

MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC  
Form 10-K  
March 27, 2012

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

FORM 10-K

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011  
OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
FOR THE TRANSITION PERIOD FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_

**Mechanical Technology, Incorporated**  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

New York 0-6890  
(State or Other Jurisdiction (Commission File Number)  
of Incorporation)

14-1462255  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

325 Washington Avenue Extension, Albany, New York 12205  
(Address of registrant's principal executive office)

(518) 218-2550  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

431 New Karner Road, Albany, New York 12205  
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

(518) 533-2200  
(Registrant's former telephone number, including area code, if changed since last report)

Title of each class  
None

Securities Registered Pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:  
Name of each exchange on which registered  
None

Securities Registered Pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:  
Common Stock  
(\$0.01 par value)  
Title of Class

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

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

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

Indicate by checkmark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Website, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (Section 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the

Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

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 (Section 229.405 of this chapter) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of the registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

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

Large Accelerated Filer  Accelerated Filer  Non-Accelerated Filer  Smaller reporting company

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

The aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates as of June 30, 2011 (based on the last sale price of \$0.69 per share for such stock reported on the over-the-counter market for that date) was \$2,868,816.

As of March 20, 2012, the Registrant had 5,254,883 shares of common stock outstanding.

Documents incorporated by reference: Portions of the registrant's Proxy Statement for its 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Form 10-K.

---

---

---

## INDEX TO FORM 10-K

**PART I**

	Page
Item 1. Business	3
Item 1A. Risk Factors	12
Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments	18
Item 2. Properties	18
Item 3. Legal Proceedings	18
Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosure	18

**PART II**

Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities	19
Item 6. Selected Financial Data	20
Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	21
Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk	30
Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data	30
Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure	31
Item 9A. Controls and Procedures	31
Item 9B. Other Information	32

**PART III**

Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance	32
Item 11. Executive Compensation	32
Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters	32
Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence	33
Item 14. Principal Accounting Fees and Services	33

**PART IV**

Item 15. Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules	34
--	----



## PART I

### Item 1: Business

Unless the context requires otherwise in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, the terms *we*, *us* and *our* refer to Mechanical Technology, Incorporated, *MTI Instruments* refers to MTI Instruments, Inc., and *MTI Micro* refers to MTI MicroFuel Cells, Inc. We have a registered trademark in the United States for *Mobion*. Other trademarks, trade names, and service marks used in this Annual Report on Form 10-K are the property of their respective owners.

Mechanical Technology, Incorporated, (MTI or the Company), a New York corporation, was incorporated in 1961. MTI operates in two segments: the Test and Measurement Instrumentation segment, which is conducted through MTI Instruments, Inc. (MTI Instruments), a wholly-owned subsidiary, and the New Energy segment, which is conducted through MTI MicroFuel Cells, Inc. (MTI Micro), a variable interest entity (VIE) as of December 31, 2011.

MTI Instruments was incorporated in New York on March 8, 2000 and is a worldwide supplier of precision non-contact physical measurement solutions, portable balance equipment and wafer inspection tools. MTI Instruments' products use a comprehensive array of technologies to solve complex, real world applications in numerous industries including manufacturing, semiconductor, solar, commercial and military aviation, automotive and data storage. MTI Instruments' products consist of electronic gauging instruments for position, displacement and vibration application within the design, manufacturing/production, test and research market; wafer characterization of semi-insulating and semi-conducting wafers within both the semiconductor and solar industries; tensile stage systems for materials testing at academic and industrial settings; and engine vibration analysis systems for both military and commercial aircraft.

MTI Micro was incorporated in Delaware on March 26, 2001, and has been developing Mobion®, a handheld energy-generating device to replace current lithium-ion and similar rechargeable battery systems in many handheld electronic devices for the military and consumer markets. Mobion® handheld generators are based on direct methanol fuel cell (DMFC) technology, which has been recognized as enabling technology for advanced portable power sources by the scientific community and industry analysts. As the need for advancements in portable power increases, MTI Micro has been developing Mobion® as a solution for advancing current and future electronic device power needs of the portable electronics market. As of December 31, 2011, the Company owned approximately 47.6% of MTI Micro's outstanding common stock. Although MTI Micro continues to believe in the potential of its Mobion® based power solutions, operations have been suspended at MTI Micro until such time as market demand and other deciding factors, including obtaining additional external financing, the successful completion of customer trials, a new development program with a government agency, and/or a customer order, come to fruition. Currently, MTI Micro has no employees and projects to spend between \$5 and \$10 thousand per month for operating activities including rent, preparing prototypes for customer demonstrations, minimal sales efforts, patent fees to keep its patent portfolio current and minimal consultant costs to perform these initiatives. MTI Micro will continue to seek additional capital from external sources to resume operations and fund future development, if any. If MTI Micro is unable to secure additional financing, a new development program or customer order, the MTI Micro board of directors will assess other options for MTI Micro, including the sale of MTI Micro's intellectual property portfolio and other assets.

### The Test and Measurement Instrumentation Segment

MTI Instruments is a worldwide supplier of metrology, portable balancing equipment and inspection systems. Our products use state-of-the-art technology to solve complex real world applications in numerous industries including automotive, semiconductor, solar cell manufacturing, material testing, commercial and military aviation and data storage. We are continuously working on ways to expand our sales reach, including expanded sales coverage throughout Europe and Asia, as well as a focus on internet marketing.

#### Products

Our test and measurement segment has three product groups: *Precision Instruments*, *Semiconductor and Solar Metrology Systems* and *Aviation Balancing Systems*. Our products consist of electronic, computerized gauging instruments for position, displacement and vibration applications for the design, manufacturing/production and test and research markets; metrology tools for wafer characterization of semiconductor and solar wafers; tensile stage systems for materials testing in research and industrial settings; and engine balancing and vibration analysis systems for both military and commercial aircraft.

**Precision Instruments:** The Precision Instruments group employs capacitance, laser and fiber optic technologies to make nano-accurate measurements. These advanced sensing and physical measurement technologies are used to produce products that range from basic sensors to complete, fully integrated measurement systems, and are available as single sensors for integration into existing data acquisition systems or as complete system level solutions that can be further integrated into a facility wide communication backbone.



Listed below are selected MTI Instruments Precision Instruments product offerings & technologies:

**Accumeasure Family:**

The Accumeasure family of products is designed to address the needs of product developers, process engineers, researchers, designers, and others who need precise, reliable, non-contact measurements.

MTI Instruments has a large installed base of Accumeasure products around the world, and offers off-the-shelf as well as custom capacitance amplifiers designed per customer specifications. Additionally, MTI Instruments has developed state-of-the-art unique designs to more accurately measure targets that cannot easily be grounded called "push-pull". The market appeal for the Accumeasure family of products is based in part on the strategically offered single/dual channel systems for simple general displacement and position applications, as well as multiple-channel systems for more complex applications, including process control monitoring, differential measurements and profiling.

**Accumeasure Series**

The Accumeasure products have fast response time and extremely low noise levels making them ideal for critical measurements of targets such as rotating spindles, disks, tires, precision X-Y stages and piezoelectric elements.

**Microtrak Family:**

MTI Instrument's Microtrak family of laser triangulation sensors offers high speed, high resolution displacement, position and vibration measurements. The Microtrak features state-of-the-art complementary metal oxide semiconductors with charged coupled device (CMOS - CCD) laser triangulation technology, which is ideal for solving tough in-process, production and quality control sensing applications. The large variety of laser triangulation sensors provides operating distances to 300mm, measurement ranges to 200mm and measurement resolution to less than 1 micron. Our Laser triangulation sensors contain a solid-state laser light source and a CMOS detector.

**Microtrak II Series:**

The Microtrak II comes standard with an interface controller that provides a convenient digital display of the target position, alarm set points and connections for analog and RS-485 outputs.

To complement the laser product offerings, MTI Instruments also offers the performance of the standard Microtrak II Laser Triangulation System in a versatile high speed stand-alone configuration for measuring displacement, position, vibration and thickness. Unaffected by surface texture, color or stray light, the Microtrak II is ideal for solving tough production measurement applications throughout a variety of industries. The Microtrak II Stand-Alone Laser Head also uses CMOS - CCD detection technology for accurate and reliable measurements making it ideal for high volume original equipment manufactures (OEMs), production and quality control applications. Configuration of system parameters such as measurement units, frequency response and limits are easily accomplished through a laptop or desktop using the included MTI Instruments proprietary remote control software program.

**MicrotrakII**

**MicrotrakII  
SA**

**Microtrak Pro-2D:**

In the summer of 2011, MTII launched its new Microtrak PRO-2D laser triangulation scanners, which provide high speed profile, displacement and dimensional information in real time.

**Microtrak Pro-2D**

As technological advances are made in manufacturing, process and quality control, customers encounter more and more critical measurement applications that can only be solved with non-contact 2D and 3D technology; we believe our Microtrak PRO-2D fulfills many of these application requirements.

Unlike some competitor's products, the Microtrak PRO-2D is unaffected by surface texture, color or stray light, and is ideal for solving tough production and quality control applications throughout a wide variety of industries. For example, the Microtrak PRO-2D can be used in manufacturing applications like welding and glue dispersion, as well as demanding robotic and motion control applications. Laser head electronics have been specially designed to protect against high shock and vibration. Additionally, by using multiple heads, customers have the ability to expand the system measurement capabilities and perform 3-D analysis. The Microtrak PRO-2D uses the triangulation principle to obtain a two dimensional height profile of target surfaces.

**MTI-2100 Fotonic Sensor Series:**

The MTI-2100 features advanced fiber-optic and electronic technologies for precise measurements of displacement, position and vibration. It achieves such precision by measuring changes in light intensity reflected from a target. Light is emitted from a tungsten halogen lamp through a fiber optic probe which also receives light from the target reflection.

**MTI-2100**

The MTI-2100's modular design has the flexibility to be tailored to specific requirements through the use of a wide range of interchangeable and custom fiber-optic probes. These probes are immune to electromagnetic interference and operate on almost any type of surface: metallic, composite, plastic, glass, ceramic or liquid.

**MTI Tensile Stages:**

MTI Instruments' miniature tensile, compression and bend testing machines are specifically designed for use in scanning electron microscopes, atomic force microscopes, and light microscopes. These are used by industrial and research institutions to investigate how different materials perform under certain conditions. Material specimens are placed within the jaws of the tensile stage and compressive or expansive load forces are applied. Additional stimuli such as heating or cooling can be directed at the sample during the test in order to gather data under various conditions.

**MTI Tensile Stage**

**Semiconductor and Solar Metrology Systems:** Our family of wafer metrology systems includes manual and semi-automated systems which test key wafer characteristics critical to producing integrated circuits. Primarily used in quality control applications, these systems provide highly precise measurements of thickness variation, bow, warp, resistivity, and flatness. These systems can be used on substrates varying widely in size and materials. In addition to MTI Instruments' push/pull capacitance probe technology, we have expanded our line of products to include offerings for the solar industry, including the measurement of solar wafer thickness.

The Semiconductor and Solar Metrology Systems include the following products:

**Proforma 200SA/300SA:**

**Semi-automated  
Proforma 300SA**

Microchips drive the sophisticated electronic devices we use today. These tiny chips are created from larger wafers, which must meet high quality standards. Our Proforma series of products quickly analyze wafer quality to help improve process line efficiency.

The Proforma 200SA/300SA is a semi-automated thickness measurement system capable of handling state-of-the-art 200 mm and 300mm wafers using defined and ASTM/SEMI standard patterns. Summary information is provided in standard export formats along with 3-dimensional images of the wafers for advanced analysis.

This series of products is built around MTI Instrument's exclusive push-pull measurement technology which we believe produces more accurate results than other methods. Our thickness measurements on silicon wafers can be faster than many other technologies, and are a good fit for front-end semiconductor processes. Additionally, the Proforma 300SA comes with an easy to use and set-up Windows® user interface.

**Proforma 300:**

The Proforma 300 is an easy-to-use, manual tool that accepts any wafer size and can measure a number of different materials without recalibrating or electrically grounding the wafers.

Portable and easy to set up, the Proforma 300 provides the user precise non-contact measurements at critical points throughout the wafer manufacturing process. Thickness and total thickness variation (TTV) values are obtained by placing the wafer between MTI Instruments' non-contact capacitance probes. The teflon coated wafer stage allows for easy, non-abrasive positioning of the wafer, while removable locating pins can be used for precise center thickness measurements. Thickness and TTV values are indicated on the high resolution LCD display.

**Proforma 300**

**PV-1000:**

The PV-1000 series brings our 40+ years of precision measurement experience to a line of products specifically designed for the photovoltaic/solar industry.

The PV-1000 is incorporated into solar cell production lines to help manufacturers quickly determine quality control issues.

**PV-1000**

The PV-1000 is used for both process development and production environments, the PV-1000 solar wafer measurement module fits anywhere on the production line. Its modular design offers expandability to meet our customers' current and future measurement demands. The system uses an integrated data acquisition package and control electronics to analyze and transmit wafer data via the on-board Ethernet port. Additionally, the PV-1000 allows for remote monitoring in production areas.

**Aviation Balancing Systems:** The computer-based portable balancing systems (PBS) products automatically collect and record aircraft engine vibration data, identify vibration or balance trouble in an engine, and calculate a solution to the problem. These units are used and recommended by major aircraft engine manufacturers and are also used extensively by the U.S. Air Force, other military and commercial airlines, and gas turbine manufacturers.

Our aviation balancing systems products include vibration analysis and engine trim balance instruments and accessories for commercial and military jets. These products are designed to quickly pinpoint engine problems and eliminate unnecessary engine removals. Selected products in this area include:

**PBS-4100+ /4100R+ Portable Balancing System:**

The portable PBS-4100+ detects if an engine has a vibration problem or a trim balance problem and provides a solution, resulting in reduced engine vibration, longer engine life, and lower fuel costs.

**PBS-4100+ Portable Balancing System**

The PBS-4100R+ rack mounted system offers the same features and functions as the portable PBS-4100+ with added data channels, speed input channels, DC outputs and diagnostic options. It is used in test cell or other fixed installations and can be configured and operated remotely.

**TSC-4800A Tachometer Signal Conditioner:**

Targeted for operators of Engine Test cells, where accurate and reliable conditioning of speed signals is essential, MTI Instruments has designed the TSC-4800A Tachometer Signal Conditioner to detect and condition signals for monitoring, measuring, and indicating engine speeds.

**TSC-4800A Tachometer Signal  
Conditioner**

During the testing of advanced aircraft engines, speed signals are monitored and recorded by a large number of different instruments. The TSC-4800A features multiple output circuits that provide more than 10 different signals types for the monitoring devices. The TSC-4800A Tachometer Conditioner leverages design technologies developed for the PBS-4100R+ systems and offers web-based control. It features firmware based circuitry to determine the nature of the speed signals and the required conditioning algorithms. Advanced filtering, threshold detection and noise controls are also a benefit of the new firmware technologies. The firmware based design also ensures that evolving detection and conditioning requirements for future engine designs will be met with easily accomplished firmware refreshes.

**1510A Calibrator:**

The PBS family of products includes a 1510A calibrator a product that automatically performs a complete calibration check of the PBS unit which otherwise would take hours.

**1510A**

The 1510A calibrator emits, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) traceable, output voltage signals, including voltage levels, frequency, waveshape and phase that allow for easy calibration of the PBS-4100+. If the PBS unit is out of tolerance, the calibration function automatically performs a second set of tests to determine calibration factors, which are automatically stored in the instrument. Due to its versatile functionality, the 1510A calibrator was introduced into the general gauging market in 2011.

Marketing and Sales

We market our products and services using channels of distribution specific to each of our product groups and customer base. The precision instruments group markets its products through a combination of manufacturer representatives in the United States and distributors overseas. The semiconductor and solar metrology systems group markets its products directly to end customers in the United States and internationally through distributors, while the aviation balancing systems group primarily sells direct to the end user.

To supplement these efforts, the company utilizes both commercial and industrial search engines, targeted newsletters and trade shows to identify and expand its customer base.

## Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

Comparisons of sales by class of products of MTI Instruments sales are shown below for the years ended December 31:

(Dollars in thousands)	2011		2010		2009	
	Sales	%	Sales	%	Sales	%
Aviation Balancing Systems	\$ 5,359	52.1%	\$ 3,007	41.9%	\$ 2,768	44.2%
Precision Instruments	3,983	38.8	2,804	39.1	2,619	41.8
Semiconductor and Solar Metrology	938	9.1	1,368	19.0	876	14.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 10,280</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$ 7,179</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$ 6,263</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### Product Development and Manufacturing

MTI Instruments conducts research and develops technology to support its existing products and develop new ones. Management believes that MTI Instruments' success depends to a large extent upon innovation, technological expertise and new product development.

Our most recent product offerings include:

- In aviation balancing systems, we introduced the TSC-4800A Tachometer Signal Conditioner, for the characterization of engine speeds, as well as the PBS-4100+, an advanced and compact portable jet engine balancing and vibration diagnostics system for use by both military and commercial carriers.
- In the precision instruments area, we added the tensile stage and the Microtrak Pro-2D product lines. Tensile stages are tailored to both academia and industry for the characterization and investigation of material properties, and the Microtrak PRO-2D is ideal for welding and process control applications.

We seek to achieve a competitive position by continuously advancing our technology, producing new state of the art precision measurement equipment, expanding our worldwide distribution, and providing intimate customer support and product customization.

MTI Instruments assembles and tests its products at its facility located in Albany, New York. Management believes that most of the raw materials used in our products are readily available from a variety of vendors.

### Intellectual Property and Proprietary Rights

We rely on trade secret laws and patents to establish and protect the proprietary rights of our products. In addition, we enter into standard confidentiality agreements with our employees and consultants and seek to control access to and distribution of our proprietary information. Even with these precautions, it may be possible for a third party to copy or otherwise obtain and use our products or technology without authorization or to develop similar technology independently. In addition, effective patent and trade secret protection may be unavailable or limited in certain foreign countries.

### Significant Customers

MTI Instruments' largest customer is the U.S. Air Force. We also have strong relationships with companies in the manufacturing, semiconductor, automotive, aerospace, aircraft and research industries. In 2011, the U.S. Air Force accounted for \$2.3 million or 22.4% of product revenues; in 2010, it accounted for \$1.6 million or 22.3% of product revenues; and in 2009, it accounted for \$1.2 million, or 19.2%, of product revenue. The largest commercial customer in 2011 was a Southeast Asian distributor, who accounted for \$1.1 million or 10.7% of total product revenue in 2011. The largest commercial customer in 2010 was a Chinese distributor, who accounted for \$560 thousand, or 7.8% of total product revenue in 2010. The largest commercial customer in 2009 was a domestic US defense contractor, who accounted for \$618 thousand or 9.9% of total product revenue in 2009.

### Recent Contracts

In 2011, MTI Instruments was awarded a \$4.1 million multi-year U.S. Air Force contract for the purchase of PBS4100+ portable aircraft engine balancing systems. As of December 31, 2011, MTI Instruments had recorded \$684 thousand in orders, approximately 16.7% of the total contract's total value.

## Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

In 2009, MTI Instruments was awarded a multi-year U.S. Air Force contract to service and repair its existing fleet of PBS-4100 jet engine balancing systems with the latest diagnostic and balancing technology, which could potentially generate up to a total of \$6.5 million in sales for the Company between 2009 and 2014. As of December 31, 2011, MTI Instruments had recorded \$2.9 million in orders, approximately 44.6% of the five-year contract's total value.

### Competition

We are subject to competition from several companies, many of which are larger than MTI Instruments and have greater financial resources. MTI Instruments' competitors include KLA-Tencor, Sigma Tech Corporation, E+H Eichhorn+Hausmann GmbH, Chadwick-Helmuth Company, Inc., ACES Systems, Micro-Epsilon, and Keyence Corporation.

The primary competitive considerations in MTI Instruments' markets are product quality, performance, price, timely delivery, and the ability to identify, pursue and obtain new customers. MTI Instruments believes that its employees, product development skills, sales and marketing systems and reputation are competitive advantages.

### **The New Energy Segment**

Technological advances in semiconductor manufacturing, LCD displays, memory costs and availability, wireless technologies, and software applications have resulted in a dramatic increase in the number of portable electronic devices, their usage, and especially, their power requirements. In addition, there are a number of new handheld electronic devices, such as smart phones, mobile phone accessories, digital cameras, portable gaming devices, e-readers and other portable devices that have been introduced into the market. Demand for these portable electronics that offer an enhanced experience include the ability to communicate any time, anywhere and have effectively enabled the creation of an always-on environment independent of location. This trend towards increased functionality in portable electronic devices has led to a power gap in which the disparity between a device's power supply, typically a rechargeable lithium-ion battery, and its power need, is growing. This power gap leads to a need for the end user to plug in their devices to the electrical grid more frequently, which limits the ability to use these electronic devices where and when needed.

