

EXPONENT INC  
Form 10-Q  
May 04, 2012

**UNITED STATES**

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Washington, D.C. 20549**

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

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

For the quarterly period ended March 30, 2012

OR

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

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission File Number 0-18655

**EXPONENT, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE

(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

77-0218904

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

149 COMMONWEALTH DRIVE, MENLO PARK, CALIFORNIA 94025

(Address of principal executive office)

(Zip Code)

**(650) 326-9400**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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 whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definition 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  Smaller reporting company   
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

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As of April 27, 2012, the latest practicable date, the registrant had 13,410,825 shares of Common Stock, \$0.001 par value per share, outstanding.

EXPONENT, INC.

FORM 10-Q

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## PART I – FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## Item 1. Financial Statements

## EXPONENT, INC.

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

March 30, 2012 and December 30, 2011

(in thousands, except par value)

(unaudited)

	March 30, 2012	December 30, 2011
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$78,520	\$84,439
Short-term investments	25,157	25,260
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$2,437 and \$2,339 at March 30, 2012 and December 30, 2011, respectively	74,101	73,065
Prepaid expenses and other assets	5,676	8,521
Deferred income taxes	7,456	7,293
Total current assets	190,910	198,578
Property, equipment and leasehold improvements, net	27,365	27,215
Goodwill	8,607	8,607
Deferred income taxes	15,029	14,692
Deferred compensation plan assets	24,607	18,911
Other assets	750	785
Total assets	\$267,268	\$268,788
<b>Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$8,358	\$6,738

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Accrued payroll and employee benefits	27,375	48,089
Deferred revenues	5,141	5,948
Total current liabilities	40,874	60,775
Other liabilities	713	700
Deferred compensation	24,465	18,756
Deferred rent	1,753	1,842
Total liabilities	67,805	82,073
Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock, \$0.001 par value; 100,000 shares authorized; 16,427 shares issued at March 30, 2012 and December 30, 2011	16	16
Additional paid-in capital	118,858	108,071
Accumulated other comprehensive loss		
Investment securities, available for sale	78	52
Foreign currency translation adjustments	(335 )	(523 )
	(257 )	(471 )
Retained earnings	178,835	179,432
Treasury stock, at cost; 2,969 and 3,127 shares held at March 30, 2012 and December 30, 2011, respectively	(97,989 )	(100,333)
Total stockholders' equity	199,463	186,715
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$267,268	\$268,788

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

**EXPONENT, INC.****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME**

For the Three Months Ended March 30, 2012 and April 1, 2011

**(in thousands, except per share data)****(unaudited)**

	Three Months Ended	
	March 30, 2012	April 1, 2011
Revenues:		
Revenues before reimbursements	\$66,470	\$64,183
Reimbursements	5,455	9,290
Revenues	71,925	73,473
Operating expenses:		
Compensation and related expenses	46,175	42,700
Other operating expenses	5,562	5,782
Reimbursable expenses	5,455	9,290
General and administrative expenses	2,917	3,335
Total operating expenses	60,109	61,107
Operating income	11,816	12,366
Other income, net:		
Interest income, net	77	21
Miscellaneous income, net	1,840	992
Total other income, net	1,917	1,013
Income before income taxes	13,733	13,379
Income taxes	5,532	5,376

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Net income	\$8,201	\$8,003
Net income per share:		
Basic	\$0.59	\$0.55
Diluted	\$0.57	\$0.53
Shares used in per share computations:		
Basic	13,859	14,532
Diluted	14,419	15,140

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

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EXPONENT, INC.

**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**

For the Three Months Ended March 30, 2012 and April 1, 2011

**(in thousands)**

**(unaudited)**

	Three Months Ended	
	March 30, 2012	April 1, 2011
Net income	\$8,201	\$8,003
Other comprehensive income:		
Foreign currency translation adjustments, net of tax	188	240
Unrealized gains on investments arising during the period, net of tax	26	1
Comprehensive income	\$8,415	\$8,244

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

**EXPONENT, INC.****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

For the Three Months Ended March 30, 2012 and April 1, 2011

**(in thousands)****(unaudited)**

	Three Months Ended	
	March 30, 2012	April 1, 2011
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income	\$8,201	\$8,003
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization of property, equipment and leasehold improvements	1,144	1,064
Amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts on short-term investments	145	-
Deferred rent	(89 )	(109 )
Provision for doubtful accounts	298	536
Stock-based compensation	4,457	3,815
Deferred income tax provision	(600 )	(1,912 )
Tax benefit for stock plans	(2,435 )	(2,123 )
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(1,334 )	(8,791 )
Prepaid expenses and other assets	2,240	6,472
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	3,555	1,223
Accrued payroll and employee benefits	(16,174)	(13,348 )
Deferred revenues	(807 )	(780 )
Net cash used in operating activities	(1,399 )	(5,950 )
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Capital expenditures	(1,294 )	(801 )
Purchase of short-term investments	-	(2,338 )
Net cash used in investing activities	(1,294 )	(3,139 )
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Tax benefit for stock plans	2,435	2,123

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Payroll taxes for restricted stock units	(3,483 )	(3,473 )
Repurchase of common stock	(3,520 )	(7,126 )
Exercise of share-based payment awards	1,088	660
Net cash used in financing activities	(3,480 )	(7,816 )
Effect of foreign currency exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents	254	270
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(5,919 )	(16,635 )
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	84,439	106,549
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$78,520	\$89,914

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

**EXPONENT, INC.**

**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

For the Three Months Ended March 30, 2012 and April 1, 2011

**Note 1: Basis of Presentation**

Exponent, Inc. (referred to as the “Company” or “Exponent”) is an engineering and scientific consulting firm that provides solutions to complex problems. The Company operates on a 52-53 week fiscal year ending on the Friday closest to the last day of December.

