reduce GHG emissions. This includes benchmarking GHG emissions, developing and implementing strategies, and exploring financing options.

*Climate Action Plans.* We assist clients with development and implementation of climate action plans. These plans are inclusive of energy efficiency, water conservation, land development, renewable, and GHG reduction strategies.

*Representative Projects.* Examples of typical ongoing projects we have in the Engineering Services segment include the following:

- *Gateway Cities Council of Governments (COG).* We were retained by COG to provide technical support in responding to the requirements of SB 375, a complex and evolving legislation passed in 2008 to help the State of California meet the goals of its Global Warming Solutions Act. Since May 2009, we have conducted an on-line survey of COG sustainability efforts and compared the general plans of COG jurisdictions to Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) assumptions. Future efforts by COG members that may be needed to

attain desired GHG emissions reductions were evaluated. Additionally, we monitored and reported on the SB 375 process and related meetings and organized and conducted a series of SB 375 workshops for COG representatives. Based on our final report, COG has elected to assume responsibility from SCAG for preparing Sustainable Communities Strategies for the Gateway Cities sub-region.

- *City of Rancho Palos Verdes.* We secured over \$2.5 million in state and federal funding for the Palos Verdes Drive North Bike Lane Project, a 1.26-mile bike lane that runs between Crenshaw Boulevard and the western city limits, and provided professional engineering and construction engineering services to the city. Improvements included a second through lane at major intersections to increase capacity, the installation of raised medians, street resurfacing, and traffic signal modifications. Other services provided by our firm included utility coordination and relocation, federal funding administration, environmental clearance (NEPA and CEQA), contract administration, and construction inspection.
- *City of Mendota.* We provided complete construction management, plan review, and inspection services for Mendota's new fast-track solar power plant. This project was the first utility-scale photovoltaic solar farm to be constructed after approval by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), and will generate five megawatts of zero-emission electricity for sale to Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E).
- *Los Angeles Gateway Region Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Joint Powers Authority (JPA).* Our services were retained to help member cities meet the California State Water Resources Control Board's Los Angeles River Trash Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) requirements. We initially performed a survey and submitted a recommendations report, after which we provided engineering services and plans, specifications and estimates (PS&E). This project was a fast-track effort completed within three months, and contractor bids based on our PS&E came in well under the projected budget. This savings allows the program to substantially increase the total number of Connector Pipe Screens and Automatically Retractable Screens installed and will greatly improve the environmental quality of the Los Angeles River. We will provide inspection services once construction begins.
- *Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA).* We were hired by OCTA to prepare plans, specifications and estimates for a new Metrolink commuter rail station in the City of Placentia, California. The new station will be located along the San Bernardino subdivision of the BNSF Railway. The project site, identified in the environmental document, is approximately 4.75 acres. The project will provide a commuter rail station that meets current and future transit demand. The station is a key component of transit-oriented development envisioned in the Westgate Specific Plan for the City of Placentia. The Metrolink station project will include street improvements, railroad track improvements, pedestrian improvements, new rail platforms, and parking facilities.
- *City of San Clemente.* We were selected to provide construction project management services for the Senior Center and Orange County Fire Station No. 60 Project. The project includes construction of a 7,851 square-foot, two-story fire station facility and a 7,963 square-foot senior center. Both facilities will be constructed within a single building. The estimated project construction cost is \$5 million. The project construction is planned to commence in April 2009 and be completed by December 2010.
- *California Department of State Architects (DSA).* We were selected to review plans and specifications for certain projects within the state of California on an as-needed basis in accordance with Titles 19 and 24, California Code of Regulations and all National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Referenced Standards for Fire and Life Safety, according to the policies and procedures of the California Department of State Architects (DSA). Our role is to

provide plan review, back-check review of drawings and specifications and review of change orders, addendums, deferred approvals, alternate designs, and revisions for California school buildings, state buildings, and public colleges and universities. These services are provided to the DSA Sacramento, Oakland, Los Angeles, and San Diego regions.

- *Con Edison Small Business Direct Install (SBDI) Program.* We are currently implementing the SBDI Program for Con Edison (Con Ed). This program has a goal of saving over 270 million kWh. The SBDI Program offers turn-key energy efficiency solutions to small- to medium-sized customers in the Con Ed service territory. We expect to coordinate audit and implementation activities to over 25,000 small to medium-sized business customers.
- *Data Centers.* We are providing comprehensive energy efficiency services to data center facility managers in the NYSEERDA (New York), Southern California Edison (SCE), and Oncor Electric (Texas) service territories. The programs provide data centers with assistance in design, construction, and implementation of cost-effective energy efficiency strategies (such as virtualization, cooling system optimization, server load prioritization, and next generation servers). In addition to the energy efficiency services, we provide data centers with financial incentives to help offset feasibility, audit, and implementation costs.
- *San Gabriel Valley.* We developed the San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership, a comprehensive energy efficiency program targeting 32 cities in the San Gabriel Valley, assisting in the creation of a mutually beneficial relationship between Southern California Edison, Southern California Association of Governments and the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments. The program goal is to deliver 2,701,363 kWh in annual energy savings from a combination of commissioning and retro-commissioning projects in three San Gabriel Valley cities. Additionally, the program promotes increased awareness of energy efficiency programs and the importance of energy conservation among residents and businesses.
- *San Francisco Public Utility Commission.* We have been working for the San Francisco Public Utility Commission (SFPUC) to implement the San Francisco Water Savers program. The SFPUC Water Savers Program targets high-consumption, non-residential water customers that represent the highest 20 percent of water users. The program leverages associated energy-saving opportunities to maximize customer financial incentives through the adoption of water-saving technologies. To date, the program represents a savings of approximately 750 acre feet of water to the SFPUC. We are currently providing municipal water audit services to the SFPUC.
- *Southern California Edison (SCE).* We are currently implementing the Hospital Facility Energy Efficiency Program (HFEEP), a SCE 2007-2008 retrofit program that offers cash incentives to energy consumers for providing comprehensive energy efficiency services to existing equipment or systems in medical office buildings. HFEEP targets 20 medical office buildings for energy efficiency implementations, and delivers energy savings of over 6.3 million kWh. We are also implementing other programs in SCE territories, including the Lodging Energy Efficiency Program and Direct Install Program.
- *Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E).* We are currently providing a number of programs for PG&E. The Hospital Energy Efficiency Program (HEEP) offers turn-key energy efficiency services for hospitals and medical office buildings in PG&E's territory. The Ozone Laundry Energy Efficiency Program (OLEEP) captures cost-effective natural gas savings for on-premise laundry equipment in the hospitality and medical segments, correctional facilities and other commercial facilities. We are working with Sylvania Lighting on the implementation of the High Performance Lighting Program which will deliver cost-effective, energy efficient, state-of-the-art lighting solutions to office buildings, warehouses, and other large commercial buildings. We are also implementing the large hotel segment of PG&E's Lodging Savers program, focusing on energy efficiency solutions for hotels.

**Public Finance Services**

We acquired our subsidiary Willdan Financial Services (formerly known as MuniFinancial), a public finance consulting business, in 1999 to supplement the services we offer our public-sector clients. In general, we supply expertise and support for the various financing techniques employed by public agencies to finance their operations and infrastructure. We also support the mandated reporting and other requirements associated with these financings. We do not provide underwriting or financial advisory services for municipal securities.

Unlike our Engineering Services business, we often compete for business, at least initially, through a competitive bid process. However, since many public sector financing instruments, such as tax-exempt bonds, remain outstanding for up to 30 years, clients tend to retain us for as long as the financing remains in place. Our services in this segment include the following:

*District Administration.* We administer special districts on behalf of public agencies. The types of special districts administered include community facilities districts (in California, Mello-Roos districts), assessment districts, landscape and lighting districts, school facilities improvement districts, water districts, benefit assessment districts, fire suppression districts, and business improvement districts. Our administration services include calculating the annual levy for each parcel in the district; billing charges directly or through a county tax roll; preparing the annual Engineer's Report, budget and resolutions; reporting on collections and payment status; calculating prepayment quotes; and providing financial analyses, modeling and budget forecasting.

The key to our District Administration services is our proprietary software package, MuniMagic®: Municipal Administration & Government Information Coordinator, which we developed internally to redefine the way we administer special districts. MuniMagic® is a database management program that maintains parcel data; calculates special taxes, assessments, fees and charges; manages payment tracking; maintains bond-related information in a single, central location; and provides reporting, financial modeling and analysis at multiple levels of detail. MuniMagic® offers a significant competitive advantage in an industry driven by the ability to accurately process extremely large quantities of data. MuniMagic® is also available for licensing by our existing clients. See "—Intellectual Property" for a discussion of the licensing terms.

*Financial Consulting Services.* We perform economic analyses and financial projects for public agencies, including:

- Fee and rate studies, such as cost allocation studies, user fee analysis, utility rate analysis, fiscal impact studies and development fee studies;
- Special district formation, which involves the design, development and initiation of community facilities districts, school facilities, improvement districts, assessment districts, landscape and lighting districts, benefit assessment districts, business improvement districts, fire suppression assessments and re-engineering;
- Facility financing plans;
- Economic impact analyses;
- The formation of new public entities, annexations and incorporations;
- Reassessment engineering for bond refunding; and
- Infrastructure analysis both to evaluate the need for rehabilitation efforts, and for financial reporting purposes, in association with Willdan.

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*Federal Compliance Services.* We offer federal compliance services to issuers of municipal securities, which can be cities, towns, school districts, housing authorities and other entities that are eligible to issue tax-exempt securities. Specifically, we provide arbitrage rebate calculations and municipal disclosure services that help issuers remain in compliance with federal regulations. We provide these reports, together with related compliance services such as bond elections, temporary period yield restriction, escrow fund monitoring, rebate payments and refund requests. In terms of continuing disclosure services, we both produce the required annual reports and disseminate those reports on behalf of the issuers. We provide federal compliance services to approximately 595 issuers in 38 states and the District of Columbia on more than 2,500 bond issues totaling over \$57 billion in municipal debt.

*Representative Projects.* Examples of typical projects we have in the Public Finance Services segment include the following:

- *City of Flagstaff.* We were retained by the city to prepare a long-term financial plan and rate and fee study for its water, wastewater, and reclaimed water utilities. We assisted the city in meeting its challenges with providing high-quality utility services, including utility revenues not keeping pace with increasing operational and capital costs and its rate model being more than 10 years old. We provided the City with rates that fully fund operations, maintenance, and present and future capital costs for plant expansions.
- *Town of Buckeye.* We provided a comprehensive user fee and cost allocation study to the Town of Buckeye. We were asked by the Town to review its current user fees and indirect cost allocation plan. Based on a time survey administered in the building safety, planning and zoning, and engineering departments, we developed fees that will enable the Town to recover the full cost associated with the services it provides.
- *City of Miami Beach.* We were retained by the City to conduct a revenue enhancement study to accomplish the following: (a) survey similar communities for comparable fee structures and recommend new fees; (b) review present Miami Beach fees to ensure they are at market rates; and (c) ensure recommended rates, either new or adjusted, are at or below actual costs. We partnered with The Rose Institute of State and Local Government, Claremont, California, for the survey effort.
- *Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA).* We developed environmental funding guidelines for OCTA. As the result of renewed Measure M (originally established to increase sales tax to generate funds for transportation projects), we began assisting OCTA with developing program guidelines for the distribution of such funds over the next 30 years. The renewal of Measure M generated specific funds to be used for environmental cleanup programs associated with storm water runoff from the County's various streets and highway systems. The new grant program guidelines we developed will: (1) ensure effective outreach and communication with environmental interest groups; (2) provide funding guidelines and equitable scoring criteria for new environmental cleanup programs; (3) meet program requirements promised to the voters that renewed the ballot measure; (4) adequately identify and describe "maintenance of effort" requirements; (5) ensure continuity with existing funding guidelines and provide for articulating baselines to address future technological advances; and (6) ensure a "benefit nexus" above existing program levels.
- *County of San Diego.* We are currently preparing a comprehensive Fire Fiscal Impact Analysis on new development occurring within the unincorporated areas of San Diego County. In addition to the fiscal analysis, an Impact Fee Study is being prepared for fire facilities. After the completion of both studies, we will facilitate the formation of a Community Facilities District (CFD) for the County to fund the necessary fire facilities and services required to support new development.

***Homeland Security Services***

In fiscal 2004, we formed our subsidiary Willdan Homeland Solutions, formerly known as American Homeland Solutions. We provide homeland security and public safety consulting services to cities, counties and related municipal service agencies, such as utility and water companies, as well as school districts, port and transportation authorities, tribal governments and large business enterprises with a need for homeland security related services. We staff our projects in this area with former high-level local and regional public safety officers and focus on solutions tailored for local agencies and their personnel. Our services include the following:

*Training Services.* We design customized training courses for all aspects of disaster, unusual occurrence and emergency responses. In this regard, we have developed and own several training courses that meet or exceed the requirements for the federal National Incident Management System (NIMS) training. These courses assist clients in meeting their obligations to prepare their staff to utilize the NIMS. Our courses have been approved by California's Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training, the California Office of Emergency Services, and the Federal National Integration Center, Training and Education Division, formerly the Department of Homeland Security's "Office of Grants and Training."

*Emergency Operations Planning.* We design, develop, implement, review, and evaluate public and private agencies' emergency operations and hazard mitigation plans, including compliance and consistency with federal, state and local laws and policies. Plans are tailored to respond to terrorism, intentional acts of sabotage, and natural disasters. We also provide command and control and emergency response training for all types of unusual occurrences. We have developed emergency operations and continuity and hazard mitigation plans for municipal governments, special districts, school districts, and private-industry clients.

*Terrorism and Threat Vulnerability Assessments.* These assessments involve the development of policies and procedures to assess threats and the vulnerability of local, regional, state, and national infrastructures, including city and county buildings, ports and airports, facilities, power supplies, water supplies, communications networks, and transportation systems.

*Planning Evaluations and Exercises.* We conduct planning sessions and exercises, including those relating to weapons of mass destruction, large events, mass casualty transportation disasters, terrorism incident response, natural disaster response and recovery, and civil disorder events. We design these exercises for multi-agency involvement so they are fully compliant with the federal government's Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP), the State Emergency Management System (SEMS) for California, and the National Response Framework. Exercises are designed to evaluate and test "first responders" and support personnel, as well as elected officials and agency management.

*Public Safety and Management Consulting.* We provide independent analyses, evaluations and recommendations for enhancing the performance of public safety agencies, such as police and fire departments. Management consulting service areas include organizational assessments and studies, staffing and outsourcing support for new and existing cities, management training and development, administrative investigations, and background investigations. These services are provided to local, state, and tribal governments and agencies; private companies; trade associations; non-profit organizations; and educational institutions from K-12 through colleges and universities.

*Representative Projects.* Examples of typical Homeland Security Services projects include the following:

- *Southern Planning Area Project (SPA).* We were awarded a \$1.8 million contract with GTSI, Inc. to provide public safety interoperable communications professional services to the 11 California counties that comprise the California Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee Southern Planning Area (SPA). The SPA is an area larger than the State of New York with a population of more than 22 million. As the technical lead on the project, we are providing planning and training services in the development of the SPA's tactical interoperable communications plans. Our communications professionals will support each of the 11 counties with the goal of unifying the communications systems and improving the SPA's interoperable communications through compliance with the California Statewide Communication Interoperable Plan and the National Emergency Communication Plan.
- *Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) Program.* We were awarded a \$689,000 contract in 2008 to establish a COOP program. The program was broken into four developmental phases to support the five largest cities in Orange County, California. Phase I included the development of COOP plans for 60 city departments and overarching plans for each city. We provided COOP training for each city during Phase II. Tabletop or discussion-based exercises were designed, developed and delivered to each city during Phase III. Lessons learned during the first three phases were used to finalize the plans in Phase IV. We are currently in discussions with the Anaheim/Santa Ana UASI to provide consulting support for the remaining 29 cities in Orange County.
- *Terrorism Prevention Exercise Program (TPEP).* We were awarded a \$250,000 contract to support the DHS, National Exercise Division TPEP. The TPEP is broken into three objectives: (1) Program Management and Policy Development; (2) Prevention Exercises; and (3) Interagency Coordination and Integration. Our personnel supported each of these objectives. Under Objective 1, we supported program management in providing direction to future TPEP initiatives. Additionally, we continue to lead the development of all TPEP policy initiatives in support of DHS with the integration of Prevention Exercise Methodologies into the revision of HSEEP doctrine as a national standard. Under Objective 2, we supported and led several prevention exercises, including TPEP's first cross-border functional exercise. Lastly, under Objective 3, we supported TPEP through formal conference workshops and key note addresses, which included the DOJ/DHS Western Regional Fusion Center Conference and the FEMA National Training and Exercise Conference.

### **Competitive Strengths**

Founded over 40 years ago, we have a well-established track record of providing a wide range of privatized services to the public sector. We have developed the experience base, professional staff and support technology and software necessary to quickly and effectively respond to the needs of our clients. We believe we have developed a reputation within our industry as problem solvers across a broad range of client issues. Some of our competitive strengths include:

*Quality of service.* We pride ourselves on the quality of service that we provide to our clients. The work for which we compete is awarded primarily based on the company's qualifications, rather than the fees proposed. We believe that our service levels, experience and expertise satisfy even the most rigorous qualification standards. We have developed a strong reputation for quality, based upon our depth of experience, ability to attract quality professionals, customized technology and software that support our services, local knowledge and the expertise we possess across multiple disciplines. We believe we are well-positioned to serve public sector clients due to our knowledge of the unique reporting processes and operating procedures of public agencies, which differ substantially from the private sector. We believe our high quality of service is a significant reason we currently provide services to over 60% of the cities and counties in California.

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*Broad range of services.* Our focus on customer service has led us to continually broaden the scope of the services we provide. At different stages in our 40-year history, as the needs of our public sector clients have evolved, we have developed service capabilities complementary to our core engineering business, including building and safety services, financial and economic services, planning services, geotechnical services, code enforcement services and, most recently, disaster planning and homeland security services. Further, because we recognize that local public sector projects and issues often cross departmental lines, we have developed the ability to deliver multiple services in a cohesive manner to better serve our client communities as a whole.

*Strategic locations in key markets.* Local agencies want professionals who understand their local needs. Therefore, we deliver our services through a network of offices dispersed throughout the western United States and New York. Each of our offices is staffed with quality professionals, including former management level public sector employees, such as planners, engineers, inspectors, and police and fire department personnel. These professionals understand the local and regional markets in which they work.

*Strong, long-term client relationships.* We have developed strong relationships with our public agency clients, some of whom we have worked with for over 25 years. The value of these long-term relationships is reflected in the recurring award of new projects, ongoing staffing assignments, and long-term projects that require high-level supervision. We also seek to maintain close personal relationships with public agency decision-makers to strengthen our relationships with them and the agencies with which they work. We frequently develop new client relationships as our public agency contacts are promoted or move to other agencies. Our strong culture of community involvement and leadership in key public agency organizations underscores our customer focus and helps us cultivate and expand our client base.

*Experienced, talented and motivated employees.* Our staff consists of seasoned professionals with a broad array of specialties, and a strong customer service orientation. Our corporate culture places a high priority on investing in our people, including providing opportunities for stock ownership to attract, motivate and retain top professionals. Our executive officers have an average of more than 32 years of experience in the engineering and consulting industry, and an average of 4 years with our company.

### **Clients**

Our clients primarily consist of cities, counties, redevelopment agencies, water districts, school districts and universities, state agencies, federal agencies, a variety of other special districts and agencies, tribal governments, public utilities and to a lesser extent, private industry. Our typical client is an agency serving a community of 10,000 to 300,000 people. In fiscal year 2009, we served over 800 distinct clients. No individual client accounted for over 5% of our consolidated contract revenue in fiscal year 2009. For fiscal year 2009, each of our top eight clients accounted for between 2% and 5% of our consolidated contract revenue. Our clients are predominantly based in California and New York. We also have clients in Arizona and, to a lesser extent, other states throughout the United States. In fiscal year 2009, services provided to public agencies and, to a lesser extent, private industry in California accounted for approximately 90% of our contract revenue.

### **Contract Structure**

We provide our services under contracts, purchase orders or retainer letters. The contracts we enter into with our clients contain three principal types of pricing provisions:

- *Time-and-materials provisions* provide for reimbursement of costs and overhead plus a fee for labor based on the time expended on a project multiplied by a negotiated hourly billing rate. The profitability achievable on a time and materials basis is driven by billable headcount and cost control.

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- *Unit-based provisions* require the delivery of specific units of work, such as arbitrage rebate calculations, dissemination of municipal securities continuing disclosure reports, or building plan checks, at an agreed price per unit, with the total payment under the contract determined by the actual number of units performed.
- *Fixed price provisions* require all work under a contract to be performed for a specified lump sum, which may be subject to adjustment if the scope of the project changes. Contracts with fixed price provisions carry certain inherent risks, including risks of losses from underestimating costs, delays in project completion, problems with new technologies, price increases for materials, and economic and other changes that may occur over the contract period. Consequently, the profitability, if any, of fixed price contracts can vary substantially.

Additionally, in 2009, we started receiving monthly retainers from a limited number of our clients. The following table presents, for the periods indicated, the approximate percentage of our contract revenue subject to each type of pricing provision:

|                    | Fiscal Year |      |
|--------------------|-------------|------|
|                    | 2009        | 2008 |
| Time-and-materials | 41%         | 50%  |
| Unit-based         | 20%         | 23%  |
| Fixed price        | 37%         | 27%  |
| Monthly retainer   | 2%          | —%   |
| Total              | 100%        | 100% |

The percentage of our contract revenue derived from fixed price contracts increased to 37% in fiscal year 2009 from 27% in fiscal year 2008 primarily because of our acquisition of Willdan Energy Solutions in June 2008. Willdan Energy Solutions has fixed price provisions in a higher percentage of its contracts than our other operating subsidiaries.

For time-and-materials and fixed price contracts, we bill our clients periodically in accordance with the contract terms based on costs incurred, on either an hourly-fee basis or on a percentage of completion basis, as the project progresses. For unit-based and retainer-based contracts, we bill our clients upon delivery of the contracted item or service, and in some cases, in advance of delivery.

Our contracts come up for renewal periodically and at the time of renewal may be subject to renegotiation, which could impact the profitability on that contract. In addition, during the term of a contract, public agencies may request additional or revised services which may impact the economics of the transaction. Most of our contracts permit our clients, with prior notice, to terminate the contracts at any time without cause. While the renewal, termination or modification of a contract may materially impact an individual project, we do not believe the renewal, termination or modification of any specific contract would have a material adverse effect on our consolidated operations due to our large volume of transactions and low customer concentration.

### **Competition**

The market for our services is highly fragmented. We often compete with many other firms ranging from small local firms to large national firms. Contract awards are based primarily on qualifications, relevant experience, staffing capabilities, geographic presence, stability and price.

Doing business with governmental agencies is complex and requires the ability to comply with intricate regulations and satisfy periodic audits. We have been serving cities, counties, special districts and other public agencies for over 40 years. We believe that the ability to understand these requirements and to successfully conduct business with governmental entities and agencies is a barrier to entry for potential competitors.