MTI Micro has been developing an off-the-grid power solution for various portable electronic devices to address this power gap. Our patented proprietary DMFC technology platform, called Mobion<sup>®</sup>, converts methanol fuel to usable electricity capable of providing continuous power as long as necessary fuel flows are maintained. Our proprietary fuel cell power solution consists of two primary components integrated into an easily manufactured device: the direct methanol fuel cell power engine, which we refer to as our Mobion<sup>®</sup> Chip, and methanol fuel cartridges. Our current Mobion<sup>®</sup> Chip is small enough to fit in the palm of one's hand. The methanol used by the technology is fully biodegradable.

Although MTI Micro continues to believe in the potential of its Mobion<sup>®</sup> based power solutions, operations have been suspended at MTI Micro until such time as market demand and other deciding factors, including obtaining additional external financing, the successful completion of customer trials, a new development program with a government agency, and/or a customer order, come to fruition. Currently, MTI Micro has no employees and projects to spend between \$5 and \$10 thousand per month for operating activities including rent, preparing prototypes for customer demonstrations, minimal sales efforts, and patent fees to keep its patent portfolio current and minimal consultant costs to perform these initiatives. MTI Micro will continue to seek additional capital from external sources to resume operations and fund future development, if any. If MTI Micro is unable to secure additional financing, a new development program or customer order, the MTI Micro board of directors will assess other options for MTI Micro, including the sale of MTI Micro's intellectual property portfolio and other assets.

#### MTI Micro's Solution

At the core of MTI Micro's solution is its proprietary Mobion<sup>®</sup> Chip engine, a design architecture that embodies a reduction in the size, complexity, and cost of fuel cell construction, which results in a reliable, manufacturable, and affordable power solution that we believe provides higher energy density and portability over competing portable power technologies. MTI Micro's proprietary fuel cell power solution consists of two primary components integrated in an easily manufactured device: the direct methanol fuel cell power engine, which MTI Micro refers to as the Mobion<sup>®</sup> Chip, and methanol replacement cartridges. The Mobion<sup>®</sup> Chip is small enough to fit in the palm of one's hand. For these reasons, MTI Micro believes that its Mobion<sup>®</sup> platform is ideally suited to provide a replacement or go along with rechargeable batteries. Based upon MTI Micro's ability to provide a compact, efficient, clean, safe, and long-lasting power source, MTI Micro intends to initially target power solutions for applications such as universal handheld chargers, military equipment, power tools, remote sensors, mobile phones, digital cameras, portable gaming devices, e-readers and other portable devices.

#### MTI Micro's Strategy

Although MTI Micro has suspended its operations, if/when those operations are able to resume, its goals remain the same, to become a leading provider of portable power for various electronic devices. Key elements of MTI Micro's strategy would include:

- MTI Micro's portable power source products can be manufactured using standard processes, such as injection molding and automated test and assembly. In preparing Mobion<sup>®</sup> for commercialization, the current Mobion<sup>®</sup> Chip is designed for mass manufacturing.
- MTI Micro plans to outsource manufacturing of its products to allow MTI Micro to expand rapidly and diversify its production capacity. This strategy should allow MTI Micro to maintain a variable cost model in which MTI Micro does not incur most of their manufacturing costs until their proprietary fuel cell power solution has been shipped and billed to their customers. MTI Micro intends to concentrate on their core competencies of research and development and product design. This approach should reduce MTI Micro's fixed capital expenditures and allow them to efficiently scale production.



- MTI Micro plans to utilize its intellectual property portfolio and technological expertise to develop and offer portable power source products across multiple electronic device markets. MTI Micro intends to employ its technological expertise to reduce the overall size and weight of our portable power source products while increasing their ease of manufacturing, power capacity, and power duration and decreasing their cost.

Additionally, MTI Micro's board of directors will assess other options for MTI Micro including the sale of MTI Micro's intellectual property portfolio and other assets.

### Products

MTI Micro is pursuing the development of an external power charger product as a standalone device that uses a standard and widely used Universal Serial Bus (USB) interface as a power output connector that can be used to recharge handheld mobile devices. Our current design for the device is roughly the size of two decks of playing cards (see photo to the right) and employs a methanol fuel cartridge. For each removable cartridge, our current prototype external power charger provides up to one month of power for the typical mobile phone. Our device is designed to provide 2.5 watts of power output from its USB interface and also offer fast charge, ultra-long run time and self-charging modes.

### **Mobion® external power charger with removable cartridge prototype**

### Technology

A fuel cell is an electrochemical energy conversion device, which is similar to a battery that produces electricity from a liquid or gaseous fuel, such as methanol, and an oxidant, such as oxygen. Fuel cells are different from batteries in that they consume a reactant that can be replenished, while batteries store electrical energy chemically in a closed system.

Generally, the reactants flow in and reaction products flow out of the fuel cell. While the electrodes within a battery react and change as a battery is charged or discharged, a fuel cell's electrodes are catalytic and relatively stable.

A direct methanol fuel cell relies upon the reaction of water with methanol at the catalytic anode layer to release protons and electrons and to form carbon dioxide. The electrons pass through a circuit and generate electricity that can be used to power external devices. The protons generated through this reaction pass through the proton exchange membrane to the cathode, where they combine to form water. The anode and cathode layers of a direct methanol fuel cell are usually made of platinum ruthenium particles and platinum particles embedded on either side of a proton exchange membrane.

### Strategic Agreements

On October 26, 2010, MTI Micro was awarded a \$100 thousand firm fixed contract from a United States Department of Defense (DOD) agency for the development of proof of concept fuel cells for technical testing and subsequent demonstration in a capabilities based experiment. The total contract was billed and paid as of December 31, 2011.

On July 28, 2010, MTI Micro was awarded a cost share funding grant of \$296 thousand from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). The total contract was billed and paid as of December 31, 2011.

On April 16, 2009, we entered into a \$4.8 million cost-shared development contract with the Department of Energy (DOE), for the commercialization of our Mobion® product solutions, with \$2.4 million in funds available under this program. On April 30, 2010, MTI Micro was approved for an extension of this grant with additional funds available of \$594 thousand. As of April 25, 2011, all amounts awarded have been billed and paid by the DOE under this grant. During the first quarter of 2011, we completed the work required under this DOE grant. The objective of the grant was to demonstrate and field test a commercially viable one watt DMFC charger for consumer electronic devices. As part of this objective, MTI Micro field tested 75 units to various users, including 17 OEM's, 33 individuals, 21 military agencies and four governmental agencies. We have achieved all technical performance targets required by the DOE under this grant; this field testing has concluded and the final report to the DOE may be found at <http://www.mticrofuelcells.com/news/events.asp>. Additional experimental testing was conducted at the DOD since the fourth quarter of 2010 that resulted in product improvements in the third quarter of 2011. Further testing by the DOD of our Mobion® fuel cell charger commenced in October 2011. If approval is granted, this may result in the signing of a commercialization contract or purchase orders for final production. To date, no approval has been granted and there is no clear indication as to when MTI Micro will be notified.



Intellectual Property and Proprietary Rights

We rely on a combination of patents (both national and international), trade secrets, trademarks, and copyrights to protect our intellectual property. Our strategy is to apply for patent protection for all significant design requirements. Additionally, we systematically analyze the existing intellectual property landscape for direct methanol fuel cells to determine where the greatest opportunities for developing intellectual property exist. We also enter into standard confidentiality agreements with our employees, consultants, vendors, partners and potential customers and seek to control access to and distribution of our proprietary information.

As of December 31, 2011, MTI Micro's Mobio<sup>®</sup> Technology had filed over 106 U.S. patent applications, 54 of which have been awarded. Of the awarded patents, 44 are assigned to us and 10 are assigned to Duracell. We have filed 33 Patent Cooperation Treaty Applications in multiple countries, 5 of which have been issued. We have developed a portfolio of patent applications in areas including fuel cell systems, fuel refill and packaging, fuel, components, manufacturing processes, and system packaging.

**Research and Development**

MTI Instruments conducts research and develops technology to support its existing products and develop new products. Management believes that the success of MTI Instruments depends to a large extent upon innovation, technological expertise and new product development.

MTI, through MTI Instruments and MTI Micro, has incurred research and development costs of approximately \$1.5 million, \$3.9 million and \$5.4 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009, respectively. We expect to continue to invest in research and development in the future in our MTI Instruments segment.

**Employees**

As of December 31, 2011, we had 43 employees including 42 full-time employees.

**Availability of Information**

We make available through our website (<http://www.mechtech.com>) 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, filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as soon as reasonably practicable after such reports are electronically filed with, or furnished to, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). These reports may be accessed through our website's Investor Relations page.

The public may read and copy any materials we file with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, NE, Room 1580, Washington, DC 20549. The public may also obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. We file electronically with the SEC and the SEC maintains an internet site (<http://www.sec.gov>) that contains reports, proxy and information statements, and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC.

## Item 1A: Risk Factors

### Factors Affecting Future Results

This Annual Report on Form 10-K and the documents we have filed with the SEC that are incorporated by reference into this Annual Report on Form 10-K contain forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act. Any statements contained, or incorporated by reference, in this Annual Report on Form 10-K that are not statements of historical fact may be forward-looking statements. When we use the words anticipate, estimate, plans, projects, continuing, ongoing, expects, management believes, we believe, we intend, should, similar words or phrases, we are identifying forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements involve risks, uncertainties, estimates and assumptions which may cause our actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from those expressed or implied by forward-looking statements. These factors include, among others:

- sales revenue growth of our test and measurement instrumentation business may not be achieved or maintained;
- the dependence of our test and measurement instrumentation business on a small number of customers and potential loss of government contracts;
- our inability to build and maintain relationships with our customers;
- our lack of long-term purchase commitments from our customers and the ability of our customers to cancel, reduce, or delay orders for our products;
- risks related to protection and infringement of intellectual property;
- our inability to develop and utilize new technologies that address the needs of our customers;
- intense competition in the instrumentation business;
- our history of recurring net losses and the risk of continued net losses;
- the impact of future exchange rate fluctuations;
- the uncertainty of the U.S. economy;
- the historical volatility of our stock price;
- the cyclical nature of the electronics industry;
- failure of our strategic alliances to achieve their objectives or perform as contemplated and the risk of cancellation or early termination of such alliance by either party;
- product liability or defects;
- the loss of services of one or more of our key employees or the inability to hire, train, and retain key personnel;
- significant periodic and seasonal quarterly fluctuations in our results of operations;
- our dependence on sole suppliers or a limited group of suppliers for both business segments;
- our ability to generate income to realize our net operating losses
- risks related to the limitation of the use of our net operating losses in the event of certain ownership changes; and
- MTI Micro's need to raise additional financing;
- our ownership position in MTI Micro may be reduced further as a result of our need to seek external financing for MTI Micro's operations;
- risks related to developing Mobion® direct methanol fuel cells and whether MTI Micro will ever successfully develop reliable and commercially viable Mobion® fuel cell solutions;
- MTI Micro's dependence on OEMs integrating Mobion® fuel cell systems into their devices; and
- other factors discussed under the heading "Risk Factors" below.

Except as may be required by applicable law, we do not undertake or intend to update or revise our forward-looking statements, and we assume no obligation to update any forward-looking statements contained in, or incorporated by reference into, this Annual Report on Form 10-K as a result of new information or future events or developments. Thus, assumptions should not be made that our silence over time means that actual events are bearing out as expressed or implied in such forward-looking statements.

### Risk Factors

*Set forth below are certain risks and uncertainties that could adversely affect our results of operations or financial condition and cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed in our forward-looking statements. Also refer to the heading "Factors Affecting Future Results" above.*

***We currently derive all of our product revenue from our test and measurement instrumentation business.***

Our test and measurement instrumentation business is subject to a number of risks, including the following:

Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

- cancellation of sales from the military as a result of a potential redeployment of governmental funding;
- the company may not be able to maintain, improve, or expand its direct and indirect channels of distribution;

- a failure to expand or maintain the business as a result of competition, a lack of brand awareness, or market saturation; and
- an inability to launch new products as a result of intensive competition, uncertainty of new technology development, and developmental timelines.

In addition, our test and measurement instrumentation products can be sold in quantity to a relatively few number of customers, resulting in a customer concentration risk. The loss of any significant portion of such customers or a material adverse change in the financial condition of any one of these customers could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Since we have suspended operations for MTI Micro due to lack of funding, all of our corporate costs must be funded by the test and measurement instrumentation business.

***Variability of customer requirements resulting in cancellations, reductions, or delays may adversely affect our operating results.***

We are required to provide rapid product turnaround and respond to short lead times. A variety of conditions, both specific to individual customers and generally affecting the demand for OEMs' products, may cause customers to cancel, reduce, or delay orders. Cancellations, reductions, or delays by a significant customer or by a group of customers could adversely affect our operating results. Customers may require rapid increases in production, which could strain our resources and reduce our margins.

***If we are unable to adequately protect our intellectual property, our competitors and other third parties could produce products based on our intellectual property, which would substantially impair our ability to compete.***

Our success and ability to compete depends in part upon our ability to maintain the proprietary nature of our technologies. We rely on a combination of patent, trade secret, copyright, and trademark law and license agreements, as well as nondisclosure agreements, to protect our intellectual property. These legal means, however, afford only limited protection and may not be adequate to protect our intellectual property rights. We cannot be certain that we were the first creator of inventions covered by pending patent applications or the first to file patent applications on these inventions. In addition, we cannot be sure that any of our pending patent applications will issue. The United States Patent and Trademark Office or other foreign patent and trademark offices may deny or significantly narrow claims made under our patent applications and, even if issued, these patents may be successfully challenged, designed around, or may otherwise not provide us with any commercial protection.

We may in the future need to assert claims of infringement against third parties to protect our intellectual property. Regardless of the final outcome, any litigation to enforce our intellectual property rights in patents, copyrights, or trademarks could be highly unpredictable and result in substantial costs and diversion of resources, which could have a material and adverse effect on our business and financial condition. In the event of an adverse judgment, a court could hold that some or all of our asserted intellectual property rights are not infringed, or are invalid or unenforceable, and could award attorneys' fees to the other party.

***We may become subject to claims of infringement or misappropriation of the intellectual property rights of others, which could prohibit us from selling our products, require us to obtain licenses from third parties or to develop non-infringing alternatives, and subject us to substantial monetary damages and injunctive relief.***

We may receive notices from third parties that the manufacture, use, or sale of any products we develop infringes upon one or more claims of their patents. Moreover, because patent applications can take many years to issue, there may be currently pending applications, unknown to us, which may later result in issued patents that materially and adversely affect our business. Third parties could also assert infringement or misappropriation claims against us with respect to our future product offerings, if any. Whether or not such claims are valid, we cannot be certain that we have not infringed the intellectual property rights of such third parties. Any infringement or misappropriation claim could result in significant costs, substantial damages, and our inability to manufacture, market, or sell any of our product offerings that are found to infringe. Even if we were to prevail in any such action, the litigation could result in substantial cost and diversion of resources that could materially and adversely affect our business. If a court determined, or if we independently discovered, that our product offerings violated third-party proprietary rights, there can be no assurance that we would be able to re-engineer our product offerings to avoid those rights or obtain a license under those rights on commercially reasonable terms, if at all. As a result, we could be prohibited from selling products that are found to infringe upon the rights of others. Even if obtaining a license were feasible, it may be costly and time-consuming. A court could also enter orders that temporarily, preliminarily, or permanently enjoin us from making, using, selling, offering to sell, or importing our portable power source products, or could enter orders mandating that we undertake certain remedial activities. Further, a court could order us to pay compensatory damages for such infringement, plus prejudgment interest, and could in addition treble the compensatory damages and award attorneys' fees. These damages could materially and adversely affect our business and financial condition.

*Confidentiality agreements with employees and others may not adequately prevent disclosure of our trade secrets and other proprietary information, which could limit our ability to compete.*

We rely on trade secrets to protect our proprietary technology and processes. Trade secrets are difficult to protect. We enter into confidentiality and intellectual property assignment agreements with our employees, consultants, and other advisors. These agreements generally require that the other party keep confidential and not disclose to third parties confidential information developed by the party or made known to the party by us during the course of the party's relationship with us. However, these agreements may not be honored and enforcing a claim that a party illegally obtained and is using our trade secrets is difficult, expensive and time-consuming, and the outcome is unpredictable. The failure to obtain and maintain trade secret protection could adversely affect our competitive position.

***Our efforts to develop new technologies may not result in commercial success, which could cause a decline in our revenue and could harm our business.***

Our research and development efforts with respect to our technologies may not result in customer or market acceptance. Some or all of those technologies may not successfully make the transition from the research and development lab to cost-effective production as a result of technology problems, competitive cost issues, yield problems, and other factors. Even when we successfully complete a research and development effort with respect to a particular technology, our customers may decide not to introduce or may terminate products utilizing the technology for a variety of reasons, including the following:

- difficulties with other suppliers of components for the products;
- superior technologies developed by our competitors and unfavorable comparisons of our solutions with these technologies;
- price considerations; and
- lack of anticipated or actual market demand for the products.

The nature of our business will require us to make continuing investments for new technologies. Significant expenses relating to one or more new technologies that ultimately prove to be unsuccessful for any reason could have a material adverse effect on us. In addition, any investments or acquisitions made to enhance our technologies may prove to be unsuccessful. If our efforts are unsuccessful, our business could be harmed.

***We may not be able to enhance our product solutions and develop new product solutions in a timely manner.***

Our future operating results will depend to a significant extent on our ability to provide new products that compare favorably with alternative solutions on the basis of time to introduction, cost, performance, and end-user preferences. Our success in attracting and maintaining customers and developing business will depend on various factors, including the following:

- innovative development of new products for customers;
- utilization of advances in technology;
- maintenance of quality standards;
- efficient and cost-effective solutions; and
- timely completion of the design and introduction of new products.

Our inability to develop new product solutions on a timely basis could harm our operating results and impede our growth.

***If we do not keep pace with technological innovations, our products may not be competitive and our revenue and operating results may suffer.***

The electronic, semiconductor, solar, automotive and general instrumentation industries are subject to constant technological change. Our future success will depend on our ability to respond appropriately to changing technologies and changes in product function and quality. If we rely on products and technologies that are not attractive to end users, we may not be successful in capturing or retaining significant market share. Technological advances, the introduction of new products, and new design techniques could adversely affect our business prospects unless we are able to adapt to the changing conditions. Technological advances could render our products obsolete, and we may not be able to respond effectively to the technological requirements of evolving markets. As a result, we will be required to expend substantial funds for and commit significant resources to:

- continue research and development activities on all product lines;
- hire additional engineering and other technical personnel; and
- purchase advanced design tools and test equipment.

Our business could be harmed if we are unable to develop and utilize new technologies that address the needs of our customers, or our competitors do so more effectively than we do.

***International sales risks could adversely affect our operating results.***

Having a worldwide distribution network for our products exposes us to various economic, political, and other risks that could adversely affect our operations and operating results, including the following:

- unexpected changes in regulatory requirements;
- tariffs and duties and other trade barrier restrictions;
- greater difficulty in collecting accounts receivable;
- the burdens and costs of compliance with a variety of foreign laws;
- potentially reduced protection for intellectual property rights; and
- political or economic instability in certain parts of the world.

The risks associated with international sales could negatively affect our operating results.

***Historically, we have incurred net losses as a result of MTI Micro. Despite the suspension of MTI Micro's operations in late 2011, there can be no assurance that there will be adequate resources to fund our future operations.***

Prior to 2011, when we generated net income of \$2.4 million primarily attributable to the reversal of a portion of the deferred tax asset's valuation reserve of \$1.5 million, representing the portion of the Company's deferred tax asset that management has estimated is more likely than not to be realized and MTI Instrument's strong performance, we had incurred recurring net losses, including net losses of \$1.8 million in 2010, and \$3.1 million in 2009. As a result of historic operating losses, we had an accumulated deficit of approximately \$120.1 million as of December 31, 2011. MTI Micro suspended its operations at the end of 2011 and, therefore, expects to incur minimal ongoing operating expenses unless additional funding becomes available to fund its operations in the future. If MTI Micro is unable to secure additional financing, MTI Micro could be forced to sell assets at unfavorable prices; or merge, consolidate, or combine with a company with greater financial resources in a transaction that may be unfavorable to us.

Since the Company no longer expects to fund MTI Micro, MTI Micro has sought and will continue to seek other sources of funding, but there is no assurance that such funding will be available on acceptable terms, if at all.

***Our operating results could be adversely affected by fluctuations in the value of the U.S. dollar against foreign currencies.***

We transact our business in U.S. dollars and bill and collect our sales in U.S. dollars. In 2011, approximately 33.3% of our revenue was from customers outside of the United States. A weakening of the dollar could cause our overseas vendors to require renegotiation of either the prices or currency we pay for their goods and services. Similarly, a strengthening of the dollar could cause our products to be more expensive for our international customers, which could cause the demand for our products and our revenue to decline.