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for interim financial information, the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Accordingly, they do not contain all the information and notes required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments which are necessary for the fair presentation of the condensed consolidated financial statements have been included and all such adjustments are of a normal and recurring nature. The operating results for the three months ended March 30, 2012 are not necessarily representative of the results of future quarterly or annual periods. The following information should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes thereto included in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 30, 2011.

The unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Exponent, Inc. and its subsidiaries, which are wholly owned. All intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

**Authorized Capital Stock.** In a letter dated May 23, 2006, the Company committed to stockholders to limit its use of authorized capital stock to 40 million common shares, and 2 million preferred shares, unless the approval of the Company’s stockholders is subsequently obtained, such as through a further amendment to the Company’s authorized capital stock.

**Use of Estimates.** The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America 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 financial

statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

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**Note 2: Fair Value Measurements**

The Company measures certain financial assets and liabilities at fair value on a recurring basis, including available-for-sale fixed income securities, trading fixed income and equity securities held in its deferred compensation plan and the liability associated with its deferred compensation plan. The fair value of these certain financial assets and liabilities was determined using the following inputs at March 30, 2012 (in thousands):

## Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using

	Total	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
<b>Assets</b>				
Money market securities <sup>(1)</sup>	\$44,803	\$44,803	\$-	\$-
Fixed income available for sale securities <sup>(2)</sup>	25,157	-	25,157	-
Fixed income trading securities held in deferred compensation plan <sup>(3)</sup>	11,172	11,172	-	-
Equity trading securities held in deferred compensation plan <sup>(3)</sup>	14,137	14,137	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$95,269</b>	<b>\$70,112</b>	<b>\$25,157</b>	<b>\$-</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Deferred compensation plan <sup>(4)</sup>	25,167	25,167	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$25,167</b>	<b>\$25,167</b>	<b>\$-</b>	<b>\$-</b>

- (1) Included in cash and cash equivalents on the Company's unaudited condensed consolidated balance sheet.
- (2) Included in short-term investments on the Company's unaudited condensed consolidated balance sheet.
- (3) Included in other current assets and deferred compensation plan assets on the Company's unaudited condensed consolidated balance sheet.
- (4) Included in accrued liabilities and deferred compensation on the Company's unaudited condensed consolidated balance sheet.

The fair value of these certain financial assets and liabilities was determined using the following inputs at December 30, 2011 (in thousands):

Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using

	Total	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
<b>Assets</b>				
Money market securities <sup>(1)</sup>	\$44,448	\$44,448	\$-	\$-
Fixed income available for sale securities <sup>(2)</sup>	25,260	-	25,260	-
Fixed income trading securities held in deferred compensation plan <sup>(3)</sup>	7,456	7,456	-	-
Equity trading securities held in deferred compensation plan <sup>(3)</sup>	12,626	12,626	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$89,790</b>	<b>\$64,530</b>	<b>\$25,260</b>	<b>\$-</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Deferred compensation plan <sup>(4)</sup>	19,927	19,927	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$19,927</b>	<b>\$19,927</b>	<b>\$-</b>	<b>\$-</b>

(1) Included in cash and cash equivalents on the Company's consolidated balance sheet.

(2) Included in short-term investments on the Company's consolidated balance sheet.

(3) Included in other current assets and deferred compensation plan assets on the Company's consolidated balance sheet.

(4) Included in accrued liabilities and deferred compensation on the Company's consolidated balance sheet.



Fixed income available-for-sale securities as of March 30, 2012 and December 30, 2011 primarily represent obligations of state and local government agencies. Fixed income and equity trading securities represent mutual funds held in the Company's deferred compensation plan. See Note 6 for additional information about the Company's deferred compensation plan.

As of March 30, 2012, the Company held state and municipal bonds with a fair value of \$25,157,000 and an amortized cost of \$25,028,000. The unrealized gain recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income was \$129,000. There were no securities in a continuous unrealized loss position for more than twelve months. Cash equivalents had maturities of 3 months or less and all short-term investments had maturities of 18 months or less, with an average effective maturity of 0.33 years as of March 30, 2012.

As of December 30, 2011, the Company held state and municipal bonds with a fair value of \$25,260,000 and an amortized cost of \$25,173,000.

At March 30, 2012 and December 30, 2011, the Company did not have any assets valued using significant unobservable inputs.

There were no other-than-temporary impairments or credit losses related to available-for-sale securities during the three months ended March 30, 2012 and April 1, 2011.

### Note 3: Net Income Per Share

Basic per share amounts are computed using the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted per share amounts are calculated using the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period and, when dilutive, the weighted-average number of potential common shares from the issuance of common stock to satisfy outstanding restricted stock units and the exercise of outstanding options to purchase common stock using the treasury stock method.

The following schedule reconciles the shares used to calculate basic and diluted net income per share:

(In thousands)	Three Months Ended	
	March 30, 2012	April 1, 2011
Shares used in basic per share computation	13,859	14,532
Effect of dilutive common stock options outstanding	176	205
Effect of dilutive restricted stock units outstanding	384	403
Shares used in diluted per share computation	14,419	15,140

Common stock options to purchase 14,011 shares were excluded from the diluted per share calculation for the three months ended March 30, 2012 due to their antidilutive effect. The weighted-average exercise price for the antidilutive shares was \$48.27 for the three months ended March 30, 2012. There were no options excluded from the diluted per share calculation for the three months ended April 1, 2011.