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Our competition varies by type of client, type of service and geography. The range of competitors for any one project can vary depending upon technical specialties, the relative value of the project, geographic location, financial terms, risks associated with the work, and any client imposed restrictions. Unlike most of our competitors, we focus our services on public sector clients. Public sector clients generally choose among competing firms by weighing the quality, experience, innovation and timeliness of the firm's services. When selecting consultants for engineering projects, many government agencies are required to, and others choose to, employ Qualifications Based Selection, or QBS. QBS requires the selection of the most technically qualified firms for a project, while the financial and legal terms of the engagement are generally secondary. QBS applies primarily to work done by our Engineering Services segment. Contracts in the Public Finance Services and Homeland Security Services areas typically are not subject to mandatory QBS standards, and often are awarded through a competitive bid process.

Our competition varies geographically. Although we provide services in several states, we may be stronger in certain service lines in some geographical areas than in other regions. Similarly, some of our larger competitors are stronger in some service lines in certain localities but are not as competitive in others. Our smaller competitors generally are limited both geographically as well as in the services they are able to provide.

We believe that the primary competitors for our Engineering Services segment include Charles Abbott & Associates, Inc., Bureau Veritas, Harris & Associates, Psomas, RBF Consulting, Tetra Tech, Inc., Stantec, Inc., Michael Baker Corporation, TRC Companies, Inc., AECOM Technology Corporation, CH2M Hill and Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. Our chief competitors in our Public Finance Services segment include David Taussig & Associates, Harris & Associates, NBS Government Finance Group and Ernst & Young LLP. We believe the Homeland Security Services segment competes primarily with EG&G (a division of URS Corporation) and SRA International, Inc.

### **Insurance**

We currently maintain general liability insurance, with coverage in the amount of \$1.0 million per occurrence, subject to a \$2.0 million general aggregate limit; and professional liability insurance, with \$5.0 million in coverage per claim, and a \$10.0 million annual aggregate limit. Our professional liability policy is a "claims made" policy. We also carry excess coverage of an additional \$10.0 million for general, automobile and employer's liability claims. We are liable to pay these claims from our assets if and when the aggregate settlement or judgment amount exceeds our policy limits.

### **Employees**

At January 1, 2010, we had approximately 320 full-time employees and 146 part-time employees. All Public Agency Resources' employees are classified as part-time. Our employees include, among others, licensed civil, traffic and structural engineers, land surveyors, certified building officials, licensed geotechnical engineers and engineering geologists, certified inspectors and plans examiners, licensed architects and landscape architects, certified planners, and information technology specialists. We believe that we attract and retain highly skilled personnel with significant industry experience and strong client relationships by offering them challenging assignments in a stable work environment. We believe that our employee relations are good. We currently have one field survey employee covered by a Master Labor Agreement between the International Union of Operating Engineers Local Union No. 12 and the Southern California Association of Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors, which expires in October 2010.

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The following table sets forth the number of our employees in each of our business segments and our holding company:

|   | As of Fiscal Year End |      |      |
|---|-----------------------|------|------|
|   | 2009                  | 2008 | 2007 |
| Engineering Services                            | 324                   | 401  | 496  |
| Public Finance Services                         | 65                    | 74   | 75   |
| Homeland Security Services                      | 20                    | 16   | 8    |
| Holding Company Employees (Willdan Group, Inc.) | 57                    | 59   | 49   |
| Total   | 466                   | 550  | 628  |

At January 1, 2010, we contracted with approximately 138 former and current public safety officers to conduct homeland security services training courses. These instructors are classified as sub-consultants and not employees.

### **Intellectual Property**

The Willdan, Willdan Group, Inc., Willdan Engineering, Willdan Financial Services, Willdan Geotechnical, Willdan Energy Solutions, Willdan Resource Solutions and Willdan Homeland Services names are service marks of ours, and we have applied for a service mark for the Willdan logo. We have also applied for federal trademark registration with the United States Patent and Trademark Office for the "Willdan" name and the "extending your reach" tagline. We believe we have strong name recognition in the western United States and that this provides us a competitive advantage in obtaining new business. Consequently, we believe it is important to protect our brand identity through trademark registrations. The name and logo of our proprietary software, MuniMagic®, are registered trademarks of Willdan Financial Services, and we have registered a federal copyright for the source code for the MuniMagic® software. We license the MuniMagic® software to existing clients pursuant to licensing agreements that allow varying levels of access to data. This technology allows clients to view their own data and is a form of deliverable to our clients. The use of licensing provides us protection for this proprietary technology. MuniMagic® is not a commercial product offered for sale.

### **Available Information**

Our website is [www.willdan.com](http://www.willdan.com) and our investor relations page is under the caption "Investors" on our website. We make available on this website under "SEC Filings," free of charge, our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file or furnish such materials to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC. We also make available on this website our prior earnings calls and, under the heading "Investors—Corporate Governance," our Code of Ethical Conduct. The information on our website is not a part of or incorporated by reference into this filing. Further, a copy of this annual report on Form 10-K is located at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, NE, Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549. Information on the operation of the Public Reference Room can be obtained by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC maintains an Internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding our filings at <http://www.sec.gov>.

## ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

### Risks Relating to Our Business and Industry

***A downturn in public and private sector construction activity in the regions we serve may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.***

A downturn in construction activity in our geographic service areas may affect demand for our services, which could have a material adverse effect on the results of our operations and our financial condition. During fiscal year 2009, a majority of our contract revenue was generated by services rendered to public agencies in connection with private and public sector construction projects.

The current recession in the United States has led to a slowdown in construction, particularly residential housing construction, in the western United States. As a result of this slowdown, our engineering services segment has suffered declines in revenue and we have made several reductions in workforce and facility leases in order to align resources to workload and reduce costs. We believe that the reductions achieved through January 1, 2010 will be sufficient to align resources with expected future demand for our services. However, should the economic slowdown continue for longer than expected or worsen, we will need to evaluate further reductions in headcount and facilities in geographic areas that are underperforming.

Our business, financial condition and results of operations may also be adversely affected by conditions that impact the construction sector in general, including, among other things:

- Changes in national and local market conditions due to changes in general or local economic conditions and neighborhood characteristics;
- Slow-growth or no-growth initiatives or legislation;
- Adverse changes in local and regional governmental policies on investment in infrastructure;
- Adverse changes in federal and state policies regarding the allocation of funds to local and regional agencies;
- The impact of present or future environmental legislation and compliance with environmental laws and other regulatory requirements;
- Changes in real estate tax rates and assessments;
- Increases in interest rates and changes in the availability, cost and terms of financing;
- Adverse changes in other governmental rules and fiscal policies; and
- Earthquakes and other natural disasters, which can cause uninsured losses, and other factors which are beyond our control.

Any of these factors could adversely affect the demand for our services, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

***Changes in the local and regional economies of California could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.***

Adverse economic and other conditions affecting the local and regional economies of California may reduce the demand for our services, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. During fiscal year 2009, approximately 90% of our contract revenue was derived from services rendered to public agencies and, to a lesser extent, private industry in California, including contract revenue from public utilities. From 1991 to 1996, California experienced an economic downturn that had a negative impact on the construction and development

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sectors. This economic downturn caused us to experience cash flow difficulties and substantial operating losses. California is currently experiencing another economic downturn, which has negatively impacted our revenue and profitability. Our revenue in fiscal year 2009 decreased by 15.8% from fiscal year 2008 and we sustained a net loss of \$5.6 million for fiscal year 2009 as compared to net loss of \$1.6 million for fiscal year 2008. We believe the downturn in the residential housing market has had a significant impact on our results, in particular the loss of revenue from fees associated with building permits and inspection services.

***We may not be able to obtain capital when desired on favorable terms, if at all, or without dilution to our stockholders.***

We anticipate that our current cash, cash equivalents, cash provided by operating activities and funds available through our revolving line of credit will be sufficient to meet our current and anticipated needs for general corporate purposes during the next 12 months. It is possible, however, that we may not generate sufficient cash flow from operations or otherwise have the capital resources to meet our future capital needs. For example, at the end of our third and fourth fiscal quarters in 2008, we did not meet certain financial covenants under our revolving credit facility with Wells Fargo Bank, National Association ("Wells Fargo"). As a result of these covenant violations, Wells Fargo was no longer obligated to extend funds to us under the revolving credit agreement. Wells Fargo waived these breaches and eliminated or modified certain financial covenants in the credit agreement in exchange for a reduction in the commitment from \$10 million to \$5 million, increased pricing and additional collateral being provided. As of January 1, 2010, we had \$1.0 million in outstanding borrowings under this facility. The credit agreement, as amended, matures on January 1, 2011. If we fail to comply with any covenant, including the remaining financial covenant, in the credit agreement, any loans outstanding at that time could be accelerated by Wells Fargo and Wells Fargo would not be obligated to make any new loans under the revolving credit facility. We cannot provide any assurance that Wells Fargo will continue to make loans under the facility if we violate a covenant in the future or that Wells Fargo will renew the facility when it expires. If this occurs and we do not generate sufficient cash flow from operations or otherwise, we may need additional financing to execute on our current or future business strategies, which include the following:

- Hire additional personnel;
- Develop new or enhance existing service lines;
- Expand our business geographically;
- Enhance our operating infrastructure;
- Acquire complementary businesses; or
- Otherwise respond to competitive pressures.

If we raise additional funds through the issuance of convertible debt or equity securities, the percentage ownership of our stockholders could be significantly diluted, and these newly issued securities may have rights, preferences or privileges senior to those of existing stockholders. We cannot assure you that additional financing will be available on terms favorable to us, or at all. If adequate funds are not available or are not available on acceptable terms, if and when needed, our ability to fund our operations, take advantage of strategic opportunities, or otherwise respond to competitive pressures would be significantly limited.

***Reductions in state and local government budgets could negatively impact their capital spending and adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.***

Several of our state and local government clients are currently facing budget deficits, resulting in smaller budgets and reduced capital spending, which has negatively impacted our revenue and profitability. Our state and local government clients may continue to face budget deficits that prohibit them from funding new or existing projects. In addition, existing and potential clients may either postpone entering into new contracts or request price concessions. If we are not able to reduce our costs quickly enough to respond to the revenue decline from these clients that may occur, our operating results would be adversely affected. Accordingly, these factors affect our ability to accurately forecast our future revenue and earnings from business areas that may be adversely impacted by market conditions.

***Legislation may be enacted that limits the ability of state, regional or local agencies to contract for our privatized services. Such legislation would affect our ability to obtain new contracts and may decrease the demand for our services.***

Legislation is proposed periodically, particularly in the state of California, that attempts to limit the ability of governmental agencies to contract with private consultants to provide services. Should such legislation pass and be upheld, demand for our services may be materially adversely affected. During fiscal year 2009, approximately 90% of our contract revenue was derived from services rendered to public agencies, including public utilities, in California. While attempts at such legislation have failed in the past, as the composition of California's legislative body changes over time there is an increased risk that measures could be adopted in the future that limit the market for privatized services.

***State and other public employee unions may bring litigation that seeks to limit the ability of public agencies to contract with private firms to perform government employee functions in the area of public improvements. Judicial determinations in favor of these unions could affect our ability to compete for contracts and may have an adverse effect on our revenue and profitability.***

Over at least the last 20 years, state and other public employee unions have challenged the validity of propositions, legislation, charters and other government regulations that allow public agencies to contract with private firms to provide services in the fields of engineering, design and construction of public improvements that might otherwise be provided by public employees. These challenges could have the affect of eliminating, or severely restricting, the ability of municipalities to hire private firms for the purpose of designing and constructing public improvements, and otherwise require them to use union employees to perform the services.

For example, the Professional Engineers in California Government, or PEGC, a union representing state civil service employees, has been challenging Caltrans' hiring of private firms since 1986, and in 2002 began a judicial challenge of Caltrans' hiring practices based on Caltrans' interpretation of the effect of Proposition 35 (Professional Engineers in California Government, et al. v. Jeff Morales, et al.). The California Supreme Court ruled in favor of Caltrans, concluding that Caltrans may hire private contractors to perform architectural and engineering services on public works. Although Caltrans was successful in this recent litigation, similar claims may be brought in the future and we cannot predict their outcome. If a state or other public employee union is successful in its challenge and as a result the ability of state agencies to hire private firms is severely limited, such a decision would likely lead to additional litigation challenging the ability of the state, counties, municipalities and other public agencies to hire private engineering, architectural and other firms, the outcome of which could affect our ability to compete for contracts and may have an adverse effect on our revenue and profitability.

***Changes in elected or appointed officials could have a material adverse effect on our ability to retain an existing contract with or obtain additional contracts from a public agency.***

Since the decision to retain our services is made by individuals, such as city managers, city councils and other elected or appointed officials, our business and financial results or condition could be adversely affected by the results of local and regional elections. A change in the individuals responsible for selecting consultants for and awarding contracts on behalf of a public agency due to an election could adversely affect our ability to retain an existing contract with or obtain additional contracts from such public agency.

***Fixed price contracts under which we perform some of our services impose risks to our ability to maintain or grow our profitability.***

In fiscal year 2009, approximately 37% of our contract revenue was derived from fixed price contracts, which increased from 27% in fiscal year 2008. This increase was primarily a result of our June 2008 acquisition of Willdan Energy Solutions, which has fixed price provisions in a higher percentage of its contracts than our other operating subsidiaries. Under fixed price contracts, we perform services under a contract at a stipulated price which protects clients but exposes us to a greater number of risks than time-and-materials and unit-based contracts. These risks include:

- Underestimation of costs;
- Ambiguities in specifications;
- Problems with new technologies;
- Unforeseen costs or difficulties;
- Failures of subcontractors;
- Delays beyond our control; and
- Economic and other changes that may occur during the contract period.

The occurrence of any such risk could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations or financial condition.

***Because we primarily provide services to municipalities and other public agencies, we are more susceptible to the unique risks associated with government contracts.***

We primarily work for municipalities and other public agencies. Consequently, we are exposed to certain risks associated with government contracting, any one of which can have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations. These risks include:

- The ability of the public agency to terminate the contract with 30 days' prior notice or less;
- Changes in government spending and fiscal policies which can have an adverse effect on demand for our services;
- Contracts that are subject to government budget cycles, and often are subject to renewal on an annual basis;
- The often wide variation of the types and pricing terms of contracts from agency to agency;
- The difficulty of obtaining change orders and additions to contracts; and
- The requirement to perform periodic audits as a condition of certain contract arrangements.

***Changes in the perceived risk of acts of terrorism or natural disasters could have a material adverse effect on our ability to grow our Willdan Homeland Solutions business.***

If there is a significant decrease in the perceived risk of the likelihood that one or more acts of terrorism will be conducted in the United States, or a significant decrease in the perceived risk of the occurrence of natural disasters, our ability to grow and generate revenue through Willdan Homeland Solutions, or WHS, could be negatively affected. WHS provides training and consulting services to local and regional agencies related to preparing for and responding to incidents of terrorism and natural disaster. Should the perceived risk of such incidence decline, federal and state funding for homeland security and emergency preparedness could be reduced which might decrease demand for our services and have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

***The loss of certain of our key executives could adversely affect our business, including our ability to secure and complete engagements and attract and retain employees.***

We have experienced turnover in our management team since 2006. In 2006, our co-founder and Chief Executive Officer, Dan Heil, passed away unexpectedly. Just prior to Mr. Heil's death, and at his recommendation, our Board of Directors elected Win Westfall to succeed Mr. Heil. Mr. Westfall resigned as our Chief Executive Officer in February 2007 and we appointed Thomas Brisbin as our new President and Chief Executive Officer in April 2007. In July 2007, Kimberly Gant was appointed as our Chief Financial Officer when Mallory McCamant, our former Chief Financial Officer, assumed the role of Chief Operations Officer. Ms. McCamant resigned in May 2008. Additionally, Richard Kopecky, our former Senior Vice President and President of Willdan Engineering, was terminated in February 2007 and replaced by David Hunt, who has been with us for more than 21 years. In December 2008, Daniel Chow replaced Mr. Hunt as Chief Executive Officer and President of Willdan Engineering. Mr. Hunt currently holds the position of Senior Vice President, Director of Operations for Willdan Engineering responsible for business management activities for that subsidiary.

Because of the turnover of our management team, any additional losses of our management team or key employees could have a material adverse effect on our business, including the ability to secure or complete contracts and to attract and retain additional employees. Our success is highly dependent upon the efforts, talents, abilities, marketing skills and operational execution of our key executives and managers.

***Our ability to grow and compete in our industry will be hampered if we are unable to retain the continued service of our key professionals or to identify, hire and retain additional qualified professionals.***

A critical factor to our business is our ability to attract and retain qualified professionals. We are continually at risk of losing current professionals or being unable to hire additional professionals as needed. If we are unable to attract new qualified employees, our ability to grow will be adversely affected. If we are unable to retain current employees, our financial condition and results of operations may be adversely affected. We would also be increasing our competition, as former employees pose the greatest threat of significant competition to our business.

***We operate in a highly fragmented industry, and we may not be able to compete effectively with our larger competitors.***

The market for services in the engineering, municipal consulting, public finance consulting, geotechnical, homeland security and other technical services industries is competitive and highly fragmented. Contract awards are based primarily on quality of service, relevant experience, staffing capabilities, reputation, geographic presence, stability and price. Some of our competitors in certain service areas have more personnel and greater financial, technical and marketing resources than us.

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With regard to engineering related services, which represented approximately 75% and 78% of our contract revenue for fiscal years 2009 and 2008, respectively, our competitors include many larger consulting firms such as AECOM Technology Corporation, CH2M Hill, Jacobs Engineering Group Inc. and Tetra Tech, Inc. In certain public finance consulting services, we may compete with large accounting firms, such as Ernst & Young LLP. We can offer no assurance that we will be able to compete successfully in the future with these or other competitors.

### ***Our services may expose us to liability in excess of our current insurance coverage, which may have a material adverse effect on our liquidity.***

Our services involve significant risks of professional and other liabilities, which may substantially exceed the fees we derive from our services. In addition, from time to time, we assume liabilities as a result of indemnification provisions contained in our service contracts. We cannot predict the magnitude of these potential liabilities.

We currently maintain general liability insurance, with coverage in the amount of \$1.0 million per occurrence, subject to a \$2.0 million general aggregate limit; and professional liability insurance, with \$5.0 million in coverage per claim, and a \$10.0 million annual aggregate limit. We also carry excess coverage of an additional \$10.0 million for general, automobile and employer's liability claims. Claims may be made against us that exceed these limits. We are liable to pay claims from our assets if and when the aggregate settlement or judgment amount exceeds our policy limits. Our professional liability policy is a "claims made" policy. Thus, only claims made during the term of the policy are covered. If we terminate our professional liability policy and do not obtain retroactive coverage, we would be uninsured for claims made after termination even if these claims are based on events or acts that occurred during the term of the policy. Further, our insurance may not protect us against liability because our policies typically have various exceptions to the claims covered and also require us to assume some costs of the claim even though a portion of the claim may be covered. In addition, if we expand into new markets, we may not be able to obtain insurance coverage for these new activities or, if insurance is obtained, the dollar amount of any liabilities incurred could exceed our insurance coverage. A partially or completely uninsured claim, if successful and of significant magnitude, could have a material adverse effect on our liquidity.

### ***The quality of our service and our ability to perform under some of our contracts would be adversely affected if qualified sub-consultants are unavailable for us to engage.***

Under some of our contracts, we rely on the efforts and skills of sub-consultants for the performance of some of the tasks. In fiscal years 2009 and 2008, sub-consultant costs comprised approximately 13% and 11%, respectively, of our contract revenue. The absence of qualified sub-consultants with whom we have a satisfactory relationship could adversely affect the quality of our service offerings and therefore our financial results.

### ***Potential future acquisitions could be difficult to integrate, divert the attention of key personnel, disrupt our business, dilute stockholder value and impair our financial results.***

As part of our business strategy, we intend to consider acquisitions of companies that are complementary to our business, such as our acquisition of Intergy Corporation in June 2008. Appropriate acquisitions could allow us to expand into new geographical locations, offer new services, or acquire additional talent. Accordingly, our future performance will be impacted by our ability to identify appropriate businesses to acquire, negotiate favorable terms for such acquisitions and then effectively and efficiently integrate such acquisitions into our existing businesses. There is no certainty that we will succeed in such endeavors.

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Acquisitions involve numerous risks, any of which could harm our business, including:

- Difficulties in integrating the operations, technologies, products, existing contracts, accounting and personnel of the target company and realizing the anticipated synergies of the combined businesses;
- Difficulties in supporting and transitioning customers, if any, of the target company;
- Diversion of our financial and management resources from existing operations;
- The price we pay or other resources that we devote may exceed the value we realize, or the value we could have realized if we had allocated the purchase price or other resources to another opportunity;
- Risks of entering new markets in which we have limited or no experience;
- Potential loss of key employees, customers and strategic alliances from either our current business or the target company's business;
- Assumption of unanticipated problems or latent liabilities, such as problems with the quality of the target company's services; and
- Inability to generate sufficient net income to justify the acquisition costs.

Acquisitions also frequently result in the recording of goodwill and other intangible assets which are subject to potential impairment in the future that could harm our financial results. In addition, if we finance acquisitions by issuing convertible debt or equity securities, our existing stockholders may be diluted, which could lower the market price of our common stock. As a result, if we fail to properly evaluate acquisitions or investments, we may not achieve the anticipated benefits of any such acquisitions, and we may incur costs in excess of amounts that we anticipate.

***If we fail to comply with the requirements imposed by Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, the trading price of our stock could drop significantly.***

Pursuant to Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, or Sarbanes-Oxley, we are required to provide a management certification on our internal controls over financial reporting. Because we are a smaller reporting company, we will be required to provide an attestation report related to the effectiveness of our internal controls over financial reporting from our independent registered public accounting firm for the first time for fiscal year 2010. In order to achieve compliance with Section 404 of Sarbanes-Oxley, in 2007 we engaged outside professional consultants to assist us in documenting and evaluating our internal control over financial reporting. This exercise was both costly and challenging. We believe the efforts we have put forth to date give us the basis to conclude that we have effective internal controls over financial reporting. When our independent auditors attest to the effectiveness of our internal controls over financial reporting this upcoming fiscal year end and in future years, our auditors may not agree with our management's conclusion and, as a result, may not be able to conclude that our internal controls over financial reporting are effective. Moreover, the costs to comply with the provisions of Section 404 of Sarbanes-Oxley, as presently in effect, could continue to be significant.

In addition, during the course of testing the design and effectiveness of our internal controls, we or our independent registered public accounting firm may identify deficiencies that we may not be able to remediate in time to allow for an unqualified report from our independent registered public accounting firm. Furthermore, if we fail to achieve and maintain the adequacy of our internal controls, as such standards are modified, supplemented or amended from time to time, we may not be able to ensure that we can conclude on an ongoing basis that we have effective internal controls over financial reporting in accordance with Section 404 of Sarbanes-Oxley. Effective internal controls, particularly those related to revenue recognition, are necessary for us to produce reliable financial reports and are important to helping prevent financial fraud. If we cannot provide reliable financial reports or prevent fraud, our business and operating results could be harmed, investors could lose confidence in our reported financial information, and the trading price of our stock could drop significantly.