In the future, customers may negotiate pricing and make payments in non-U.S. currencies. If our overseas vendors or customers require us to transact business in non-U.S. currencies, fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates could affect our cost of goods, operating expenses, and operating margins and could result in exchange losses. In addition, currency devaluation can result in a loss to us if we hold deposits of that currency. Hedging foreign currencies can be difficult, especially if the currency is not freely traded. We cannot predict the impact of future exchange rate fluctuations on our operating results.

***Continuing uncertainty of the U.S. economy may have serious implications for the growth and stability of our business and may negatively affect our stock price.***

The revenue growth and profitability of our business will depend significantly on the overall demand for test and measurement instrumentations as well as electronic devices. Softening demand in these markets caused by ongoing economic uncertainty may result in decreased revenue or earnings levels. The U.S. economy has been historically cyclical and market conditions continue to be challenging, which has resulted in individuals and companies delaying or reducing expenditures. Further delays or reductions in spending could have a material adverse effect on demand for our products, and consequently on our business, financial condition, results of operations, prospects, stock price, and ability to continue to operate.

***Our common stock was delisted from the NASDAQ Stock Market, which has adversely affected the price of our stock and the ability of our stockholders to trade in our stock.***

In April 2009, we voluntarily delisted our common stock from the NASDAQ Stock Market to reduce expenses and to avoid a likely involuntary delisting for failure to comply with the continued listing requirements. Our common stock subsequently began trading on the Pink Sheets under

## Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

the symbol MKTY PK. As a result of the delisting, the liquidity in our stock has decreased, which adversely affected the price of our stock, which may make it more difficult for you to trade in our stock.

***The electronics industry is cyclical and may result in fluctuations in our operating results.***

The electronics industry has experienced significant economic downturns at various times. These downturns are characterized by diminished product demand, accelerated erosion of average selling prices, and production overcapacity. In addition, the electronics industry is cyclical in nature. We will seek to reduce our exposure to industry downturns and cyclical nature by providing design and production services for leading companies in rapidly expanding industry segments. We may, however, experience substantial period-to-period fluctuations in future operating results because of general industry conditions or events occurring in the general economy.

***Our strategic alliances may not achieve their objectives, and their failure to do so could impede our growth.***

We plan to explore additional strategic alliances designed to enhance or complement our technology or to work in conjunction with our technology; to provide necessary know-how, components, or supplies; and to develop, introduce, and distribute products utilizing our technology. Any strategic alliances may not achieve their intended objectives, may be cancelled by either party and parties to our strategic alliances may not perform as contemplated. The failure of our current alliances or our inability to form additional alliances may impede our ability to introduce new products and enter new markets.

***We depend on key personnel who would be difficult to replace, and our business will likely be harmed if we lose their services or cannot hire additional qualified personnel.***

Our success depends substantially on the efforts and abilities of our senior management and key personnel. The competition for qualified management and key personnel, especially engineers, is intense. Although we maintain non-competition and non-disclosure covenants with most of our key personnel, we do not have employment agreements with most of them. The loss of services of one or more of our key employees or the inability to hire, train, and retain key personnel, especially engineers, technical support personnel, and capable sales and customer-support employees outside the United States, could delay the development and sale of our products, disrupt our business, and interfere with our ability to execute our business plan.

***Our operating results may experience significant fluctuations.***

In addition to the variability resulting from the short-term nature of our customers' commitments, other factors will contribute to significant periodic and seasonal quarterly fluctuations in our results of operations. These factors include the following:

- the cyclicity of the markets we serve;
- the timing and size of orders;
- the volume of orders relative to our capacity;
- product introductions and market acceptance of new products or new generations of products;
- evolution in the life cycles of our customers' products;
- timing of expenses in anticipation of future orders;
- changes in product mix;
- availability of manufacturing and assembly services;
- changes in cost and availability of labor and components;
- timely delivery of product solutions to customers;
- pricing and availability of competitive products;
- introduction of new technologies into the markets we serve;
- pressures on reducing selling prices;
- our success in serving new markets; and
- changes in economic conditions.

Accordingly, you should not rely on period-to-period comparisons as an indicator of our future performance. Negative or unanticipated fluctuations in our operating results may result in a decline in the price of our stock.

***We have experienced an ownership change in MTI Micro that has resulted in a limitation of the use of their net operating losses, and we may experience further ownership changes in both MTI and MTI Micro which would result in a further limitation of the use of our net operating losses.***

As of December 31, 2011, it is estimated that MTI has net operating loss (NOL) carryforwards of approximately \$50.4 million and MTI Micro has NOL carryforwards of approximately \$16.5 million. As a result of the conversion of the bridge notes in December 2009, MTI no longer maintained an 80% or greater ownership in MTI Micro. Thus, MTI Micro is no longer included in Mechanical Technology, Incorporated and Subsidiaries' consolidated federal and combined New York State tax returns, effective December 9, 2009. Pursuant to the Internal Revenue Service's consolidated tax return regulations (IRS Regulation Section 1.1502-36), upon MTI Micro leaving the Mechanical Technology, Incorporated and Subsidiaries' consolidated group, MTI elected to reduce a portion of its stock tax basis in MTI Micro by "reattributing" a portion of MTI Micro's NOL carryforwards to MTI, for an amount equivalent to its built-in loss amount in MTI's investment in MTI Micro's stock. As the result of MTI making this election with its December 31, 2009 tax return, MTI reattributed approximately \$45.2 million of MTI Micro's NOLs (reducing its tax basis in MTI Micro's stock by the same amount), leaving MTI Micro with approximately \$13 million of separate company NOL carryforwards at the time of conversion of the Bridge Notes.

## Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

The Company and its subsidiaries have undergone a formal Section 382 study. A corporation generally undergoes an ownership change when the ownership of its stock, by value, changes by more than 50 percentage points over any three-year testing period. In the event of an ownership change, Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 imposes an annual limitation on the amount of post-ownership change taxable income a corporation may offset with pre-ownership change NOL carryforwards and certain recognized built-in losses. As a result of MTI Micro's issuance of stock between 2009 and 2011, MTI Micro has experienced a Section 382 ownership change, which has reduced their NOLs by an estimated \$14.6 million.

Our ability to utilize the MTI and remaining MTI Micro NOL carryforwards, including any future NOL carryforwards that may arise, may be limited by Section 382, if we or MTI Micro undergo any further ownership changes as a result of subsequent changes in the ownership of our outstanding common stock pursuant to the exercise of the MTI Micro warrants, MTI or MTI Micro options outstanding, additional financings obtained, or otherwise.

***Our ownership position in MTI Micro has been reduced as a result of external financing for MTI Micro's operations, which could limit our ability to control the operations.***

As of December 31, 2011, we owned approximately 47.6% of MTI Micro's Common Stock issued. Between September 2008 and September 2011, MTI Micro entered into numerous debt and equity financings with third parties, primarily, Dr. Walter L. Robb, a member of the Company's and MTI Micro's boards of directors, and Counter Point Ventures Fund II, LP (Counter Point). Counter Point is a venture capital fund sponsored and managed by Dr. Robb. After these series of transactions, MTI now holds an aggregate of approximately 47.6% of the outstanding common stock of MTI Micro or 53.3% of the outstanding common stock and warrants issued of MTI Micro, and Dr. Robb and Counter Point hold approximately 5.1% and 45.2%, respectively of the outstanding common stock of MTI Micro or 4.3% and 40.3%, respectively of the outstanding common stock and warrants issued of MTI Micro. Since no entity of the related parties has power but, as a group, the Company and its related parties have the power, then the party within the related party group that is most closely associated with the VIE, MTI Micro, is the primary beneficiary. Even though Dr. Robb and Counterpoint combined control a majority of the outstanding common stock, and they have the ability to elect the directors of MTI Micro and decide whether to continue to seek business opportunities for MTI Micro or instead seek opportunities to sell the intellectual property, they have not elected to do so. The Company continues to oversee the day to day operations, exercise management decision making, seek opportunities to sell intellectual properties, and have a vested interest in the commercialization of MTI Micro's fuel cell technology. Since inception in 2001, the Company has made the largest investment and been the principal funder of MTI Micro. The Company has also been exposed to losses and has the ability to benefit from MTI Micro. Considering the facts and circumstances, management believes the Company is most closely associated with the VIE, MTI Micro, and therefore, it is the primary beneficiary of MTI Micro. Should there be a change in the facts and circumstances (such as a change in governance or a change to the related party group) management will reassess whether they act as the primary beneficiary and should continue to include MTI Micro in the Company's consolidated results of operations.

***MTI Micro currently does not have sufficient funds to commercialize its portable power source products.***

In order to resume operations and continue full commercialization of its micro fuel cell solution, MTI Micro will need to do one or more of the following to raise additional resources, or reduce its cash requirements:

- obtain additional government grants or private funding of its direct methanol fuel cell research, development, manufacturing readiness and commercialization;
- receive a purchase order from government agencies or OEM's MTI Micro is currently with; or
- secure additional debt or equity financing.

There is no guarantee that resources will be available to MTI Micro on terms acceptable to it, or at all, or that such resources will be received in a timely manner, if at all, or that MTI Micro will be able to resume operations or reduce its expenditure run-rate further. MTI Micro had cash and cash equivalents of \$110 thousand as of December 31, 2011. Since 2008, MTI Micro has raised \$5.4 million in external debt and equity financing. At the end of 2011, MTI Micro suspended its operations while additional necessary funding is being pursued. If MTI Micro raises additional funds by issuing equity securities, MTI Micro's stockholders, including MTI, will experience further dilution. Additional debt financing, if available, may involve restrictive covenants. There is no assurance that funds raised in any future debt financing or additional equity financing arrangements will be sufficient, that the financing will be available on terms favorable to MTI Micro or to existing stockholders and at such times as required, or that MTI Micro will be able to obtain the additional financing required to resume the operation of its business. If MTI Micro raises additional funds through collaboration and licensing arrangements with third parties, it may be necessary to relinquish some rights to MTI Micro's technologies or its products, or grant licenses on terms that are not favorable to MTI Micro. If MTI Micro is unable to secure additional financing, MTI Micro could be forced to sell assets at unfavorable prices; or merge, consolidate, or combine with a company with greater financial resources in a transaction that may be unfavorable to us.

**MTI Micro's portable power source products may not be accepted by the market.**

Any portable power source products that MTI Micro develops may not achieve market acceptance. The development of a successful market for MTI Micro's proposed portable power source products and the ability to sell those products at favorable prices may be adversely affected by a number of factors, many of which are beyond MTI Micro's control, including the following:

- MTI Micro's failure to produce portable power source products that compete favorably against other products on the basis of price, quality, performance, and life;
- competition from conventional lithium-ion or other rechargeable battery systems;
- the ability of MTI Micro's technologies and product solutions to address the needs of the electronic device markets, the requirements of OEMs, and the preferences of end users;
- MTI Micro's ability to provide OEMs with portable power source products that provide advantages in terms of size, weight, peak power, power duration, reliability, durability, performance, and value-added features compared to alternative solutions; and
- MTI Micro's failure to develop and maintain successful relationships with OEMs, manufacturers, distributors, and others as well as strategic partners.

Target markets for MTI Micro's proposed portable power source products, such as those for mobile phones (including smart phones) and mobile phone accessories, digital cameras, portable media players, PDAs, and GPS devices, are volatile, cyclical, and rapidly changing and could continue to utilize existing technology or adopt other new competing technologies. The market for certain of these products depends in part upon the development and deployment of wireless and other technologies, which may or may not address the needs of users of these new products.

Many manufacturers of portable electronic devices have well-established relationships with competitive suppliers. Penetrating these markets will require MTI Micro to offer better performance alternatives to existing solutions at competitive costs. The failure of any of the target markets to continue to expand, or the failure to penetrate these markets to a significant extent, will impede MTI Micro's potential sales growth. We cannot predict the growth rate of these markets or the market share MTI Micro will achieve in these markets in the future.

If MTI Micro's proposed portable power source products do not achieve market acceptance, it could materially and adversely affect MTI Micro's business and financial condition.

**Item 1B: Unresolved Staff Comments**

None.

**Item 2: Properties**

We lease office, manufacturing and research and development space in the following locations:

Location	Segment	Primary Use	Approximate Number of Square Feet	Lease Expiration
Albany, NY	Test and Measurement Instrumentation	Corporate headquarters, manufacturing, office and sales	17,400	November, 2014
Albany, NY	New Energy	Office and research and development	20,000	April, 2012
Shanghai, China	New Energy	Representative office	300	March, 2012

We believe our facilities are generally well maintained and adequate for our current needs and for expansion, if required. The New Energy lease has been extended until April 2012, at which time the Company intends to vacate the premises.

**Item 3: Legal Proceedings**

At any point in time, we may be involved in various lawsuits or other legal proceedings. Such lawsuits could arise from the sale of products or services or from other matters relating to its regular business activities, compliance with various governmental regulations and requirements, or other transactions or circumstances. We do not believe there are any such proceedings presently pending which could have a material adverse

effect on our financial condition.

**Item 4: Mine Safety Disclosure**

Not applicable.

**PART II****Item 5: Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities****Price Range of Common Stock**

Our common stock is traded on the over the counter (OTC) Markets at PinkSheets.com under the symbol MKTY.PK. The following table sets forth the high and low sale prices of our common stock as reported by Pink Sheets for the periods indicated:

	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>
<b>Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2011</b>		
First Quarter	\$ .95	\$ .59
Second Quarter	.95	.69
Third Quarter	.72	.41
Fourth Quarter	.59	.41
<b>Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2010</b>		
First Quarter	\$ 1.13	\$ .66
Second Quarter	.90	.42
Third Quarter	.80	.25
Fourth Quarter	.89	.55

**Dividend Policy**

We have never declared or paid dividends on our common stock and do not anticipate or contemplate paying cash dividends on our common stock in the foreseeable future. We currently intend to use all available funds to develop our business. We can give no assurances that we will ever have excess funds available to pay dividends. Any future determination as to the payment of dividends will depend upon critical requirements and limitations imposed by our credit agreements, if any, and such other factors as our board of directors may consider.

**Equity Compensation Plan Information**

See also Part III Item 12 in this Annual Report on Form 10-K for additional detail related to security ownership and related stockholder matters, and for additional detail on equity compensation plan matters.

**Item 6: Selected Financial Data**

The following table sets forth our summary consolidated financial data for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 which was derived from our audited consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. We derived our summary consolidated financial data for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007 set forth in the following table from our audited consolidated financial statements not included in this report. You should read the following summary consolidated financial data together with the information under Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and our consolidated financial statements, including the related notes thereto.

(In thousands, except per share data)

	<b>Years Ended December 31,</b>				
	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
<b>Statement of Operations Data</b>					
Product revenue	\$ 10,280	\$ 7,179	\$ 6,263	\$ 6,224	\$ 9,028
Funded research and development revenue	13	1,234	2,043	1,154	1,556
Gain (loss) on derivatives	73	(3)	(29)	655	2,967
Net gain on sale of securities available for sale				1,018	2,549
Income (loss) before income taxes and non-controlling interest	100	(3,392)	(3,572)	(10,760)	(7,609)
Income tax benefit (expense)	1,548	(4)	208	(2,004)	(2,548)
Net income (loss), net of tax	1,648	(3,396)	(3,364)	(12,764)	(10,157)
Plus: Net loss attributed to non-controlling interest	738	1,638	265	260	582
Net income (loss) attributed to MTI	2,386	(1,758)	(3,099)	(12,504)	(9,575)

**Basic and Diluted Income (Loss) Per Share**

Income (loss) per share, basic and diluted	\$ 0.48	\$ (0.37)	\$ (0.65)	\$ (2.62)	\$ (2.01)
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding	5,001,934	4,771,658	4,771,658	4,772,359	4,763,547

**Balance Sheet Data (as of period end):**

Working capital	\$ 3,142	\$ 1,534	\$ 1,163	\$ 252	\$ 11,347
Securities available for sale					4,492
Total assets	6,402	3,601	3,741	5,511	18,716
Total long-term obligations				254	904
Total MTI stockholders' equity (deficit)	1,601	(1,446)	(1,135)	1,515	13,803

## Item 7: Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

*The following discussion of our financial condition and results of operations should be read in conjunction with our Consolidated Financial Statements and the related notes included elsewhere in this Annual Report. This discussion contains forward-looking statements, which involve risk and uncertainties. Our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in the forward-looking statements as a result of certain factors, including those discussed in Item 1A: Risk Factors and elsewhere in this Annual Report.*

### Overview

MTI operates in two segments: the Test and Measurement Instrumentation segment, which is conducted through MTI Instruments, Inc. (MTI Instruments), a wholly-owned subsidiary, and the New Energy segment, which is conducted through MTI MicroFuel Cells, Inc. (MTI Micro), a variable interest entity (VIE) as of December 31, 2011. MTI and MTI Micro currently share the same board of directors, while MTI also continues to oversee the day to day operations, exercise management decision making, seek opportunities to sell intellectual properties, and have a vested interest in the commercialization of MTI Micro's fuel cell technology. Since inception in 2001, MTI has made the largest investment and been the principal funder of MTI Micro. MTI has also been exposed to losses and has the ability to benefit from MTI Micro. Considering the facts and circumstances, management believes MTI is most closely associated with the VIE, MTI Micro, and therefore, it is the primary beneficiary. Should there be a change in the facts and circumstances (such as a change in governance or a change to the related party group) management will reassess whether they act as the primary beneficiary and should continue to include MTI Micro in MTI's consolidated results of operations.

*Test and Measurement Segment* MTI Instruments is a worldwide supplier of metrology, portable balancing equipment and inspection systems. Our products use state-of-the-art technology to solve complex real world applications in numerous industries including automotive, semiconductor, solar cell manufacturing, material testing, commercial and military aviation and data storage. We are continuously working on ways to expand our sales reach, including expanded sales coverage throughout Europe and Asia, as well as a focus on internet marketing.

Our test and measurement segment has three product groups: Precision Instruments, Semiconductor and Solar Metrology Systems, and Aviation Balancing Systems. Our products consist of electronic, computerized gauging instruments for position, displacement and vibration applications for the design, manufacturing/production and test and research markets; metrology tools for wafer characterization of semiconductor and solar wafers; tensile stage systems for materials testing in research and industrial settings; and engine balancing and vibration analysis systems for both military and commercial aircraft.

In 2011, MTI Instruments was awarded a \$4.1 million multi-year U.S. Air Force contract for the purchase of PBS4100+ portable aircraft engine balancing systems. As of December 31, 2011, MTI Instruments had recorded \$684 thousand in orders, approximately 16.7% of the total contract's total value. MTI Instruments also has a multi-year U.S. Air Force contract to service and repair its existing fleet of PBS-4100/+ jet engine balancing systems with the latest diagnostic and balancing technology, which could potentially generate up to a total of \$6.5 million in sales for the Company between 2009 and 2014. As of December 31, 2011, MTI Instruments had recorded \$2.9 million in orders, approximately 44.6% of the contract's total value.

*New Energy Segment* - MTI Micro has been developing an off-the-grid power solutions for various portable electronic devices. Our patented proprietary direct methanol fuel cell (DMFC) technology platform, called Mobion<sup>®</sup>, converts methanol fuel to usable electricity capable of providing continuous power as long as necessary fuel flows are maintained. Our proprietary fuel cell power solution consists of two primary components integrated into an easily manufactured device: the direct methanol fuel cell power engine, which we refer to as our Mobion<sup>®</sup> Chip, and methanol fuel cartridges. The methanol used by the technology is fully biodegradable.

Although MTI Micro continues to believe in the potential of its Mobion<sup>®</sup> based power solutions, operations have been suspended at MTI Micro until such time as market demand and other deciding factors, including obtaining additional external financing, the successful completion of customer trials, a new development program with a government agency, and/or a customer order come to fruition. Currently, MTI Micro has no employees and projects to spend between \$5 and \$10 thousand per month for operating activities including rent, preparing prototypes for customer demonstrations, minimal sales efforts, and patent fees to keep its patent portfolio current and minimal consultant costs to perform these initiatives. MTI Micro will continue to seek additional capital from external sources to resume operations and fund future development, if any. If MTI Micro is unable to secure additional financing, a new development program or customer order, the MTI Micro board of directors will assess other options for MTI Micro including the sale of MTI Micro's intellectual property portfolio and other assets.