### Note 4: Stock-Based Compensation

#### Restricted Stock Units

Restricted stock unit grants are designed to attract and retain employees, and to better align employee interests with those of the Company's stockholders. For a select group of employees, up to 40% of their annual bonus is settled with fully vested restricted stock unit awards. Under these fully vested restricted stock unit awards, the holder of each award has the right to receive one share of the Company's common stock for each fully vested restricted stock unit four years from the date of grant. Each individual who receives a fully vested restricted stock unit award is also granted a matching number of unvested restricted stock unit awards. Unvested restricted stock unit awards are also granted for select new hires and promotions. These unvested restricted stock unit awards generally cliff vest four years from the date of grant, at which time the holder of each award will have the right to receive one share of the Company's common stock for each restricted stock unit award provided the holder of each award has met certain employment conditions. In the case of retirement at 59½ years or older, all unvested restricted stock unit awards will continue to vest, provided that the holder of each award does all consulting work through the Company and does not become an employee for a past or present client, beneficial party or competitor of the Company.

The value of these restricted stock unit awards is determined based on the market price of the Company's common stock on the date of grant. The value of fully vested restricted stock unit awards issued is recorded as a reduction to accrued bonuses. The portion of bonus expense that the Company expects to settle with fully vested restricted stock unit awards is recorded as stock-based compensation during the period the bonus is earned. The Company recorded stock-based compensation expense associated with accrued bonus awards of \$1,474,000 and \$1,419,000 during the three months ended March 30, 2012 and April 1, 2011, respectively. The value of the unvested restricted stock unit awards granted is recognized on a straight-line basis over the shorter of the four-year vesting period or the period between the grant date and the date the award recipient turns 59½. If the award recipient is 59½ years or older on the date of grant, the value of the entire award is expensed upon grant. The Company recorded stock-based compensation expense associated with the unvested restricted stock unit awards of \$2,831,000 and \$2,243,000 during the three months ended March 30, 2012 and April 1, 2011, respectively.

## Stock Options

Stock options are granted for terms of ten years and generally vest 25% per year over a four-year period from the grant date. For options granted on or after January 1, 2012, all unvested stock options awards will continue to vest in the case of retirement at 59½ or older, provided that the holder of each award does all consulting work through the Company and does not become an employee for a past or present client, beneficial party or competitor of the Company. The Company grants options at exercise prices equal to the fair value of the Company's common stock on the date of grant. The Company recorded stock-based compensation expense of \$152,000 and \$153,000 during the three months ended March 30, 2012 and April 1, 2011, respectively, associated with stock option grants.

The Company uses the Black-Scholes option-pricing model to determine the fair value of options granted. The determination of the fair value of stock-based awards on the date of grant using an option-pricing model is affected by the Company's stock price as well as assumptions regarding a number of complex and subjective variables. These variables include expected stock price volatility over the term of the award, actual and projected employee stock option exercise behaviors, the risk-free interest rate and expected dividends.

The Company used historical exercise and post-vesting forfeiture and expiration data to estimate the expected term of options granted. The historical volatility of the Company's common stock over a period of time equal to the expected term of the options granted was used to estimate expected volatility. The risk-free interest rate used in the option-pricing model was based on United States Treasury zero-coupon issues with remaining terms similar to the expected term on the options. The Company does not anticipate paying any cash dividends in the foreseeable future and therefore used an expected dividend yield of zero in the option-pricing model. The Company is required to estimate forfeitures at the time of grant and revise those estimates in subsequent periods if actual forfeitures differ from those estimates. Historical data was used to estimate pre-vesting option forfeitures and stock-based compensation expense was recorded only for those awards that are expected to vest. All share-based payment awards are recognized on a straight-line basis over the requisite service periods of the awards.

## **Note 5: Treasury Stock**

On February 19, 2009, the Company's Board of Directors authorized \$25.1 million for the repurchase of the Company's common stock. On May 25, 2011, the Company's Board of Directors authorized an additional \$35 million for the repurchase of the Company's common stock. On February 9, 2012, the Company's Board of Directors authorized an additional \$35 million for the repurchase of the Company's common stock.

The Company repurchased 84,174 shares of its common stock for \$4,033,000 during the three months ended March 30, 2012. The Company repurchased 181,640 shares of its common stock for \$7,126,000 during the three months

ended April 1, 2011. As of March 30, 2012, the Company had remaining authorization under its stock repurchase plans of \$40,373,000 to repurchase shares of common stock.

The Company reissued 241,653 shares of its treasury stock with a cost of approximately \$6,377,000 to settle restricted stock unit awards, stock options and purchases under the Employee Stock Purchase Plan during the three months ended March 30, 2012. The Company reissued 215,456 shares of its treasury stock with a cost of approximately \$5,341,000 to settle restricted stock unit awards, stock options and purchases under the Employee Stock Purchase Plan during the three months ended April 1, 2011.

**Note 6: Deferred Compensation Plan**

The Company maintains a nonqualified deferred compensation plan for the benefit of a select group of highly compensated employees. Under this plan participants may elect to defer up to 100% of their compensation. Company assets that are earmarked to pay benefits under the plan are held in a rabbi trust and are subject to the claims of the Company's creditors. As of March 30, 2012 and December 30, 2011, the invested amounts under the plan totaled \$25,309,000 and \$20,082,000, respectively. These assets are classified as trading securities and are recorded at fair market value with changes recorded as adjustments to other income and expense.