***We have incurred, and will continue to incur, significant costs as a public company.***

As a public company, we incur significant legal, accounting and other expenses that we did not incur prior to November 2006 as a private company. New rules and regulations for public companies may increase our legal and financial compliance costs and will make some activities more time-consuming and costly. For example, we expect rules and regulations applicable to public companies to make it more difficult and more expensive for us to maintain director and officer liability insurance, and we may be required to incur substantial costs to maintain the same or similar coverage.

***The concentration of ownership of our stock may delay or prevent a change of control of our company or changes in our management, and as a result may hinder the ability of our stockholders to take advantage of a premium offer.***

The concentration of ownership of our stock may have the effect of delaying or preventing a change in control of the company or a change in our management and may adversely affect the voting or other rights of other holders of our common stock. As of March 17, 2010 our directors and executive officers beneficially own 1,500,589 shares of common stock, or approximately 20% of our outstanding common stock. Of these shares, 925,120 shares, or approximately 13% of our outstanding common stock, are owned by Linda L. Heil, a member of our board of directors.

**Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information**

In addition to current and historical information, this report contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements relate to our future operations, prospects, potential products, services, developments and business strategies. These statements can, in some cases, be identified by the use of words like "may," "will," "should," "could," "would," "intend," "expect," "plan," "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "predict," "project," "potential," or "continue" or the negative of such terms or other comparable terminology. This report includes, among others, forward-looking statements regarding our:

- Expectations about future customers;
- Expectations about expanded service offerings;
- Expectations about our ability to cross-sell additional services to existing clients;
- Expectations about our intended geographical expansion;
- Expectations about our ability to attract executive officers and key employees;
- Evaluation of the materiality of our current legal proceedings; and
- Expectations about positive cash flow generation and existing cash and cash equivalents being sufficient to meet normal operating requirements.

These statements involve certain known and unknown risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in our forward-looking statements. Such risks and uncertainties include, among others, those listed in this section. We do not intend, and undertake no obligation, to update any of our forward-looking statements after the date of this report to reflect actual results or future events or circumstances.

**ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS**

None.

## **ITEM 2. PROPERTIES**

Our corporate headquarters are located in approximately 42,000 square feet of office space that we lease at 2401 East Katella Avenue, Anaheim, California. In addition, we lease office space in 20 other locations principally in California, Arizona and New York. In total, our facilities contain approximately 164,000 square feet of office space and are subject to leases that expire through fiscal year 2014. We also rent additional office space on a month-to-month basis. We believe that our existing facilities are adequate to meet current requirements and that suitable additional or substitute space will be available as needed to accommodate any expansion of operations and for additional offices.

## **ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

We are subject to claims and lawsuits from time to time, including those alleging professional errors or omissions that arise in the ordinary course of business against firms, like ours, that operate in the engineering and consulting professions. We carry professional liability insurance, subject to certain deductibles and policy limits, for such claims as they arise and may from time to time establish reserves for litigation that is considered probable of a loss. We may incur substantial expenses in defending against third party claims. In the event of a determination adverse to us, we may incur substantial monetary liability and be required to change our business practices. Either of these results could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

*County of San Diego v. Willdan*, Superior Court of California, Riverside County

A complaint was filed against us on February 28, 2008 relating to a project for the reconstruction of a portion of Valley Center Road located in an unincorporated area of San Diego County. The design was completed by us and a contract was awarded to a construction contractor for construction of the improvements. The construction was originally scheduled for completion in December 2008; however completion was delayed until fall 2009. The lawsuit alleges that the delays in construction were caused by errors and omissions in our preparation of reports and design and engineering of the project, resulting in additional design and construction costs, in an amount to be determined but believed to be in excess of \$5.0 million. We deny the allegations asserted in the lawsuit and will vigorously defend against the claims.

*Topaz v. City of Laguna Beach*, Superior Court of California, Orange County

This suit concerns a project by the City of Laguna Beach to reconstruct a retaining wall supporting a city road. We served as the construction observer for this project and designed the retaining wall. Subsequent to completion of the project, a slope below the retaining wall failed damaging the plaintiffs' residence. The retaining wall did not fail. The construction work was performed from February to March 2005 and the slope failure occurred in June 2005. The plaintiffs were not injured in the incident. The plaintiffs allege that the City of Laguna Beach violated its own ordinances by not obtaining appropriate geotechnical data during the design stage and by allowing the work to be constructed during the rainy season. The lawsuit names Merit Engineering, the project designer, Peterson-Chase Engineering, the general contractor and us, the construction observer, as defendants. We were named as a defendant in the first amended complaint filed on October 17, 2007. The plaintiffs issued a statement of damages on April 25, 2008 indicating damages to real and personal property in the amount of \$0.8 million and general damages between \$1.6 million and \$4.7 million. A cross-complaint has been filed in the action by Peterson-Chase against us seeking equitable apportionment. We deny the allegations asserted in the lawsuit and the cross-complaint and will vigorously defend against the claims.

## **ITEM 4. [RESERVED]**

## PART II

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

#### *Market Information for Common Stock*

Since November 21, 2006, the common stock of Willdan Group, Inc. has been listed and traded on the Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol "WLDN". The following table sets out the high and low daily closing sale prices as reported on the NASDAQ Global Market for fiscal years 2009 and 2008. These reported prices reflect inter-dealer prices without adjustments for retail markups, markdowns, or commissions.

|                         | 2009    |         | 2008    |         |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                         | High    | Low     | High    | Low     |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter | \$ 2.99 | \$ 1.46 | \$ 6.88 | \$ 5.00 |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter | \$ 1.99 | \$ 1.15 | \$ 5.94 | \$ 4.71 |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter | \$ 3.75 | \$ 1.34 | \$ 5.09 | \$ 2.99 |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter | \$ 3.10 | \$ 2.06 | \$ 3.20 | \$ 1.50 |

On March 29, 2010, the closing sales price per share of our common stock, as reported on the Nasdaq Global Market, was \$2.24.

#### *Stockholders*

As of March 29, 2010, there were 108 stockholders of record of our common stock.

#### *Dividends*

We did not declare or pay cash dividends on our common stock in fiscal years 2009 and 2008. Our revolving credit agreement prohibits the payment of any dividend or distribution on our common stock either in cash, stock or any other property without the lender's consent.

#### *Recent Sales of Unregistered Securities*

In the three years preceding the filing of this report, we have issued the following securities that were not registered under the Securities Act:

In connection with our purchase of Willdan Energy Solutions (formerly, Intergy Corporation) on June 9, 2008, we agreed to make potential earn-out payments of up to \$6,160,000 to the sellers if Willdan Energy Solutions achieves certain levels of earnings before interest and taxes in each of the first three years following completion of the acquisition. If any earn-out payments are due, we may elect, in our sole discretion, to pay up to 50% of such earn-out payments in shares of our common stock as long as (a) our market capitalization at the time of any such earn-out payment is between \$57.0 million and \$86.0 million and (b) the shares of common stock are traded on a United States national securities exchange or reported through NASDAQ as of the end of the applicable period for which the earn-out was achieved. If the Average Daily Trading Volume (as defined in the Stock Purchase Agreement) of our common stock as of the end of an applicable earn-out period is less than 0.42% of our then-issued and outstanding common stock, we may not pay more than 25% of the applicable earn-out payment in shares of our common stock.

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The issuance of shares in connection with the acquisition were made in reliance upon the exemption from registration pursuant to Section 4(2) of the Securities Act as transactions by an issuer not involving any public offering. The purchasers were provided financial and other information concerning us and were allowed the opportunity to ask questions and receive information from us prior to making their investment decisions. The purchasers represented their intention to acquire the securities for investment purposes and not with a view to sell or for sale in connection with any distribution thereof. Based on the limited nature of the offering, the level of knowledge and relationships of the purchasers with us, the provision and access to information and the restrictions on transfer, we believe our offering satisfied the Section 4(2) exemption of the Act.

***Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities***

None.

**ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA**

The financial data set forth below should be read in conjunction with our corresponding consolidated financial statements and notes thereto and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations included elsewhere in this annual report.

|   | Fiscal Year                             |            |           |           |            |
|---|---|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
|   | 2009                                    | 2008       | 2007      | 2006      | 2005       |
|   | (in thousands except per share amounts) |            |           |           |            |
| Consolidated Statement of Operations Data:  |   |            |           |           |            |
| Contract revenue  | \$ 61,605                               | \$ 73,190  | \$ 78,798 | \$ 78,339 | \$ 67,263  |
| Direct costs of contract revenue (exclusive of depreciation and amortization shown separately below): |   |            |           |           |            |
| Salaries and wages  | 18,130                                  | 21,991     | 25,769    | 24,602    | 20,918     |
| Sub-consultant services   | 7,997                                   | 7,750      | 4,600     | 4,168     | 4,745      |
| Other direct costs  | 2,715                                   | 2,973      | 1,568     | 1,496     | 1,529      |
| Total direct costs of contract revenue  | 28,842                                  | 32,714     | 31,937    | 30,266    | 27,192     |
| General and administrative expenses:  |   |            |           |           |            |
| Salaries and wages, payroll taxes, employee benefits  | 20,325                                  | 24,439     | 25,061    | 26,051    | 22,720     |
| Facilities and facility related   | 4,430                                   | 4,803      | 4,546     | 4,046     | 3,481      |
| Stock-based compensation  | 272                                     | 214        | 209       | 38        | 2,737      |
| Depreciation and amortization   | 1,814                                   | 1,978      | 1,747     | 1,584     | 1,257      |
| Lease abandonment   | 707                                     | 742        | —         | —         | —          |
| Impairment of goodwill  | 2,763                                   | 148        | —         | —         | —          |
| Litigation accrual (reversal)   | (1,125)                                 | —          | 1,049     | (1,049)   | 2,686      |
| Other   | 11,070                                  | 10,952     | 11,727    | 10,359    | 7,935      |
| Total general and administrative expenses   | 40,256                                  | 43,276     | 44,339    | 41,029    | 40,816     |
| (Loss) income from operations   | (7,493)                                 | (2,800)    | 2,522     | 7,044     | (745)      |
| Other (expense) income:   |   |            |           |           |            |
| Interest income   | 30                                      | 313        | 693       | 135       | 19         |
| Interest expense  | (38)                                    | (33)       | 499       | (773)     | (630)      |
| Other, net  | (5)                                     | (15)       | (27)      | 2,335     | (8)        |
| Total other (expense) income  | (13)                                    | 265        | 1,165     | 1,697     | (619)      |
| (Loss) income before income tax expense   | (7,506)                                 | (2,535)    | 3,687     | 8,741     | (1,364)    |
| Income tax (benefit) expense  |   |            |           |           |            |
|   | (1,931)                                 | (930)      | 1,543     | 2,021     | 17         |
| Net (loss) income   | \$ (5,575)                              | \$ (1,605) | \$ 2,144  | \$ 6,720  | \$ (1,381) |
| Earnings per common share, basic and diluted  |   |            |           |           |            |
|   | \$ (0.78)                               | \$ (0.22)  | \$ 0.30   | \$ 1.37   | \$ (0.35)  |
| Weighted average common shares outstanding:   |   |            |           |           |            |
| Basic   | 7,192                                   | 7,159      | 7,149     | 4,900     | 3,994      |
| Diluted   | 7,192                                   | 7,160      | 7,150     | 4,900     | 3,994      |
| S Corporation distributions paid per share  |   |            |           | \$ 1.16   | \$ 0.46    |

|  | Fiscal Year                             |        |          |          |            |
|--|---|--------|----------|----------|------------|
|  | 2009                                    | 2008   | 2007     | 2006     | 2005       |
|  | (in thousands except per share amounts) |        |          |          |            |
| <b>Pro Forma Data (unaudited)(1):</b>                  |   |        |          |          |            |
| Pro forma provision for income taxes                   |   |        |          | \$ 2,596 | \$ 549     |
| Pro forma net income (loss)                            |   |        |          | \$ 6,145 | \$ (1,913) |
| Pro forma earnings per common share, basic and diluted |   |        |          | \$ 1.25  | \$ (0.48)  |
| <b>Other Operating Data (unaudited):</b>               |   |        |          |          |            |
| Adjusted EBITDA(2)                                     | \$ (3,333)                              | \$ 68  | \$ 5,326 | \$ 7,651 | \$ 5,951   |
| Revenue per employee(3)                                | \$ 132                                  | \$ 133 | \$ 132   | \$ 131   | \$ 125     |
| Employee headcount at period end(4)                    | 466                                     | 550    | 628      | 670      | 599        |

|   | January 1,<br>2010 | January 2,<br>2009 | December 28,<br>2007 | December 29,<br>2006 | December 30,<br>2005 |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Consolidated Balance Sheet Data:</b> |                    |                    |                      |                      |                      |
| Cash and cash equivalents               | \$ 8,445           | \$ 8,144           | \$ 15,511            | \$ 20,633            | \$ 3,066             |
| Working capital                         | 16,704             | 19,820             | 30,171               | 26,721               | 9,429                |
| Total assets                            | 40,332             | 47,570             | 48,226               | 57,108               | 32,797               |
| Total indebtedness                      | 1,230              | 394                | 1,547                | 1,632                | 1,858                |
| Total redeemable common stock           | —                  | —                  | —                    | —                    | 14,660               |
| Total stockholders' equity              | 29,117             | 34,336             | 35,652               | 33,264               | —                    |

- (1) Prior to our initial public offering in November 2006, we were taxed as an S Corporation for purposes of federal and state income taxes. As a result of that offering, our S Corporation status terminated and we are now taxed as a C Corporation under federal and state tax laws. The pro forma data reflects combined federal and state income taxes on a pro forma basis as if we had been taxed as a C Corporation during those periods using an effective tax rate of 40%.
- (2) Adjusted EBITDA is a supplemental measure used by our management to measure our operating performance. We define Adjusted EBITDA as net income plus net interest expense, income tax expense (benefit), depreciation and amortization, goodwill impairment expense, lease abandonment expense, loss (gains) on sales of assets, accrued expenses related to a litigation matter and a one-time stock-based compensation expense recorded in anticipation of our IPO, less proceeds from life insurance policies carried on our former chief executive officer. Our definition of Adjusted EBITDA may differ from those of many companies reporting similarly named measures. This measure should be considered in addition to, and not as a substitute for or superior to, other measures of financial performance prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, or GAAP, such as operating income and net income. We believe Adjusted EBITDA enables management to separate non-recurring income and expense items from our results of operations to provide a more normalized and consistent view of operating performance on a period-to-period basis. We use Adjusted EBITDA to evaluate our performance for, among other things, budgeting, forecasting and incentive compensation purposes. We also believe Adjusted EBITDA is useful to investors, research analysts, investment bankers and lenders because it removes from our operational results the impact of certain non-recurring income and expense items, which may facilitate comparison of our results from period to period.

Adjusted EBITDA is not a recognized term under GAAP and does not purport to be an alternative to operating income or net income as an indicator of operating performance or any other GAAP measure.

The following is a reconciliation of net income to Adjusted EBITDA (in thousands):

|  | Fiscal Year       |              |                 |                 |                 |
|--|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|  | 2009              | 2008         | 2007            | 2006            | 2005            |
| Net (loss) income  | \$ (5,575)        | \$ (1,605)   | \$ 2,144        | \$ 6,720        | \$ (1,381)      |
| Interest income  | (30)              | (313)        | (693)           | (135)           | (19)            |
| Interest expense (reversal)  | 38                | 33           | (499)           | 773             | 630             |
| Income tax (benefit) expense   | (1,931)           | (930)        | 1,543           | 2,021           | 17              |
| Lease abandonment expense  | 707               | 742          | —               | —               | —               |
| Goodwill impairment  | 2,763             | 148          | —               | —               | —               |
| Depreciation and amortization  | 1,814             | 1,978        | 1,755           | 1,584           | 1,257           |
| Loss (gain) on sale of assets  | 6                 | 15           | 27              | (13)            | 24              |
| Life insurance proceeds  | —                 | —            | —               | (2,250)         | —               |
| Litigation (reversal) accrual  | (1,125)           | —            | 1,049           | (1,049)         | 2,686           |
| Stock-based compensation expense recorded in anticipation of our IPO | —                 | —            | —               | —               | 2,737           |
| Adjusted EBITDA  | <u>\$ (3,333)</u> | <u>\$ 68</u> | <u>\$ 5,326</u> | <u>\$ 7,651</u> | <u>\$ 5,951</u> |

- (3) Reflects contract revenue, excluding revenue related to reimbursement of sub-consultants and other costs, divided by the average number of full-time equivalent employees during the period.
- (4) Includes full-time and part-time employees.

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

### Overview

We are a provider of outsourced services to small and mid-sized public agencies and large public utilities in California, New York, and to a lesser extent, other states throughout the United States. Outsourcing enables these agencies to provide a wide range of specialized services, without having to incur and maintain the overhead necessary to develop staffing in-house. We provide a broad range of services to public agencies and to a lesser extent, private industry, including:

- Civil Engineering;
- Building and Safety Services;
- Geotechnical Engineering;
- Energy Efficiency Consulting
- Financial and Economic Consulting; and
- Disaster Preparedness and Homeland Security.

We operate our business through a network of offices located primarily in California and New York. We also have operations in Arizona and, to lesser extent, other states throughout the United States. As of January 1, 2010, we had a staff of 466 that includes licensed engineers and other professionals. Based on our 2008 revenue, we ranked 164 out of 500 top design firms in *Engineering News-Record's* 2009 Design Survey. Our traditional clients have been public agencies in communities with populations ranging from 10,000 to 300,000 people. We believe communities of this size are underserved by large outsourcing companies that tend to focus on securing large federal and state projects, as well as projects for the private sector. We also provide services to large public utilities which service major metropolitan communities. We seek to establish close working relationships with our public agency clients and, over time, to expand the breadth and depth of the services we provide to them.

While we currently serve communities throughout the country, our business with public agencies is concentrated in California and neighboring states. We provide services to approximately 60% of the 480 cities and over 60% of the 58 counties in California. We also serve special districts, school districts, a range of public agencies, and to a lesser extent, private industry. Our business with large public utilities is concentrated in California and New York.

We were founded over 40 years ago, and today consist of a family of wholly owned companies that operate within the following segments for financial reporting purposes:

- *Engineering Services.* Our Engineering Services segment includes the operations of our subsidiaries, Willdan Engineering, Willdan Geotechnical, Willdan Energy Solutions, Willdan Resource Solutions and Public Agency Resources (PARs). These businesses collectively provide engineering-related services, geotechnical engineering services, environmental engineering and environmental related services and energy efficiency, water conservation, sustainability and renewable energy services to public agencies and, to a lesser extent, private industry. Additionally, PARs primarily provides staffing to Willdan Engineering. Willdan Engineering is our largest subsidiary and currently represents our core business. Contract revenue for the Engineering Services segment represented approximately 75% and 78% of our consolidated contract revenue for fiscal year 2009 and fiscal year 2008, respectively.

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- *Public Finance Services.* Our Public Finance Services segment consists of the business of our subsidiary, Willdan Financial Services, which offers financial and economic consulting services to public agencies. For fiscal years 2009 and 2008, contract revenue for the Public Finance Services segment represented approximately 19% of our consolidated contract revenue.
- *Homeland Security Services.* Our Homeland Security Services segment consists of the business of our subsidiary, Willdan Homeland Solutions, which offers homeland security, management consulting and public safety consulting services. For fiscal years 2009 and 2008, contract revenue for our Homeland Security Services segment represented approximately 6% and 3%, respectively, of our overall contract revenue.

## **Recent Developments**

General economic conditions have continued to decline due to a number of factors including slower economic activity, a lack of available credit, decreased consumer confidence and reduced corporate profits and capital spending. These conditions have led to a slowdown in construction, particularly residential housing construction, in the western United States. As a result of this slowdown, both our engineering services segment and public finance services segment have suffered declines in revenue and operating margin compression. As a result, we have made several reductions in workforce and facility leases in order to align resources to workload and reduce costs. Should the economic slowdown continue for longer than expected or worsen, we will need to evaluate further reductions in headcount and facilities in business lines that are underperforming. We will also continue to focus on reducing discretionary expenditures and the efficient procurement of necessary services.

Declining revenue resulting from the economic conditions discussed above also contributed to us violating certain financial covenants in fiscal 2008 in our revolving credit agreement with Wells Fargo Bank, National Association ("Wells Fargo"). Wells Fargo agreed to waive these defaults and eliminate or modify certain financial covenants in exchange for our agreement to reduce the aggregate revolving loan commitment from \$10.0 million to \$5.0 million, amend certain financial covenants, cash collateralize the commitment and increase pricing. The terms of our amended credit agreement are discussed in more detail below under "—Liquidity and Capital Resources—Outstanding Indebtedness." Additionally, the credit agreement, as amended, matures on January 1, 2011 and we cannot provide any assurance that Wells Fargo will renew this line of credit. While we believe that our cash on hand, cash generated by operating activities and funds available under our amended credit facility with Wells Fargo will be sufficient to finance our operating activities for the next 12 months, if we do experience a cash flow shortage or violate the current terms of our credit agreement, we may have difficulty obtaining additional funds on favorable terms, if at all, in the current credit market.

During the fourth quarter of 2009, we concluded that the estimated value of our financial services segment had declined to a point where it was necessary to recognize impairment for the full amount of the goodwill of \$2.8 million.

## **Components of Income and Expense**

### ***Contract Revenue***

We enter into contracts with our clients that contain three principal types of pricing provisions: fixed price, time-and-materials and unit-based. Contract revenue on our fixed price contracts is determined on the percentage-of-completion method based generally on the ratio of direct costs incurred to date to estimated total direct costs at completion. Many of our fixed price contracts are relatively short in duration, thereby lowering the risks of not properly estimating the percent complete. Revenue on our time-and-materials and unit-based contracts are recognized as the work is performed in accordance with specific terms of the contract. Approximately 41% of our contracts are based on

contractual rates per hour plus costs incurred. Some of these contracts include maximum contract prices, but the majority of these contracts are not expected to exceed the maximum.

Adjustments to contract cost estimates are made in the periods in which the facts requiring such revisions become known. When the revised estimate indicates a loss, such loss is provided for currently in its entirety. Claims revenue is recognized only upon resolution of the claim. Change orders in dispute are evaluated as claims. Costs related to un-priced change orders are expensed when incurred and recognition of the related contract revenue is based on an evaluation of the probability of recovery of the costs. Estimated profit is recognized for un-priced change orders if realization of the expected price of the change order is probable.

#### ***Direct Costs of Contract Revenue***

Direct costs of contract revenue consist primarily of that portion of technical and nontechnical salaries and wages that has been incurred in connection with revenue producing projects. Direct costs of contract revenue also include production expenses, sub-consultant services and other expenses that are incurred in connection with revenue producing projects. Direct costs of contract revenue exclude depreciation and amortization, that portion of technical and nontechnical salaries and wages related to marketing efforts, vacations, holidays and other time not spent directly generating revenue under existing contracts. Such costs are included in general and administrative expenses. Additionally, payroll taxes, bonuses and employee benefit costs for all of our personnel are included in general and administrative expenses since no allocation of these costs is made to direct costs of contract revenue. No allocation of facilities costs is made to direct costs of contract revenue nor is depreciation and amortization allocated to direct costs. We expense direct costs of contract revenue when incurred.