In the second half of 2010, we entered into a firm fixed price contract for the development of proof of concept fuel cells for technical testing with a United States Department of Defense (DOD) agency. Additionally, during the first quarter of 2011, we completed the work required under the United States Department of Energy (DOE) grant awarded for the period January 8, 2009 through March 30, 2011. The objective of the grant was to demonstrate and field test a commercially viable one watt DMFC charger for consumer electronic devices. As part of this objective, MTI Micro field tested 75 units to various users, including 17 OEM's, 33 individuals, 21 military agencies and four governmental

## Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

agencies. We have achieved all technical performance targets required by the DOE under this grant; this field testing has concluded and the final report to the DOE may be found at <http://www.mticrofuelcells.com/news/events.asp>. Additional experimental testing was conducted at the DOD since the fourth quarter of 2010 that resulted in product improvements in the third quarter of 2011. Further testing by the DOD of our Mobion® fuel cell charger commenced in October 2011. If approval is granted, this may result in the signing of a commercialization contract or purchase orders for final production. To date, no such approval has been granted and there is no clear indication as to when MTI Micro will be notified.

## Recent Developments

**Material Agreements** On February 9, 2011, Amendment No. 1 to the Common Stock and Warrant Purchase Agreement (the Purchase Agreement) was entered into between MTI Micro and Counter Point. The total \$450 thousand of Amendment No. 1 was drawn down as of September 30, 2011. In exchange, Counter Point received 6,428,574 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock and 1,285,715 MTI Micro Warrants. See Note 10 in the consolidated financial statements for further discussion of this transaction.

On September 23, 2011, Amendment No. 2 to the Purchase Agreement was entered into between MTI Micro and Counter Point. The total \$84 thousand of Amendment No. 2 has been drawn down as of December 31, 2011. In exchange, Counter Point received 1,200,000 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock and 240,000 MTI Micro Warrants. See Note 10 in the consolidated financial statements for further discussion of this transaction.

**Line of Credit** On September 20, 2011, MTI Instruments entered into a working capital line of credit with First Niagara Bank, N.A. Pursuant to the Demand Grid Note, MTI Instruments may borrow from time to time up to \$400 thousand to support its working capital needs. The note is payable upon demand, and the interest rate on the note is equal to the prime rate with a floor of 4.0% per annum. The note is secured by a lien on all of the assets of MTI Instruments and is guaranteed by the Company. The line of credit is subject to a review date of June 30, 2012. Under the line of credit, MTI Instruments is required to hold a line balance of \$0 for 30 consecutive days out during each consecutive year. As of December 31, 2011, there were no amounts outstanding under the line of credit.

## Results of Operations

*Results of Operations for the Year Ended December 31, 2011 Compared to December 31, 2010.*

### Test and Measurement Instrumentation Segment

**Product Revenue:** Product revenue in our test and measurement instrumentation segment for the year ended December 31, 2011 increased by \$3.1 million, or 43.2%, to \$10.3 million in 2011 from \$7.2 million in 2010. This increase in product revenue was due to a \$2.6 million rise in new aviation balancing equipment sales and higher capacitance product sales. These product revenue increases were partially offset by a decline in wafer metrology tool shipments. As with the prior year, the US Air Force was the largest customer for the segment; accounting for \$2.3 million, or 22.4%, of the total year product revenue, as compared to \$1.6 million, or 22.3%, of the total product revenue in 2010. The segment's largest commercial customer in 2011 was a Southeast Asian distributor, who accounted for \$1.1 million, or 10.7%, of the total product revenue, as compared to the largest commercial customer in the prior year who was a Chinese distributor, who accounted for \$560 thousand, or 7.8%, of the total product revenue in 2010.

Information regarding government contracts included in product revenue is as follows:

Contract <sup>(1)</sup>	Expiration	Revenues for the		Revenue Contract to Date December 31, 2011	Total Contract Orders Received to Date December 31, 2011
		Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2011	2010		
\$2.3 million Air Force New PBS-4100 Systems	07/28/2010 <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 57	\$ 57	\$ 2,166	\$ 2,166
\$6.5 million Air Force Retrofit and Maintenance of PBS-4100 Systems	09/27/2014 <sup>(3)</sup>	\$ 1,080	\$ 1,386	\$ 2,905	\$ 2,936
\$4.1 million Air Force New PBS-4100 Systems	08/29/2015 <sup>(4)</sup>	\$ 684	\$ 684	\$ 684	\$ 684

(1) Contract values represent maximum potential values and may not be representative of actual results.

(2) Date represents expiration of contract after all three annual option extensions.

(3) Date represents expiration of contract, including all four potential option extensions.

(4) Date represents expiration of contract, including all four potential option extensions.

**Cost of Product Revenue:** Cost of product revenue in our test and measurement instrumentation segment for the year ended December 31, 2011 increased by \$851 thousand, or 29.1%, to \$3.8 million in 2011 from \$2.9 million in 2010 in conjunction with the aforementioned 43.2% increase in product revenue. Gross profit, as a percentage of product revenue, increased to 63.2%, compared to 59.2% for the same period in 2010 due to reductions in material component costs and warranty repairs.



*Unfunded Research and Product Development Expenses:* Unfunded research and product development expenses in our test and measurement instrumentation segment for the year ended December 31, 2011 increased by \$284 thousand, or 29.6%, to \$1.2 million in 2011 from \$959 thousand in 2010. This increase is attributable to higher material spending on current development projects throughout the year, along with additional personnel costs in the segment's engineering department.

*Selling, General and Administrative Expenses:* Selling, general and administrative expenses in our test and measurement instrumentation segment for the year ended December 31, 2011 increased by \$322 thousand, or 16.2%, to \$2.3 million in 2011 from \$2.0 million in 2010. This increase is the result of additional staffing in the segment's sales and business development departments along with higher consultant costs.

### New Energy Segment

*Funded Research and Development Revenue:* Funded research and development revenue in our new energy segment for the year ended December 31, 2011 decreased \$1.2 million, or 99.0%, to \$13 thousand in 2011 from \$1.2 million in 2010. The decrease in funded research and development revenue was primarily the result of the work performed under the DOE and NYSERDA contracts being substantially completed in 2010 for the commercialization of our fuel cell product. Final billings for these grants occurred in the first quarter of 2011, and no further grants have been received.

Information regarding government contracts included in funded research and development revenue is as follows:

(Dollars in thousands)		Revenue for the Year Ended December 31, 2011	Revenue for the Year Ended December 31, 2010	Revenue Contract to Date
Contract	Expiration <sup>(1)</sup>			
\$2.99 million DOE <sup>(2)</sup>	03/31/11	\$ 7	\$ 944	\$ 2,994
\$296 thousand NYSERDA	12/31/10	6	290	296
Total		\$ 13	\$ 1,234	\$ 3,290

(1) Dates represent expiration of contract, not date of final billing.

(2) The DOE contract was initially awarded for \$2.4 million, effective for January 2009 through March 31, 2010. An extension to this was granted in April 2010, increasing total funding to \$2.99 million and an expiration date of 3/31/2011. The DOE contract was a cost share contract.

*Funded Research and Product Development Expenses:* Funded research and product development expenses in our new energy segment for the year ended December 31, 2011 decreased by \$2.5 million, or 99.0%, to \$25 thousand in 2011 from \$2.5 million in 2010. This decrease is a result of the majority of the work being performed in 2010 for the DOE and NYSERDA contracts, whose contracts concluded in the first quarter of 2011, as discussed in funded research and development revenue above.

*Unfunded Research and Product Development Expenses:* Unfunded research and product development in our new energy segment for the year ended December 31, 2011 decreased by \$160 thousand, or 44.7%, to \$199 thousand in 2011 from \$358 thousand in 2010. This decrease from the prior year was due to staff reductions and substantial cut backs in external development spending throughout 2011.

*Selling, General and Administrative Expenses:* Selling, general and administrative expenses in our new energy segment for the year ended December 31, 2011 decreased by \$957 thousand, or 49.1%, to \$993 thousand in 2011 from \$1.9 million in 2010. This decrease was primarily the result of a significant decrease in personnel costs and benefits of \$2.1 million, a reduction in rent and other facility costs of \$256 thousand, travel expense reductions of \$28 thousand, depreciation expense reductions of \$174 thousand and a reduction in China operations of \$81 thousand for the year. These reductions in expense were offset by a reduction in the allocation of costs to research and development of \$1.7 million.

### Results of Consolidated Operations

*Operating Income (Loss):* Operating income for the year ended December 31, 2011 was \$52 thousand compared to an operating loss of \$3.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. This decrease in operating loss was a result of the factors noted above.

*Gain (loss) on Derivatives:* We recorded a gain on derivative accounting of \$73 thousand for the year ended December 31, 2011 and a loss of \$3 thousand on derivative accounting for the year ended December 31, 2010. Both the 2011 gain and 2010 loss are the result of derivative treatment of the freestanding warrants issued to investors in conjunction with our December 2006 capital raise. These warrants expired on December 19, 2011.



*Income Tax Benefit (Expense):* Income tax benefit for the year ended December 31, 2011 was \$1.5 million compared to income tax expense of \$4 thousand for the same period in 2010. Our income tax rate for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 was 1,548% and 0%, respectively. The 2011 tax rate was primarily the result of the reversal of a portion of the valuation allowance to reflect the portion of the Company's deferred tax asset that management has estimated is more likely than not to be realized. The 2010 tax rate was primarily the result of losses generated by operations, changes in the valuation allowance, state true-ups upon tax return filings, and permanent deductible differences for the derivative valuation. The valuation allowance against our deferred tax assets at December 31, 2011 and at December 31, 2010 was \$19.8 million and \$27.8 million, respectively.

*Net Losses Attributed to Non-Controlling Interests (of MTI Micro):* The net loss attributed to non-controlling interests for the year ended December 31, 2011 decreased by \$900 thousand, or 55.0%, to \$738 thousand in 2011 from \$1.6 million in 2010. This is the result of a decrease in the net loss of MTI Micro from \$3.6 million in 2010 to \$1.5 million in 2011, offset in part, by an increase in the percentage of ownership of the non-controlling interest of MTI Micro in 2011.

*Net Income (Loss):* Net income for the year ended December 31, 2011 was \$2.4 million compared to a net loss of \$1.8 million for the same period in 2010. The increase in net income of \$4.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2011 as compared to the same period in 2010 is primarily attributed to the reversal of a portion of the deferred tax asset's valuation reserve of \$1.5 million, representing the portion of the Company's deferred tax asset that management has estimated is more likely than not to be realized, an increase of MTI Instruments yearly net income of \$1.6 million, a reduction of the yearly net loss of MTI Micro of \$2.2 million, and a reduction in the net loss attributed to non-controlling interests of \$900 thousand. These are a result of the factors discussed above.

**Results of Operations for the Year Ended December 31, 2010 Compared to December 31, 2009.**

**Test and Measurement Instrumentation Segment**

*Product Revenue:* Product revenue in our test and measurement instrumentation segment for the year ended December 31, 2010 increased by \$915 thousand, or 14.6%, in comparison to 2009, to \$7.2 million. As with the prior year, the US Air Force was the top customer for the segment; accounting for \$1.6 million, or 22.0%, of the total year revenue, as compared to \$1.2 million, or 19.0%, of the total revenue in 2009. The segment's top commercial customer in 2010 accounted for \$560 thousand, or 7.8%, of the annual revenue, as compared to the top commercial customer last year accounting for \$618 thousand, or 9.9%, of the total 2009 revenue.

Information regarding government contracts included in product revenue is as follows:

Contract <sup>(1)</sup>	Expiration	Revenues for the		Revenue Contract to Date December 31, 2010	Total Contract Orders Received to Date December 31, 2010
		Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2010	2009		
\$2.3 million Air Force New PBS-4100 Systems	07/28/2010 <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 57	\$ 513	\$ 2,166	\$ 2,166
\$8.8 million Air Force Retrofit and Maintenance of PBS-4100 Systems	06/19/2008 <sup>(3)</sup>	\$	\$ 50	\$ 8,009	\$ 8,009
\$6.5 million Air Force Retrofit and Maintenance of PBS-4100 Systems	09/27/2014 <sup>(4)</sup>	\$ 1,386	\$ 439	\$ 1,825	\$ 1,828

- (1) Contract values represent maximum potential values and may not be representative of actual results.
- (2) Date represents expiration of contract, including all three potential option extensions.
- (3) The contract expiration date has passed; however, one delivery order remains open under the contract.
- (4) Date represents expiration of contract, including all four potential option extensions.

*Cost of Product Revenue:* Cost of product revenue in our test and measurement instrumentation segment for the year ended December 31, 2010 increased in comparison to 2009 by \$265 thousand, or 9.9%, to \$2.9 million in conjunction with the aforementioned 14.6% increase in product revenue. Gross profit, as a percentage of product revenue, rose two points to 59% in 2010 due to a reduction in expense for potentially obsolete and slow-moving inventory.

*Unfunded Research and Product Development Expenses:* Unfunded research and product development expenses in our test and measurement segment for the year ended December 31, 2010 decreased by \$6 thousand, or 0.6%, to \$959 thousand from \$965 thousand in 2009. This decrease is attributable to lower personnel costs in the segment's engineering department during the year, which were partially offset by increases in

material spending for new product development and existing product support.

*Selling, General and Administrative Expenses:* Selling, general and administrative expenses in our test and measurement segment increased for the year ended December 31, 2010 by \$162 thousand, or 8.2%, to \$1.98 million from \$1.82 million for 2009. This increase is primarily the result of additional staffing in the segment's sales and business development departments.

## New Energy Segment

**Funded Research and Development Revenue:** Funded research and development revenue in our new energy segment decreased by \$810 thousand, or 40%, to \$1.23 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$2.04 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. The decrease in revenue was primarily the result of the research and development performed under the DOE contract in 2009 for the commercialization of our fuel cell product, while billing in 2010 has been substantially less as we entered into the market test phase of the commercialization.

Information regarding our contracts included in funded research and development revenue is as follows:

(Dollars in thousands)		Revenue for the Year Ended December 31, 2010	Revenue for the Year Ended December 31, 2009	Revenue Contract to Date
Contract	Expiration <sup>(1)</sup>			
\$2.99 million DOE <sup>(2)</sup>	03/31/11	\$ 944	\$ 2,043	\$ 2,987
\$296 thousand NYSERDA	12/31/10	290		290
Total		\$ 1,234	\$ 2,043	\$ 3,277

(1) Dates represent expiration of contract, not date of final billing.

(2) The DOE contract was initially awarded for \$2.4 million, effective for January 2009 through March 31, 2010. An extension to this was granted in April 2010, increasing total funding to \$2.99 million and an expiration date of 3/31/2011. The DOE contract is a cost share contract.

**Funded Research and Product Development Expenses:** Funded research and product development expenses in our new energy segment for the year ended December 31, 2010 decreased by \$1.56 million or 38% to \$2.54 million from \$4.1 million in 2009. This is a result of the majority of the work being performed in 2009 for the DOE contract, as discussed in funded research and development revenue above.

**Unfunded Research and Product Development Expenses:** Unfunded research and product development in our new energy segment decreased by \$26 thousand, or 7%, to \$358 thousand for the year ended December 31, 2010 compared to 2009. This decrease from the prior year was due to staff reductions and substantial cut backs in external development spending.

**Selling, General and Administrative Expenses:** Selling, general and administrative expenses in our new energy segment for the year ended December 31, 2010 increased by \$1.85 million, or 1,758%, to \$1.95 million in 2010 from \$105 thousand in 2009. This increase was primarily the result of stock option expense on MTI and MTI Micro Options awarded to employees increasing from \$428 thousand in 2009 to \$1.4 million in 2010 and a decrease in the allocation of costs to research and development.

## Results of Consolidated Operations

**Operating Loss:** Operating loss for the year ended December 31, 2010 compared with the operating loss for the year ended December 31, 2009 increased by \$305 thousand to \$3.4 million, a 10% increase, as a result of the factors noted above.

**Gain (loss) on Derivatives:** We recorded a loss on derivative accounting of \$3 thousand for the year ended December 31, 2010 and a loss of \$29 thousand on derivative accounting for the year ended December 31, 2009. Both the 2010 loss and 2009 loss are the result of derivative treatment of the freestanding warrants issued to investors in conjunction with our December 2006 capital raise.

**Income Tax (Expense) Benefit:** Income tax benefit went from a benefit of \$208 thousand in 2009 to an expense of \$4 thousand for 2010. This is primarily the result of a reversal of an uncertain tax position in 2009 of \$194 thousand that was recorded in 2008 and settled in 2009. Our income tax rate for the year ended December 31, 2010 was 0%, while the income tax rate for the year ended December 31, 2009 was 6%. These tax rates were primarily the result of losses generated by operations, changes in the valuation allowance, state true-ups upon tax return filings, and permanent deductible differences for the derivative valuation.

The valuation allowance against our deferred tax assets at December 31, 2010 was \$27.8 million and at December 31, 2009 was \$26.4 million. We determined that it was more likely than not that the ultimate recognition of certain deferred tax assets would not be realized.

**Net Losses Attributed to Non-Controlling Interests (of MTI Micro):** The net loss attributed to non-controlling interests increased from \$265 thousand for 2009 to \$1.6 million in 2010. This is a result of the increase in the percentage of ownership of the non-controlling interest of MTI

Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

Micro in 2010 due to additional equity contributions of \$1.9 million. In addition, the equity contributions of \$3.4 million in 2009 occurred in September 2009; thus 2010 includes a full year of losses for these additions.

*Net Income (Loss):* Net loss for the year ended December 31, 2010 was \$1.8 million compared to a net loss of \$3.1 million for 2009. This reduction in losses is a result of the factors discussed above.

## Liquidity and Capital Resources

Several key indicators of our liquidity are summarized in the following table:

(Dollars in thousands)	Years ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,669	\$ 1,118	\$ 785
Working capital	3,142	1,534	1,163
Net income (loss) attributed to MTI	2,386	(1,758)	(3,099)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	67	(1,506)	(2,170)
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(175)	(47)	(7)

The Company has historically incurred significant losses, the majority stemming from the direct methanol fuel cell product development and commercialization programs of MTI Micro, and had a consolidated accumulated deficit of \$120.1 million as of December 31, 2011. During 2011, the Company generated net income attributed to MTI of \$2.4 million and had working capital at December 31, 2011 of \$3.1 million, a \$1.6 million increase from \$1.5 million at December 31, 2010. This increase was primarily attributed to the reversal of a portion of the deferred tax asset's valuation reserve of \$1.5 million, representing the portion of the Company's deferred tax asset that management has estimated is more likely than not to be realized, the improved result of operations for MTI Instruments, a continued hold on expenses, and capital raised through the issuance of MTI Micro stock. The Company had an operating cash surplus of \$67 thousand in 2011 and currently has no debt. While it cannot be assured, management believes that MTI Instruments will continue to generate positive cash flows and be able to fund the Company's operations for at least the next twelve months.

Although MTI Micro continues to believe in the potential of its Mobion® based power solutions, operations have been suspended at MTI Micro until such time as market demand and other deciding factors, including obtaining additional external financing, the successful completion of customer trials, a new development program with a government agency, and/or a customer order, come to fruition. MTI Micro had cash and cash equivalents as of December 31, 2011 of \$110 thousand. Currently, MTI Micro has no employees and projects to spend between \$5 and \$10 thousand per month for operating activities including rent, preparing prototypes for customer demonstrations, minimal sales efforts, patent fees to keep its patent portfolio current and minimal consultant costs to perform these initiatives. MTI Micro will continue to seek additional capital from external sources to resume operations and fund future development, if any. If MTI Micro is unable to secure additional financing, a new development program or customer order, the MTI Micro board of directors will assess other options for MTI Micro, including the sale of MTI Micro's intellectual property portfolio and other assets.

During the year ended December 31, 2011, cash provided by operating activities was \$67 thousand, consisting of net income of \$1.6 million, non-cash expenses of \$(617) thousand (primarily including \$307 thousand for depreciation, \$661 thousand for stock based compensation, and a \$(1.5) million income tax benefit), and other changes in operating assets and liabilities of \$(964) thousand (primarily due to the increase in accounts receivable at year end). Cash used by investing activities for the year ended December 31, 2011 was \$163 thousand, comprised primarily of purchases of property, plant and equipment primarily for MTI Instruments related to computers and laboratory and demo equipment. We had no outstanding commitments for capital expenditures as of December 31, 2011. Cash provided by financing activities for the year ended December 31, 2011 was \$647 thousand consisting of capital raised through the issuance of MTI Micro common stock.

As of December 31, 2011, we had approximately \$1.7 million of cash and cash equivalents to fund our future operations. During the year ended December 31, 2011, our results of operations resulted in net income after the non-controlling interest allocation of \$2.4 million and cash provided by operating activities totaling \$67 thousand. We expect to spend approximately \$1.4 million in research and development on MTI Instruments' products during 2012. We expect to continue funding our operations from current cash and cash equivalents, proceeds, if any, from additional debt or equity financings and government funding. We may also seek to supplement our resources through the sales of assets (including our investment in MTI Micro). Besides the line of credit at MTI Instruments, we have no other commitments for funding future needs of the organization at this time and such additional financing during 2012 may not be available to us on acceptable terms, if at all.