As of March 30, 2012 and December 30, 2011, vested amounts due under the plan totaled \$25,167,000 and \$19,927,000, respectively. Changes in the liability are recorded as adjustments to compensation expense. During the three months ended March 30, 2012 and April 1, 2011, the Company recognized compensation expense of \$1,488,000 and \$651,000 and respectively, as a result of changes in the market value of the trust assets with the same amount being recorded as other income, net.

Note 7: Supplemental Cash Flow Information

The following is supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:

(In thousands)	Three Months Ended	
	March 30, 2012	April 1, 2011
Cash paid during period:		
Income taxes	\$361	\$236
Non-cash investing and financing activities:		
Unrealized gain on short-term investments	\$26	\$1
Vested stock unit awards issued to settle accrued bonuses	\$5,343	\$4,538
Stock repurchases payable to broker	\$513	\$-

Note 8: Accounts Receivable, Net

At March 30, 2012 and December 30, 2011, accounts receivable, net, was comprised of the following:

(In thousands)	March 30, 2012	December 30, 2011
Billed accounts receivable	\$46,467	\$ 50,338

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Unbilled accounts receivable	30,071	25,066
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(2,437 )	(2,339 )
Total accounts receivable, net	\$74,101	\$ 73,065

Note 9: Inventory

At March 30, 2012, the Company had \$363,000 of finished goods inventory included in prepaid expenses and other current assets on its unaudited condensed consolidated balance sheet. At December 30, 2011 the Company had \$739,000 and \$849,000 of finished goods and raw materials inventory, respectively, included in prepaid expenses and other current assets on its consolidated balance sheet.

Note 10: Segment Reporting

The Company has two operating segments based on two primary areas of service. One operating segment is a broad service group providing technical consulting in different practices primarily in the areas of engineering and technology development. The Company's other operating segment provides services in the area of environmental, epidemiology and health risk analysis. This operating segment provides a wide range of consulting services relating to environmental hazards and risks and the impact on both human health and the environment.

Segment information for the three ended March 30, 2012 and April 1, 2011 follows:

Revenues

(In thousands)	Three Months Ended	
	March 30, 2012	April 1, 2011
Engineering and other scientific	\$51,717	\$55,661
Environmental and health	20,208	17,812
Total revenues	\$71,925	\$73,473

Operating income

(In thousands)	Three Months Ended	
	March 30, 2012	April 1, 2011
Engineering and other scientific	\$14,933	\$16,230
Environmental and health	6,784	5,275
Total segment operating income	21,717	21,505
Corporate operating expense	(9,901 )	(9,139 )
Total operating income	\$11,816	\$12,366

Capital Expenditures

(In thousands)	Three Months Ended	
	March 30, 2012	April 1, 2011
Engineering and other scientific	\$478	\$335
Environmental and health	143	80
Total segment capital expenditures	621	415
Corporate capital expenditures	673	386



Total capital expenditures \$1,294 \$ 801

Depreciation and Amortization

(In thousands)	Three Months Ended	
	March 30, 2012	April 1, 2011
Engineering and other scientific	\$684	\$658
Environmental and health	68	51
Total segment depreciation and amortization	752	709
Corporate depreciation and amortization	392	355
Total depreciation and amortization	\$1,144	\$1,064

No single customer comprised more than 10% of the Company's revenues during the three months ended March 30, 2012. The Company derived 11% of revenues from agencies of the U.S. federal government for the three months ended April 1, 2011. No single customer comprised more than 10% of the Company's accounts receivable at March 30, 2012. Agencies of the U.S. federal government comprised 12% of the Company's accounts receivable at December 30, 2011.

**Note 11: Goodwill**

Below is a breakdown of goodwill reported by segment as of March 30, 2012:

(In thousands)	Environmental and health	Engineering and other scientific	Total
Goodwill	\$ 8,099	\$ 508	\$ 8,607

There were no changes in the carrying amount of goodwill for the three months ended March 30, 2012. There were no goodwill impairments or gains or losses on disposals for any portion of the Company's reporting units during the three months ended March 30, 2012.

**Note 12: Contingencies**

In July of 2008, the Company was served with a writ by a former client. The writ did not articulate a claim. The Company met with the former client in November of 2008 and again in January of 2009 and learned in those discussions of potential claims against the Company arising out of the testimony delivered by one of the Company's employees. The former client claims that this testimony contributed to an adverse verdict against them. Given the uncertainty as to whether the claimant will choose to pursue one or more claims against the Company, and the nature of the potential claims against the Company, an estimated loss cannot be determined at this time. The Company believes it has a strong defense against all such potential claims and intends to vigorously defend itself. Further, the Company believes that some of the potential claims would be covered by insurance. Although the Company's ultimate liability in this matter (if any) cannot be determined, based upon information currently available, the Company believes, after consultation with legal counsel, the ultimate resolution of these potential claims will not have a material adverse effect on its financial condition, results of operations or liquidity.

In addition to the above matter, the Company is a party to various other legal actions from time to time and may be contingently liable in connection with claims and contracts arising in the normal course of business, the outcome of which the Company believes, after consultation with legal counsel, will not have a material adverse effect on its financial condition, results of operations or liquidity. All legal costs associated with litigation are expensed as incurred.