As a firm that provides multiple and diverse outsource services, we do not believe gross margin is a consistent or appropriate indicator of our performance and therefore we do not use this measure as construction contractors and other types of consulting firms may. Other companies may classify as direct costs of contract revenue some of the costs that we classify as general and administrative expenses. As a result, our direct costs of contract revenue may not be comparable to direct costs for other companies, either as a line item expense or as a percentage of contract revenue.

#### ***General and Administrative Expenses***

General and administrative expenses include the costs of the marketing and support staffs, other marketing expenses, management and administrative personnel costs, payroll taxes, bonuses and employee benefits for all of our employees and the portion of salaries and wages not allocated to direct costs of contract revenue for those employees who provide our services. General and administrative expenses also include facility costs, depreciation and amortization, professional services, legal and accounting fees and administrative operating costs. Within general and administrative expenses, "Other" includes expenses such as professional services, legal and accounting, computer costs, travel and entertainment and marketing costs. We expense general and administrative costs when incurred.

#### ***Critical Accounting Policies***

This discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations is based upon our consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the U.S., or GAAP. To prepare these financial statements in conformity with GAAP, we must make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amount of revenue and expenses in the reporting period. Our actual results may differ from these estimates. We have provided a summary of our significant accounting policies in Note 2 to our consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this report. We describe below those accounting policies that require material subjective or complex judgments and that have the most significant impact on our financial condition and results of operations. Our management evaluates these estimates on an ongoing basis, based upon information currently available and on various assumptions management believes are reasonable as of the date of this report.

### ***Contract Accounting***

Applying the percentage-of-completion method of recognizing revenue requires us to estimate the indicated outcome of our long-term contracts. We forecast such outcomes to the best of our knowledge and belief of current and expected conditions and our expected course of action. Differences between our estimates and actual results often occur resulting in changes to reported revenue and earnings. Such changes could have a material effect on our future consolidated financial statements.

Accounts receivable are carried at original invoice amount less an estimate made for doubtful accounts based upon our review of all outstanding amounts on a monthly basis. We determine the allowance for doubtful accounts by identifying troubled accounts and by using historical experience applied to an aging of accounts. Our credit risk is minimal with governmental entities. Account receivables are written off when deemed uncollectible. Recoveries of accounts receivable previously written off are recorded when received. For further information on the types of contracts under which we perform our services, see "Business—Contract Structure" elsewhere in this report.

### ***Goodwill***

We test goodwill, at least annually, for possible impairment. Accordingly, we complete our annual testing of goodwill as of the last day of the first month of our fourth fiscal quarter each year to determine whether there is impairment. In addition to our annual test, we regularly evaluate whether events and circumstances have occurred that may indicate a potential impairment of goodwill. We recognized impairment charges for fiscal year 2009 related to our Public Finance Services reporting unit and for fiscal year 2008 related to our Homeland Security Services reporting unit. Neither our Public Finance Services reporting unit nor our Homeland Security Services reporting unit have any remaining goodwill following these impairment charges. We did not recognize any goodwill impairment charges in fiscal year 2007.

We test our goodwill for impairment at the level of our reporting units, which are components of our operating segments. The reporting unit that still has a material amount of goodwill is Willdan Energy Solutions, which is part of our engineering services segment. The process of testing goodwill for impairment involves the determination of the fair value of the applicable reporting units. To estimate the fair value of our reporting units, we have historically used an income approach based on a multiple of historical cash flows, management's estimates of future cash flows and other market data. In fiscal year 2008, we expanded our methodology to include a market approach based upon multiples of EBITDA earned by similar public companies. For our fiscal years 2009 and 2008 annual impairment testing, we weighted the income approach and the market approach at 80% and 20%, respectively. The income approach was given a higher weight because it has a more direct correlation to the specific economics of the reporting units than the market approach, which is based on multiples of public companies that, although comparable, may not provide the same mix of services as our reporting units.

Once the fair value is determined, we then compare the fair value of the reporting unit to its carrying value, including goodwill. If the fair value of the reporting unit is determined to be less than the carrying value, we perform an additional assessment to determine the extent of the impairment based on the implied fair value of goodwill compared with the carrying amount of the goodwill. In the event that the current implied fair value of the goodwill is less than the carrying value, an impairment charge is recognized.

Inherent in such fair value determinations are significant judgments and estimates, including but not limited to assumptions about our future revenue, profitability and cash flows, our operational plans and our interpretation of current economic indicators and market valuations. To the extent these assumptions are incorrect or economic conditions that would impact the future operations of our reporting units change, our goodwill may be deemed to be impaired, and an impairment charge could result in a material adverse effect on our financial position or results of operation. At our measurement

date, the estimated fair value of our energy solutions reporting unit exceeded the carrying value by approximately 25%.

### *Accounting for Claims Against the Company*

We record liabilities to claimants for probable and estimable claims, if any, on our consolidated balance sheet, which we include in accrued liabilities, and record a corresponding receivable from our insurance company for the portion of the claim that is probable of being covered by insurance, which is included in other receivables. The estimated claim amount net of the amount estimated to be recoverable from the insurance company is included in our general and administrative expenses. Determining probability and estimating claim amounts is highly judgmental. Initial accruals and any subsequent changes in our estimates could have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

### **Results of Operations**

The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, certain information derived from our consolidated statements of operations expressed as a percentage of contract revenue. Amounts may not add to the totals due to rounding.

|   | Fiscal Year |        |        |
|---|-------------|--------|--------|
|   | 2009        | 2008   | 2007   |
| <b>Statement of Operations Data:</b>  |             |        |        |
| Contract revenue  | 100.0%      | 100.0% | 100.0% |
| Direct costs of contract revenue (exclusive of depreciation and amortization shown separately below): |             |        |        |
| Salaries and wages  | 29.4        | 30.0   | 32.7   |
| Sub-consultant services   | 13.0        | 10.6   | 5.8    |
| Other direct costs  | 4.4         | 4.1    | 2.0    |
| Total direct costs of contract revenue  | 46.8        | 44.7   | 40.5   |
| General and administrative expenses:  |             |        |        |
| Salaries and wages, payroll taxes, employee benefits  | 33.0        | 33.4   | 31.8   |
| Facilities and facility related   | 7.2         | 6.6    | 5.8    |
| Stock-based compensation  | 0.4         | 0.3    | 0.3    |
| Depreciation and amortization   | 2.9         | 2.7    | 2.2    |
| Lease abandonment   | 1.1         | 1.0    | —      |
| Impairment of goodwill  | 4.5         | 0.2    | —      |
| Litigation accrual (reversal)   | (1.8)       | —      | 1.3    |
| Other   | 18.0        | 15.0   | 14.9   |
| Total general and administrative expenses   | 65.3        | 59.1   | 56.3   |
| (Loss) income from operations   | (12.2)      | (3.8)  | 3.2    |
| Other (expense) income:   |             |        |        |
| Interest income   | —           | 0.4    | 0.9    |
| Interest expense  | (0.1)       | —      | 0.6    |
| Other, net  | —           | —      | —      |
| Total other (expense) income  | —           | 0.4    | 1.5    |
| (Loss) income before income tax expense   | (12.2)      | (3.5)  | 4.7    |
| Income tax (benefit) expense  | (3.1)       | (1.3)  | 2.0    |
| Net (loss) income   | (9.0)       | (2.2)% | 2.7%   |

***Fiscal Year 2009 Compared to Fiscal Year 2008***

*Contract revenue.* Our contract revenue was \$61.6 million for the fiscal year ended January 1, 2010, with \$46.3 million attributable to the Engineering Services segment and \$11.8 million attributable to the Public Finance Services segment. Our Homeland Security Services segment generated \$3.5 million during this period. Consolidated contract revenue decreased \$11.6 million, or 15.8%, from \$73.2 million in the fiscal year ended January 1, 2009. This decrease was due primarily to a decrease of \$11.0 million, or 19.2%, in contract revenue of the Engineering Service segment, and a decrease of \$1.9 million, or 13.9%, in our Public Finance Services segment, offset by an increase of \$1.3 million, or 59.1%, in contract revenue of our Homeland Security Services segment.

Contract revenue of the Engineering Services segment has been significantly impacted by the decline in the California residential housing market and state and local government budget deficits. A historical significant source of revenue in our Engineering Services segment is fees assessed for building permits. Since the second half of fiscal 2007, we have experienced reductions in revenue from these fees because of the continuing slowdown in residential construction in the western United States. Revenue declines in the Public Finance Services segment were primarily due to decreased financial consulting services and fewer new district formations to fund infrastructure projects, partially offset by increased delinquency management services. Revenue in Homeland Security Services has increased due to an increase in our emergency response training courses and exercises, emergency operations planning and other public safety and management consulting services.

*Direct costs of contract revenue.* Direct costs of contract revenue was \$28.8 million for the fiscal year ended January 1, 2010, with \$23.8 million attributable to the Engineering Services segment and \$3.3 million attributable to the Public Finance Services segment. The additional \$1.7 million is attributable to direct costs of contract revenue for our Homeland Security Services segment. Direct costs of contract revenue decreased \$3.9 million, or 11.9%, from \$32.7 million for the fiscal year ended January 2, 2009. Of this total decrease, direct costs of contract revenue decreased \$4.0 million, or 14.4%, in the Engineering Services segment and \$0.4 million, or 10.8%, in the Public Finance Services segment. The \$0.5 million difference was attributable to an increase in cost in our Homeland Security Services segment. The decrease in direct costs of contract revenue for our Engineering Services segment and Public Finance Services segment is primarily due to decreased direct salary costs. Direct costs of contract revenue as a percentage of contract revenue for the fiscal year ended January 1, 2010 increased to 46.8% from 44.7% for the fiscal year ended January 2, 2009, primarily because contract revenue decreased at a higher rate than the direct costs.

Within direct costs of contract revenue, salaries and wages decreased to 29.4% of contract revenue for the fiscal year ended January 1, 2010 from 30.0% for the fiscal year ended January 2, 2009. Comparing those same periods, sub-consultant services increased to 13.0% of contract revenue from 10.6% of contract revenue. Sub-consultant costs increased primarily due to our activity associated with our energy efficiency practice in our Engineering Services segment where we outsource installation services.

*General and administrative expenses.* General and administrative expenses decreased by \$2.9 million, or 6.7%, to \$40.3 million for the fiscal year ended January 1, 2010 from \$43.2 million for the fiscal year ended January 2, 2009. Of the net \$2.9 million decrease, \$4.1 million was due to a decrease in salaries and wages, payroll taxes and employee benefits. The reduction in employee related costs are the direct result of continued cost reduction efforts. Included in general and administrative expenses for the fiscal year ended January 1, 2010 is \$2.7 million in goodwill impairment charges and \$0.7 million in lease abandonment expense, which were partially offset by a favorable legal settlement of \$1.1 million.

Lease abandonment expense includes future rental obligations and other costs associated with leased space that we have ceased to use, offset by future proceeds from sublease arrangements.

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As discussed above under "—Components of Income and Expense-Direct Costs of Contract Revenue," we do not allocate that portion of salaries and wages not related to time spent directly generating revenue to direct costs of contract revenue.

*Loss from operations.* As a result of the above factors, loss from operations was \$7.5 million for the fiscal year ended January 1, 2010 as compared to \$2.8 million for the fiscal year ended January 2, 2009. Loss from operations, as a percentage of contract revenue, decreased to (12.2)% for the fiscal year ended January 1, 2010, from (3.8)% for the fiscal year ended January 2, 2009.

*Other (expense) income.* Other (expense) income, net, decreased by \$0.3 million to an expense of \$13,000 in the fiscal year ended January 1, 2010 from income of \$0.3 million for the fiscal year ended January 2, 2009. This change was primarily due to a decrease in interest income from invested funds.

*Income tax benefit.* Income tax benefit was \$1.9 million for the fiscal year ended January 1, 2010, as compared to \$0.9 million for the fiscal year ended January 2, 2009. During fiscal year 2009, we recorded a \$0.9 million valuation allowance against deferred tax assets in excess of the deferred tax liability for deferred revenue.

*Net loss.* As a result of the above factors, our net loss was \$5.6 million for the fiscal year ended January 1, 2010, compared to \$1.6 million for the fiscal year ended January 2, 2009.

### ***Fiscal Year 2008 Compared to Fiscal Year 2007***

*Contract revenue.* Our contract revenue was \$73.2 million for the fiscal year ended January 2, 2009, with \$57.3 million attributable to the Engineering Services segment and \$13.7 million attributable to the Public Finance Services segment. Our Homeland Security Services segment generated \$2.2 million during this period. Consolidated contract revenue decreased \$5.6 million, or 7.1%, from \$78.8 million in the fiscal year ended December 28, 2007. This decrease was due primarily to a decrease of \$7.1 million, or 11.0%, in contract revenue of the Engineering Service segment, offset by increases of \$1.0 million, or 7.9%, and \$0.5 million, or 29.4%, in contract revenue of the Public Finance Services and Homeland Security Services segments, respectively. Our revenue for fiscal year 2008 also includes \$7.8 million of revenue from Willdan Energy Solutions, which we acquired in June 2008.

Contract revenue of the Engineering Services segment has been significantly impacted by the decline in the California residential housing market and state and local government budget cuts. A source of revenue in our Engineering Services segment is fees assessed for building permits. Since the second half of fiscal 2007, we have experienced reductions in revenue from these fees because of the continuing slowdown in residential construction in the western United States. The \$7.1 million decrease in contract revenue for the Engineering Services segment is net of \$7.8 million of revenue recognized by Willdan Energy Solutions following our acquisition of Willdan Energy Solutions in June 2008. Our Public Finance Services business, specifically district administration projects, tends to run counter-cyclical to the residential housing market. Revenue in the Public Finance Services segment increased primarily due to increased district formation services to fund infrastructure projects as well as increased delinquency management services in our district administration services. Revenue in Homeland Security Services has increased due to an increase in our emergency response training courses, particularly in Southern California. Additionally, our Homeland Security Services segment has expanded its service offerings beyond its traditional training services to include training exercises and management consulting services.

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*Direct costs of contract revenue.* Direct costs of contract revenue was \$32.7 million for the fiscal year ended January 2, 2009, with \$27.8 million attributable to the Engineering Services segment and \$3.7 million attributable to the Public Finance Services segment. The additional \$1.2 million is attributable to direct costs of contract revenue for our Homeland Security Services segment. Direct costs of contract revenue increased \$0.8 million, or 2.5%, from \$31.9 million for the fiscal year ended December 28, 2007. Of this total increase, direct costs of contract revenue increased \$0.1 million, or 0.3%, in the Engineering Services segment and \$0.4 million, or 11.7%, in the Public Finance Services segment. The remaining \$0.3 million increase was attributable to the Homeland Security Services segment. The increase in direct costs of contract revenue for our Engineering Services segment is primarily due to increased salary, sub-consultant and other direct costs related to Willdan Energy Solutions which we acquired in June 2008, offset by decreases in direct salary costs across other areas of the segment. Increases in direct costs of contract revenue for our Public Finance Services and Homeland Security Services segments were primarily the result of the increased volume of activity that generated the increased contract revenue previously discussed for these operating segments. Direct costs of contract revenue as a percentage of contract revenue for the fiscal year ended January 2, 2009 increased to 44.7% from 40.5% for the fiscal year ended December 28, 2007, primarily because contract revenue in our Engineering Services segment decreased at a higher rate than the direct costs of contract revenue attributable to this segment.

Within direct costs of contract revenue, salaries and wages decreased to 30.0% of contract revenue for the fiscal year ended January 2, 2009 from 32.7% for the fiscal year ended December 28, 2007. Comparing those same periods, sub-consultant services increased to 10.6% of contract revenue from 5.8% of contract revenue. Sub-consultant costs increased primarily due to our acquisition of Willdan Energy Solutions which utilizes a higher percentage of sub-consultants than our other subsidiaries.

*General and administrative expenses.* General and administrative expenses decreased by \$1.1 million, or 2.3%, to \$43.2 million for the fiscal year ended January 2, 2009 from \$44.3 million for the fiscal year ended December 28, 2007. The \$1.1 million decrease in general and administrative expenses primarily relates to decreases in salaries and wages, payroll taxes and employee benefits and other general and administrative expenses. The reduction in employee related costs primarily resulted from reductions in headcount and cost control measures. The reduction in other general and administrative expenses related to cost control measures and reductions in professional service costs primarily related to the legal costs incurred during fiscal year 2007 for the settlement of the West Hollywood litigation and lower professional fees during fiscal year 2008 as compared to fiscal year 2007 primarily because we had to comply with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act for the first time in fiscal year 2007. The decreases in general and administrative expenses were partially offset by increases of \$0.3 million in amortization of acquired intangibles related to Willdan Energy Solutions, \$0.7 million of lease abandonment costs and \$0.1 million of goodwill impairments. Fiscal year 2007 general and administrative expenses also included a \$1.0 million litigation accrual for the West Hollywood litigation.

Lease abandonment expense includes future rental obligations and other costs associated with leased space that is no longer utilized by us or sublease tenants.

As discussed above under "—Components of Income and Expense-Direct Costs of Contract Revenue," we do not allocate that portion of salaries and wages not related to time spent directly generating revenue to direct costs of contract revenue.

*(Loss) income from operations.* As a result of the above factors, loss from operations was \$2.8 million for the fiscal year ended January 2, 2009 as compared to income from operations of \$2.5 million for the fiscal year ended December 28, 2007. (Loss) income from operations as a percentage of contract revenue decreased to (3.8)% for the fiscal year ended January 2, 2009, from 3.2% for the fiscal year ended December 28, 2007.

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*Other (expense) income.* Other income, net, decreased by \$0.9 million, or 77.3%, to \$0.3 million in the fiscal year ended January 2, 2009 from \$1.2 million of income in the fiscal year ended December 28, 2007. This was due primarily to (i) a decrease in interest income of \$0.4 million resulting primarily from a reduction in average invested balances due to the purchase of Willdan Energy Solutions, and (ii) an increase in interest expense of \$0.5 million related primarily to the inclusion in fiscal year 2007 of a reversal of \$0.6 million of accrued interest related to the West Hollywood litigation that was settled without payment of interest.

*Income tax (benefit) expense.* Income tax benefit was \$0.9 million for the fiscal year ended January 2, 2009, as compared to income tax expense of \$1.5 million for the fiscal year ended December 28, 2007.

*Net (loss) income.* As a result of the above factors, our net loss was \$1.6 million for the fiscal year ended January 2, 2009, compared to net income of \$2.1 million for the fiscal year ended December 28, 2007.

### **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

As of January 1, 2010, we had \$8.4 million of cash and cash equivalents. Our primary sources of liquidity are cash generated from operations and borrowings under our revolving line of credit. We believe that our cash on hand, cash generated by operating activities and funds available under our credit facility will be sufficient to finance our operating activities for at least the next 12 months.

#### ***Cash Flows from Operating Activities***

Cash flows provided by operating activities were \$2.2 million for fiscal year 2009 compared to \$3.5 million for fiscal year 2008 and cash flows used in operating activities of \$0.3 million for fiscal year 2007. The cash flows provided by operating activities in fiscal year 2009 were comparatively lower than in fiscal year 2008 due primarily to a higher net loss partially offset by non-cash impairment charges related to goodwill, lease abandonment expenses and the collection of the income tax receivable accrued during fiscal year 2008. The cash flows provided by operating activities in fiscal year 2008 also included an increase in collection of accounts receivable and the payment of accrued liabilities related to litigation accrued in fiscal year 2007, net of amounts paid for by our insurance company. Higher cash flows provided by operating activities in fiscal year 2008 as compared to fiscal year 2007 were partially offset by a net loss incurred in fiscal year 2008 compared to net income earned in fiscal year 2007.

#### ***Cash Flows from Investing Activities***

Cash flows used in investing activities were \$2.8 million for fiscal year 2009 compared to \$9.5 million for fiscal year 2008 and \$1.9 million for fiscal year 2007. Payments for business acquisitions, net of cash acquired, in fiscal 2009 was \$2.4 million as compared to \$10.2 million in fiscal 2008. These payments were in accordance with the provisions of the stock purchase agreement for the 2008 purchase of Willdan Energy Solutions, formerly known as Intergy Corp. Fiscal years 2008 and 2007 also contained purchases of liquid investments and proceeds from sales of liquid investments. Aside from payments for business acquisitions, our cash used in investing activities is primarily related to the purchase of equipment and leasehold improvements.

#### ***Cash Flows from Financing Activities***

Cash flows provided by financing activities in fiscal 2009 was \$0.9 million as compared to cash flows used in financing activities of \$1.4 million for fiscal year 2008 and \$2.9 million for fiscal year 2007. The net cash flows provided in 2009 was primarily attributable to borrowings under our line of credit to support working capital needs. The decrease of cash used in financing activities for fiscal year 2008 over fiscal year 2007 resulted primarily from the fiscal year 2007 payment of \$3.2 million in distributions to holders of our redeemable common stock, partially offset by an increase in net

payments of notes payable of \$1.1 million. The fiscal year 2007 distribution was our final S corporation distribution to our stockholders and we used the proceeds from our initial public offering to pay this amount.

### ***Outstanding Indebtedness***

We currently have a revolving line of credit with Wells Fargo Bank, National Association ("Wells Fargo"), which was amended on November 9, 2009. We have also financed, from time to time, insurance premiums by entering into unsecured notes payable with insurance companies. During our annual insurance renewals in the fourth quarter of our fiscal year ended January 1, 2010, we elected not to finance our insurance premiums for the upcoming fiscal year.

Under the terms of our credit agreement with Wells Fargo, we can borrow up to \$5.0 million from time to time (as may be limited by the covenants in the credit agreement as discussed below) up to and until January 1, 2011. Loans made under the revolving line of credit will accrue interest at either (i) the floating rate equal to the prime rate in effect from time to time or (ii) the fixed rate of 1.75% above LIBOR, at our election. For prime rate loans, the interest rate will be adjusted when each prime rate change by the bank is announced and becomes effective. There were outstanding borrowings of \$1.0 million under this agreement as of January 1, 2010.

Borrowings under the credit agreement are secured by all of our accounts receivable and other rights to payment, general intangibles, inventory and equipment, including those of our subsidiaries. In addition, borrowings under the credit agreement are secured by investment property we hold in a securities account at Wells Fargo that must at all times have a collateral value of at least \$5.0 million. Each of our subsidiaries (except Public Agency Resources and Willdan Resource Solutions) has signed an unconditional guaranty of our obligations under the agreements.

The credit agreement contains customary representations and affirmative covenants, including a covenant to maintain a tangible net worth of at least \$18.0 million at all times. Tangible net worth is defined in the credit agreement as stockholders' equity less intangible assets and loans or advances to, or investments in, any related entities or individuals. As of January 1, 2010, our tangible net worth as defined under our credit agreement was \$19.1 million(1).