### Line of Credit

On September 20, 2011, MTI Instruments entered into a working capital line of credit with First Niagara Bank, N.A. Pursuant to the Demand Grid Note, MTI Instruments may borrow from time to time up to \$400 thousand to support its working capital needs. The note is payable upon demand, and the interest rate on the note is equal to the prime rate with a floor of 4.0% per annum. The note is secured by a lien on all of the assets of MTI Instruments and is guaranteed by the Company. The line of credit is subject to a review date of June 30, 2012. Under the line of credit, MTI Instruments is required to hold a line balance of \$0 for 30 consecutive days out during each consecutive year. As of December 31, 2011, there were no amounts outstanding under the line of credit.



**Backlog, Inventory and Accounts Receivable**

At December 31, 2011, the Company's order backlog was \$861 thousand, compared to \$2.1 million at December 31, 2010. The backlog at December 31, 2010 was elevated by record high fourth quarter order activity that year.

Our inventory turnover ratios and average accounts receivable days sales outstanding for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 and their changes are as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		Change
	2011	2010	
Inventory turnover	4.0	3.7	.3
Average accounts receivable days sales outstanding	42	42	

The positive increase in inventory turnover is driven by average inventory balances increasing 27% on a 43% higher annual sales volume in 2011 as well as better managed production quantities and inventory purchases over the last twelve months.

The average accounts receivable days sales outstanding remained consistent in 2011 compared with 2010.

**Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

There are no off balance sheet arrangements of the Company.

**Contractual Obligations**

We have entered into various agreements with non-cancelable terms that result in contractual payment obligations in future years. These contracts include manufacturing, laboratory and office facility lease agreements as well as purchase commitments for general operations of the Company. The following table summarizes cash payments that we are committed to make under the existing terms of contracts to which we are a party as of December 31, 2011. This table does not include contingencies.

Contractual Payment Obligations (in thousands)	Less			More	
	Than 1 Year	1-3 Years	3-5 Years	Than 5 Years	Total
Operating lease obligations	\$ 27	\$ 564	\$ 266		\$ 857
Purchase obligations	376	14			390
Total Contractual Payment Obligations	\$ 403	\$ 578	\$ 266		\$ 1,247

**Market Risk**

Market risk is the risk that changes in market conditions will adversely affect earnings or cashflow. We categorize our market risks as interest rate risk and credit risk. Immediately below are detailed descriptions of the market risks and explanations as to how each of these risks are managed.

**Interest Rate Risk.** Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates could adversely affect earnings or cashflows. The Company's cash equivalents are sensitive to changes in interest rates. Interest rate changes would result in a change in interest income due to the difference between the current interest rates on cash. Interest rate risk sensitivity analysis is used to measure interest rate risk by computing estimated changes in cashflow as a result of assumed changes in market interest rates. A 10% decrease in 2011 interest rates would be immaterial to the Company's consolidated financial statements.

**Credit Risk.** Credit risk is the risk of loss we would incur if counterparties fail to perform their contractual obligations. Financial instruments that subject the Company to concentrations of credit risk principally consist of cash equivalents, trade accounts receivable and unbilled contract costs.

## Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

Our trade accounts receivable and unbilled contract costs and fees are primarily from sales to commercial customers, the U.S. government and state agencies. We do not require collateral and have not historically experienced significant credit losses related to receivables or unbilled contract costs and fees from individual customers or groups of customers in any particular industry or geographic area.

Our deposits are primarily in cash and deposited in commercial banks and investment companies. Credit exposure to any one entity is limited by Company policy.

### **Critical Accounting Policies and Significant Judgments and Estimates**

The following discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations is based upon our consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Note 2 of the Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K includes a summary of our most significant accounting policies. The preparation of these consolidated financial statements requires management to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue, expenses, and related disclosure of assets and liabilities. On an ongoing basis, we evaluate our estimates and judgments, including those related to revenue recognition, inventories, income taxes, share-based compensation and derivatives. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions. Periodically, we review our critical accounting estimates with the Audit Committee of our Board of Directors.

The significant accounting policies that we believe are most critical to aid in fully understanding and evaluating our consolidated financial statements include the following:

**Revenue Recognition.** We recognize product revenue when there is persuasive evidence of an arrangement, delivery of the product to the customer or distributor has occurred, at which time title generally is passed to the customer or distributor, and we have determined that collection of a fixed fee is probable, all of which occur upon shipment of the product. If the product requires installation to be performed by us, all revenue related to the product is deferred and recognized upon the completion of the installation.

We recognize revenue from development contracts based upon the relationship of actual costs to estimated costs to complete the contract. These types of contracts typically provide development services to achieve a specific scientific result relating to direct methanol fuel cell technology. Some of these contracts require us to contribute to the development effort. The customers for these contracts are commercial customers and various state and federal government agencies. While government agencies are providing revenue, we do not expect the government to be a significant end user of the resulting products. Therefore, we do not reduce funded research and product development expense by the funding received. When it appears probable that estimated costs will exceed available funding on fixed price contracts and we are not successful in securing additional funding, we record the estimated additional expense before it is incurred.

We apply accounting guidance on revenue recognition in the evaluation of commercially funded fuel cell research and prototype agreements to determine when to properly recognize income. Payments received in connection with commercial research and prototype agreements are deferred and recognized on a straight-line basis over the term of the agreement for service-related payments. For milestone and prototype delivery payments, if and when achieved, revenue is deferred and recognized on a straight-line basis over the remaining term of the agreement. When revenue qualifies for recognition it will be recorded as funded research and development revenue. The costs associated with research and prototype-producing activities are expensed as incurred. Expenses in an amount equal to revenue recognized are reclassified from unfunded research and product development to funded research and product development.

**Inventory.** Inventory is valued at the lower of cost or the current estimated market value of the inventory. We periodically review inventory quantities on hand and record a provision for excess or obsolete inventory based primarily on our estimated forecast of product demand, as well as based on historical usage. Demand and usage for products and materials can fluctuate significantly. A significant decrease in demand for our products could result in a short-term increase in the cost of inventory purchases and an increase of excess inventory quantities on hand. Therefore, although we make every effort to assure the accuracy of our forecasts of future product demand, any significant unanticipated changes in demand could have a significant impact on the value of our inventory and our reported operating results.

**Share-Based Payments.** We grant options to purchase our common stock and award restricted stock to our employees and directors under our equity incentive plans. The benefits provided under these plans are share-based payments subject to the appropriate accounting provisions regarding Share-Based Payments. Effective January 1, 2006, we use the fair value method of accounting with the modified prospective application, which provides for certain changes to the method for valuing share-based compensation. The valuation provisions apply to new awards and to awards that are outstanding on the effective date and subsequently modified. Under the modified prospective application, prior periods are not revised for comparative purposes. Share-based compensation expense recognized under these accounting methods for the year ended December 31, 2011 was \$661 thousand. At December 31, 2011, total unrecognized estimated compensation expense related to non-vested awards granted prior to that date was \$104 thousand, which is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of .87 years.



We estimate the fair value of share-based awards on the date of grant using a Black-Scholes option-pricing model. The determination of the fair value of share-based payment awards on the date of grant using an option-pricing model is affected by our stock price as well as assumptions regarding a number of complex and subjective variables. These variables include our expected stock price volatility over the term of the awards, actual and projected employee stock option exercise behaviors, risk-free interest rate, and expected dividends.

If factors change and we employ different assumptions for the accounting methodology during future periods, the compensation expense that we record may differ significantly from what we have recorded in the current period. Therefore, we believe it is important for investors to be aware of the high degree of subjectivity involved when using option-pricing models to estimate share-based compensation. Option-pricing models were developed for use in estimating the value of traded options that have no vesting or hedging restrictions, are fully transferable and do not cause dilution. Because our share-based payments have characteristics significantly different from those of freely traded options, and because changes in the subjective input assumptions can materially affect our estimates of fair values, in our opinion, existing valuation models, including the Black-Scholes Option Pricing model, may not provide reliable measures of the fair values of our share-based compensation. Consequently, there is a risk that our estimates of the fair values of our share-based compensation awards on the grant dates may bear little resemblance to the intrinsic values realized upon the exercise, expiration, cancellation, or forfeiture of those share-based payments in the future. Certain share-based payments, such as employee stock options, may expire worthless or otherwise result in zero intrinsic value as compared to the fair values originally estimated on the grant date and expensed in our financial statements. Alternatively, value may be realized from these instruments that are significantly in excess of the fair values originally estimated on the grant date and expensed in our financial statements. There currently is neither a market-based mechanism nor other practical application to verify the reliability and accuracy of the estimates stemming from these valuation models, nor a way to compare and adjust the estimates to actual values. Although the fair value of employee share-based awards is determined using a qualified option-pricing model, that value may not be indicative of the fair value observed in a willing buyer/willing seller market transaction. Estimates of share-based compensation expenses are significant to our financial statements, but these expenses are based on the aforementioned option valuation model and will never result in the payment of cash by us.

Theoretical valuation models and market-based methods are evolving and may result in lower or higher fair value estimates for share-based compensation. The timing, readiness, adoption, general acceptance, reliability, and testing of these methods is uncertain. Sophisticated mathematical models may require voluminous historical information, modeling expertise, financial analyses, correlation analyses, integrated software and databases, consulting fees, customization, and testing for adequacy of internal controls.

For purposes of estimating the fair value of stock options granted during the twelve months ended December 31, 2011 using the Black-Scholes model, we used the historical volatility of our stock for the expected volatility assumption input to the Black-Scholes model, consistent with the accounting guidance. The risk-free interest rate is based on the risk-free zero-coupon rate for a period consistent with the expected option term at the time of grant. We do not currently pay nor do we anticipate paying dividends, but we are required to assume a dividend yield as an input to the Black-Scholes model. As such, we use a zero dividend rate. The expected option term is estimated using both historical term measures and projected termination estimates.

**Income Taxes.** As part of the process of preparing our consolidated financial statements, we calculate income taxes for each of the jurisdictions in which we operate. This involves estimating actual current taxes due together with assessing temporary differences resulting from differing treatment for tax and accounting purposes that are recorded as deferred tax assets and liabilities. We periodically evaluate deferred tax assets, net operating loss carryforwards and tax credit carryforwards to determine their recoverability based primarily on our ability to generate future taxable income.

Significant management judgment is required in determining our provision for income taxes, our deferred tax assets and liabilities, and any valuation allowance recorded against our net deferred tax assets. We considered all available evidence, both positive and negative, such as historical levels of income and future forecasts of taxable income amongst other items in determining whether a full or partial release of our valuation allowance is required. In addition, our assessment requires us to schedule future taxable income in accordance with accounting standards that address income taxes to assess the appropriateness of a valuation allowance, which further requires the exercise of significant management judgment.

As a result of our analyses in 2011, we released a portion of our valuation allowance against our deferred tax assets. The partial release of the valuation allowance caused an incremental tax benefit of \$1.5 million to be recognized in the fourth quarter of 2011. For our analysis, we projected our pre-tax earnings utilizing a combination of historical and projected results, taking into consideration existing levels of permanent differences, non-deductible expense and the reversal of significant temporary differences. We need to generate approximately \$225 thousand of taxable income in each year over the next twenty years to ensure the realizability of the \$1.5 million of deferred tax assets recorded on our balance sheet at December 31, 2011. In the event that actual results differ from these estimates or we adjust these estimates in future periods, we may need to adjust the recorded valuation allowance, which could materially impact our financial position and results of operations. The remaining valuation allowance at December 31, 2011 is \$19.8 million and relates primarily to net operating losses and stock based compensation. We will continue to evaluate the ability to realize our deferred tax assets and related valuation allowance on a quarterly basis.



Our Federal net operating loss carryforwards as of December 31, 2011 were \$66.9 million. Of these, \$50.4 are MTI's and \$16.5 are MTI MicroFuel Cells. However, approximately \$14.6 million of MFC's NOLs have been reduced due to limitations caused by Section 382 ownership changes. Of the remaining NOL's, \$4.1 million expire in 2020, with the remainder expiring through 2031.

We account for taxes in accordance with the asset and liability method of accounting for income taxes. Under this method, we must recognize the tax benefit from an uncertain tax position only if it is more likely than not that the tax position will be sustained on examination by the taxing authorities, based on the technical merits of the position. The tax benefits recognized in the financial statements from such a position are measured based on the largest benefit that has a greater than 50% likelihood of being realized upon ultimate resolution. The impact of our reassessment of our tax positions for these standards did not have a material impact on our results of operations, financial condition, or liquidity.

**Derivative Instruments.** We account for derivative instruments and embedded derivative instruments in accordance with the accounting standard for Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities, as amended. The amended standard requires an entity to recognize all derivatives as either assets or liabilities in the statement of financial position and measure these instruments at fair value. Fair value is estimated using the Black-Scholes Pricing model. We also follow accounting standards for the Accounting for Derivative Financial Instruments Indexed to and Potentially Settled in, a Company's Own Stock, which requires freestanding contracts that are settled in a company's own stock, including common stock warrants, to be designated as an equity instrument, asset or a liability. Under these provisions a contract designated as an asset or a liability must be carried at fair value, with any changes in fair value recorded in the results of operations. A contract designated as an equity instrument can be included in equity, with no fair value adjustments required.

The derivatives are valued on a quarterly basis using the Black-Scholes Pricing model. Significant assumptions used in the valuation included exercise dates, closing prices for our common stock, volatility of our common stock, and a proxy risk-free interest rate. Gains (losses) on derivatives are included in Gain (loss) on derivatives in our consolidated statement of operations.

#### Recent Accounting Pronouncements

A discussion of recently adopted and new accounting pronouncements is included in Note 2 of the Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

#### Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

The Company is exposed to market risk from changes in interest rates and credit risk, which could affect its future results of operations and financial condition. We manage our exposure to these risks through regular operating and financing activities. See Market Risk, included in Part II, Item 7 above, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

#### Item 8: Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

The Company's Consolidated Financial Statements filed herewith beginning at page F-1 are incorporated in this Item 8 by reference.

##### Selected Quarterly Financial Data

(Unaudited and in thousands except per share amounts)	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>2011</b>				
Product revenue	\$ 2,539	\$ 2,140	\$ 2,326	\$ 3,275
Funded research and development revenue	13			
Gross profit — product revenue	1,600	1,290	1,465	2,145
Gross loss — funded research and development	(12)			
Net income (loss) attributed to MTI	\$ 194	\$ (97)	\$ (101)	\$ 2,390
<b>Net Income (Loss) per Share (Basic and Diluted):</b>				
Net income (loss) per share attributed to MTI	\$ 0.04	\$ (0.02)	\$ (0.02)	\$ 0.45

*Selected Quarterly Financial Data*

(Unaudited and in thousands except per share amounts)	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>2010</b>				
Product revenue	\$ 1,267	\$ 1,627	\$ 1,646	\$ 2,639
Funded research and development revenue	357	418	334	125
Gross profit product revenue	723	901	984	1,641
Gross loss funded research and development	(413)	(409)	(203)	(279)
Net (loss) income attributed to MTI	\$ (1,234)	\$ (437)	\$ (366)	\$ 279
<b>Net (Loss) Income per Share (Basic and Diluted):</b>				
Net (loss) income per share attributed to MTI	\$ (.26)	\$ (.09)	\$ (.08)	\$ .06

As a result of rounding and quarterly calculations, the sum of the quarters may not agree to the year to date results.

**Item 9: Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure**

None.

**Item 9A: Controls and Procedures****(a) Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

Our management, with the participation of our chief executive officer and chief financial officer, evaluated the effectiveness of MTI's disclosure controls and procedures as of December 31, 2011. The term "disclosure controls and procedures," as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act, means controls and other procedures of a company that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by a company 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 by a company in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to the company's management, including its principal executive and principal financial officers, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. We recognize that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving their objectives and we necessarily apply our judgment in evaluating the cost-benefit relationship of possible controls and procedures. Based on the valuation of our disclosure controls and procedures as of December 31, 2011, our chief executive officer and chief financial officer concluded that, as of such date, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective at the reasonable assurance level.

**(b) Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

Management of our Company is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as that term is defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f). Our internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

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

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including the principal executive officer and principal financial officer, we conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting using the criteria set forth in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Based on our evaluation using the criteria set forth in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework*, Management has concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2011.

This annual report does not include an attestation report of our registered public accounting firm regarding internal control over financial reporting. Our report was not subject to attestation by our independent registered public accounting firm pursuant to rules of the SEC that permit us to provide only Management's Report in this annual report.

/s/ Peng K. Lim  
Chief Executive Officer  
(Principal Executive Officer)

/s/ Frederick W. Jones  
Chief Financial Officer  
(Principal Financial Officer)

**(c) Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

There have been no changes in our internal control over financial reporting, as such term is defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(1) under the Exchange Act, during our fiscal quarter ended December 31, 2011 that have materially affected, or are reasonable likely to materially affect our internal control over financial reporting.

**Item 9B: Other Information**

No information was required to be disclosed in a current Report on Form 8-K during the fourth quarter of the fiscal year covered by this Annual Report on Form 10-K which has not been reported.

**PART III**

**Item 10: Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance**

**(a) Directors**

Incorporated herein by reference is the information appearing under the captions Information about our Directors and Compliance with Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 in our definitive Proxy Statement for our 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the SEC on or before April 29, 2012.

**(b) Executive Officers**

Incorporated herein by reference is the information appearing under the captions Executive Officers and Compliance with Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 in our definitive Proxy Statement for our 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the SEC on or before April 29, 2012.

Incorporated herein by reference is the information appearing under the caption Board of Director Meetings and Committees Audit Committee in our definitive Proxy Statement for our 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the SEC on or before April 29, 2012.

Code of Ethics: We have adopted a Code of Ethics for employees, officers and directors. The Code of Ethics is intended to comply with Item 406 of Regulation S-K of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. A copy may be obtained at no charge by written request to the attention of our Secretary at 325 Washington Avenue Extension, Albany, New York 12205. A copy of the Code of Ethics is also available on our website at <http://www.mechtech.com> under Investor Relations, Corporate Governance.

**Item 11: Executive Compensation**

Incorporated herein by reference is the information appearing under the caption Executive Compensation in the Company's definitive Proxy Statement for our 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the SEC on or before April 29, 2012.

**Item 12: Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters**

Incorporated herein by reference is the information appearing under the caption Principal Stockholders in our definitive Proxy Statement for our 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the SEC on or before April 29, 2012.

**Equity Compensation Plans**

As of December 31, 2011, we have three equity compensation plans, each of which was originally approved by our stockholders; the Mechanical Technology, Incorporated 1996 Stock Incentive Plan (the 1996 Plan), 1999 Employee Stock Incentive Plan (the 1999 Plan) and 2006 Equity Incentive Plan (the 2006 Plan). The 2006 Plan was amended and restated and approved by our Board of Directors in 2011 and 2009. We refer collectively to these as the Plans. See Note 13 of the Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K

for a description of these Plans.

## Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

The following table presents information regarding these plans as of December 31, 2011:

Plan Category	Number of Securities To Be Issued Upon Exercise of Outstanding Options, Warrants, Rights <sup>(1)</sup> (a)	Weighted Average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants, Rights (b)	Number of Securities Remaining Available for Future Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a)) (c)
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	348,513	\$ 21.24	-0-
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	448,924	2.28	261,601

(1) Under the 1996, 1999 and 2006 Plans, the securities available under the Plans for issuance and issuable pursuant to exercises of outstanding options may be adjusted in the event of a change in outstanding stock by reason of stock dividend, stock splits, reverse stock splits, etc.

### Item 13: Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence

Incorporated herein by reference is the information appearing under the caption **Certain Relationships and Related Transactions** in our definitive Proxy Statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the SEC on or before April 29, 2012.

### Item 14: Principal Accounting Fees and Services

Incorporated herein by reference is the information appearing under the caption **Independent Accountants** in our definitive Proxy Statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the SEC on or before April 29, 2012.

## PART IV

**Item 15: Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules**

**15(a) (1) Financial Statements:** The financial statements filed herewith are set forth on the Index to Consolidated Financial Statements on page F-1 of the separate financial section which accompanies this Report, which is incorporated herein by reference.

**15(a) (2) Financial Statement Schedules:** The following Consolidated Financial Statement Schedule for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009 is included pursuant to Item 15(d):

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm on Financial Statements Schedule; Schedule II - Valuation and Qualifying Accounts.

All other financial statement schedules not listed have been omitted because they are either not required, not applicable, or the information has been included elsewhere in the consolidated financial statements or notes thereto.