## **Item 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included herein and with our audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto for the fiscal year ended December 30, 2011, which are contained in our fiscal 2011 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

### **Forward-Looking Statements**

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q contains certain “forward-looking” statements (as such term is defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, and the rules promulgated pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended thereto) that are based on the beliefs of the Company’s management, as well as assumptions made by and information currently available to the Company’s management. Such forward-looking statements are subject to the safe harbor created by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. When used in this document the words “anticipate,” “believe,” “estimate,” “expect” and similar expressions, as they relate to the Company or its management, identify such forward-looking statements. Such statements reflect the current views of the Company or its management with respect to future events and are subject to certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, the Company’s actual results, performance, or achievements could differ materially from those expressed in, or implied by, any such forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause or contribute to such material differences include the possibility that the demand for our services may decline as a result of changes in general and industry specific economic conditions, the timing of engagements for our services, the effects of competitive services and pricing, the absence of backlog related to our business, our ability to attract and retain key employees, the effect of tort reform and government regulation on our business and liabilities resulting from claims made against us. Additional risks and uncertainties are discussed in our fiscal 2011 Annual Report on Form 10-K under the heading “Risk Factors” and elsewhere in the report. The inclusion of such forward-looking information should not be regarded as a representation by the Company or any other person that the future events, plans, or expectations contemplated by the Company will be achieved. Due to such uncertainties and risks, you are warned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date hereof. The Company does not intend to release publicly any updates or revisions to any such forward-looking statements.

### **Business Overview**

Exponent, Inc. is an engineering and scientific consulting firm that provides solutions to complex problems. Our multidisciplinary team of scientists, physicians, engineers and business consultants brings together more than 90 different technical disciplines to solve complicated issues facing industry and business today. Our services include analysis of product development, product recall, regulatory compliance, and discovery of potential problems related to products, people or property and impending litigation, as well as the development of highly technical new products.

## **CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES**

In preparing our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements, we make assumptions, judgments and estimates that can have a significant impact on our revenue, operating income and net income, as well as on the value of certain assets and liabilities on our consolidated balance sheet. We base our assumptions, judgments and estimates on historical experience and various other factors that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results could differ materially from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions. On a regular basis we evaluate our assumptions, judgments and estimates and make changes accordingly. We believe that the assumptions, judgments and estimates involved in the accounting for revenue recognition and estimating the allowance for doubtful accounts have the greatest potential impact on our consolidated financial statements, so we consider these to be our critical accounting policies. Historically, our assumptions, judgments and estimates relative to our critical accounting policies have not differed materially from actual results. Policies covering revenue recognition and estimating the allowance for doubtful accounts are described in our fiscal 2011 Annual Report on Form 10-K under “Critical Accounting Estimates” and Note 1 (Summary of Significant Accounting Policies) of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

## RESULTS OF CONSOLIDATED OPERATIONS

### Executive Summary

Revenues for the first quarter of 2012 decreased 2% and revenues before reimbursements increased 4% as compared to the same period last year. The decrease in revenues was due to the decrease in product sales in defense technology development and a decrease in reimbursable project related costs for consulting projects in defense technology development. Product sales in defense technology development were unusually strong during the first quarter of 2011. The decreases in product sales in defense technology development and reimbursable project related costs for consulting projects in defense technology development were offset by growth in revenues before reimbursements driven by an increase in consulting revenues. We experienced strong demand for our consulting services from a diverse set of clients for both reactive and proactive projects and continued to see elevated levels of activity on a few major assignments. We continued to grow our design consulting offerings to the consumer electronics industry and expand our regulatory consulting services to clients in both the United States and European Union. Our utilization was 74% during the first quarter of 2012 as compared to 73% during the same period last year. Utilization in the quarter was better than expected and continued to benefit from a few large projects. We continue to expect these projects to decline in their level of activity over the next several quarters as they move through their project life cycle. Technical full-time equivalent employees increased 6% to 686 during the first quarter of 2012 as compared to 650 during the same period last year due to our recruiting and retention efforts.

During the quarter we assisted clients with several high-profile investigations that engage consultants across many of our practices. The growth in consulting revenues and the increase in utilization, partially offset by the decrease in product sales, resulted in a 2% increase in net income during the first quarter of 2012 as compared to the same period last year. Diluted earnings per share increased to \$0.57 per share as compared to \$0.53 in the same period last year due to our ongoing share repurchase program and the increase in net income.

We remain focused on selectively adding top talent and developing the skills necessary to expand our market position, providing clients with in-depth scientific research and analysis to determine what happened and how to prevent failures or exposures in the future, capitalizing on opportunities in defense technology development and emerging growth areas, managing other operating expenses, generating cash from operations, maintaining a strong balance sheet and undertaking activities such as share repurchases to enhance shareholder value.

### Overview of the Three Months Ended March 30, 2012

During the first quarter of 2012, billable hours increased 7% to 263,000 as compared to 246,000 during the same period last year. The increase in billable hours was due to strong demand for our consulting services across a broad set

of practices and elevated levels of activity on several major assignments. Technical full-time equivalent employees increased 6% to 686 during the first quarter of 2012 as compared to 650 during the same period last year due to our recruiting and retention efforts. Our utilization was 74% during the first quarter of 2012 as compared to 73% during the same period last year. We continue to selectively hire key talent to expand our capabilities and have experienced an increase in utilization due to elevated levels of activity on several major assignments and our management of headcount to align resources with anticipated demand. Product sales in defense technology development decreased to \$2,386,000 for the first quarter of 2012 as compared to \$6,143,000 during the same period last year due to lower sales of surveillance systems to the United States Army. Product sales will vary from quarter to quarter due to the timing of new contracts and delivery dates.