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- (1) Tangible net worth is a supplemental measure used in our credit agreement. If we do not maintain tangible net worth of at least \$18.0 million, Wells Fargo could choose to accelerate any loans then outstanding under the facility or refuse to make additional loans to us under the facility. Management therefore believes that presentation of tangible net worth as defined in the credit agreement is useful to investors because it helps them understand how our tangible net worth compares to the financial covenant contained in our credit agreement and whether we are close to violating such covenant. Management also reviews tangible net worth to ensure it will continue to have access to its financing sources. Tangible net worth is defined in the credit agreement as the "aggregate of total stockholders' equity less any intangible assets and less any loans or advances to, or investments in, any related entities or individuals. For the purposes of calculating Tangible Net Worth, the impact of non-cash property lease termination expense of up to \$1,000,000.00 in the aggregate recorded during the period from October 1, 2009 through December 31, 2010 will be excluded from the covenant calculation." This definition of tangible net worth may differ from those of many companies reporting similarly named measures. This measure should be considered in addition to, and not as a substitute for or superior to, other measures of financial performance prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, or GAAP, such as stockholders' equity. Tangible net worth is not a recognized term under GAAP and does not purport to be an alternative to stockholders' equity as an indicator of net worth or any other GAAP measure.

The following is a reconciliation of stockholders' equity to tangible net worth:

|                                     | <b>As of<br/>January 1, 2010</b> |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Stockholders' equity                | \$ 29,117,000                    |
| Goodwill and other intangibles, net | (10,520,000)                     |
| Permitted lease abandonment         | 531,000                          |
| Tangible net worth                  | <u>\$ 19,128,000</u>             |

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Prior to the amendment of the credit agreement in March 2009, the credit agreement contained additional financial covenants, including minimum net income and maximum net loss covenants. As discussed above in "Recent Developments," we breached our minimum net income covenant for the quarter ended September 26, 2008 and, in exchange for Wells Fargo's waiver of this breach, we amended our credit agreement in December 2008 to reduce the amount available under the facility from \$10.0 million to \$5.0 million and to revise the financial covenants under the facility. We also breached our maximum net loss covenant for the year ended January 2, 2009 by sustaining net losses before taxes greater than \$1.0 million. In March 2009, Wells Fargo waived this breach and eliminated or modified certain financial covenants in the credit agreement in exchange for increased pricing and additional collateral being provided.

The credit agreement also includes customary negative covenants, including a covenant that prohibits the incurrence of additional indebtedness by us or our subsidiaries other than purchase money indebtedness not to exceed \$2.0 million and indebtedness existing on the date of the credit agreement, and a covenant that prohibits payment of dividends on our stock and redemptions, repurchases or other acquisitions of our stock; provided that we can repurchase stock with an aggregate fair market value up to \$5.0 million in any calendar year. In addition, the credit agreement includes customary events of default for a credit facility. Upon a default, the interest rate will be increased by a default rate margin of 4.0%. Upon the occurrence of an event of default under the credit agreement, including a breach of any of the covenants discussed above, Wells Fargo has the option to make any loans then outstanding under the credit agreement immediately due and payable and is no longer obligated to extend further credit to us under the credit agreement.

### **Contractual Obligations**

We have certain cash obligations and other commitments which will impact our short- and long-term liquidity. At January 1, 2010, such obligations and commitments consisted of long-term debt, operating leases and capital leases. The following table sets forth our contractual obligations as of January 1, 2010:

| Contractual Obligations            | Total         | Less than<br>1 Year | 1-3 Years    | 3-5 Years    | More than<br>5 Years |
|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|
| Long term debt(1)                  | \$ 1,024,000  | \$ 1,024,000        | \$ —         | \$ —         | \$ —                 |
| Operating leases                   | 10,915,000    | 3,601,000           | 5,525,000    | 1,789,000    | —                    |
| Capital leases                     | 272,000       | 158,000             | 114,000      | —            | —                    |
| Total contractual cash obligations | \$ 12,211,000 | \$ 4,783,000        | \$ 5,639,000 | \$ 1,789,000 | \$ —                 |

(1) Long-term debt includes principal and interest payments under our debt agreements assuming no additional borrowings or principal payments and includes borrowings under our line of credit of \$1,000,000.

### **New Accounting Pronouncements**

In June 2009, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued a standard entitled *"The FASB Accounting Standards Codification and the Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, a replacement of FASB No. 162."* This standard establishes the FASB Accounting Standards Codification ("Codification"), as the single source of authoritative United States accounting and reporting standards applicable for all non-government entities, with the exception of the Securities and Exchange Commission rules and interpretative releases. The Codification, which changes the referencing of financial standards, is effective for interim or annual financial periods ending after September 15, 2009. As the Codification is not intended to change or alter existing U.S. GAAP, the adoption of the standard did not have any effect on our consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In April 2008, the FASB issued a standard entitled *"Determination of the Useful Life of Intangible Assets."* This standard amends the factors that should be considered in developing renewal or extension assumptions used to determine the useful life of a recognized intangible asset under the standard for goodwill and other intangible assets. The new standard was effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008. We adopted the standard on January 3, 2009 and this had no effect on our financial statements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued a standard entitled *"Business Combinations."* This standard establishes the principles and requirements for how an acquirer: (i) recognizes and measures in its financial statements the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, and any non-controlling interest in the acquiree; (ii) recognizes and measures the goodwill acquired in the business combination or a gain from a bargain purchase, and (iii) determines what information to disclose to enable users of the financial statements to evaluate the nature and financial effects of the business combination. The standard makes significant changes to existing accounting practices for acquisitions and applies prospectively to business combinations consummated on or after the beginning of the first annual reporting period on or after December 15, 2008. We adopted the new standard effective January 3, 2009 and the adoption did not have any effect on our financial statements and disclosures.

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

Market risk is the risk of loss to future earnings, to fair values or to future cash flows that may result from changes in the price of a financial instrument. The value of a financial instrument may change as a result of changes in interest rates, exchange rates, commodity prices, equity prices and other market changes. Market risk is attributed to all market risk sensitive financial instruments, including long-term debt.

We had cash and cash equivalents of \$8.4 million as of January 1, 2010. This amount includes \$0.6 million invested in the Wells Fargo Stage Coach Sweep Investment Account, \$5.3 million invested in the Wells Fargo Money Market Mutual Fund and \$1.1 million invested in the Wells Fargo Advantage Heritage Fund. Although these investments are subject to variable interest rates, we do not believe we are subject to significant market risk for these short-term investments.

We do not engage in trading activities and do not participate in foreign currency transactions or utilize derivative financial instruments. As of January 1, 2010, we had \$1.0 million outstanding debt under our revolving credit facility that bears interest at variable rates.

## ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

The financial statements and related financial information, as listed under Item 15, appear in a separate section of this annual report beginning on page F-1.

### Index to Consolidated Financial Statements

|   | <u>Page</u>         |
|---|---------------------|
| <a href="#">Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</a>   | <a href="#">F-1</a> |
| <a href="#">Consolidated Balance Sheets as of January 1, 2010 and January 2, 2009</a>   | <a href="#">F-2</a> |
| <a href="#">Consolidated Statements of Operations for each of the fiscal years in the three-year period ended January 1, 2010</a>           | <a href="#">F-3</a> |
| <a href="#">Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity for each of the fiscal years in the three-year period ended January 1, 2010</a> | <a href="#">F-4</a> |
| <a href="#">Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for each of the fiscal years in the three-year period ended January 1, 2010</a>           | <a href="#">F-5</a> |
| <a href="#">Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements</a>  | <a href="#">F-6</a> |

## ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

There were no changes in and/or disagreements with accountants on accounting and financial disclosure during the year ended January 1, 2010.

### ITEM 9A(T). CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

#### Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Exchange Act, as controls and other procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the issuer in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported, within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms. Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports that we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our President and Chief Executive Officer, Thomas Brisbin, and our Chief Financial Officer, Kimberly Gant, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

In connection with the preparation of this Annual Report, an evaluation was performed under the supervision and with the participation of management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures. Based on that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of January 1, 2010.

## **Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended). Internal control over financial reporting is a process to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of our financial reporting for external purposes in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting is not intended to provide absolute assurance that a misstatement of our financial statements would be prevented or detected. Our management assessed the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of January 1, 2010. In making this assessment, our management used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) in Internal Control—Integrated Framework. Our management has concluded that, as of January 1, 2010, our internal control over financial reporting was effective based on these criteria.

## **Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

This annual report does not include an attestation report of the Company's registered public accounting firm regarding internal control over financial reporting. Management's report was not subject to attestation by the Company's registered public accounting firm pursuant to temporary rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission that permit the company to provide only management's report in this annual report.

## **Changes in Internal Controls**

Based on our evaluation carried out in accordance with SEC Rule 15d-15(b) under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our President and Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer, we concluded that there were no changes during the fourth fiscal quarter of 2009 of our internal controls over financial reporting that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal controls over financial reporting.

## **ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION**

None.

### **PART III**

#### **ITEM 10. DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE REGISTRANT**

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Proxy Statement for its 2010 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the SEC within 120 days after the end of the Company's 2009 fiscal year.

We have posted our Code of Ethical Conduct on our website, [www.willdan.com](http://www.willdan.com), under the heading "Investors—Corporate Governance." The Code of Ethical Conduct applies to our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer. Upon request, we will provide any person with a copy of the Code of Ethical Conduct. See "Item 1. Business—Available Information."

#### **ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Proxy Statement for its 2010 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the SEC within 120 days after the end of the Company's 2009 fiscal year.

#### **ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED SHAREHOLDER MATTERS**

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Proxy Statement for its 2010 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the SEC within 120 days after the end of the Company's 2009 fiscal year.

#### **ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS**

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Proxy Statement for its 2010 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the SEC within 120 days after the end of the Company's 2009 fiscal year.

#### **ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES**

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Proxy Statement for its 2010 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the SEC within 120 days after the end of the Company's 2009 fiscal year.

**PART IV**

**ITEM 15. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES**

(a) The following documents are filed as part of this report:

1. Financial Statements

The following financial statements of Willdan Group, Inc. and report of independent auditors are included in Item 8 of this annual report and submitted in a separate section beginning on page F-1:

|   | <u>Page</u>         |
|---|---------------------|
| <a href="#">Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</a>   | <a href="#">F-1</a> |
| <a href="#">Consolidated Balance Sheets as of January 1, 2010 and January 2, 2009</a>   | <a href="#">F-2</a> |
| <a href="#">Consolidated Statements of Operations for each of the fiscal years in the three-year period ended January 1, 2010</a>           | <a href="#">F-3</a> |
| <a href="#">Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity for each of the fiscal years in the three-year period ended January 1, 2010</a> | <a href="#">F-4</a> |
| <a href="#">Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for each of the fiscal years in the three-year period ended January 1, 2010</a>           | <a href="#">F-5</a> |
| <a href="#">Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements</a>  | <a href="#">F-6</a> |

2. Financial Statements Schedules

All required schedules are omitted because they are not applicable or the required information is shown in the financial statements or the accompanying notes.

3. Exhibits

The exhibits filed as part of this annual report are listed in Item 15(b).

(b) Exhibits.

The following exhibits are filed as a part of this report:

| <u>Exhibit<br/>Number</u> | <u>Exhibit Description</u>  |
|---------------------------|---|
| 2.1                       | Stock Purchase Agreement, dated as of June 9, 2008, by and among Willdan Group, Inc., Intergy Corporation and the Stockholders of Intergy Corporation(1)  |
| 3.1                       | Articles of Incorporation of Willdan Group, Inc., including amendments thereto(2)   |
| 3.2                       | Bylaws of Willdan Group, Inc.(2)  |
| 4.1                       | Specimen Stock Certificate for shares of the Registrant's Common Stock(2)   |
| 4.2                       | The Company agrees to furnish to the Securities and Exchange Commission upon request a copy of each instrument with respect to issues of long-term debt of Willdan Group, Inc. and its subsidiaries, the authorized principal amount of which does not exceed 10% of the consolidated assets of Willdan Group, Inc. and its subsidiaries. |
| 10.1                      | Credit Agreement, dated December 28, 2007, between Willdan Group, Inc. and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, relating to the Revolving Line of Credit Note in 10.6(3)   |
| 10.2                      | First Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated May 8, 2008, between Willdan Group, Inc. and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association(4)   |
| 10.3                      | Second Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated June 9, 2008, between Willdan Group, Inc. and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association(4)   |

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| <b>Exhibit<br/>Number</b> | <b>Exhibit Description</b>  |
|---------------------------|---|
| 10.4                      | Third Amendment to Credit Agreement, entered into on December 19, 2008, between Willdan Group, Inc. and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association(5)   |
| 10.5                      | Fourth Amendment to Credit Agreement, entered into on March 30, 2009, between Willdan Group, Inc. and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association(6)   |
| 10.6                      | Fifth Amendment to Credit Agreement, entered into on November 9, 2009, between Willdan Group, Inc. and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association(7)  |
| 10.7                      | Revolving Line of Credit Note for \$5,000,000, dated November 9, 2009, by Willdan Group, Inc. in favor of Wells Fargo Bank, National Association(7)   |
| 10.8                      | Security Agreement: Equipment, dated December 28, 2007, between Willdan Group, Inc. and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, relating to the Revolving Line of Credit Note in 10.6(3)  |
| 10.9                      | Continuing Security Agreement: Rights to Payment and Inventory, dated December 28, 2007, between Willdan Group, Inc. and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, relating to the Revolving Line of Credit Note in 10.6(3)   |
| 10.10                     | Security Agreement: Securities Account, dated March 30, 2009, between Willdan Group, Inc. and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, relating to the Revolving Line of Credit Note in 10.6(6)  |
| 10.11 <sup>†</sup>        | Willdan Group, Inc. 2006 Stock Incentive Plan(2)  |
| 10.12 <sup>†</sup>        | Form of Incentive Stock Option Agreement(2)   |
| 10.13 <sup>†</sup>        | Form of Non-Qualified Stock Option Agreement(2)   |
| 10.14 <sup>†</sup>        | Amended and Restated Willdan Group, Inc. 2006 Employee Stock Purchase Plan(8)   |
| 10.15 <sup>†</sup>        | Willdan Group, Inc. 2008 Performance Incentive Plan(9)  |
| 10.16 <sup>†</sup>        | Form of Indemnification Agreement between Willdan Group, Inc. and its Directors and Officers(2)   |
| 10.17                     | Office Lease by and between Spectrum Waples Street, LLC, a California limited liability company, Spectrum Lambert Plaza, LLC, a California limited liability company and The Willdan Group of Companies dated October 15, 2004 for the principal office located at 2401 East Katella Avenue, Anaheim, California(2) |
| 10.18                     | First Amendment to Lease by and between 2401 Katella, LLC and The Willdan Group of Companies, dated February 27, 2006 for the principal office located at 2401 Katella Avenue, Anaheim, California(2)   |
| 10.19                     | Second Amendment to Lease by and between 2401 Katella, LLC and The Willdan Group of Companies dated March 6, 2006 for the principal office located at 2401 Katella Avenue, Anaheim, California(2)   |
| 10.20                     | Warrant Agreement between Willdan Group, Inc. and Wedbush Morgan Securities Inc.(2)   |
| 10.21 <sup>†</sup>        | Indemnification Agreement between Willdan Group, Inc. and Linda Heil(2)   |
| 10.22 <sup>†</sup>        | Employment Agreement between Willdan Group, Inc. and Thomas D. Brisbin dated April 2, 2007(10)  |
| 10.23 <sup>†</sup>        | Employment Agreement between Willdan Group, Inc. and Kimberly D. Gant dated July 23, 2007(11)   |

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| Exhibit<br>Number | Exhibit Description  |
|-------------------|--|
| 10.24†            | Amendment to Executive Employment Agreement between Willdan Group, Inc. and Kimberly D. Gant dated April 22, 2009(12)  |
| 10.25†            | Offer Letter from Willdan Group, Inc. to Daniel Chow dated October 29, 2008 and accepted November 9, 2008(13)  |
| 10.26†            | Employment Agreement dated May 22, 2007 between Marc Tipermas and Willdan Group, Inc.(14)  |
| 14.1              | Code of Ethical Conduct of Willdan Group, Inc.(8)  |
| 21.1              | Subsidiaries of Willdan Group, Inc.*   |
| 23.1              | Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm*  |
| 24.1              | Power of Attorney (included on signature page hereto)  |
| 31.1              | Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and 15d-14(a) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as adopted pursuant to § 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002* |
| 31.2              | Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or 15d-14(a) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as adopted pursuant to § 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002*  |
| 32.1              | Certifications of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 1350, as adopted pursuant to § 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002*                            |

\* Filed herewith.

† Indicates a management contract or compensating plan or arrangement.

- (1) Incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 9, 2008.
- (2) Incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Registration Statement on Form S-1, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 9, 2006, as amended (File No. 333-136444).
- (3) Incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 2, 2008.
- (4) Incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 11, 2008.
- (5) Incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 23, 2008.
- (6) Incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 2, 2009.
- (7) Incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 12, 2009.
- (8) Incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 27, 2007.
- (9) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit I to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Proxy Statement, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 25, 2008.

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- (10) Incorporated by reference to Wilddan Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 3, 2007.
- (11) Incorporated by reference to Wilddan Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 26, 2007.
- (12) Incorporated by reference to Wilddan Group, Inc.'s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 14, 2009.
- (13) Incorporated by reference to Wilddan Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 17, 2008.
- (14) Incorporated by reference to Wilddan Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 11, 2009.

## SIGNATURES AND CERTIFICATIONS

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report on Form 10-K to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Anaheim, State of California, on March 30, 2010.

### WILLDAN GROUP, INC.

/s/ KIMBERLY D. GANT

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kimberly D. Gant  
*Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President*  
Date: March 30, 2010

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENT, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Kimberly D. Gant his/her attorney-in-fact, with the power of substitution, for him/her in any and all capacities, to sign any amendments to this Report on Form 10-K and to file the same, with Exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith with the Securities and Exchange Commission, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney-in-fact, or substitute or substitutes may do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

| <u>Signature</u>                                  | <u>Title</u>                                      | <u>Date</u>    |
|---|---|----------------|
| <u>/s/ THOMAS D. BRISBIN</u><br>Thomas D. Brisbin | Director, President and Chief Executive Officer   | March 30, 2010 |
| <u>/s/ KIMBERLY D. GANT</u><br>Kimberly D. Gant   | Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President | March 30, 2010 |
| <u>/s/ WIN WESTFALL</u><br>Win Westfall           | Director  | March 30, 2010 |
| <u>/s/ LINDA L. HEIL</u><br>Linda L. Heil         | Director  | March 30, 2010 |
| <u>/s/ W. TRACY LENOCKER</u><br>W. Tracy Lenocker | Director  | March 30, 2010 |
| <u>/s/ KEITH W. RENKEN</u><br>Keith W. Renken     | Director  | March 30, 2010 |

| <u>Signature</u>  | <u>Title</u> | <u>Date</u>    |
|---|--------------|----------------|
| <u>/s/ WAYNE SHELTON</u><br>Wayne Shelton                 | Director     | March 30, 2010 |
| <u>/s/ JOHN M. TOUPS</u><br>John M. Toups                 | Director     | March 30, 2010 |
| <u>/s/ RAYMOND W. HOLDSWORTH</u><br>Raymond W. Holdsworth | Director     | March 30, 2010 |
| <u>/s/ DOUGLAS J. MCEACHERN</u><br>Douglas J. McEachern   | Director     | March 30, 2010 |

**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

The Board of Directors and Stockholders  
Willdan Group, Inc.:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Willdan Group, Inc. and subsidiaries as of January 1, 2010 and January 2, 2009, and the related consolidated statements of operations, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended January 1, 2010. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. We were not engaged to perform an audit of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Our audit included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Willdan Group, Inc. and subsidiaries as of January 1, 2010 and January 2, 2009, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended January 1, 2010, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

/s/ KPMG LLP

March 30, 2010  
Los Angeles, California

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**

**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

|  | January 1,<br>2010   | January 2,<br>2009   |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Assets</b>  |                      |                      |
| Current assets:  |                      |                      |
| Cash and cash equivalents  | \$ 8,445,000         | \$ 8,144,000         |
| Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$1,862,000 and \$662,000 at January 1, 2010 and January 2, 2009, respectively                            | 10,097,000           | 12,862,000           |
| Costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts  | 6,649,000            | 8,281,000            |
| Income tax receivable  | 51,000               | 956,000              |
| Other receivables  | 73,000               | 48,000               |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets  | 1,500,000            | 1,784,000            |
| Total current assets   | 26,815,000           | 32,075,000           |
| Equipment and leasehold improvements, net  | 1,596,000            | 2,377,000            |
| Goodwill   | 10,371,000           | 11,145,000           |
| Other intangible assets, net   | 149,000              | 1,367,000            |
| Other assets   | 318,000              | 373,000              |
| Deferred income taxes, net of current portion  | 1,083,000            | 233,000              |
| Total assets   | <u>\$ 40,332,000</u> | <u>\$ 47,570,000</u> |
| <b>Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity</b>  |                      |                      |
| Current liabilities:   |                      |                      |
| Excess of outstanding checks over bank balance   | \$ 488,000           | \$ 448,000           |
| Accounts payable   | 1,457,000            | 2,111,000            |
| Purchase price payable   | —                    | 1,000,000            |
| Accrued liabilities  | 4,509,000            | 5,253,000            |
| Billings in excess of costs and estimated earnings on uncompleted contracts  | 1,030,000            | 704,000              |
| Borrowings under line of credit  | 1,000,000            | —                    |
| Current portion of notes payable   | 23,000               | 52,000               |
| Current portion of capital lease obligations   | 125,000              | 168,000              |
| Current portion of deferred income taxes   | 1,479,000            | 2,519,000            |
| Total current liabilities  | 10,111,000           | 12,255,000           |
| Notes payable, less current portion  | —                    | 17,000               |
| Capital lease obligations, less current portion  | 82,000               | 157,000              |
| Lease obligations  | 1,022,000            | 805,000              |
| Total liabilities  | <u>11,215,000</u>    | <u>13,234,000</u>    |
| Commitments and contingencies  |                      |                      |
| Stockholders' equity:  |                      |                      |
| Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value, 10,000,000 shares authorized, no shares issued and outstanding  | —                    | —                    |
| Common stock, \$0.01 par value, 40,000,000 shares authorized; 7,208,000 and 7,164,000 shares issued and outstanding at January 1, 2010 and January 2, 2009, respectively | 72,000               | 72,000               |
| Additional paid-in capital   | 33,440,000           | 33,084,000           |
| (Accumulated deficit) retained earnings  | (4,395,000)          | 1,180,000            |
| Total stockholders' equity   | 29,117,000           | 34,336,000           |
| Total liabilities and stockholders' equity   | <u>\$ 40,332,000</u> | <u>\$ 47,570,000</u> |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**