**15(a) (3) Exhibits:** The exhibits listed in the Exhibit Index below are filed as part of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Exhibit Number	Description
3.1	Certificate of Incorporation of the registrant, as amended and restated (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 3.1 of the Company's Form 10-K Report for the year ended December 31, 2007).
3.2	Certificate of Amendment of the Certificate of Incorporation of the registrant (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 3.2 of the Company's Form 8-K Report filed May 15, 2008).
3.3	Amended and Restated By-Laws of the registrant (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 3.3 of the Company's Form 8-K Report filed December 14, 2007).
10.1	Mechanical Technology, Incorporated 1996 Stock Incentive Plan (Incorporated by reference from Appendix A of the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement Schedule 14A filed November 19, 1996).*
10.2	Mechanical Technology, Incorporated 1999 Employee Stock Incentive Plan (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit A of the Company's Proxy Statement Schedule 14A filed February 13, 1999).*
10.3	Lease dated August 10, 1999 between Carl E. Touhey and Mechanical Technology, Inc. (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.38 of the Company's Form 10-K Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 1999).
10.4	Lease dated April 2, 2001 between Kingfisher, LLC and Mechanical Technology, Inc. (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.43 of the Company's Form 10-K Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2001).
10.5	First Amendment to lease dated March 13, 2003 between Kingfisher, LLC and Mechanical Technology, Inc. (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.44 of the Company's Form 10-K Report for the year ended December 31, 2002).
10.6	Second Amendment to lease dated December 12, 2005 between Kingfisher, LLC and Mechanical Technology, Incorporated (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.132 of the Company's Form 8-K Report filed December 13, 2005).
10.7	Employment Agreement dated May 4, 2006 between Peng K. Lim and Mechanical Technology, Incorporated (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.139 of the Company's Form 8-K Report filed May 9, 2006).*
10.8	Form of Restricted Stock Agreement for the 1996 and 1999 Mechanical Technology, Inc. Stock Incentive Plans (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.140 of the Company's Form 8-K Report filed May 18, 2006).*
10.9	Third Amendment to lease dated August 7, 2006 between Kingfisher, LLC and Mechanical Technology, Incorporated (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.142 of the Company's Form 10-Q Report for the quarter ended June 30, 2006).
10.10	Fourth Amendment to lease dated August 6, 2007 between Kingfisher LLC and Mechanical Technology, Incorporated (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.148 of the Company's Form 10-Q Report for the quarter ended June 30, 2007).

## Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

- 10.11 Employment Agreement dated April 3, 2006 between James K. Prueitt and MTI MicroFuel Cells Inc (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.151 of the Company's Form 10-K Report for the year ended December 31, 2007).\*
- 10.12 Form of Convertible Note and Warrant Purchase Agreement dated September 18, 2008 (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.153 of the Company's Form 10-Q Report for the quarter ended September 30, 2008).
- 10.13 Amended and Restated Employment Agreement dated December 30, 2008 between James K. Prueitt and MTI MicroFuel Cells Inc. (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.154 of the Company's Form 10-K Report for the year ended December 31, 2008).\*
- 10.14 Amended and Restated Employment Agreement dated December 31, 2008 between Peng K. Lim and Mechanical Technology, Inc. (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.155 of the Company's Form 10-K Report for the year ended December 31, 2008).\*

## Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

10.15	Amendment No. 1 to Convertible Note and Warrant Purchase Agreement, Security Agreement and Secured Convertible Promissory Notes and Consent dated February 20, 2009 (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.158 of the Company's Form 10-K Report for the year ended December 31, 2008).
10.16	Letter Agreement dated February 24, 2009 between Peng K. Lim and Mechanical Technology, Inc. (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.159 of the Company's Form 10-K Report for the year ended December 31, 2008).*
10.17	Letter Agreement dated February 24, 2009 between James K. Prueitt and MTI MicroFuel Cells Inc. (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.160 of the Company's Form 10-K Report for the year ended December 31, 2008).*
10.18	Amendment No. 2 to Convertible Note and Warrant Purchase Agreement, Security Agreement and Secured Convertible Promissory Notes and Consent dated April 15, 2009 (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Form 10-Q Report for the quarter ended June 30, 2009).
10.19	Secured Convertible Promissory Note Negotiated Conversion Agreement, dated December 9, 2009, by and among the Company, MTI Micro and the Bridge Investors (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Form 8-K Report filed December 15, 2009).
10.20	Form of MTI Micro Common Stock Purchase Warrant (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.2 of the Company's Form 8-K Report filed December 15, 2009).
10.21	Mechanical Technology, Incorporated Amended and Restated 2006 Equity Incentive Plan (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Form S-8 Registration Statement filed September 18, 2009).*
10.22	Fifth Amendment of lease dated March 31, 2009 by and between Kingfisher, LLC and Mechanical Technology, Incorporated (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.165 of the Company's Form 10-K Report for the year ended December 31, 2009).
10.23	Amendment No. 1 to Lease Agreement Between Mechanical Technology Inc. and Carl E. Touhey dated September 29, 2009 (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.166 of the Company's Form 10-K Report for the year ended December 31, 2009).
10.24	MTI MicroFuel Cells Inc. 2009 Stock Plan (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.167 of the Company's Form 10-K Report for the year ended December 31, 2009).*
10.25	Common Stock and Warrant Purchase Agreement, dated January 11, 2010, by and among MTI MicroFuel Cells Inc. and Counter Point Ventures Fund II, L.P. (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Form 8-K Report filed January 14, 2010).
10.26	Form of MTI Micro Common Stock Warrant (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.2 of the Company's Form 8-K Report filed January 14, 2010).
10.27	Seventh Amendment to Lease Agreement by and between Kingfisher, LLC and Mechanical Technology, Incorporated (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.168 of the Company's Form 10-Q Report for the quarter ended June 30, 2010).
10.28	Amendment No. 1, dated February 9, 2011, to the Common Stock and Warrant Purchase Agreement, dated January 11, 2010, by and between MTI MicroFuel Cells Inc. and Counter Point Ventures Fund II, L.P. (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Form 8-K Report filed February 11, 2011).
10.29	Form of MTI Micro Common Stock Warrant (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.2 of the Company's Form 8-K Report filed February 11, 2011).
10.30	Lease Extension and Modification Agreement dated April 19, 2011, between Kingfisher, LLC and MTI MicroFuel Cells, Inc. (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.19 of the Company's Form 10-Q Report for the quarter ended March 31, 2011).
10.31	Mechanical Technology, Incorporated Amended and Restated 2006 Equity Incentive Plan (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Form S-8 Registration Statement (File No. 333-175406) filed July 8, 2011).*
10.32	Form of Restricted Stock Agreement for Mechanical Technology, Incorporated Amended and Restated 2006 Equity Incentive Plan (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.2 of the Company's Form 8-K Report filed July 11, 2011).*
10.33	Lease Extension and Modification Agreement II dated July 18, 2011, between Kingfisher, LLC and MTI MicroFuel Cells, Inc. (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.20 of the Company's Form 10-Q Report for the quarter ended June 30, 2011).
10.34	

## Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

- Amendment No. 2, dated September 23, 2011, to the Common Stock and Warrant Purchase Agreement, dated January 11, 2010, as amended February 9, 2011, by and between MTI MicroFuel Cells Inc. and Counter Point Ventures Fund II, L.P. (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Form 8-K Report filed September 28, 2011).
- 10.35 Supplemental Lease Extension and Modification Agreement dated September 29, 2011, between Kingfisher, LLC and MTI MicroFuel Cells, Inc. (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Form 10-Q Report for the quarter ended September 30, 2011).
- 10.36 Demand Grid Note dated September 20, 2011 between MTI Instruments, Inc. and First Niagara Bank, N.A. (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.2 of the Company's Form 10-Q Report for the quarter ended September 30, 2011).
- 10.37 Guaranty Agreement dated September 20, 2011 between Mechanical Technology, Incorporated and First Niagara Bank, N.A. (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.3 of the Company's Form 10-Q Report for the quarter ended September 30, 2011).
- 10.38 Security Agreement dated September 20, 2011 between MTI Instruments, Inc. and First Niagara Bank, N.A. (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.4 of the Company's Form 10-Q Report for the quarter ended September 30, 2011).
-

## Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

14.1 Code of Ethics (Incorporated by reference from Exhibit 14.1 of the Company's Form 10-K Report for the year ended December 31, 2005).

21 Subsidiaries of the Registrant

23.1 Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.

31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

32.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

32.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

All other exhibits for which no other filing information is given are filed herewith.

---

\* Represents management contract or compensation plan or arrangement.



**Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm on  
Financial Statement Schedule**

To the Board of Directors  
of Mechanical Technology, Incorporated:

Our audits of the consolidated financial statements referred to in our report dated March 27, 2012 appearing on page F-2 of this Form 10-K of Mechanical Technology, Incorporated also included an audit of the financial statement schedule listed in Item 15(a)(2) of this Form 10-K. In our opinion, this financial statement schedule present fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein when read in conjunction with the related consolidated financial statements.

/s/PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Albany, New York  
March 27, 2012

**MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY, INCORPORATED AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS**  
**(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)**

Description	Balance at Beginning of Period	Additions Charged to Costs and Expenses	Additions Charged to Other Accounts	Deductions	Balance at End of Period
<b>Allowance for doubtful accounts (accounts receivable) for the years ended:</b>					
December 31, 2011	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
December 31, 2010	\$ 92	\$	\$	\$ 92	\$
December 31, 2009	\$	\$ 92	\$	\$	\$ 92

**MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY, INCORPORATED AND SUBSIDIARIES  
INDEX TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

	Page
Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	F-2
Consolidated Financial Statements:	
Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2011 and 2010	F-3
Statements of Operations for the Years Ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009	F-4
Statements of Stockholders' Equity and Comprehensive Income (Loss) for the Years Ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009	F-5
Statements of Cash Flows for the Years Ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009	F-6
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements	F-7 to F-30

**Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of  
Mechanical Technology, Incorporated:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets and the related consolidated statements of operations, consolidated statements of stockholder's equity and comprehensive (loss) income, and consolidated statements of cash flows of Mechanical Technology, Incorporated and its subsidiaries as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2011. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

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

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Mechanical Technology Incorporated at December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2011 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
Albany, New York  
March 27, 2012

**MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY, INCORPORATED AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

**December 31, 2011 and 2010**

(In thousands)

	<b>December 31,</b>	
	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current Assets:</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,669	\$ 1,118
Accounts receivable	1,881	1,086
Inventories	957	844
Deferred income taxes, net	20	
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	102	128
Total Current Assets	4,629	3,176
<b>Deferred income taxes, net</b>	<b>1,515</b>	
<b>Property, plant and equipment, net</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>425</b>
Total Assets	\$ 6,402	\$ 3,601
<b>Liabilities and Stockholders Equity</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities:</b>		
Accounts payable	\$ 191	\$ 255
Accrued liabilities	1,238	1,273
Deferred revenue	58	21
Derivative liability		73
Income taxes payable		20
Total Current Liabilities	1,487	1,642
<b>Commitments and Contingencies (Note 16)</b>		
<b>Stockholders Equity:</b>		
Common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, authorized 75,000,000; 6,259,975 issued in 2011 and 5,776,750 issued in 2010	63	58
Paid-in-capital	135,389	134,733
Accumulated deficit	(120,097)	(122,483)
Common stock in treasury, at cost, 1,005,092 shares in both 2011 and 2010	(13,754)	(13,754)
Total MTI stockholders equity (deficit)	1,601	(1,446)
Non-controlling interest	3,314	3,405
Total Stockholders Equity	4,915	1,959
Total Liabilities and Stockholders Equity	\$ 6,402	\$ 3,601

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

**MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY, INCORPORATED AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**  
**For the Years Ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009**

(In thousands, except per share amounts)

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
Product revenue	\$ 10,280	\$ 7,179	\$ 6,263
Funded research and development revenue	13	1,234	2,043
Total revenue	10,293	8,413	8,306
Operating costs and expenses:			
Cost of product revenue	3,781	2,930	2,665
Research and product development expenses:			
Funded research and product development	25	2,538	4,095
Unfunded research and product development	1,441	1,317	1,349
Total research and product development expenses	1,466	3,855	5,444
Selling, general and administrative expenses	4,994	5,020	3,284
Operating income (loss)	52	(3,392)	(3,087)
Interest expense			(222)
Loss on extinguishment of debt			(232)
Gain (loss) on derivatives	73	(3)	(29)
Other (expense) income, net	(25)	3	(2)
Income (loss) before income taxes and non-controlling interest	100	(3,392)	(3,572)
Income tax benefit (expense)	1,548	(4)	208
Net income (loss), net of tax	1,648	(3,396)	(3,364)
Plus: Net loss attributed to non-controlling interest	738	1,638	265
Net income (loss) attributed to MTI	\$ 2,386	\$ (1,758)	\$ (3,099)
Net income (loss) per share attributable to MTI (Basic and Diluted)	\$ 0.48	\$ (0.37)	\$ (0.65)
Weighted average shares outstanding (Basic and Diluted)	5,001,934	4,771,658	4,771,658

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

**MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY, INCORPORATED AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY**  
**AND COMPREHENSIVE (LOSS) INCOME**  
**For the Years Ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009**

(Dollars in thousands)	Common Stock			Treasury Stock			Non-Controlling Interest (NCI)	Total Stockholders' Equity	Total Comprehensive Loss
	Shares	Amount	Additional Paid- Capital	Accumulated Deficit	Shares	Amount			
<b>December 31, 2008</b>	5,776,750	\$ 58	\$ 132,781	\$ (117,570)	1,005,092	\$ (13,754)	\$ 11	\$ 1,526	
Net loss	-	-	-	(3,099)	-	-	-	(3,099)	(3,099)
Total comprehensive loss									\$ (3,099)
Stock based compensation	-	-	505	-	-	-	-	505	
MTI Micro warrants issued	-	-	-	(56)	-	-	-	(56)	
Net loss attributed to NCI	-	-	-	-	-	-	(265)	(265)	
Equity contribution to NCI	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,411	3,411	
<b>December 31, 2009</b>	5,776,750	\$ 58	\$ 133,286	\$ (120,725)	1,005,092	\$ (13,754)	\$ 3,157	\$ 2,022	
Net loss	-	-	-	(1,758)	-	-	-	(1,758)	(1,758)
Total comprehensive loss									\$ (1,758)
Stock based compensation	-	-	1,447	-	-	-	-	1,447	
Net loss attributed to NCI	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,638)	(1,638)	
Equity contribution to NCI	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,886	1,886	
<b>December 31, 2010</b>	5,776,750	\$ 58	\$ 134,733	\$ (122,483)	1,005,092	\$ (13,754)	\$ 3,405	\$ 1,959	
Net income	-	-	-	2,386	-	-	-	2,386	2,386
Total comprehensive income									\$ 2,386
Stock based compensation	-	-	656	-	-	-	-	656	
Issuance of shares - restricted stock	483,225	5	-	-	-	-	-	5	
Net loss attributed to NCI	-	-	-	-	-	-	(738)	(738)	
Equity contribution to NCI	-	-	-	-	-	-	647	647	
<b>December 31, 2011</b>	6,259,975	\$ 63	\$ 135,389	\$ (120,097)	1,005,092	\$ (13,754)	\$ 3,314	\$ 4,915	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

**MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY, INCORPORATED AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
**For the Years Ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009**

(In thousands)	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
<b>Operating Activities</b>			
Net income (loss)	\$ 1,648	\$ (3,396)	\$ (3,364)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:			
(Gain) loss on derivatives	(73)	3	29
Depreciation	307	481	660
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	23		16
Deferred income taxes	(1,535)		
Stock based compensation	661	1,447	505
Loss on extinguishment of debt			232
Provision for doubtful accounts			92
Provision for inventory obsolescence			124
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Accounts receivable	(795)	56	(694)
Inventories	(113)	(54)	781
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	26	38	106
Accounts payable	(64)	(68)	(186)
Income taxes payable	(20)		(216)
Deferred revenue	37	5	8
Accrued liabilities	(35)	(18)	(263)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	67	(1,506)	(2,170)
<b>Investing Activities</b>			
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	(175)	(47)	(7)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	12		
Net cash used in investing activities	(163)	(47)	(7)
<b>Financing Activities</b>			
Proceeds from short-term debt			1,300
Proceeds from the sale of subsidiary equity and warrants issued	647	1,886	
Net cash provided by financing activities	647	1,886	1,300
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	551	333	(877)
Cash and cash equivalents - beginning of year	1,118	785	1,662
Cash and cash equivalents - end of year	\$ 1,669	\$ 1,118	\$ 785

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

**MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY, INCORPORATED AND SUBSIDIARIES**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**1. Nature of Operations**

*Description of Business*

Mechanical Technology, Incorporated, (MTI or the Company), a New York corporation, was incorporated in 1961. MTI operates in two segments, the Test and Measurement Instrumentation segment, which is conducted through MTI Instruments, Inc. (MTI Instruments), a wholly-owned subsidiary, and the New Energy segment which is conducted through MTI MicroFuel Cells Inc. (MTI Micro), a variable interest entity (VIE) that is included in these consolidated financial statements and described further below in Note 2.

MTI Instruments was incorporated in New York on March 8, 2000 and is a worldwide supplier of precision non-contact physical measurement solutions, portable balance equipment and wafer inspection tools. MTI Instrument's products use a comprehensive array of technologies to solve complex, real world applications in numerous industries including manufacturing, semiconductor, solar, commercial and military aviation, automotive and data storage. MTI Instrument's products consist of electronic gauging instruments for position, displacement and vibration application within the design, manufacturing/production, test and research market; wafer characterization of semi-insulating and semi-conducting wafers within both the semiconductor and solar industries; tensile stage systems for materials testing at academic and industrial settings; and engine vibration analysis systems for both military and commercial aircraft.

MTI Micro was incorporated in Delaware on March 26, 2001, and is developing Mobion<sup>®</sup>, a handheld energy-generating device to replace current lithium-ion and similar rechargeable battery systems in many handheld electronic devices for the military and consumer markets. Mobion<sup>®</sup> handheld generators are based on direct methanol fuel cell (DMFC) technology, which has been recognized as enabling technology for advanced portable power sources by the scientific community and industry analysts. As the need for advancements in portable power increases, MTI Micro is developing Mobion<sup>®</sup> as a solution for advancing current and future electronic device power needs of the portable electronics market. As of December 31, 2011, the Company owned approximately 47.6% of MTI Micro's outstanding common stock.

*Liquidity*

The Company has historically incurred significant losses, the majority stemming from the direct methanol fuel cell product development and commercialization programs of MTI Micro, and had a consolidated accumulated deficit of \$120.1 million as of December 31, 2011. During 2011, the Company generated net income attributed to MTI of \$2.4 million and had working capital at December 31, 2011 of \$3.1 million, a \$1.6 million increase from \$1.5 million at December 31, 2010. This increase was primarily attributed to the reversal of a portion of the deferred tax asset's valuation reserve of \$1.5 million, representing the portion of the Company's deferred tax asset that management has estimated is more likely than not to be realized, the improved result of operations for MTI Instruments, a continued hold on expenses, and capital raised through the issuance of MTI Micro stock. The Company had an operating cash surplus of \$67 thousand in 2011 and currently has no debt. While it cannot be assured, management believes that MTI Instruments will continue to generate positive cash flows and be able to fund the Company's operations for at least the next twelve months.

Although MTI Micro continues to believe in the potential of its Mobion<sup>®</sup> based power solutions, it has suspended its MTI Micro operations until such time as market demand and other deciding factors, including obtaining additional external financing, the successful completion of customer trials, a new development program with a government agency, and/or a customer order, come to fruition. MTI Micro had cash and cash equivalents as of December 31, 2011 of \$110 thousand. Currently, MTI Micro has no employees and projects to spend between \$5 and \$10 thousand per month for operating activities including rent, preparing prototypes for customer demonstrations, minimal sales efforts, patent fees to keep the patent portfolio current and minimal consultant costs to perform these initiatives. If MTI Micro is unable to secure additional financing, a new development program or customer order, the MTI Micro board of directors will assess other options for MTI Micro, including the sale of MTI Micro's intellectual property portfolio and other assets.

As of December 31, 2011, we had approximately \$1.7 million of cash and cash equivalents to fund our future operations. During the year ended December 31, 2011, our results of operations resulted in net income after the non-controlling interest allocation of \$2.4 million and cash provided by operating activities totaling \$67 thousand. We expect to spend approximately \$1.4 million in research and development on MTI Instruments' products during 2012. We expect to continue funding our operations from current cash and cash equivalents, proceeds, if any, from additional debt or equity financings and government funding. We may also seek to supplement our resources through the sales of assets (including our investment in MTI Micro). Besides the line of credit at MTI Instruments, we have no other commitments for funding future needs of the organization at this time and such additional financing during 2012 may not be available to us on acceptable terms, if at all.