**Three Months Ended March 30, 2012 compared to Three Months Ended April 1, 2011****Revenues**

(In thousands)	Three Months Ended		Percent Change
	March 30, 2012	April 1, 2011	
Engineering and other scientific	\$51,717	\$55,661	(7.1 )%
Percentage of total revenues	71.9 %	75.8 %	
Environmental and health	20,208	17,812	13.5 %
Percentage of total revenues	28.1 %	24.2 %	
Total revenues	\$71,925	\$73,473	(2.1 )%

The decrease in revenues for our engineering and other scientific segment was due to a decrease in product sales in defense technology development and a decrease in reimbursable project related costs for consulting projects in defense technology development, partially offset by an increase in billable hours. Product sales in defense technology development decreased to \$2,386,000 for the first quarter of 2012 as compared to \$6,143,000 during the same period last year due to lower sales of surveillance systems to the United States Army. Product sales will vary from quarter to quarter due to the timing of new contracts and delivery dates. Reimbursable project related costs for consulting projects in defense technology development decreased to \$1,245,000 during the first quarter of 2012 as compared to \$3,056,000 during the same period last year. Reimbursable project related costs will vary from quarter to quarter depending on the nature of our projects. During the first quarter of 2012, billable hours for this segment increased by 3% to 183,000 as compared to 177,000 during the same period last year. The increase in billable hours was due to strong demand for our services in our mechanics and materials, electrical, and thermal sciences practices. Technical full-time equivalent employees increased 4% to 473 during the first quarter of 2012 as compared to 457 for the same period last year due our continuing recruiting and retention efforts. Utilization decreased to 74% during the first quarter of 2012 as compared to 75% during the same period last year.

The increase in revenues for our environmental and health segment was due to an increase in billable hours. During the first quarter of 2012, billable hours for this segment increased by 16% to 80,000 as compared to 69,000 during the same period last year. The increase in billable hours was due to strong demand for our services. Utilization increased to 72% for the first quarter of 2012 as compared to 69% for the same period last year due in part to elevated levels of activity on a number of major assignments that involved consultants across many of our practices. Technical full-time equivalent employees increased by 10% to 213 during the first quarter of 2012 as compared to 193 for the same period last year due to our continuing recruiting and retention efforts.

**Compensation and Related Expenses**

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(In thousands)	Three Months		Percent	Change
	Ended	April 1,		
	March	2011		
	30,	2011		
	2012			
Compensation and related expenses	\$46,175	\$42,700	8.1	%
Percentage of total revenues	64.2	%	58.1	%

The increase in compensation and related expenses during the first quarter of 2012 was due to an increase in payroll expense, an increase in stock-based compensation expense and the change in the value of assets associated with our deferred compensation plan. Payroll expense increased \$1,645,000 due to a 6% increase in technical full-time equivalent employees and our annual salary increase on April 2, 2011. Stock-based compensation expense increased \$584,000 due to an increase in the value of unvested restricted stock units granted during the first quarter of 2012. During the first quarter of 2012, deferred compensation expense increased \$837,000 with a corresponding increase to other income, net, as compared to first quarter of 2011 due to the change in value of assets associated with our deferred compensation plan. This increase consisted of an increase in the value of the plan assets of \$1,488,000 during the first quarter of 2012 and in increase in the value of the plan assets of \$651,000 during the first quarter of 2011. We expect our compensation expense to increase as we selectively add new talent and our annual salary increases take effect at the beginning of the second quarter of 2012.



## Other Operating Expenses

(In thousands)	Three Months Ended		Percent Change
	March 30, 2012	April 1, 2011	
Other operating expenses	\$5,562	\$5,782	(3.8 )%
Percentage of total revenues	7.7 %	7.9 %	

Other operating expenses include facilities-related costs, technical materials, computer-related expenses and depreciation and amortization of property, equipment and leasehold improvements. The decrease in operating expenses during the first quarter of 2012 was due to a decrease in occupancy expense of \$147,000 and a decrease in technical materials of \$111,000. The decrease in occupancy expense was due to planned maintenance in our owned facilities in 2011. The decrease in technical materials was due to a decrease in development activities in our defense technology development practice. We expect other operating expenses to grow as we selectively add new talent and make investments in our corporate infrastructure.

## Reimbursable Expenses

(In thousands)	Three Months Ended		Percent Change
	March 30, 2012	April 1, 2011	
Reimbursable expenses	\$5,455	\$9,290	(41.3 )%
Percentage of total revenues	7.6 %	12.6 %	

The decrease in reimbursable expenses was due to a decrease in project related costs. The amount of reimbursable expenses will vary from quarter to quarter depending on the nature of our projects.

## General and Administrative Expenses

(In thousands)	Three Months Ended		Percent Change
	March 30, 2012	April 1, 2011	
General and administrative expenses	\$2,917	\$3,335	(12.5 )%
Percentage of total revenues	4.1 %	4.5 %	

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The decrease in general and administrative expenses during the first quarter of 2012 was due to a decrease in legal expenses of \$383,000. The decrease in legal expenses was due to a decrease in costs associated with legal claims during the first quarter of 2012 as compared to the same period last year. We expect general and administrative expenses to increase as we selectively add new talent, expand our business development efforts and pursue staff development initiatives.