|   | Fiscal Year    |                |               |
|---|----------------|----------------|---------------|
|   | 2009           | 2008           | 2007          |
| Contract revenue  | \$ 61,605,000  | \$ 73,190,000  | \$ 78,798,000 |
| Direct costs of contract revenue (exclusive of depreciation and amortization shown separately below): |                |                |               |
| Salaries and wages  | 18,130,000     | 21,991,000     | 25,769,000    |
| Sub-consultant services   | 7,997,000      | 7,750,000      | 4,600,000     |
| Other direct costs  | 2,715,000      | 2,973,000      | 1,568,000     |
| Total direct costs of contract revenue  | 28,842,000     | 32,714,000     | 31,937,000    |
| Gross profit  | 32,763,000     | 40,476,000     | 46,861,000    |
| General and administrative expenses:  |                |                |               |
| Salaries and wages, payroll taxes and employee benefits   | 20,325,000     | 24,439,000     | 25,061,000    |
| Facilities and facility related   | 4,430,000      | 4,803,000      | 4,546,000     |
| Stock-based compensation  | 272,000        | 214,000        | 209,000       |
| Depreciation and amortization   | 1,814,000      | 1,978,000      | 1,755,000     |
| Lease abandonment, net  | 707,000        | 742,000        | —             |
| Impairment of goodwill  | 2,763,000      | 148,000        | —             |
| Litigation (reversal) accrual   | (1,125,000)    | —              | 1,049,000     |
| Other   | 11,070,000     | 10,952,000     | 11,719,000    |
| Total general and administrative expenses   | 40,256,000     | 43,276,000     | 44,339,000    |
| (Loss) income from operations   | (7,493,000)    | (2,800,000)    | 2,522,000     |
| Other (expense) income:   |                |                |               |
| Interest income   | 30,000         | 313,000        | 693,000       |
| Interest expense  | (38,000)       | (33,000)       | 499,000       |
| Other, net  | (5,000)        | (15,000)       | (27,000)      |
| Total other (expense) income  | (13,000)       | 265,000        | 1,165,000     |
| (Loss) income before income tax expense   | (7,506,000)    | (2,535,000)    | 3,687,000     |
| Income tax (benefit) expense  | (1,931,000)    | (930,000)      | 1,543,000     |
| Net (loss) income   | \$ (5,575,000) | \$ (1,605,000) | \$ 2,144,000  |
| (Loss) earnings per share:  |                |                |               |
| Basic and diluted   | \$ (0.78)      | \$ (0.22)      | \$ 0.30       |
| Weighted-average shares outstanding:  |                |                |               |
| Basic   | 7,192,000      | 7,159,000      | 7,149,000     |
| Diluted   | 7,192,000      | 7,159,000      | 7,150,000     |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY**

|   | <u>Common Stock</u> |                  | <u>Additional<br/>Paid-in<br/>Capital</u> | <u>Retained<br/>Earnings/<br/>(Accumulated<br/>Deficit)</u> | <u>Total</u>         |
|---|---------------------|------------------|---|---|----------------------|
|   | <u>Shares</u>       | <u>Amount</u>    |   |   |                      |
| Balances at December 29, 2006   | 7,148,000           | \$ 71,000        | \$ 32,552,000                             | \$ 641,000  | \$ 33,264,000        |
| Shares of common stock issued in connection with employee stock purchase plan | 2,000               | —                | 25,000                                    | —   | 25,000               |
| Reduction of offering costs in connection with initial public offering.       | —                   | —                | 10,000                                    | —   | 10,000               |
| Stock-based compensation  | —                   | —                | 209,000                                   | —   | 209,000              |
| Net income  | —                   | —                | —   | 2,144,000   | 2,144,000            |
| Balances at December 28, 2007   | 7,150,000           | 71,000           | 32,796,000                                | 2,785,000   | 35,652,000           |
| Shares of common stock issued in connection with employee stock purchase plan | 14,000              | 1,000            | 74,000                                    | —   | 75,000               |
| Stock-based compensation  | —                   | —                | 214,000                                   | —   | 214,000              |
| Net loss  | —                   | —                | —   | (1,605,000)   | (1,605,000)          |
| Balances at January 2, 2009   | 7,164,000           | 72,000           | 33,084,000                                | 1,180,000   | 34,336,000           |
| Shares of common stock issued in connection with employee stock purchase plan | 44,000              | —                | 84,000                                    | —   | 84,000               |
| Stock-based compensation  | —                   | —                | 272,000                                   | —   | 272,000              |
| Net loss  | —                   | —                | —   | (5,575,000)   | (5,575,000)          |
| Balances at January 1, 2010   | <u>7,208,000</u>    | <u>\$ 72,000</u> | <u>\$ 33,440,000</u>                      | <u>\$ (4,395,000)</u>                                       | <u>\$ 29,117,000</u> |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

|  | Fiscal Year    |                |               |
|--|----------------|----------------|---------------|
|  | 2009           | 2008           | 2007          |
| Cash flows from operating activities:  |                |                |               |
| Net (loss) income  | \$ (5,575,000) | \$ (1,605,000) | \$ 2,144,000  |
| Adjustments to reconcile net (loss) income to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities: |                |                |               |
| Depreciation and amortization  | 1,814,000      | 1,978,000      | 1,755,000     |
| Impairment of goodwill   | 2,763,000      | 148,000        | —             |
| Lease abandonment expense, net   | 707,000        | 742,000        | —             |
| Loss on sale of equipment, net   | 6,000          | 17,000         | 28,000        |
| Provision for doubtful accounts  | 1,829,000      | 585,000        | 212,000       |
| Stock-based compensation   | 272,000        | 214,000        | 209,000       |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities:   |                |                |               |
| Accounts receivable  | 936,000        | 3,266,000      | (1,032,000)   |
| Costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts                        | 1,632,000      | 187,000        | 624,000       |
| Income tax receivable  | 905,000        | (956,000)      | —             |
| Other receivables  | (25,000)       | 53,000         | 4,348,000     |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets  | 284,000        | 292,000        | (209,000)     |
| Other assets   | 55,000         | 50,000         | 69,000        |
| Accounts payable   | (654,000)      | (186,000)      | (134,000)     |
| Accrued liabilities  | (959,000)      | (831,000)      | (8,792,000)   |
| Billings in excess of costs and estimated earnings on uncompleted contracts                        | 326,000        | (236,000)      | (281,000)     |
| Deferred income taxes  | (1,890,000)    | (112,000)      | 737,000       |
| Lease obligations  | (272,000)      | (60,000)       | 59,000        |
| Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities  | 2,154,000      | 3,546,000      | (263,000)     |
| Cash flows from investing activities:  |                |                |               |
| Purchase of equipment and leasehold improvements   | (386,000)      | (552,000)      | (654,000)     |
| Proceeds from sale of equipment  | —              | 49,000         | 35,000        |
| Purchase of other assets   | —              | (75,000)       | —             |
| Payments for business acquisitions, net of cash acquired   | (2,373,000)    | (10,236,000)   | —             |
| Purchase of liquid investments   | —              | (7,100,000)    | (22,800,000)  |
| Proceeds from sale of liquid investments   | —              | 8,400,000      | 21,500,000    |
| Net cash used in investing activities  | (2,759,000)    | (9,514,000)    | (1,919,000)   |
| Cash flows from financing activities:  |                |                |               |
| Changes in excess of outstanding checks over bank balance  | 40,000         | (185,000)      | 376,000       |
| Payments on notes payable  | (46,000)       | (1,119,000)    | (1,210,000)   |
| Proceeds from notes payable  | —              | —              | 1,184,000     |
| Borrowings under line of credit  | 3,553,000      | —              | 418,000       |
| Repayments of line of credit   | (2,553,000)    | —              | (418,000)     |
| Principal payments on capital leases   | (172,000)      | (170,000)      | (175,000)     |
| Proceeds from sales of common stock under employee stock purchase plan                             | 84,000         | 75,000         | 25,000        |
| Final distributions to former holders of redeemable common stock                                   | —              | —              | (3,150,000)   |
| Refund of offering costs   | —              | —              | 10,000        |
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities  | 906,000        | (1,399,000)    | (2,940,000)   |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents   | 301,000        | (7,367,000)    | (5,122,000)   |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year   | 8,144,000      | 15,511,000     | 20,633,000    |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year   | \$ 8,445,000   | \$ 8,144,000   | \$ 15,511,000 |
| Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:   |                |                |               |
| Cash paid during the period for:   |                |                |               |
| Interest   | \$ 40,000      | \$ 34,000      | \$ 84,000     |
| Income taxes   | 3,000          | 853,000        | 902,000       |
| Supplemental disclosures of noncash investing and financing activities:                            |                |                |               |
| Equipment acquired under capital leases  | \$ 60,000      | \$ 42,000      | \$ 147,000    |
| Note payable issued in connection with acquisition of assets                                       | —              | 100,000        | —             |
| Purchase price payable   | —              | 1,000,000      | —             |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**1. ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS OF THE COMPANY**

*Nature of Business*

Willdan Group, Inc. and subsidiaries ("Willdan Group" or the "Company") is a provider of outsourced services to small and mid-sized public agencies and large public utilities in California, New York, and to a lesser extent, other states throughout the United States. Outsourcing enables these agencies to provide a wide range of specialized services without having to incur and maintain the overhead necessary to develop staffing in-house. The Company provides a broad range of services to public agencies and, to a lesser extent, private industry, including civil engineering, building and safety services, geotechnical engineering, environmental engineering and environmental services, financial and economic consulting, energy efficiency, sustainability, water conservation, renewable energy, disaster preparedness, public safety consulting, management consulting and homeland security. Clients primarily consist of cities, counties, redevelopment agencies, water districts, school districts and universities, state agencies, federal agencies, a variety of other special districts and agencies, private industry and tribal governments.

**2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

*Principles of Consolidation*

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Willdan Group Inc. and its wholly owned subsidiaries, Willdan Engineering, Willdan Financial Services, Willdan Geotechnical, Willdan Homeland Solutions, Willdan Energy Solutions, Willdan Resource Solutions and Public Agency Resources. Willdan Energy Solutions is included as of June 9, 2008, the date of its acquisition. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

*Fiscal Years*

The Company operates and reports financial results on a fiscal year of 52 or 53 weeks ending on the Friday closest to December 31. Fiscal years 2009 and 2007 contained 52 weeks. Fiscal year 2008 contained 53 weeks. All references to years in the notes to consolidated financial statements represent fiscal years.

*Cash and Cash Equivalents*

All highly liquid investments purchased with a remaining maturity of three months or less are considered to be cash equivalents. Outstanding checks in excess of cash on deposit have been classified as current liabilities. Cash and cash equivalents consisted of the following:

|  | January 1,<br>2010  | January 2,<br>2009  |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| Wells Fargo Stage Coach Sweep Investment Account | \$ 609,000          | \$ 382,000          |
| Wells Fargo Money Market Mutual Fund             | 5,280,000           | 6,035,000           |
| Wells Fargo Advantage Heritage Fund              | 1,097,000           | 564,000             |
| Cash on hand in business checking accounts       | 1,459,000           | 1,163,000           |
|  | <u>\$ 8,445,000</u> | <u>\$ 8,144,000</u> |

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

The Company from time to time may be exposed to credit risk with its bank deposits in excess of the FDIC insurance limits and with uninsured money market investments. The Company has not experienced any losses in such accounts and believes it is not exposed to any significant credit risk on cash and cash equivalents.

***Fair Value of Financial Instruments***

As of January 1, 2010 and January 2, 2009, the carrying amounts of the Company's cash, cash equivalents, accounts receivable, costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts, income tax receivable, other receivables, prepaid expenses and other current assets, excess of outstanding checks over bank balance, accounts payable, purchase price payable, accrued liabilities and billings in excess of costs and estimated earnings on uncompleted contracts, approximate their fair values because of the relatively short period of time between the origination of these instruments and their expected realization or payment. The carrying amounts of debt obligations approximate their fair values since the terms are comparable to terms currently offered by local lending institutions for loans of similar terms to companies with comparable credit risk.

***Segment Information***

Willdan Group, Inc. (WGI) is a holding company with seven wholly-owned subsidiaries. The Company presents segment information externally consistent with the manner in which the Company's chief operating decision maker reviews information to assess performance and allocate resources. WGI performs administrative functions on behalf of its subsidiaries, such as treasury, legal, accounting, information systems, human resources and certain business development activities, and earns revenue that is only incidental to the activities of the enterprise. As a result, WGI does not meet the definition of an operating segment. Five of the seven WGI subsidiaries are aggregated into one reportable segment as they have similar economic characteristics including the nature of services, the methods used to provide services and the type of customers. The remaining two subsidiaries each comprise separate reporting segments.

***Off-Balance Sheet Financings and Liabilities***

Other than lease commitments, legal contingencies incurred in the normal course of business, and employment contracts, the Company does not have any off-balance sheet financing arrangements or liabilities. In addition, the Company's policy is not to enter into derivative instruments, futures or forward contracts. Finally, the Company does not have any majority-owned subsidiaries or any interests in, or relationships with, any special-purpose entities that are not included in the consolidated financial statements.

***Accounting for Contracts***

The Company enters into contracts with its clients that contain three principal types of pricing provisions: fixed price, time-and-materials, and unit-based. Revenue on fixed price contracts is recognized on the percentage-of-completion method based generally on the ratio of direct costs (exclusive of depreciation and amortization costs) incurred to date to estimated total direct costs at completion. Revenue on time-and-materials and unit-based contracts is recognized as the work is

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

performed in accordance with the specific terms of the contract. Revenue for amounts that have been billed but not earned is deferred and such deferred revenue is referred to as billings in excess of costs and estimated earnings on uncompleted contracts in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets.

Adjustments to contract cost estimates are made in the periods in which the facts requiring such revisions become known. When the revised estimate indicates a loss, such loss is provided for currently in its entirety. Claims revenue is recognized only upon resolution of the claim. Change orders in dispute are evaluated as claims. Costs related to un-priced change orders are expensed when incurred and recognition of the related contract revenue is based on an evaluation of the probability of recovery of the costs. Estimated profit is recognized for un-priced change orders if realization of the expected price of the change order is probable.

Applying the percentage-of-completion method of recognizing revenue requires the Company to estimate the indicated outcome of its long-term contracts. The Company forecasts such outcomes to the best of its knowledge and belief of current and expected conditions and its expected course of action. Differences between the Company's estimates and actual results often occur resulting in changes to reported revenue and earnings. Such changes could have a material effect on future consolidated financial statements.

Direct costs of contract revenue consist primarily of that portion of technical and nontechnical salaries and wages that has been incurred in connection with revenue producing projects. Direct costs of contract revenue also include production expenses, sub-consultant services and other expenses that are incurred in connection with revenue producing projects.

Direct costs of contract revenue exclude that portion of technical and nontechnical salaries and wages related to marketing efforts, vacations, holidays and other time not spent directly generating revenue under existing contracts. Such costs are included in general and administrative expenses. Additionally, payroll taxes, bonuses and employee benefit costs for all Company personnel are included in general and administrative expenses in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations since no allocation of these costs is made to direct costs of contract revenue. No allocation of facilities costs is made to direct costs of contract revenue nor is depreciation and amortization allocated to direct costs. Other companies may classify as direct costs of contract revenue some of the costs that the Company classifies as general and administrative costs. The Company expenses direct costs of contract revenue when incurred.

Accounts receivable are carried at original invoice amount less an estimate made for doubtful accounts based upon a review of all outstanding amounts on a monthly basis. Management determines the allowance for doubtful accounts by identifying troubled accounts and by using historical experience applied to an aging of accounts. Credit risk is generally minimal with governmental entities, but disputes may arise related to these receivable amounts. Accounts receivables are written off when deemed uncollectible. Recoveries of accounts receivables previously written off are recorded when received.

The value of retainage is included in accounts receivable in the accompanying consolidated financial statements. Retainage represents the billed amount that is retained by the customer, in accordance with the terms of the contract, generally until performance is substantially complete.

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

***Leases***

All of the Company's office leases are classified as operating leases and rent expense is included in facilities expense in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations. Some of the lease terms include rent concessions and rent escalation clauses, all of which are taken into account in computing minimum lease payments. Minimum lease payments are recognized on a straight-line basis over the minimum lease term. The excess of rent expense recognized over the amounts contractually due pursuant to the underlying leases is reflected as a liability in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets. The cost of improvements that the Company makes to the leased office space is capitalized as leasehold improvements. The Company is subject to non-cancellable leases for offices or portions of offices for which use has been ceased. For each of these abandoned leases, the present value of the future lease payments, net of estimated sublease payments, along with any unamortized tenant improvement costs, are recognized as lease abandonment expense in the Company's consolidated statements of operations with a corresponding liability in the Company's consolidated balance sheets.

***Equipment and Leasehold Improvements***

Equipment and leasehold improvements are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and amortization. Equipment under capital leases is stated at the present value of the minimum lease payments as of the acquisition date. Depreciation and amortization on equipment are calculated using the straight-line method over estimated useful lives of two to five years. Leasehold improvements and assets under capital leases are amortized using the straight-line method over the shorter of estimated useful lives or the term of the related lease.

Following are the estimated useful lives used to calculate depreciation and amortization:

| <u>Category</u>        | <u>Estimated Useful Life</u> |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Furniture and fixtures | 5 years                      |
| Computer hardware      | 2 years                      |
| Computer software      | 3 years                      |
| Automobiles and trucks | 3 years                      |
| Field equipment        | 5 years                      |

Equipment and leasehold improvements are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of an asset to estimated undiscounted future cash flows expected to be generated by the asset. If the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its estimated future cash flows, an impairment charge is recognized by the amount by which the carrying amount of the asset exceeds the fair value of the asset.

***Goodwill***

Goodwill represents the excess of costs over fair value of the assets acquired. The goodwill, which has an indefinite useful life, is not amortized, but instead tested for impairment at least annually or more frequently if events and circumstances indicate that the asset might be impaired. Impairment losses for reporting units are recognized to the extent that a reporting unit's carrying amount exceeds its fair value.

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

***Accounting for Claims Against the Company***

The Company records liabilities to claimants for probable and estimable claims on its consolidated balance sheet, which is included in accrued liabilities, and records a corresponding receivable from the insurance company for the portion of the claim that is probable of being covered by insurance, which is included in other receivables. The estimated claim amount net of the amount estimated to be recoverable from the insurance company is included in general and administrative expense.

***Stock Options***

The Company accounts for stock options under the fair value recognition provisions of the accounting standard entitled "*Compensation—Stock Compensation*." This standard requires the measurement of compensation cost at the grant date, based upon the estimated fair value of the award, and requires amortization of the related expense over the employee's requisite service period.

***Income Taxes***

Income taxes are accounted for under the asset and liability method. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences of temporary differences between the financial reporting basis and tax basis of the Company's assets and liabilities. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date. A valuation allowance is recorded when it is more likely than not that some of the deferred tax assets may not be realized.

***Operating Cycle***

In accordance with industry practice, amounts realizable and payable under contracts, which may extend beyond one year, are included in current assets and liabilities.

***Use of Estimates***

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the U.S. requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements. Estimates also affect the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

***New Accounting Pronouncements***

In June 2009, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued a standard entitled "*The FASB Accounting Standards Codification and the Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, a replacement of FASB No. 162*." This standard establishes the FASB Accounting Standards Codification ("Codification"), as the single source of authoritative United States accounting and reporting standards applicable for all non-government entities, with the exception of the Securities and Exchange Commission rules and interpretative releases. The Codification, which changes the referencing of

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

financial standards, is effective for interim or annual financial periods ending after September 15, 2009. As the Codification is not intended to change or alter existing U.S. GAAP, the adoption of the standard did not have any effect on the Company's consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In April 2008, the FASB issued a standard entitled *"Determination of the Useful Life of Intangible Assets."* This standard amends the factors that should be considered in developing renewal or extension assumptions used to determine the useful life of a recognized intangible asset under the standard for goodwill and other intangible assets. The new standard was effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008. The Company adopted the standard on January 3, 2009 and this had no effect on its financial statements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued a standard entitled *"Business Combinations."* This standard establishes the principles and requirements for how an acquirer: (i) recognizes and measures in its financial statements the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, and any non-controlling interest in the acquiree; (ii) recognizes and measures the goodwill acquired in the business combination or a gain from a bargain purchase, and (iii) determines what information to disclose to enable users of the financial statements to evaluate the nature and financial effects of the business combination. The standard makes significant changes to existing accounting practices for acquisitions and applies prospectively to business combinations consummated on or after the beginning of the first annual reporting period on or after December 15, 2008. The Company adopted the new standard effective January 3, 2009 and the adoption did not have any effect on its financial statements and disclosures.

**3. BUSINESS COMBINATION**

On June 9, 2008, the Company acquired all of the outstanding stock of Willdan Energy Solutions, formerly known as Intergy Corporation, a California—based consulting company that assists companies, institutions and agencies with planning and implementing their energy efficiency, water conservation and renewable energy strategies. The acquisition cost recorded by the Company as of January 1, 2010 was \$13.1 million, consisting of \$9.9 million in cash paid at closing, a \$0.2 million net asset value adjustment, a guaranteed payment of \$1.0 million in cash paid in June 2009, an earn-out payment of \$1.3 million paid in August 2009 and \$0.7 million of transaction costs. The acquisition cost may increase by up to \$4.9 million if Willdan Energy Solutions achieves certain financial targets over the annual periods ending on the last day of the Company's second fiscal quarters in 2010 and 2011. The Company has finalized its estimates of fair values of the assets acquired and the liabilities assumed and the acquisition cost was allocated as follows:

|                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Current assets      | \$ 3,242,000         |
| Equipment           | 49,000               |
| Backlog             | 920,000              |
| Other assets        | 8,000                |
| Current liabilities | (1,502,000)          |
| Goodwill            | 10,371,000           |
| Total               | <u>\$ 13,088,000</u> |

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**3. BUSINESS COMBINATION (Continued)**

The \$10.4 million of goodwill is the amount paid to acquire Willdan Energy Solutions over and above the fair value of the net assets acquired, which includes the estimated fair value of the backlog in place as of the date of acquisition. The amount paid that has been classified as goodwill primarily relates to the expected future business that was not part of the backlog at the time of acquisition. The goodwill is deductible for income tax purposes over a period of 15 years.

Unaudited pro forma consolidated statements of operations for the fiscal years ended January 1, 2010, January 1, 2009 and December 28, 2007 as though Willdan Energy Solutions had been acquired as of the first day of each of the respective periods presented is as follows:

|   | Fiscal Year   |               |
|---|---------------|---------------|
|   | 2008          | 2007          |
| Contract revenue                            | \$ 77,831,000 | \$ 86,121,000 |
| (Loss) income from operations               | (919,000)     | 3,876,000     |
| Net (loss) income                           | (1,053,000)   | 2,638,000     |
| Basic and diluted (loss) earnings per share | \$ (0.15)     | \$ 0.37       |

The Company finalized its purchase price allocation during fiscal year 2009. Associated with that, the Company recorded \$0.6 million of amortization of intangible assets. This amount is also reflected in the unaudited pro forma information presented above as the pro forma information assumes the acquisition was effective as of the first day of the first year presented.