## 2. Accounting Policies

### *Principles of Consolidation*

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiary, MTI Instruments and its VIE, MTI Micro. The Company is the primary beneficiary of the VIE. All inter-company balances and transactions are eliminated in consolidation. The Company reflects the impact of the equity securities issuances in its investment in a VIE and additional paid-in-capital accounts for the dilution or anti-dilution of its ownership interest in the VIE. It is the Company's policy to reclassify prior year consolidated financial statements to conform to current year presentation, if applicable.

The Company has performed an analysis under the VIE model and determined that MTI Micro is a VIE. One of the criteria for determining whether an entity is a VIE is determining if the entity, MTI Micro, has equity at risk. Management has concluded that MTI Micro does not have equity at risk to fund operations into its next phase of development. Further, the Company has determined that it is the primary beneficiary of MTI Micro, and therefore should include MTI Micro's results of operations in the Company's consolidated financial statements.

The Company's analysis to determine the primary beneficiary of MTI Micro focused primarily on determining which variable interest holder has the power to direct the activities that would have the most significant impact on the financial performance of MTI Micro. MTI Micro is governed by its own board of directors and significant decisions are determined by a majority vote of this board. MTI does not have control of the MTI Micro board of directors; however, at this time, the Company's board of directors and the MTI Micro board of directors consist of the same members. Under the Articles of Incorporation of MTI Micro, each share of MTI Micro stock is entitled to a vote, and further, holders of a majority of the shares of MTI Micro's common stock have the ability to reconstitute the board. As of December 31, 2011, MTI, Counter Point Ventures Fund II, LP (Counter Point), Dr. Walter L. Robb, a member of the Company's and MTI Micro's board of directors, and Peng Lim, CEO and board member own 47.6%, 45.2%, 5.1% and 0.5% of the common shares of MTI Micro, respectively. Counter Point is a venture capital fund sponsored and managed by Dr. Robb. Since no entity of the related parties has power but, as a group, the Company and its related parties have the power, then the party within the related party group that is most closely associated with the VIE, MTI Micro, is the primary beneficiary. Even though Dr. Robb and Counterpoint combined control a majority of the outstanding common stock, and they have the ability to elect the directors of MTI Micro and decide whether to continue to seek business opportunities for MTI Micro or instead seek opportunities to sell the intellectual property, they have not elected to do so. The Company continues to oversee the day to day operations, exercise management decision making, seek opportunities to sell intellectual properties, and have a vested interest in the commercialization of MTI Micro's fuel cell technology. Since inception in 2001, the Company has made the largest investment and been the principal funder of MTI Micro. The Company has also been exposed to losses and has the ability to benefit from MTI Micro. Considering the facts and circumstances, management believes the Company is most closely associated with the VIE, MTI Micro, and therefore, it is the primary beneficiary.

Should there be a change in the facts and circumstances (such as a change in governance or a change to the related party group) management will reassess whether they act as the primary beneficiary and should continue to include MTI Micro in the Company's consolidated results of operations.

Non-controlling interest in subsidiaries consists of equity securities issued by a VIE of the Company. Non-controlling interests are now classified as equity in the consolidated financial statements. The consolidated income statement is presented by requiring net income to include the net income for both the parent and the non-controlling interests, with disclosure of both amounts on the consolidated statement of income. The calculation of earnings per share is based on income amounts attributable to the parent.

### *Use of Estimates*

The consolidated financial statements of the Company have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP), which require 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 and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

### *Fair Value of Financial Instruments*

The Company's financial instruments consist of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, derivatives and accounts payable. The estimated fair values of these financial instruments approximate their carrying values at December 31, 2011 and 2010. The estimated fair values have been determined through information obtained from market sources, where available, or Black-Scholes Option Pricing model valuations.

### *Accounting for Derivative Instruments*

## Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

The Company recognizes all derivatives as either assets or liabilities in the statement of financial position and measures these instruments at fair value. The fair value of the derivative is recorded in the Derivative liability line on the consolidated balance sheets, and is valued quarterly using the Black-Scholes Option Pricing Model. The Company also follows the accounting provisions for Accounting for Derivative Financial Instruments Indexed to and Potentially Settled in, a Company's Own Stock, which requires freestanding contracts that are settled in a company's own stock, including common stock warrants, to be designated as an equity instrument, asset or a liability. Under these provisions, a contract designated as an asset or a liability must be carried at fair value, with any changes in fair value recorded in the results of operations. A contract designated as an equity instrument can be included in equity, with no fair value adjustments required. Based on the terms and conditions of the warrant of the Company, the instrument does not qualify to be designated as an equity instrument and is therefore recorded as a derivative liability.

F-8

---

The asset/liability derivatives are valued on a quarterly basis using the Black-Scholes Option Pricing Model. Significant assumptions used in the valuation include exercise dates, closing market prices for the Company's common stock, volatility of the Company's common stock, and proxy risk-free interest rates. Gains (losses) on derivatives are included in the Gain (loss) on derivatives line on the consolidated statements of operations.

***Accounts Receivable and Allowance for Doubtful Accounts***

Trade accounts receivable are stated at the invoiced amount billed to customers and do not bear interest. An allowance for doubtful accounts, if necessary, represents the Company's best estimate of the amount of probable credit losses in its existing accounts receivable. The Company determines the allowance based on historical write-off experience and current exposures identified. The Company reviews its allowance for doubtful accounts monthly. Past due balances over 90 days and over a specified amount are reviewed individually for collectability. All other balances are reviewed on a pooled basis by type of receivable. Account balances are charged off against the allowance when the Company believes it is probable the receivable will not be recovered. The Company does not have any off-balance-sheet credit exposure related to its customers.

***Inventories***

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost (first-in, first-out) or market. The Company provides estimated inventory allowances for excess, slow moving and obsolete inventory as well as inventory whose carrying value is in excess of net realizable value.

***Property, Plant, and Equipment***

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost and depreciated using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Leasehold improvements	Lesser of the life of the lease or the useful life of the improvement
Computers and related software	3 to 5 years
Machinery and equipment	3 to 10 years
Office furniture, equipment and fixtures	2 to 10 years

Significant additions or improvements extending assets' useful lives are capitalized; normal maintenance and repair costs are expensed as incurred. The costs of fully depreciated assets remaining in use are included in the respective asset and accumulated depreciation accounts. When items are sold or retired, related gains or losses are included in net (loss) income.

***Income Taxes***

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for temporary differences between financial statement and income tax bases of assets and liabilities, loss carryforwards, and tax credit carryforwards, for which income tax benefits are expected to be realized in future years. A valuation allowance has been established to reduce deferred tax assets, if it is more likely than not that all, or some portion, of such deferred tax assets will not be realized. The effect on deferred taxes of a change in tax rates is recognized in the period which includes the enactment date.

The Company accounts for uncertain tax positions in accordance with accounting standards that address income taxes. The Company must recognize in its financial statements the impact of a tax position, if that position is more likely than not to be sustained on an audit, based on the technical merits of the position.

### *Fair Value Measurement*

The estimated fair value of certain financial instruments, including cash, cash equivalents and short-term debt approximates their carrying value due to their short maturities and varying interest rates. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The Company utilizes valuation techniques that maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. Based on the observability of the inputs used in the valuation methods, the Company is required to provide the following information according to the fair value accounting standards. These standards established a fair value hierarchy as specified that ranks the quality and reliability of the information used to determine fair values. Financial assets and liabilities are classified and disclosed in one of the following three categories:

**Level 1:** Quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities, which includes listed equities.

**Level 2:** Observable market based inputs or unobservable inputs that are corroborated by market data. These items are typically priced using models or other valuation techniques. These models are primarily financial industry-standard models that consider various assumptions, including the time value of money, yield curves, volatility factors, as well as other relevant economic measures.

**Level 3:** These use unobservable inputs that are not corroborated by market data. These values are generally estimated based upon methodologies utilizing significant inputs that are generally less observable from objective sources.

### *Revenue Recognition*

The Company applies the accounting guidance for revenue recognition in the evaluation of its contracts to determine when to properly recognize revenue. The following outlines the various types of revenue and the determination of the recognition of income for each category:

#### *Product Revenue*

Product revenue is recognized when there is persuasive evidence of an arrangement, the collection of a fixed fee is probable or determinable, and delivery of the product to the customer or distributor has occurred, at which time title generally is passed to the customer or distributor. All of these generally occur upon shipment of the product. If the product requires installation to be performed by the Company, all revenue related to the product is deferred and recognized upon the completion of the installation. If the product requires specific customer acceptance, revenue is deferred until customer acceptance occurs or the acceptance provisions lapse, unless the Company can objectively and reliably demonstrate that the criteria specified in the acceptance provisions is satisfied.

MTI Instruments currently has distributor agreements in place for the international sale of general instrument and semiconductor products in certain global regions. Such agreements grant a distributor the right of first refusal to act as distributor for such products in the distributor's territory. In return, the distributor agrees to not market other products which are considered by MTI Instruments to be in direct competition with MTI Instruments' products. The distributor is allowed to purchase MTI Instruments' equipment at a price which is discounted off the published domestic/international list prices. Such list prices can be adjusted by MTI Instruments during the term of the distributor agreement, but MTI Instruments must provide advance notice at least 90 days before the price adjustment goes into effect. Generally, payment terms with the distributor are standard net 30 days; however, on occasion, extended payment terms have been granted. Title and risk of loss of the product passes to the distributor upon delivery to the independent carrier (standard free-on-board factory), and the distributor is responsible for any required training and/or service with the end-user. The sale (and subsequent payment) between MTI Instruments and the distributor is not contingent upon the successful resale of the product by the distributor. Distributor sales are covered by MTI Instruments' standard one-year warranty and there are no special return policies for distributors.

Some of MTI Instruments' direct sales, particularly sales of semi-automatic semiconductor metrology equipment, or rack-mounted vibration systems, involve on-site customer acceptance and/or installation. In those instances, revenue recognition does not take place at time of shipment. Instead, MTI Instruments recognizes the sale after the unit is installed and/or an on-site acceptance is given by the customer. Agreed-upon acceptance terms and conditions, if any, are negotiated at the time of purchase.

#### *Funded Research and Development Revenue*

The Company performs funded research and development for government agencies under both cost reimbursement and fixed-price contracts. Cost reimbursement contracts provide for the reimbursement of allowable costs. On fixed-price contracts, revenue is generally recognized on the percentage of completion method based upon the proportion of costs incurred to the total estimated costs for the contract. Revenue from reimbursement contracts is recognized as the services are performed. In each type of contract, the Company generally receives periodic progress

## Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

payments or payments upon reaching interim milestones. When the current estimates of total contract revenue for commercial development contracts indicate a loss, a provision for the entire loss on the contract is recorded. Any losses incurred in performing funded research and development projects are recognized as research and development expense as incurred. When government agencies are providing funding they do not expect the government to be the only significant end user of the resulting products. These contracts do not require delivery of products that meet defined performance specifications, but are best efforts arrangements to achieve overall research and development objectives. Included in accounts receivable are billed and unbilled work-in-progress on contracts. Billings in excess of contract revenues earned are recorded as deferred revenue. While the Company's accounting for government contract costs is subject to audit by the sponsoring entity, in the opinion of management, no material adjustments are expected as a result of such audits. Adjustments are recognized in the period made.

F-10

---

*Commercial Research and Prototype Agreement Income*

The Company also applies the proper accounting guidance in the evaluation of commercially funded fuel cell research and prototype agreements in order to determine when to properly recognize income. Payments received in connection with commercial research and prototype agreements are deferred and recognized on a straight-line basis over the term of the agreement for service-related payments, and for milestone and prototype delivery payments, if and when achieved, revenue is deferred and recognized on a straight-line basis over the remaining term of the agreement. Under this policy, when revenue qualifies for recognition it will be recorded in the Consolidated Statements of Operations in the line titled Funded research and development revenue. The costs associated with research and prototype-producing activities are expensed as incurred. Expenses in an amount equal to revenues recognized are reclassified from the line titled Unfunded research and product development to Funded research and product development in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

*Prototype Evaluation Agreements*

The Company recognizes income derived from its micro fuel cell prototype evaluation agreements, where the Company receives a lump-sum amount from Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) which are testing the Company's Mobio<sup>®</sup> prototypes for an OEM-specific application, upon delivery of the evaluation prototypes. These prototypes are returned to the Company once the evaluation period expires. There are no warranties given to any OEM regarding these prototypes, and each evaluation agreement is considered a customer specific arrangement. The costs associated with executing these prototype evaluation arrangements are recorded in the Consolidated Statements of Operations in the line titled Unfunded research and development expense as they are incurred and income derived from these arrangements is offset against the expense.

*Cost of Product Revenue*

Cost of product revenue includes material, labor, overhead and shipping and handling costs. Costs incurred in connection with funded research and development arrangements are included in funded research and product development expenses.

*Deferred Revenue*

Deferred revenue consists of payments received from customers in advance of services performed, completed installation or customer acceptance.

*Warranty*

The Company accrues a warranty liability at the time product revenue is recorded based on historical experience. The liability is reviewed during the year and is adjusted, if appropriate, to reflect new product offerings or changes in experience. Actual warranty claims are tracked by product line. Warranty liability was \$26 thousand and \$36 thousand at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

*Long-Lived Assets*

The Company accounts for impairment or disposal of long-lived assets in accordance with accounting standards that address the financial accounting and reporting for the impairment or disposal of long-lived assets, specify how impairment will be measured, and how impaired assets will be classified in the consolidated financial statements. On a quarterly basis, the Company analyzes the status of its long-lived assets at each subsidiary for potential impairment. As of December 31, 2011, the Company does not believe that any of its long-lived assets have suffered any type of impairment that would require an adjustment to that asset's recorded value.

*Cash and Cash Equivalents*

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash and highly liquid short-term investments with original maturities of less than three months.

*Net Income (Loss) per Share*

The Company computes basic income (loss) per common share by dividing net income (loss) by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the reporting period. Diluted income (loss) per share reflects the potential dilution, if any, computed by dividing income (loss) by the combination of dilutive common share equivalents, comprised of shares issuable under outstanding investment rights, warrants and the Company's share-based compensation plans, and the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the reporting period. Dilutive common share equivalents include the dilutive effect of in-the-money stock options, which are calculated based on the

## Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

average share price for each period using the treasury stock method. Under the treasury stock method, the exercise price of a stock option, the amount of compensation cost, if any, for future service that the Company has not yet recognized, and the amount of windfall tax benefits that would be recorded in additional paid-in capital, if any, when the stock option is exercised are assumed to be used to repurchase shares in the current period.

F-11

---

### ***Share-Based Payments***

The Company accounts for stock based awards exchanged for employee service in accordance with the stock-based payment accounting guidance. The Company has three share-based employee compensation plans and MTI Micro has two share-based employee compensation plans, all of which are described more fully in Note 13, Stock Based Compensation.

Stock-based compensation represents the cost related to stock-based awards granted to employees and directors. The Company measures stock-based compensation cost at grant date based on the estimated fair value of the award, and recognizes the cost as expense on a straight-line basis in accordance with the vesting of the options (net of estimated forfeitures) over the option's requisite service period. The Company estimates the fair value of stock-based awards using a Black Scholes valuation model. Stock-based compensation expense is recorded in the lines titles "Selling, general and administrative expenses" and "Unfunded research and product development expenses" in the Consolidated Statements of Operations based on the employees' respective functions.

The Company records deferred tax assets for awards that potentially can result in deductions on the Company's income tax returns based on the amount of compensation cost that would be recognized upon issuance of the award and the Company's statutory tax rate. Differences between the deferred tax assets recognized for financial reporting purposes and the actual tax deduction reported on the Company's income tax return are recorded in Additional Paid-In Capital (if the tax deduction exceeds the deferred tax asset) or in the Consolidated Statement of Operations (if the deferred tax asset exceeds the tax deduction and no historical pool of windfall tax benefits exists). Since the adoption of the revised accounting standard on share-based payments, no tax benefits have been recognized related to share-based compensation since the Company has established a full valuation allowance to offset all potential tax benefits associated with these deferred tax assets.

### ***Concentration of Credit Risk***

Financial instruments that subject the Company to concentrations of credit risk principally consist of cash equivalents, trade accounts receivable and unbilled contract costs. The Company's trade accounts receivable and unbilled contract costs and fees are primarily from sales to commercial customers, the U.S. government and state agencies. The Company does not require collateral and has not historically experienced significant credit losses related to receivables or unbilled contract costs and fees from individual customers or groups of customers in any particular industry or geographic area.

The Company has cash deposits in excess of federally insured limits. The amount of such deposits is essentially all cash at December 31, 2011.

### ***Research and Development Costs***

The Company expenses research and development costs as incurred.

### ***Effect of Recent Accounting Pronouncements***

In September 2011, the FASB issued guidance on the presentation of comprehensive income. This guidance eliminates the current option to report other comprehensive income and its components in the statement of changes in equity. The guidance allows two presentation alternatives: (1) present items of net income and other comprehensive income in one continuous statement, referred to as the statement of comprehensive income; or (2) in two separate, but consecutive, statements of net income and other comprehensive income. This guidance is effective as of the beginning of a fiscal year that begins after December 15, 2011. Early adoption is permitted, but full retrospective application is required under both sets of accounting standards. The guidance also previously required the presentation of adjustments for items that are reclassified from other comprehensive income to net income in the statement where the components of net income and the components of other comprehensive income are presented; however, this portion of the guidance has been deferred. The Company plans to adopt the guidance during the quarter ended March 31, 2012. The Company believes the adoption of this new guidance will not have a material impact on its condensed consolidated financial statements as this update has an impact on presentation only.

### ***Reclassifications***

Prior period amounts related to inventory have been reclassified to conform to the current period presentation.

**3. Accounts Receivable**

Accounts receivables consist of the following at December 31:

	2011	2010
	(dollars in thousands)	
U.S. and State Government:		
Amount billable	\$	\$ 30
Amount billed	990	313
Total U.S. and State Government	990	343
Commercial	891	743
Total	\$ 1,881	\$ 1,086

As of December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company had no allowance for doubtful trade accounts receivable.

**4. Inventories**

Inventories consist of the following at December 31:

	2011	2010
	(dollars in thousands)	
Finished goods	\$ 310	\$ 283
Work in process	211	156
Raw materials	436	405
	\$ 957	\$ 844

As of December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company had an inventory reserve of \$243 thousand and \$393 thousand, respectively.

**5. Property, Plant and Equipment**

Property, plant and equipment consist of the following at December 31:

	2011	2010
	(dollars in thousands)	
Leasehold improvements	\$ 1,213	\$ 1,213
Computers and related software	2,130	2,164
Machinery and equipment	3,541	3,823
Office furniture and fixtures	457	473
	7,341	7,673
Less accumulated depreciation	7,083	7,248
	\$ 258	\$ 425

Depreciation expense was \$307, \$481, and \$660 thousand for 2011, 2010, and 2009, respectively. Repairs and maintenance expense was \$39, \$18, and \$20 thousand for 2011, 2010, and 2009, respectively.

**6. Income Taxes**

Income tax benefit (expense) for each of the years ended December 31 consists of the following:

	2011 (dollars in thousands)	2010	2009
Federal	\$	\$	\$ 9
State		13	(4)
Deferred		1,535	199
Total	\$ 1,548	\$ (4)	\$ 208

The significant components of deferred income tax benefit from operations before non-controlling interest for each of the years ended December 31 consists of the following:

	2011 (dollars in thousands)	2010	2009
Deferred tax benefit	\$ (402)	\$ 675	\$ 432
Net operating loss carry forward	(6,035)	740	(1,927)
Valuation allowance	7,972	(1,415)	1,495
	\$ 1,535	\$	\$

The Company's effective income tax rate from operations before non-controlling interest differed from the Federal statutory rate for each of the years ended December 31 as follows:

	2011	2010	2009
Federal statutory tax rate	34%	34%	34%
State taxes, net of federal tax effect	(45)	6	
Impact of adjustments to state tax rates	3,099		
Change in valuation allowance	(7,972)	(42)	42
Permanent tax difference on derivative valuation	(25)		
Loss on extinguishment of debt			(2)
IRC Section 382 Limitation	3,097		(64)
Expiring net operating loss	3	(3)	
Adjustment to opening deferred tax balance	260	5	(3)
Other, net	1		(1)
Tax Rate	(1,548)%	0%	6%

Pre-tax gain (loss) before non-controlling interests was \$100 thousand, \$(3.4) million, and \$(3.6) million for 2011, 2010, and 2009, respectively.