Other Income, Net

(In thousands)	Three Months Ended		Percent Change
	March 30, 2012	April 1, 2011	
Other income, net	\$1,917	\$1,013	89.2 %
Percentage of total revenues	2.7 %	1.4 %	

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Other income, net, consists primarily of interest income earned on available cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments, changes in the value of assets associated with our deferred compensation plan and rental income from leasing space in our Silicon Valley facility. During the first quarter of 2012, other income, net, increased \$837,000 with a corresponding increase to deferred compensation expense, as compared to the first quarter in 2011 due to a change in value of assets associated with our deferred compensation plan. This increase consisted of an increase in the value of the plan assets of \$1,488,000 during the first quarter of 2012 and in increase in the value of the plan assets of \$651,000 during the first quarter of 2011.

### *Income Taxes*

(In thousands)	Three Months Ended		Percent Change
	March 30, 2012	April 1, 2011	
Income taxes	\$5,532	\$5,376	2.9 %
Percentage of total revenues	7.7 %	7.3 %	
Effective tax rate	40.3 %	40.2 %	

The increase in income tax expense was due to a corresponding increase in pre-tax income.

### LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

As of March 31, 2012, our cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments were \$103.7 million compared to \$109.7 million at December 30, 2011. The following table summarizes our cash flows (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended	
	March 30, 2012	April 1, 2011
Net cash used in operating activities	\$(1,399)	\$(5,950)
Net cash used in investing activities	(1,294)	(3,139)
Net cash used in financing activities	(3,480)	(7,816)

The decrease in net cash used in operating activities during the first quarter of 2012 as compared 2011 was due to a smaller increase in accounts receivable, a larger increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities and a decrease in

deferred income taxes partially offset by a smaller decrease in prepaid expense and other assets and a larger decrease in accrued payroll and employee benefits. Accounts receivable increased \$1,334,000 during the first quarter of 2012 as compared to an increase of \$8,791,000 during the same period last year. The smaller increase in accounts receivable during the first quarter of 2012 was due to improved collections. Days sales outstanding were 88 days for the first quarter of 2012 as compared to 96 days for the same period last year. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities increased \$3,555,000 during the first quarter of 2012 as compared to an increase of \$1,223,000 during the same period last year. The larger increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities during the first quarter of 2012 was due to the timing of payments to vendors. Prepaid expenses and other assets decreased \$2,240,000 during the first quarter of 2012 as compared to a decrease of \$6,472,000 during the same period last year. This smaller decrease during the first quarter of 2012 was due to a decrease in inventory of \$1,225,000 during the first quarter of 2012 as compared to \$2,729,000 during the same period last year and a smaller decrease in prepaid taxes of \$1,969,000 during the first quarter of 2012 as compared to \$3,934,000 during the same period last year. Accrued payroll and employee benefits decreased \$16,174,000 during the first quarter of 2012 as compared to a decrease of \$13,348,000 during the same period last year. The larger decrease in accrued payroll and employee benefits was due an increase in the amount of accrued bonus paid during the first quarter of 2012 as compared to the same period last year.

The decrease in net cash used in investing activities was due to a decrease in purchases of short-term investments of \$2,338,000.

The decrease in net cash used in financing activities was due to a decrease in repurchases of our common stock under our stock repurchase program of \$3,606,000.

For the remainder of 2012, we expect to continue our investing activities including purchases of short-term investments and capital expenditures. Furthermore, cash reserves may be used to repurchase common stock under our stock repurchase program or strategically acquire professional services firms that are complementary to our business.

The following schedule summarizes our principal contractual commitments as of March 30, 2012 (in thousands):

Fiscal year	Operating lease commitments	Capital leases	Purchase obligations	Total
2012 (remaining portion)	\$ 5,636	\$ 37	\$ 758	\$6,431
2013	5,586	49	-	5,635
2014	4,305	48	-	4,353
2015	2,688	-	-	2,688
2016	1,896	-	-	1,896
Thereafter	1,890	-	-	1,890
	\$ 22,001	\$ 134	\$ 758	\$22,893

We maintain a nonqualified deferred compensation plan for the benefit of a select group of highly compensated employees. Vested amounts due under the plan of \$24,465,000 were recorded as a long-term liability on our unaudited condensed consolidated balance sheet at March 30, 2012. Company assets that are earmarked to pay benefits under the plan are held in a rabbi trust and are subject to the claims of our creditors. As of March 30, 2012 invested amounts under the plan of \$24,607,000 were recorded as a long-term asset on our condensed consolidated balance sheet.

As permitted under Delaware law, we have agreements whereby we indemnify our officers and directors for certain events or occurrences while the officer or director is, or was, serving at our request in such capacity. The indemnification period covers all pertinent events and occurrences during the officer's or director's lifetime. The maximum potential amount of future payments we could be required to make under these indemnification agreements is unlimited; however, we have director and officer insurance coverage that reduces our exposure and enables us to recover a portion of any future amounts paid.

We believe that our existing cash, cash equivalents, short-term investments and our anticipated cash flows from operations will be sufficient to meet our anticipated operating requirements for at least the next twelve months.