**4. GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS**

The changes in the carrying value of goodwill by reporting unit for the fiscal year ended January 1, 2010 were as follows:

|                            | Fiscal Year 2009                |                       |                       |                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
|                            | Balance at<br>Beginning of Year | Goodwill<br>Additions | Impairment            | Balance at<br>End of Year |
| <b>Reporting Unit:</b>     |                                 |                       |                       |                           |
| Energy Solutions           | \$ 8,382,000                    | \$ 1,989,000          | \$ —                  | \$ 10,371,000             |
| Financial Services         | 2,763,000                       | —                     | (2,763,000)           | —                         |
| Homeland Security Services | —                               | —                     | —                     | —                         |
|                            | <u>\$ 11,145,000</u>            | <u>\$ 1,989,000</u>   | <u>\$ (2,763,000)</u> | <u>\$ 10,371,000</u>      |

|                            | Fiscal Year 2008                |                       |                     |                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
|                            | Balance at<br>Beginning of Year | Goodwill<br>Additions | Impairment          | Balance at<br>End of Year |
| <b>Reporting Unit:</b>     |                                 |                       |                     |                           |
| Energy Solutions           | \$ —                            | \$ 8,382,000          | \$ —                | \$ 8,382,000              |
| Financial Services         | 2,763,000                       | —                     | —                   | 2,763,000                 |
| Homeland Security Services | 148,000                         | —                     | (148,000)           | —                         |
|                            | <u>\$ 2,911,000</u>             | <u>\$ 8,382,000</u>   | <u>\$ (148,000)</u> | <u>\$ 11,145,000</u>      |

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**4. GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS (Continued)**

There were no changes on the carrying value of goodwill for the fiscal year ended December 28, 2007. In fiscal 2008, the fair value of the Homeland Security Services reporting unit did not exceed its carrying value and an impairment charge of \$148,000 was recognized. The additions to goodwill during fiscal 2009 for Energy Solutions related to the \$1.3 million earn-out payment and finalization of the purchase price allocation. In fiscal 2009, the fair value of the Financial Services reporting unit did not exceed its carrying value and step two of the impairment analysis indicated that there was no implied value to this reporting unit's goodwill. Accordingly an impairment charge of \$2.8 million was recognized. The fair value of the reporting unit is a Level 3 valuation. The valuation was based on an 80% weighting of an income approach value and a 20% weighting using a market approach value. The income approach was based on the present value of projected cash flows during the holding period and disposition of the reporting unit at the end of the final year of the assumed holding period. The market approach was based on a multiple of earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) utilizing publicly available EBITDA multiples for similar companies. The terminal sales value computed in the income approach was also based on a multiple of projected EBITDA for the last year of the assumed holding period.

The goodwill balances included in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets consist of the following:

|                        | Reporting Units      |                     |                            |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
|                        | Energy Solutions     | Financial Services  | Homeland Security Services | Total                |
| January 1, 2010:       |                      |                     |                            |                      |
| Goodwill               | \$ 10,371,000        | \$ 2,763,000        | \$ 148,000                 | \$ 13,282,000        |
| Accumulated impairment | —                    | (2,763,000)         | (148,000)                  | (2,911,000)          |
|                        | <u>\$ 10,371,000</u> | <u>\$ —</u>         | <u>\$ —</u>                | <u>\$ 10,371,000</u> |
| January 2, 2009:       |                      |                     |                            |                      |
| Goodwill               | \$ 8,382,000         | \$ 2,763,000        | \$ 148,000                 | \$ 11,293,000        |
| Accumulated impairment | —                    | —                   | (148,000)                  | (148,000)            |
|                        | <u>\$ 8,382,000</u>  | <u>\$ 2,763,000</u> | <u>\$ —</u>                | <u>\$ 11,145,000</u> |

The gross amounts and accumulated amortization of the Company's acquired identifiable intangible assets with finite useful lives as of January 1, 2010 and January 2, 2009, included in Intangible assets, net in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets, were as follows:

|                            | January 1, 2010     |                          | January 2, 2009     |                          | Amortization Period (yrs) |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
|                            | Gross Amount        | Accumulated Amortization | Gross Amount        | Accumulated Amortization |                           |
| Backlog                    | \$ 920,000          | \$ 920,000               | \$ 1,264,000        | \$ 355,000               | 1                         |
| Customer relationships     | —                   | —                        | 272,000             | 22,000                   | 7                         |
| Training materials/courses | 282,000             | 134,000                  | 282,000             | 80,000                   | 5                         |
| Non-compete agreements     | 30,000              | 29,000                   | 30,000              | 24,000                   | 3                         |
|                            | <u>\$ 1,232,000</u> | <u>\$ 1,083,000</u>      | <u>\$ 1,848,000</u> | <u>\$ 481,000</u>        |                           |

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**4. GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS (Continued)**

At the time of acquisition, the Company estimates the fair value of the acquired identifiable intangible assets based upon the facts and circumstances related to the particular intangible asset. Inherent in such estimates are judgments and estimates of future revenue, profitability, cash flows and appropriate discount rates for any present value calculations. The Company preliminarily estimates the value of the acquired identifiable intangible assets and then finalizes the estimated fair values during the purchase allocation period, which does not extend beyond 12 months from the date of acquisition. The final purchase allocation for Willdan Energy Solutions was finalized during the second quarter of fiscal 2009.

For the years ended January 1, 2010, January 2, 2009 and December 28, 2007, the Company's amortization expense for acquired identifiable intangible assets with finite useful lives was \$602,000, \$429,000 and \$31,000, respectively. Estimated future amortization expense for acquired identifiable intangible assets is as follows:

| <b>Fiscal year:</b> |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 2010                | \$ 54,000         |
| 2011                | 46,000            |
| 2012                | 37,000            |
| 2013                | 12,000            |
|                     | <u>\$ 149,000</u> |

**5. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE-NET**

Net accounts receivable consisted of the following:

|                                 | <b>January 1,<br/>2010</b> | <b>January 2,<br/>2009</b> |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Billed                          | \$ 11,895,000              | \$ 13,507,000              |
| Unbilled                        | 6,649,000                  | 8,281,000                  |
| Contract retentions             | 64,000                     | 17,000                     |
|                                 | <u>18,608,000</u>          | <u>21,805,000</u>          |
| Allowance for doubtful accounts | (1,862,000)                | (662,000)                  |
|                                 | <u>\$ 16,746,000</u>       | <u>\$ 21,143,000</u>       |

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**5. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE-NET (Continued)**

The movements in the allowance for doubtful accounts consisted of the following for fiscal years 2009, 2008 and 2007:

|   | Fiscal Year         |                   |                   |
|---|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|   | 2009                | 2008              | 2007              |
| Balance as of the beginning of the year | \$ 662,000          | \$ 372,000        | \$ 492,000        |
| Provision for doubtful accounts         | 1,749,000           | 589,000           | 282,000           |
| Write-offs of uncollectible accounts    | (555,000)           | (300,000)         | (403,000)         |
| Recoveries of accounts written off      | 6,000               | 1,000             | 1,000             |
| Balance as of the end of the year       | <u>\$ 1,862,000</u> | <u>\$ 662,000</u> | <u>\$ 372,000</u> |

Billed accounts receivable represent amounts billed to clients that have yet to be collected. Unbilled accounts receivable represent revenue recognized but not yet billed pursuant to contract terms or accounts billed after the period end. Substantially all unbilled receivables as of January 1, 2010 and January 2, 2009 are expected to be billed and collected within twelve months of such date. Contract retentions represent amounts invoiced to clients where payments have been withheld pending the completion of certain milestones, other contractual conditions or upon the completion of the project. These retention agreements vary from project to project and could be outstanding for several months or years.

Allowances for doubtful accounts have been determined through specific identification of amounts considered to be uncollectible and potential write-offs, plus a non-specific allowance for other amounts for which some potential loss has been determined to be probable based on current and past experience.

No client accounted for more than 10% of the Company's outstanding receivables as of January 1, 2010 or January 2, 2009.

**6. EQUIPMENT AND LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS**

Equipment and leasehold improvements consist of the following:

|   | January 1,<br>2010  | January 2,<br>2009  |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Furniture and fixtures                    | \$ 4,452,000        | \$ 4,680,000        |
| Computer hardware and software            | 4,903,000           | 4,921,000           |
| Leasehold improvements                    | 748,000             | 772,000             |
| Equipment under capital leases            | 719,000             | 790,000             |
| Automobiles, trucks, and field equipment  | 424,000             | 419,000             |
|   | <u>11,246,000</u>   | <u>11,582,000</u>   |
| Accumulated depreciation and amortization | (9,650,000)         | (9,205,000)         |
| Equipment and leasehold improvements, net | <u>\$ 1,596,000</u> | <u>\$ 2,377,000</u> |

Included in accumulated depreciation and amortization is \$156,000 and \$176,000 of amortization related to equipment held under capital leases in fiscal years 2009 and 2008, respectively.

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**7. ACCRUED LIABILITIES**

Accrued liabilities consist of the following:

|   | January 1,<br>2010  | January 2,<br>2009  |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Accrued bonuses                         | \$ 169,000          | \$ 155,000          |
| Paid leave bank                         | 1,155,000           | 1,449,000           |
| Compensation and payroll taxes          | 581,000             | 719,000             |
| Accrued legal                           | 136,000             | 54,000              |
| Accrued workers' compensation insurance | 27,000              | 18,000              |
| Litigation accrual                      | —                   | 110,000             |
| Accrued rent                            | 563,000             | 562,000             |
| Employee withholdings                   | 171,000             | 265,000             |
| Client deposits                         | 469,000             | 790,000             |
| Other                                   | 1,238,000           | 1,131,000           |
| Total accrued liabilities               | <u>\$ 4,509,000</u> | <u>\$ 5,253,000</u> |

**8. STOCK OPTIONS**

As of January 1, 2010, the Company had two share-based compensation plans, which are described below. The Company may no longer grant awards under the 2006 Stock Incentive Plan. The compensation expense that has been recognized for stock options issued under these plans was \$272,000, \$214,000 and \$209,000 for fiscal years 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

**2006 STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN**

In June 2006, the Company's board of directors adopted the 2006 Stock Incentive Plan ("2006 Plan") and it received stockholder approval. The Company re-submitted the 2006 Plan to its stockholders for post-IPO approval at the 2007 annual meeting of the stockholders and it was approved. The 2006 Plan will terminate ten years after the board of directors approved it and no additional awards were or will be granted under the 2006 Plan after the Company's shareholders approved the 2008 Plan (as defined below) in June 2008. The 2006 Plan had 300,000 shares of common stock reserved for issuance to the Company's directors, executives, officers, employees, consultants and advisors. As of June 9, 2008, approximately 36,167 shares were available for award grant purposes under the 2006 Plan. These shares became available for grant under the 2008 Plan following shareholder approval of the 2008 Plan. Options granted under the 2006 Plan could be "non-statutory stock options" which expire no more than ten years from the date of grant or "incentive stock options" as defined in Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Upon exercise of non-statutory stock options, the Company is generally entitled to a tax deduction on the exercise of the option for an amount equal to the excess over the exercise price of the fair market value of the shares at the date of exercise. The Company is generally not entitled to any tax deduction on the exercise of an incentive stock option. Option awards provide for accelerated vesting if there is a change in control (as defined in the 2006 Plan). Through January 1, 2010, options granted, net of forfeitures and expirations, under the 2006 Plan consisted of 192,500 shares and 19,000 shares for incentive stock options and non-statutory stock options, respectively.

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**8. STOCK OPTIONS (Continued)**

**2008 PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE PLAN**

In March 2008, the Company's board of directors adopted the 2008 Performance Incentive Plan, ("2008 Plan") and it received stockholder approval at the 2008 annual meeting of the stockholders in June 2008. The 2008 Plan will terminate ten years after the board of directors approved it. The 2008 Plan has 486,167 shares of common stock reserved for issuance to the company's directors, executives, officers, employees, consultants and advisors. The maximum number of shares of the Company's common stock that may be issued or transferred pursuant to awards under the 2008 Plan can also be increased by any shares subject to stock options granted under the 2006 Plan and outstanding as of June 9, 2008 which expire, or for any reason are cancelled or terminated, after June 9, 2008 without being exercised. Awards authorized by the 2008 Plan include stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, stock bonuses, stock units, performance stock, and other share-based awards. No participant may be granted an option to purchase more than 100,000 shares in any fiscal year. Options generally may not be granted with exercise prices less than fair market value at the date of grant, with vesting provisions and contractual terms determined by the compensation committee of the board of directors on a grant-by-grant basis. Options granted under the 2008 Plan may be "nonqualified stock options" or "incentive stock options" as defined in Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. The maximum term of each option shall be 10 years. Upon exercise of nonqualified stock options, the Company is generally entitled to a tax deduction on the exercise of the option for an amount equal to the excess over the exercise price of the fair market value of the shares at the date of exercise. The Company is generally not entitled to any tax deduction on the exercise of an incentive stock option. Option awards provide for accelerated vesting if there is a change in control (as defined in the 2008 Plan). Through January 1, 2010, options granted under the 2008 Plan consisted of 302,800 shares and 52,000 shares for incentive stock options and non-statutory stock options, respectively.

The fair value of each option is calculated using the Black-Scholes option valuation model that uses the assumptions noted in the following table. Expected volatility is based upon historical volatility of "guideline companies" since the length of time the Company's shares have been publicly traded is shorter than the expected or contractual term of the options. The expected term of the option, taking into account both the contractual term of the option and the effects of employees' expected exercise and expected post-vesting termination behavior is estimated based upon the simplified method. Under this approach, the expected term is presumed to be the mid-point between the vesting date and the end of the contractual term. The risk-free rate for periods within the contractual life of the option is based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve in effect at the time of grant. The assumptions are as follows:

|                          | 2009          | 2008          | 2007          |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Expected volatility      | 39% - 40%     | 35% - 39%     | 31% - 34%     |
| Expected dividends       | 0%            | 0%            | 0%            |
| Expected term (in years) | 5.75 - 6.00   | 5.00 - 6.00   | 5.00 - 6.00   |
| Risk-free rate           | 2.20% - 2.95% | 1.50% - 3.61% | 4.34% - 5.26% |

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**8. STOCK OPTIONS (Continued)**

A summary of option activity under the 2006 Plan and 2008 Plan as of January 1, 2010 and changes during the fiscal years ended January 1, 2010, January 2, 2009 and December 28, 2007 is presented below. The intrinsic value of the fully-vested options is \$9,000, based on the Company's closing stock price of \$2.38 on January 1, 2010.

|                                | Options        | Weighted-<br>Average<br>Exercise<br>Price | Weighted-<br>Average<br>Remaining<br>Contractual<br>Term (Years) |
|--------------------------------|----------------|---|--|
| Outstanding at January 2, 2009 | 303,000        | \$ 7.23                                   | 8.8  |
| Granted                        | 291,000        | 1.80                                      | 9.4  |
| Exercised                      | —              | —   | —  |
| Forfeited or expired           | (28,000)       | 5.47                                      | —  |
| Outstanding at January 1, 2010 | <u>566,000</u> | <u>\$ 4.54</u>                            | <u>8.6</u>   |
| Vested at January 1, 2010      | <u>172,000</u> | <u>\$ 8.01</u>                            | <u>7.7</u>   |
| Exercisable at January 1, 2010 | <u>172,000</u> | <u>\$ 8.01</u>                            | <u>7.7</u>   |

|                                  | Options        | Weighted-<br>Average<br>Exercise<br>Price | Weighted-<br>Average<br>Remaining<br>Contractual<br>Term (Years) |
|----------------------------------|----------------|---|--|
| Outstanding at December 28, 2007 | 233,000        | \$ 9.50                                   | 8.6  |
| Granted                          | 119,000        | 3.81                                      | 9.6  |
| Exercised                        | —              | —   | —  |
| Forfeited or expired             | (49,000)       | 9.72                                      | —  |
| Outstanding at January 2, 2009   | <u>303,000</u> | <u>\$ 7.23</u>                            | <u>8.8</u>   |
| Vested at January 2, 2009        | <u>85,000</u>  | <u>\$ 8.85</u>                            | <u>8.5</u>   |
| Exercisable at January 2, 2009   | <u>85,000</u>  | <u>\$ 8.85</u>                            | <u>8.5</u>   |

|                                  | Options        | Weighted-<br>Average<br>Exercise<br>Price | Weighted-<br>Average<br>Remaining<br>Contractual<br>Term (Years) |
|----------------------------------|----------------|---|--|
| Outstanding at December 29, 2006 | 28,000         | \$ 10.19                                  | 4.2  |
| Granted                          | 205,000        | 9.40                                      | 9.4  |
| Exercised                        | —              | —   | —  |
| Forfeited or expired             | —              | —   | —  |
| Outstanding at December 28, 2007 | <u>233,000</u> | <u>\$ 9.50</u>                            | <u>8.6</u>   |
| Vested at December 28, 2007      | <u>33,000</u>  | <u>\$ 10.22</u>                           | <u>4.2</u>   |
| Exercisable at December 28, 2007 | <u>33,000</u>  | <u>\$ 10.22</u>                           | <u>4.2</u>   |

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**8. STOCK OPTIONS (Continued)**

A summary of the status of the Company's non-vested options and changes in non-vested options during the fiscal years ended January 1, 2010, January 2, 2009 and December 28, 2007, is presented below:

|                               | <u>Options</u> | <u>Weighted-<br/>Average<br/>Grant-Date<br/>Fair Value</u> |
|-------------------------------|----------------|--|
| Non-vested at January 2, 2009 | 218,000        | \$ 2.64  |
| Granted                       | 291,000        | 0.78   |
| Vested                        | (96,000)       | 2.87   |
| Forfeited                     | (19,000)       | 1.88   |
| Non-vested at January 1, 2010 | <u>394,000</u> | <u>1.24</u>  |

|                                 | <u>Options</u> | <u>Weighted-<br/>Average<br/>Grant-Date<br/>Fair Value</u> |
|---------------------------------|----------------|--|
| Non-vested at December 28, 2007 | 200,000        | \$ 3.76  |
| Granted                         | 119,000        | 1.47   |
| Vested                          | (74,000)       | 3.39   |
| Forfeited                       | (27,000)       | 3.76   |
| Non-vested at January 2, 2009   | <u>218,000</u> | <u>2.64</u>  |

|                                 | <u>Options</u> | <u>Weighted-<br/>Average<br/>Grant-Date<br/>Fair Value</u> |
|---------------------------------|----------------|--|
| Non-vested at December 29, 2006 | 8,000          | \$ 3.91  |
| Granted                         | 205,000        | 3.76   |
| Vested                          | (13,000)       | 3.95   |
| Forfeited                       | —              | —  |
| Non-vested at December 28, 2007 | <u>200,000</u> | <u>3.76</u>  |

As of January 1, 2010, there was \$301,000 of total unrecognized compensation expense related to non-vested stock options. That expense is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 1.7 years. The total fair value of vested options granted during the fiscal years ended January 1, 2010, January 2, 2009 and December 28, 2007 was \$0, \$29,000 and \$20,000, respectively.

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**8. STOCK OPTIONS (Continued)**

**AMENDED AND RESTATED 2006 EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN**

The Company adopted its Amended and Restated 2006 Employee Stock Purchase Plan to allow eligible employees the right to purchase shares of common stock, at semi-annual intervals, with their accumulated payroll deductions. The plan received stockholder approval in June 2006. The Company re-submitted the plan to its stockholders for post-IPO approval at the 2007 annual stockholders' meeting where approval was obtained. A total of 300,000 shares of the Company's common stock have been reserved for issuance under the plan, with no more than 100,000 shares being issuable in any one calendar year.

The plan has semi-annual periods beginning on each January 1 and ending on each June 30 and beginning on each July 1 and ending on each December 31. The first offering period commenced on February 10, 2007 and ended on June 30, 2007.

Participants make contributions under the plan only by means of payroll deductions each payroll period. The accumulated contributions are applied to the purchase of shares. Shares are purchased under the plan on or as soon as practicable after, the last day of the offering period. The purchase price per share equals 95% of the fair market value of a share on the last day of such offering period.

The Company's Amended and Restated 2006 Employee Stock Purchase Plan is a non-compensatory plan. As a result, stock-based compensation expense is not recognized in relation to this plan. As of January 1, 2010, there were 239,684 shares available for issuance under the plan.

**9. DEBT OBLIGATIONS**

Debt obligations consist of the following:

|  | 2009         | 2008      |
|--|--------------|-----------|
| Outstanding borrowings on line of credit | \$ 1,000,000 | \$ —      |
| Other                                    | 23,000       | 69,000    |
|  | 1,023,000    | 69,000    |
| Less current portion                     | (1,023,000)  | (52,000)  |
| Debt obligations, less current portion   | \$ —         | \$ 17,000 |

Under the terms of the Company's credit agreement with Wells Fargo Bank, National Association ("Wells Fargo"), the Company can borrow up to \$5.0 million from time to time (as may be limited by the covenants in the credit agreement as discussed below) up to and until January 1, 2011. Loans made under the revolving line of credit will accrue interest at either (i) the floating rate equal to the prime rate in effect from time to time or (ii) the fixed rate of 1.75% above LIBOR, at the Company's election. For prime rate loans, the interest rate will be adjusted when each prime rate change by the bank is announced and becomes effective.

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**9. DEBT OBLIGATIONS (Continued)**

Borrowings under the credit agreement are secured by all of the Company's accounts receivable and other rights to payment, general intangibles, inventory and equipment, including those of the Company's subsidiaries. In addition, borrowings under the credit agreement are secured by investments held in a securities account at Wells Fargo that must at all times have a collateral value of at least \$5.0 million. Each of the Company's subsidiaries (except Public Agency Resources and Willdan Resource Solutions) has signed an unconditional guaranty of the Company's obligations under the agreements.

The credit agreement contains customary representations and affirmative covenants, including a covenant to maintain a tangible net worth of at least \$18.0 million at all times. Tangible net worth is defined in the credit agreement as stockholders' equity less intangible assets and loans or advances to, or investments in, any related entities or individuals. The impact of any non-cash property lease termination expense of up to \$1.0 million in the aggregate recorded during the period from October 1, 2009 through December 31, 2010 will be excluded from the calculation of tangible net worth under the credit agreement. As of January 1, 2010, the Company's tangible net worth as defined under the Company's credit agreement was met.

The credit agreement also includes customary negative covenants, including a covenant that prohibits the incurrence of additional indebtedness by the Company or the Company's subsidiaries other than purchase money indebtedness not to exceed \$2.0 million and indebtedness existing on the date of the credit agreement, and a covenant that prohibits payment of dividends on the Company's stock and redemptions, repurchases or other acquisitions of the Company's stock; provided that the Company can repurchase stock with an aggregate fair market value up to \$5.0 million in any calendar year. In addition, the credit agreement includes customary events of default for a credit facility. Upon a default, the interest rate will be increased by a default rate margin of 4.0%. Upon the occurrence of an event of default under the credit agreement, including a breach of any of the covenants discussed above, Wells Fargo has the option to make any loans then outstanding under the credit agreement immediately due and payable and is no longer obligated to extend further credit to the Company under the credit agreement.

**10. COMMITMENTS**

***Leases***

The Company is obligated under capital leases for certain furniture and office equipment that expire at various dates through the year 2012.

The Company also leases certain office facilities under non-cancelable operating leases that expire at various dates through the year 2014 and is committed under non-cancelable operating leases for the lease of computer equipment and automobiles through the year 2011.