## **Non-GAAP Financial Measures**

Regulation G, conditions for use of Non-Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("Non-GAAP") financial measures, and other SEC regulations define and prescribe the conditions for use of certain Non-GAAP financial information. Generally, a Non-GAAP financial measure is a numerical measure of a company's performance, financial position or cash flow that either excludes or includes amounts that are not normally excluded or included in the most directly comparable measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP. We closely monitor two financial measures, EBITDA and EBITDAS, which meet the definition of Non-GAAP financial measures. We define EBITDA as net income before income taxes, net interest income, depreciation and amortization. We define EBITDAS as EBITDA before stock-based compensation. The Company regards EBITDA and EBITDAS as useful measures of operating performance and cash flow to complement operating income, net income and other GAAP financial performance measures. Additionally, management believes that EBITDA and EBITDAS provide meaningful comparisons of past, present and future operating results. These measures are used to evaluate our financial results, develop budgets and determine employee compensation. These measures, however, should be considered in addition to, and not as a substitute or superior to, operating income, cash flows, or other measures of financial performance prepared in accordance with GAAP. A reconciliation of the Non-GAAP measures to the nearest comparable GAAP measure is set forth below.

The following table shows EBITDA as a percentage of revenues before reimbursements for the three months ended March 30, 2012 and April 1, 2011:

(in thousands, except percentages)	Three Months Ended	
	March 30, 2012	April 1, 2011
Revenues before reimbursements	\$66,470	\$64,183
EBITDA	\$14,800	\$14,422
EBITDA as a % of revenues before reimbursements	22.3 %	22.5 %

The decrease in EBITDA as a percentage of revenues before reimbursements was primarily due to a decrease in revenues before reimbursements for product sales in defense technology development, partially offset by an increase in utilization and a slight decrease in other operating expenses. Revenues before reimbursements for product sales decreased to \$860,000 for the first quarter of 2012 as compared to \$2,536,000 during the same period last year. Utilization for the first quarter of 2012 increased to 74% as compared to 73% during the same period last year.

The following table is a reconciliation of EBITDA and EBITDAS to the most comparable GAAP measure, net income, for the three months ended March 30, 2012 and April 1, 2011:

(in thousands)	Three Months Ended	
	March 30, 2012	April 2, 2010
Net income	\$8,201	\$8,003
Add back (subtract):		
Income taxes	5,532	5,376
Interest income, net	(77 )	(21 )
Depreciation and amortization	1,144	1,064
EBITDA	14,800	14,422
Stock-based compensation	4,457	3,815

EBITDAS	\$19,257	\$18,237
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### Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

We are exposed to interest rate risk associated with our balances of cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments. We manage our interest rate risk by maintaining an investment portfolio primarily consisting of debt instruments with high credit quality and relatively short average effective maturities in accordance with our investment policy. The maximum effective maturity of any issue in our portfolio is 3 years and the maximum average effective maturity of the portfolio cannot exceed 12 months. If interest rates were to instantaneously increase or decrease by 100 basis points, the change in the fair market value of our portfolio of cash equivalents and short-term investments would not have a material impact on our financial statements. We do not use derivative financial instruments in our portfolio. There have not been any material changes during the period covered by this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q to our interest rate risk exposures, or how these exposures are managed. Notwithstanding our efforts to manage interest rate risk, there can be no assurances that we will be adequately protected against the risks associated with interest rate fluctuations.



We are exposed to some foreign currency exchange rate risk associated with our foreign operations. Given the limited nature of these operations, we believe that any exposure is minimal. Currently, we do not employ a foreign currency hedging program to mitigate our foreign currency exchange risk as we believe the risks to date have not been significant.

#### **Item 4. Controls and Procedures**

##### **(a) Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

As required by Rule 13a-15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, an evaluation was performed under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's management, including the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) or 15d-15(e) of the Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) as of the end of the period covered by this quarterly report. Based on that evaluation, the Company's management, including the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer, concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective.

We intend to review and evaluate the design and effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures on an ongoing basis, to improve our controls and procedures over time and to correct any deficiencies that we may discover in the future. Our goal is to ensure that our senior management has timely access to all material financial and non-financial information concerning our business. While we believe the present design of our disclosure controls and procedures is effective to achieve our goal, future events affecting our business may cause us to significantly modify our disclosure controls and procedures.

##### **(b) Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the three month period ended March 30, 2012 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

#### **PART II - OTHER INFORMATION**

**Item 1A. Risk Factors**

There have been no material changes from risk factors as previously discussed under the heading “Risk Factors” in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 30, 2011.

**Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds**

The following table provides information on the Company’s repurchases of the Company’s common stock for the three months ended March 30, 2012:

(In thousands, except price per share)	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid Per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Programs	Approximate Dollar Value of Shares That May Yet Be Purchased Under the Programs <sup>(1)</sup>
December 31 to January 27	-	\$ -	-	\$ 9,406
Additional funds authorized for share repurchases				\$ 35,000
January 28 to February 24	-	-	-	\$ 44,406
February 25 to March 30	84	47.91	84	\$ 40,373
Total	84	\$ 47.91	84	\$ 40,373

On May 25, 2011, the Board of Directors authorized \$35.0 million for the repurchase of the Company’s common <sup>(1)</sup>stock. On February 9, 2012, the Board of Directors authorized an additional \$35.0 million for the repurchase of the Company’s common stock. These plans have no expiration date.

Item 6. Exhibits

(a) Exhibit Index

31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a – 14(a) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a – 14(a) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

32.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350.

32.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350.

**SIGNATURES**

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

EXPONENT, INC.

(Registrant)

Date: May 4, 2012

/s/ Paul R. Johnston  
Paul R. Johnston, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer

/s/ Richard L. Schlenker  
Richard L. Schlenker, Chief Financial Officer