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**10. COMMITMENTS (Continued)**

Future minimum rental payments under capital and non-cancelable operating leases are summarized as follows:

|   | <u>Capital</u>   | <u>Operating</u>     |
|---|------------------|----------------------|
| Fiscal year:  |                  |                      |
| 2010  | \$ 158,000       | \$ 3,601,000         |
| 2011  | 90,000           | 3,315,000            |
| 2012  | 24,000           | 2,210,000            |
| 2013  | —                | 1,062,000            |
| 2014  | —                | 727,000              |
| Total future minimum lease payments                                 | <u>272,000</u>   | <u>\$ 10,915,000</u> |
| Amount representing maintenance                                     | (53,000)         |                      |
| Amount representing interest (at rates ranging from 3.75% to 11.0%) | <u>(12,000)</u>  |                      |
| Present value of net minimum lease payments under capital leases    | 207,000          |                      |
| Less current portion  | <u>(125,000)</u> |                      |
|   | <u>\$ 82,000</u> |                      |

On November 3, 2009, the Company subleased a portion of its headquarters office space to an entity that is owned by one of the Company's directors. Pursuant to the sublease agreement, this tenant will pay the Company monthly rent ranging from approximately \$8,500 to \$9,300, for a total of approximately \$376,000 through June 29, 2013. The tenant will also pay the Company a proportionate share of certain operating expenses and taxes relating to the subleased space.

Rent expense and related charges for common area maintenance for all facility operating leases for fiscal years 2009, 2008 and 2007 was approximately \$3,306,000, \$3,544,000 and \$3,337,000, respectively.

During the fiscal years ended January 1, 2010 and January 2, 2009, the Company closed certain of its offices or separable sections of offices. Additionally, a tenant that was subleasing an office from the company defaulted on its lease. As a result of the office closures and the sublease default, the Company recorded lease abandonment expense, net, of \$707,000 and \$742,000, which is included in the accompanying consolidated statement of operations for the fiscal years ended January 1, 2010 and January 2, 2009, respectively. This expense includes future rental obligations and other costs associated

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**10. COMMITMENTS (Continued)**

with the leased space net of the fair value of subleases. The following is a reconciliation of the liability for lease abandonment expense for fiscal year 2009:

|  | Fiscal 2009         | Fiscal 2008       |
|--|---------------------|-------------------|
| Liability for abandoned leases as of beginning of year       | \$ 757,000          | \$ —              |
| Lease abandonment expense, net                               | 707,000             | 742,000           |
| Lease payments on abandoned leases, net of sublease payments | (462,000)           | —                 |
| Other  | 46,000              | 15,000            |
| Liability for abandoned leases as of the end of the year     | <u>\$ 1,048,000</u> | <u>\$ 757,000</u> |

The current portion of the liability for abandoned leases is included in accrued liabilities and the non-current portion is included in lease obligations in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets.

***Employee Benefit Plans***

The Company has a qualified profit sharing plan (the Plan) pursuant to Code Section 401(a) and qualified cash or deferred arrangement pursuant to Code Section 401(k) covering substantially all employees. Employees may elect to contribute up to 50% of compensation limited to the amount allowed by tax laws. Company contributions are made solely at the discretion of the Company's board of directors. The Company made matching contributions of approximately \$0, \$260,000, and \$237,000 during fiscal years 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

The Company has a discretionary bonus plan for regional managers, division managers and others as determined by the Company president. Bonuses are awarded if certain financial goals are achieved. The financial goals are not stated in the plan; rather they are judgmentally determined each year. In addition, the board of directors may declare discretionary bonuses to key employees and all employees are eligible for what the Company refers to as the "hot hand" bonus program, which pays awards for outstanding performance. Bonus expense for fiscal years 2009, 2008 and 2007 totaled approximately \$421,000, \$316,000, and \$202,000, respectively, of which approximately \$169,000, and \$155,000 is included in accrued liabilities at January 1, 2010 and January 2, 2009, respectively.

***Post employment health benefits***

In May 2006, the Company's board of directors approved providing lifetime health insurance coverage for Win Westfall, the Company's former chief executive officer and current chairman of the board of directors, and his spouse and for Linda Heil, the widow of the Company's former chief executive officer, Dan Heil. Mrs. Heil is also a member of the Company's board of directors. Additionally, the board approved health insurance coverage for Mrs. Heil's two dependents until they reach the maximum age for dependent coverage under the Company's health insurance policy. These benefits relate to past services provided to the Company. Accordingly, there is no unamortized compensation cost for the benefits.

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**10. COMMITMENTS (Continued)**

Included in accrued liabilities in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets related to this obligation is the present value of expected payments for health insurance coverage, \$189,000 as of January 1, 2010 and \$119,000 as of January 2, 2009.

**11. INCOME TAXES**

The (benefit) provision for income taxes is comprised of:

|                                  | Fiscal Year           |                     |                     |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|                                  | 2009                  | 2008                | 2007                |
| Current federal (benefit) taxes  | \$ —                  | \$ (827,000)        | \$ 650,000          |
| Current state taxes              | 10,000                | 9,000               | 156,000             |
| Deferred federal (benefit) taxes | (1,564,000)           | 77,000              | 570,000             |
| Deferred state (benefit) taxes   | (377,000)             | (189,000)           | 167,000             |
|                                  | <u>\$ (1,931,000)</u> | <u>\$ (930,000)</u> | <u>\$ 1,543,000</u> |

The (benefit) provision for income taxes reconciles to the amounts computed by applying the statutory federal tax rate to our (loss) income before income taxes. The sources and tax effects of the differences for fiscal years 2009, 2008 and 2007 are as follows:

|   | 2009                  | 2008                | 2007                |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Computed "expected" federal income tax (benefit) expense                        | \$ (2,552,000)        | \$ (862,000)        | \$ 1,253,000        |
| Permanent differences   | 121,000               | 74,000              | 81,000              |
| Current and deferred state income tax (benefit) expense, net of federal benefit | (413,000)             | (119,000)           | 217,000             |
| Valuation allowances on deferred tax assets                                     | 934,000               | —                   | —                   |
| Other   | (21,000)              | (23,000)            | (8,000)             |
|   | <u>\$ (1,931,000)</u> | <u>\$ (930,000)</u> | <u>\$ 1,543,000</u> |

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**11. INCOME TAXES (Continued)**

The tax effects of temporary differences that give rise to significant portions of the net deferred tax assets and liabilities are as follows:

|   | January 1,<br>2010    | January 2,<br>2009    | December 28,<br>2007  |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Current deferred tax assets:                                |                       |                       |                       |
| Accrued litigation judgment                                 | \$ 54,000             | \$ 65,000             | \$ 127,000            |
| Accounts receivable allowance                               | 741,000               | 250,000               | 206,000               |
| Other accrued liabilities                                   | 786,000               | 520,000               | 643,000               |
|   | <u>1,581,000</u>      | <u>835,000</u>        | <u>976,000</u>        |
| Valuation allowance   | (412,000)             | —                     | —                     |
| Net deferred tax assets                                     | <u>1,169,000</u>      | <u>835,000</u>        | <u>976,000</u>        |
| Current deferred tax liabilities:                           |                       |                       |                       |
| Deferred revenue  | (2,623,000)           | (3,306,000)           | (2,978,000)           |
| Other   | (25,000)              | (48,000)              | —                     |
|   | <u>(2,648,000)</u>    | <u>(3,354,000)</u>    | <u>(2,978,000)</u>    |
| Net current deferred tax liability                          | <u>\$ (1,479,000)</u> | <u>\$ (2,519,000)</u> | <u>\$ (2,002,000)</u> |
| Deferred tax assets, net of current portion:                |                       |                       |                       |
| Federal and state net operating losses                      | \$ 914,000            | \$ 628,000            | \$ —                  |
| Equipment and leasehold improvement depreciation            | 191,000               | 165,000               | 162,000               |
| Intangible assets   | 803,000               | —                     | —                     |
| Other   | 93,000                | 27,000                | 23,000                |
|   | <u>2,001,000</u>      | <u>820,000</u>        | <u>185,000</u>        |
| Valuation allowance   | (522,000)             | —                     | —                     |
| Net deferred tax assets                                     | <u>1,479,000</u>      | <u>820,000</u>        | <u>185,000</u>        |
| Deferred tax liabilities, net of current portion:           |                       |                       |                       |
| Goodwill amortization                                       | (396,000)             | (587,000)             | (580,000)             |
| Net deferred tax assets (liability), net of current portion | <u>\$ 1,083,000</u>   | <u>\$ 233,000</u>     | <u>\$ (395,000)</u>   |

During fiscal year 2009, the Company recorded a \$0.9 million valuation allowance against deferred tax assets in excess of the deferred tax liability for deferred revenue as management is currently unable to assert that it is more likely than not that the Company will realize the benefit of this portion of related deferred tax assets. Management believes the existing deductible for temporary differences reflected in the deferred tax assets not covered by the valuation allowance will reverse during period in which the deferred revenue is recognized for tax purposes; however, there can be no assurance that the Company will generate any earnings or any specific level of continuing earnings in future years.

Management also believes that there are no material uncertain tax positions that would impact the accompanying consolidated financial statements.

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**11. INCOME TAXES (Continued)**

At January 1, 2010, the Company had federal and state net operating loss carryovers of \$2.0 million and \$4.1 million, respectively. These carryovers expire through 2030 and 2031 for federal and state income taxes, respectively.

**12. SEGMENT INFORMATION**

The Company has three segments: Engineering Services, Public Finance Services and Homeland Security Services. The Engineering Services segment includes Willdan Engineering, Willdan Geotechnical, Public Agency Resources, Willdan Resource Solutions and Willdan Energy Solutions. The Engineering Services segment performs services for a broad range of public agency clients and, to a lesser extent, private industry, and offers a full complement of civil and geotechnical engineering, building and safety services, energy efficiency, sustainability, water conservation, construction management, and municipal planning services to clients throughout the western United States. The Public Finance Services segment, which consists of Willdan Financial Services, provides expertise and support for the various financing techniques employed by public agencies to finance their operations and infrastructure along with the mandated reporting and other requirements associated with these financings. The Homeland Security Services segment, which consists of Willdan Homeland Solutions, provides homeland security, management consulting and public safety consulting services to cities, counties and related municipal service agencies.

The accounting policies applied to determine the segment information are the same as those described in the summary of significant accounting policies. There were no intersegment sales for any of the fiscal years in the three-year period ended January 2, 2009. Management evaluates the performance of each segment based upon income or loss from operations before income taxes. Certain segment asset information including expenditures for long-lived assets has not been presented as it is not reported to or reviewed by the chief operating decision maker. In addition, enterprise-wide service line contract revenue is not included as it is impracticable to report this information for each group of similar services.

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**12. SEGMENT INFORMATION (Continued)**

Financial information with respect to the reportable segments and reconciliation to the amounts reported in the Company's consolidated financial statements follows:

|   | Engineering<br>Services | Public Finance<br>Services | Homeland Security<br>Services | Unallocated<br>Corporate(1)(2) | Intersegment  | Consolidated<br>Total |
|---|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Fiscal Year 2009:</b>                        |                         |                            |                               |                                |               |                       |
| Contract revenue                                | \$ 46,287,000           | \$ 11,792,000              | \$ 3,526,000                  | \$ —                           | \$ —          | \$ 61,605,000         |
| Depreciation and amortization                   | 1,491,000               | 219,000                    | 104,000                       | —                              | —             | 1,814,000             |
| Interest expense                                | 25,000                  | 6,000                      | 7,000                         | —                              | —             | 38,000                |
| Segment (loss) profit before income tax expense | (5,661,000)             | (1,747,000)                | (13,000)                      | (85,000)                       | —             | (7,506,000)           |
| Income tax (benefit) expense                    | (1,469,000)             | (442,000)                  | 3,000                         | (23,000)                       | —             | (1,931,000)           |
| Net loss  | (4,192,000)             | (1,305,000)                | (16,000)                      | (62,000)(1)                    | —             | (5,575,000)           |
| Segment assets                                  | 137,673,000             | 23,151,000                 | 6,250,000                     | 140,987,000(2)                 | (267,729,000) | 40,332,000            |
| <b>Fiscal Year 2008:</b>                        |                         |                            |                               |                                |               |                       |
| Contract revenue                                | 57,324,000              | 13,660,000                 | 2,206,000                     | —                              | —             | 73,190,000            |
| Depreciation and amortization                   | 1,639,000               | 252,000                    | 87,000                        | —                              | —             | 1,978,000             |
| Interest expense (income)                       | 18,000                  | (8,000)                    | 23,000                        | —                              | —             | 33,000                |
| Segment (loss) profit before income tax expense | (3,580,000)             | 2,101,000                  | (955,000)                     | (101,000)                      | —             | (2,535,000)           |
| Income tax (benefit) expense                    | (1,377,000)             | 863,000                    | (376,000)                     | (40,000)                       | —             | (930,000)             |
| Net (loss) income                               | (2,203,000)             | 1,238,000                  | (579,000)                     | (61,000)(1)                    | —             | (1,605,000)           |
| Segment assets                                  | 82,062,000              | 14,396,000                 | 2,657,000                     | 74,470,000(2)                  | (126,015,000) | 47,570,000            |
| <b>Fiscal Year 2007:</b>                        |                         |                            |                               |                                |               |                       |
| Contract revenue                                | 64,372,000              | 12,684,000                 | 1,742,000                     | —                              | —             | 78,798,000            |
| Depreciation and amortization                   | 1,352,000               | 336,000                    | 59,000                        | —                              | —             | 1,747,000             |
| Interest (income) expense                       | (494,000)               | (26,000)                   | 21,000                        | —                              | —             | (499,000)             |
| Segment profit (loss) before income tax expense | 2,076,000               | 1,765,000                  | (68,000)                      | (86,000)                       | —             | 3,687,000             |
| Income tax expense (benefit)                    | 875,000                 | 727,000                    | (25,000)                      | (34,000)                       | —             | 1,543,000             |
| Net income (loss)                               | 1,200,000               | 1,038,000                  | (42,000)                      | (52,000)(1)                    | —             | 2,144,000             |
| Segment assets                                  | 26,852,000              | 10,658,000                 | 1,048,000                     | 29,040,000(2)                  | (19,372,000)  | 48,226,000            |

(1) The following sets forth the amounts included in the net income (loss) that was Unallocated Corporate for fiscal years 2009, 2008 and 2007:

|                                | 2009               | 2008               | 2007               |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Unallocated net (loss) income: |                    |                    |                    |
| Income tax benefit             | \$ 23,000          | \$ 40,000          | \$ 34,000          |
| Other                          | (85,000)           | (101,000)          | (86,000)           |
|                                | <u>\$ (62,000)</u> | <u>\$ (61,000)</u> | <u>\$ (52,000)</u> |

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**  
**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**12. SEGMENT INFORMATION (Continued)**

(2) The following sets forth the assets that are included in Unallocated Corporate as of January 1, 2010, January 2, 2009 and December 28, 2007:

|   | 2009                  | 2008                 | 2007                 |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Assets:                                   |                       |                      |                      |
| Cash and cash equivalents                 | \$ 8,207,000          | \$ 7,049,000         | \$ 15,299,000        |
| Liquid investments                        | —                     | —                    | 1,300,000            |
| Prepaid expenses                          | 1,258,000             | 1,498,000            | 1,524,000            |
| Intercompany receivables                  | 111,466,000           | 46,910,000           | 4,352,000            |
| Income tax receivable                     | 51,000                | 956,000              | —                    |
| Other receivables                         | 67,000                | 44,000               | 69,000               |
| Equipment and leasehold improvements, net | 458,000               | 669,000              | 952,000              |
| Investments in subsidiaries               | 18,293,000            | 16,919,000           | 5,354,000            |
| Other assets                              | 1,187,000             | 425,000              | 190,000              |
|   | <u>\$ 140,987,000</u> | <u>\$ 74,470,000</u> | <u>\$ 29,040,000</u> |

**13. CONTINGENCIES**

***Claims and Lawsuits***

The Company is subject from time to time to various claims and lawsuits, including those alleging professional errors or omissions that arise in the ordinary course of business against firms that operate in the engineering and consulting professions. The Company carries professional liability insurance, subject to certain deductibles and policy limits, for such claims as they arise and may from time to time establish reserves for litigation that is considered probable of loss.

*County of San Diego v. Willdan*, Superior Court of California, Riverside County

A complaint was filed against the Company on February 28, 2008 relating to a project for the reconstruction of a portion of Valley Center Road located in an unincorporated area of San Diego County. The design was completed by the Company and a contract was awarded to a construction contractor for construction of the improvements. The construction was originally scheduled for completion in December 2008; however completion was delayed until October 2009. The lawsuit alleges that the delays in construction were caused by errors and omissions in the Company's preparation of reports and design and engineering of the project, resulting in additional design and construction costs, in an amount to be determined but believed to be in excess of \$5.0 million. The Company denies the allegations asserted in the lawsuit and will vigorously defend against the claims.

*Topaz v. City of Laguna Beach*, Superior Court of California, Orange County

This suit concerns a project by the City of Laguna Beach to reconstruct a retaining wall supporting a city road. The Company served as the construction observer for this project. The construction work was performed from February 2005 to March 2005. Subsequent to completion of the project by the City, the plaintiffs, with the assistance of a neighbor, planted a row of trees along the top of the slope and added surface irrigation along the line of trees. In June 2005, a portion of the slope below the retaining wall near the newly planted trees experienced a superficial failure, damaging the plaintiffs'

**WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**Fiscal Years 2009, 2008 and 2007**

**13. CONTINGENCIES (Continued)**

residence. The retaining wall did not fail. The plaintiffs were not injured in the incident. The plaintiffs allege that the City of Laguna Beach violated its own ordinances by not obtaining appropriate geotechnical data during the design stage and by allowing the work to be constructed during the rainy season. The lawsuit also names the project designer, the general contractor and us, the construction observer, as defendants. The Company was named as a defendant in the first amended complaint filed on October 17, 2007. The Company has filed a cross-complaint against the plaintiffs' neighbor alleging that the row of trees caused the slope failure. The plaintiffs have asserted damages to real and personal property in the amount of \$0.8 million and general damages between \$1.6 million and \$4.7 million. The Company denies the allegations asserted against it in the lawsuit and will vigorously defend against the claims.

**14. QUARTERLY FINANCIAL INFORMATION (UNAUDITED)**

The tables below reflect selected quarterly information for the fiscal years ended January 1, 2010, January 2, 2009 and December 28, 2007.

|                                      | Fiscal Three Months Ended               |                 |                    |                    |
|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                                      | April 3,<br>2009                        | July 3,<br>2009 | October 2,<br>2009 | January 1,<br>2010 |
|                                      | (in thousands except per share amounts) |                 |                    |                    |
| Contract revenue                     | \$ 17,185                               | \$ 15,484       | \$ 14,561          | \$ 14,375          |
| Loss from operations                 | (705)                                   | (1,433)         | (1,385)            | (3,970)(1)         |
| Income tax benefit                   | (250)                                   | (536)           | (510)              | (635)              |
| Net loss                             | (454)                                   | (898)           | (878)              | (3,345)            |
| Loss per share:                      |   |                 |                    |                    |
| basic and diluted                    | \$ (0.06)                               | \$ (0.12)       | \$ (0.12)          | \$ (0.46)          |
| Weighted-average shares outstanding: |   |                 |                    |                    |
| Basic and diluted                    | 7,169                                   | 7,188           | 7,204              | 7,208              |

|                                      | Fiscal Three Months Ended               |                  |                       |                    |
|--------------------------------------|---|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
|                                      | March 28,<br>2008                       | June 27,<br>2008 | September 26,<br>2008 | January 2,<br>2009 |
|                                      | (in thousands except per share amounts) |                  |                       |                    |
| Contract revenue                     | \$ 17,776                               | \$ 17,807        | \$ 18,651             | \$ 18,956          |
| Income (loss) from operations        | 43                                      | (130)            | (704)                 | (2,009)(2)         |
| Income tax expense (benefit)         | 95                                      | 16               | (250)                 | (791)              |
| Net income (loss)                    | 116                                     | (55)             | (437)                 | (1,229)            |
| Earnings (loss) per share:           |   |                  |                       |                    |
| basic and diluted                    | \$ 0.02                                 | \$ (0.01)        | \$ (0.06)             | \$ (0.17)          |
| Weighted-average shares outstanding: |   |                  |                       |                    |
| Basic                                | 7,155                                   | 7,156            | 7,160                 | 7,164              |
| Diluted                              | 7,155                                   | 7,156            | 7,160                 | 7,164              |

- (1) Loss from operations for the fiscal three months ended January 1, 2010 includes impairment of goodwill of \$2.8 million and a reduction in litigation accrual expense of \$1.1 million related to a claim settlement on a claim for indemnity in connection with a claim that arose in fiscal year 2002.
- (2) Loss from operations for the fiscal three months ended January 2, 2009 includes impairment of goodwill of \$0.1 million.



## WILLDAN GROUP, INC.

## LIST OF SUBSIDIARIES

|    | <b>Name of Entity</b>      | <b>Jurisdiction<br/>of Organization</b> | <b>Ownership Interest</b> |
|----|----------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| 1. | Willdan Engineering        | California                              | 100% Willdan Group, Inc.  |
| 2. | Willdan Geotechnical       | California                              | 100% Willdan Group, Inc.  |
| 3. | Willdan Energy Solutions   | California                              | 100% Willdan Group, Inc.  |
| 4. | Willdan Resource Solutions | California                              | 100% Willdan Group, Inc.  |
| 5. | Public Agency Resources    | California                              | 100% Willdan Group, Inc.  |
| 6. | Willdan Financial Services | California                              | 100% Willdan Group, Inc.  |
| 7. | Willdan Homeland Solutions | California                              | 100% Willdan Group, Inc.  |

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**CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

The Board of Directors  
Willdan Group, Inc.:

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the registration statements (No. 333-139127 and No. 333-152951) on Forms S-8 of Willdan Group, Inc. of our report dated March 30, 2010, with respect to the consolidated balance sheets of Willdan Group, Inc. and subsidiaries as of January 1, 2010 and January 2, 2009, and the related consolidated statements of operations, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the fiscal years in the three-year period ended January 1, 2010, which report appears in the January 1, 2010 annual report on Form 10-K of Willdan Group, Inc.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Los Angeles, California  
March 30, 2010

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## SECTION 302 CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

I, Thomas D. Brisbin, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Willdan Group, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: March 30, 2010

By: /s/ Thomas D. Brisbin

Thomas D. Brisbin  
President and Chief Executive Officer

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## SECTION 302 CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

I, Kimberly D. Gant, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Willdan Group, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: March 30, 2010

By: /s/ Kimberly D. Gant

Kimberly D. Gant  
Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President

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**Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 1350,  
as Adopted Pursuant to § 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002**

In connection with the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Willdan Group, Inc. (the "Company") for the annual period ended January 1, 2010, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), Thomas D. Brisbin, as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, and Kimberly D. Gant, as Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President of the Company, each hereby certifies, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350, as adopted pursuant to § 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that, to the best of his or her knowledge:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

By: /s/ Thomas D. Brisbin

Thomas D. Brisbin  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
March 30, 2010

By: /s/ Kimberly D. Gant

Kimberly D. Gant  
Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President  
March 30, 2010

This certification accompanies the Report pursuant to § 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and shall not, except to the extent required by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, be deemed filed by the Company for purposes of § 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. A signed original of this written statement required by § 906 has been provided to the Company and will be retained by the Company and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

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