**Deferred Tax Assets:**

Deferred tax assets are determined based on the temporary differences between the financial statement and tax bases of assets and liabilities as measured by the enacted tax rates. Temporary differences, net operating loss carryforwards and tax credit carryforwards that give rise to deferred tax assets and liabilities are summarized as follows as of December 31:

	2011	2010
	(dollars in thousands)	
Current deferred tax assets:		
Inventory valuation	\$ 84	\$ 157
Inventory capitalization	11	13
Vacation pay	57	77
Warranty and other sale obligations	9	14
Other reserves and accruals	111	63
	272	324
Valuation allowance - current	(252)	(324)
Net current deferred tax assets	\$ 20	\$
Noncurrent deferred tax assets:		
Net operating loss	\$ 17,654	\$ 23,688
Property, plant and equipment	53	366
Stock options	2,880	2,918
Research and development tax credit	450	450
Alternative minimum tax credit	54	54
	21,091	27,476
Valuation allowance - noncurrent	(19,576)	(27,476)
Non-current net deferred tax assets	\$ 1,515	\$

As of December 31, 2011, the Company has approximately \$450 thousand of research and development tax credit carry forwards, which begin to expire in 2018, and approximately \$54 thousand of alternative minimum tax credit carry forwards, which have no expiration date.

**Valuation Allowance:**

The Company provides for recognition of deferred tax assets if the realization of such assets is more likely than not to occur in accordance with accounting standards that address income taxes. Significant management judgment is required in determining the period in which the reversal of a valuation allowance should occur. The Company has considered all available evidence, both positive and negative, such as historical levels of income and future forecasts of taxable income amongst other items in determining whether a full or partial release of our valuation allowance is required. In addition, the Company's assessment requires us to schedule future taxable income in accordance with accounting standards that address income taxes to assess the appropriateness of a valuation allowance which further requires the exercise of significant management judgment.

As a result of our analyses in 2011, the Company released a portion of our valuation allowance against our deferred tax assets. The partial release of the valuation allowance caused an incremental tax benefit of \$1.5 million to be recognized in the fourth quarter of 2011. The release of a portion of the valuation allowance was based upon a recent cumulative income history for MTI and Subsidiaries exclusive of MTI Micro (MTI Micro files separate federal and state tax returns) causing the Company to evaluate what portion of the Company's deferred tax assets it believes are more likely that not to be realized. The Company has determined that it will generate sufficient levels of pre-tax earnings in the future to realize the net deferred tax assets recorded on the balance sheet at December 31, 2011. The Company has projected such pre-tax earnings utilizing a combination of historical and projected results, taking into consideration existing levels of permanent differences, non-deductible expense and the reversal of significant temporary differences. The Company needs to generate approximately \$225 thousand of taxable income in each year over the next twenty years to ensure the realizability of the approximately \$1.5 million of deferred tax assets recorded on the balance sheet at December 31, 2011.

## Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

The Company believes that the accounting estimate for the valuation of deferred tax assets is a critical accounting estimate because judgment is required in assessing the likely future tax consequences of events that have been recognized in our financial statements or tax returns. The Company based our estimate of deferred tax assets and liabilities on current tax laws and rates and, in certain cases, business plans and other expectations about future outcomes. In the event that actual results differ from these estimates or the Company adjusts these estimates in future periods, the Company may need to adjust the recorded valuation allowance, which could materially impact our financial position and results of operations.

The valuation allowance at December 31, 2011 and 2010 was \$19.8 million and \$27.8 million, respectively. Activity in the valuation allowance for deferred tax assets is as follows as of December 31:

	2011	2010	2009
	(dollars in thousands)		
Valuation allowance, beginning of year	\$ 27,800	\$ 26,385	\$ 27,880
Deductions resulting in income tax benefit	(1,535)		
Additions charged to other accounts		1,415	
Deduction charged to other accounts	(6,437)		(1,495)
Valuation allowance, end of year	\$ 19,828	\$ 27,800	\$ 26,385

The remaining valuation allowance at December 31, 2011 of \$19.8 million primarily relates to net operating losses and stock based compensation. The Company will continue to evaluate the ability to realize our deferred tax assets and related valuation allowances on a quarterly basis.

### *Net operating losses:*

At December 31, 2011, the Company has unused Federal net operating loss carry forwards of approximately \$66.9 million.

As a result of the conversion of the Bridge Notes in December of 2009 (see Note 17 for further discussion of the transaction), MTI no longer maintained an 80% or greater ownership in MTI Micro. Thus, MTI Micro is no longer included in Mechanical Technology, Incorporated and Subsidiaries' consolidated federal and combined New York State tax returns, effective December 9, 2009. Pursuant to the Internal Revenue Service's consolidated tax return regulations (IRS Regulation Section 1.1502-36), upon MTI Micro leaving the Mechanical Technology, Incorporated and Subsidiaries consolidated group, MTI has elected to reduce a portion of its stock tax basis in MTI Micro by "reattributing" a portion of MTI Micro's net operating loss carryforwards to MTI, for an amount equivalent to its built in loss in MTI's investment in MTI Micro's stock. As the result of MTI making this election with its December 31, 2009 tax return, MTI reattributed approximately \$45.2 million of MTI Micro's net operating losses (reducing its tax basis in MTI Micro's stock by the same amount), leaving MTI Micro with approximately \$13 million of separate company net operating loss carry forwards at the time of conversion of the Bridge Notes.

As of December 31, 2011, it is estimated that MTI has net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$50.4 million and MTI Micro has net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$16.5 million. Of the Company's carry forwards, \$1.3 million represents windfall tax benefits from stock option transactions, the tax effect of which are not included in the Company's net deferred tax assets.

In addition, a formal Section 382 study was performed for both the Company and MTI Micro. The Company's and/or its subsidiaries' ability to utilize their net operating loss carryforwards may be significantly limited by Section 382 of the IRC of 1986, as amended, if the Company or any of its subsidiaries undergoes an ownership change as a result of changes in the ownership of the Company's or its subsidiaries' outstanding stock pursuant to the exercise of the warrants or otherwise. A corporation generally undergoes an ownership change when the ownership of its stock, by value, changes by more than 50 percentage points over any three-year testing period. In the event of an ownership change, IRC Section 382 imposes an annual limitation on the amount of post-ownership change taxable income a corporation may offset with pre-ownership change net operating loss carryforwards and certain recognized built-in losses. As of December 31, 2011, the Company does not appear to have had an ownership change for IRC Section 382 purposes. However, as a result of MTI Micro's issuance of stock between 2009 and 2011, MTI Micro has had an ownership change for IRC Section 382 purposes which places limitations on the utilization of MTI Micro's separate company net operating loss carryforwards. MTI Micro's net operating losses have been reduced by \$14.6 million. This net operating loss limited by IRC Section 382 is not reflected in the Company's deferred tax asset as of December 31, 2011.

The balance of the Company's net operating losses carried forward from 2010 of \$67.2 million was reduced by \$8 thousand in expired net operating losses. The remaining Federal net operating loss carry forwards, if unused, will continue to expire beginning in 2020 for the Company, and 2022 for MTI Micro.



**Unrecognized tax benefits:**

A reconciliation of the beginning and ending amount of unrecognized tax benefits in accordance with accounting standards that address income taxes for 2011, 2010 and 2009 is as follows:

	2011	2010	2009
	(dollars in thousands)		
Balance as of January 1,	\$ 1,186	\$ 1,836	\$ 2,049
Deductions for settlements		650	213
Balance as of December 31,	\$ 1,186	\$ 1,186	\$ 1,836

In future periods, if \$1.2 million of these unrecognized benefits become supportable, the Company may not recognize a change in its effective tax rate as long as it remains in a partial valuation allowance position. Additionally the Company does not have uncertain tax positions that it expects will increase or decrease within twelve months of this reporting date. In accordance with the Company's accounting policy, it recognizes interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions as a component of tax expense. This policy did not change as a result of the adoption of accounting guidance for uncertain tax positions. The Company did not recognize any interest or penalties in 2011 and 2010. For both December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company had \$0 of accrued interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions.

The Company files income tax returns, including returns for its subsidiaries, with federal and state jurisdictions. The Company is no longer subject to IRS or NYS examinations for its federal and state returns for any periods prior to 2008, although carryforward attributes that were generated prior to 2008 may still be adjusted upon examination by the IRS if they either have been or will be used in a future period. On February 2, 2009, New York State Department of Taxation and Finance notified the Company that it was no longer going to pursue the issue associated with potentially not permitting the Company to file combined tax returns for the period 2002 through 2004. At December 31, 2008 the Company had recorded a \$213 thousand long-term liability for this issue. In the settlement of this issue, the Company paid New York State approximately \$19 thousand and recognized the benefit of the reversal of this liability of \$194 thousand in the first quarter of 2009.

**7. Accrued Liabilities**

Accrued liabilities consist of the following at December 31:

	2011	2010
	(dollars in thousands)	
Salaries, wages and related expenses	\$ 593	\$ 476
Liability to shareholders for previous acquisition	363	363
Legal and professional fees	126	173
Warranty and other sale obligations	26	36
Commissions	21	36
Other	109	189
	\$ 1,238	\$ 1,273

**8. Fair Value Measurement**

In determining the appropriate levels, the Company performs a detailed analysis of financial assets and liabilities. At each reporting period, all assets and liabilities for which the fair value measurements are based upon significant unobservable inputs were classified as Level 3. The derivative liability was valued using the Black-Scholes Option Pricing Model which is based upon unobservable inputs. The derivative liability was \$0 and \$73 thousand as of December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, respectively.

## Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

The following is a rollforward of Level 3 fair value instruments for the year ended December 31, 2011:

(Dollars in thousands)

Instrument	Beginning Balance as of Jan. 1, 2011	Total (Gains) / Losses Realized and Unrealized	Purchases, Issuances, Sales and Settlements	Ending Balance as of December 31, 2011
Derivative liability	\$ 73	\$ (73)	\$	\$
Total Level 3 instruments	\$ 73	\$ (73)	\$	\$

The following is a rollforward of Level 3 fair value instruments for the year ended December 31, 2010:

(Dollars in thousands)

Instrument	Beginning Balance as of Jan. 1, 2010	Total (Gains) / Losses Realized and Unrealized	Purchases, Issuances, Sales and Settlements	Ending Balance as of December 31, 2010
Derivative liability	\$ 70	\$ 3	\$	\$ 73
Total Level 3 instruments	\$ 70	\$ 3	\$	\$ 73

### 9. Stockholders' Equity

#### Common Stock

The Company has one class of common stock, par value \$.01. Each share of the Company's common stock is entitled to one vote on all matters submitted to stockholders. As of December 31, 2011 and 2010 there were 5,254,883 and 4,771,658, respectively shares of common stock issued and outstanding.

#### Sale of Common Stock

On December 15, 2006, the Company entered into agreements with certain investors to sell 756,944 shares of common stock and warrants to purchase 378,472 shares of common stock for an aggregate purchase price of \$10.9 million. The common stock and warrants were sold in units, with each unit consisting of 12.5 shares of common stock and a warrant to purchase 6.25 shares of common stock, at an exercise price of \$18.16 per share. Each non-certificated unit was sold at a negotiated price of \$180.00. The shares of common stock and warrants were immediately separable and were issued separately (see Warrants Issued below). The common stock, the warrants and shares issuable upon exercise of the warrants were registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

#### Warrants Issued

On December 20, 2006, the Company issued warrants to investors to purchase 378,472 shares of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of \$18.16 per share. The warrants became exercisable on June 20, 2007 and expired on December 19, 2011. These warrants were fair valued by the Company until the expiration of the warrants. The fair value of the warrants at December 31, 2011 and 2010 was \$0 and \$73 thousand, respectively.

#### Reservation of Shares

The Company has reserved common shares for future issuance as follows as of December 31, 2011:

Stock options outstanding	797,437
Stock awards available for issuance	261,601
Number of common shares reserved	1,059,038



### 10. Issuance of Common Stock, Warrants and Stock Options by MTI Micro

MTI Micro was formed on March 26, 2001, and, as of December 31, 2011, the Company owned approximately 47.6% of MTI Micro's outstanding common stock, or 75,049,937 shares, and 53.3% of the common stock and warrants issued, which includes 32,904,136 warrants outstanding. The number of shares of MTI Micro common stock authorized for issuance is 240,000,000 as of December 31, 2011.

#### Common Stock Issued MTI Micro

On January 11, 2010, MTI Micro entered into a Purchase Agreement with Counter Point. Counter Point is a venture capital fund sponsored and managed by Dr. Walter L. Robb, a member of the Board of Directors of the Company and MTI Micro, and a current stockholder of MTI Micro. Pursuant to the Purchase Agreement, MTI Micro issued and sold to Counter Point 28,571,429 shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the MTI Micro Common Stock), at a purchase price per share of \$0.07, over a period of twelve months, and warrants (MTI Micro Warrants) to purchase shares of MTI Micro Common Stock equal to 20% of the shares of MTI Micro Common Stock purchased under the Purchase Agreement at an exercise price of \$0.07 per share. The sale and issuance of the MTI Micro Common Stock and MTI Micro Warrants occurred over multiple closings (each, a Closing). Nine Closings occurred through December 31, 2010, with MTI Micro raising \$1.9 million from the sale of 26,952,386 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock and MTI Micro Warrants to purchase 5,390,477 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock to Counter Point. The final Closing occurred on January 5, 2011, with MTI Micro raising \$113 thousand from the sale of 1,619,043 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock and MTI Micro Warrants to purchase 323,809 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock to Counter Point.

On February 9, 2011, Amendment No. 1 was entered into between MTI Micro and Counter Point. Pursuant to Amendment No. 1, MTI Micro issued and sold to Counter Point 6,428,574 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock at a purchase price per share of \$0.07, through December 31, 2011, and MTI Micro Warrants to purchase shares of MTI Micro Common Stock equal to 20% of the shares of MTI Micro Common Stock purchased under Amendment No. 2 at an exercise price of \$0.07 per share. The sale and issuance of the MTI Micro Common Stock and MTI Micro Warrants occurred over multiple closings (each, a Closing) occurring over four one-month closing periods (each, a Closing Period). Four Closings occurred through September 30, 2011, with MTI Micro raising \$450 thousand from the sale of 6,428,574 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock and MTI Micro Warrants to purchase 1,285,715 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock to Counter Point.

On September 23, 2011, Amendment No. 2 was entered into between MTI Micro and Counter Point. Pursuant to Amendment No. 2, MTI Micro issued and sold to Counter Point 1,200,000 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock at a purchase price per share of \$0.07, through December 31, 2011, and MTI Micro Warrants to purchase shares of MTI Micro Common Stock equal to 20% of the shares of MTI Micro Common Stock purchased under Amendment No. 2 at an exercise price of \$0.07 per share. The sale and issuance of the MTI Micro Common Stock and MTI Micro Warrants occurred over multiple closings (each, a Closing) occurring over four one-month closing periods (each, a Closing Period). Four Closings occurred through December 31, 2011, with MTI Micro raising \$84 thousand from the sale of 1,200,000 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock and MTI Micro Warrants to purchase 240,000 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock to Counter Point.

The following table represents changes in ownership between the Company and non-controlling interests (NCI) in common shares of MTI Micro:

	Average Price	Shares	MTI Ownership %	Non Controlling Interest Shares	Non Controlling Interest Ownership %	Total Shares
Balance at 12/31/2008		63,797,770	97.3	1,750,345	2.7	65,548,115
Stock issued for MTI Options to MFC Employees	\$ 0.14	10,501				10,501
Conversion of Bridge Loan	\$ 0.07	11,241,666		44,622,759		55,864,425
Balance at 12/31/09		75,049,937	61.8	46,373,104	38.2	121,423,041
Stock issued under Purchase Agreement	\$ 0.07			26,952,386		26,952,386
Balance at 12/31/10		75,049,937	50.6	73,325,490	49.4	148,375,427
Stock issued under Purchase Agreement, 2011	\$ 0.07			1,619,043		1,619,043

Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

Balance after Purchase Agreement		75,049,937	50.04	74,944,533	49.97	149,994,470
Stock issued under Amendment No. 1	\$ 0.07			6,428,574		6,428,574
Stock issued under Amendment No. 2	\$ 0.07			1,200,000		1,200,000
Balance at 12/31/11		75,049,937	47.61	82,573,107	52.39	157,623,044

F-19

**Reservation of Shares**

MTI Micro has reserved common shares for future issuance, broken down between the Company and NCI, as follows as of December 31, 2011:

	MTI	NCI	Total
Stock options outstanding		25,124,220	25,124,220
Warrants outstanding	32,904,136	12,196,411	45,100,547
Number of shares reserved for outstanding options and warrants	32,904,136	37,320,631	70,224,767

In addition, MTI Micro has 12,882,780 stock options available for issuance.

As of December 31, 2011, the Company owned an aggregate of approximately 47.6% of the outstanding shares of MTI Micro or 53.3% of the outstanding common stock and warrants issued of MTI Micro, and Dr. Robb and Counter Point owned approximately 45.2% and 5.1%, respectively of the outstanding shares of MTI Micro or 40.3% and 4.3%, respectively of the outstanding common stock and warrants issued of MTI Micro.

**Warrants Issued MTI Micro**

On December 9, 2009, MTI Micro issued warrants to the then current shareholders of MTI Micro, including the Company, without consideration, to purchase 32,779,310 shares of MTI Micro Stock at an exercise price of \$0.07 per share. The warrants became exercisable on December 9, 2010 and expire on December 8, 2017. The warrants have been accounted for as an equity distribution of \$2.0 million, including warrants to the Company with a value of \$2.0 million, which were eliminated in consolidation.

On December 9, 2009, MTI Micro issued warrants to the Bridge Investors of MTI Micro, including the Company, to purchase 5,081,237 shares of MTI Micro Stock at an exercise price of \$0.07 per share. The MTI Micro Warrants became exercisable on December 9, 2009 and will expire on the earlier of: (i) April 15, 2014; (ii) immediately prior to a change in control; or (iii) immediately prior to an initial public offering of MTI Micro. The MTI Micro Warrants were issued without consideration and were accounted for as equity and a loss on extinguishment of debt was recorded in the amount of \$289 thousand, including warrants to the Company with a value of \$57 thousand, which were eliminated in consolidation.

Under the Purchase Agreement entered into on January 11, 2010, MTI Micro issued 5,714,286 MTI Micro Warrants to Counter Point to purchase shares of MTI Micro Common Stock at an exercise price of \$0.07 per share. The MTI Micro Warrants became exercisable on the date of issuance and will expire on the earlier of: (a) the five (5) year anniversary of the Date of Issuance of the Warrant; (b) immediately prior to a change in control; or (c) the closing of a firm commitment underwritten public offering pursuant to a registration statement under the Securities Act. The MTI Micro Warrants were accounted for as equity.

Under Amendment No. 1 entered into on February 9, 2011, MTI Micro issued 1,285,715 MTI Micro Warrants to Counter Point to purchase shares of MTI Micro Common Stock at an exercise price of \$0.07 per share. The MTI Micro Warrants became exercisable on the date of issuance and will expire on the earlier of: (a) the five (5) year anniversary of the Date of Issuance of the Warrant; (b) immediately prior to a change in control; or (c) the closing of a firm commitment underwritten public offering pursuant to a registration statement under the Securities Act. The MTI Micro Warrants were accounted for as equity.

Under Amendment No. 2 entered into on September 23, 2011, MTI Micro issued 240,000 MTI Micro Warrants to Counter Point to purchase shares of MTI Micro Common Stock at an exercise price of \$0.07 per share. The MTI Micro Warrants became exercisable on the date of issuance and will expire on the earlier of: (a) the five (5) year anniversary of the Date of Issuance of the Warrant; (b) immediately prior to a change in control; or (c) the closing of a firm commitment underwritten public offering pursuant to a registration statement under the Securities Act. The MTI Micro Warrants were accounted for as equity.

Refer to Note 17 for further discussion.

**11. Retirement Plan**

The Company maintains a voluntary savings and retirement plan under IRC Section 401(k) covering substantially all employees. Employees must complete six months of service and have attained the age of twenty-one prior to becoming eligible for participation in the plan. The Company plan allows eligible employees to contribute a percentage of their compensation on a pre-tax basis and the Company matches

## Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

employee contributions dollar for dollar up to a discretionary amount, currently 4%, of the employee's salary, subject to annual tax deduction limitations. Company matching contributions vest at a rate of 25% annually for each year of service completed. Company matching contributions were \$99, \$107, and \$141 thousand for 2011, 2010, and 2009, respectively. The Company may also make additional discretionary contributions in amounts as determined by management and the Board of Directors. There were no additional discretionary contributions by the Company for the years 2011, 2010, or 2009.

F-20

---

**12. Income (Loss) per Share**

The following table sets forth the reconciliation of the numerators and denominators of the basic and diluted per share computations for continuing operations for the years ended December 31:

	2011	2010	2009
	(dollars in thousands, except shares)		
<b>Numerator:</b>			
Net income (loss)	\$ 2,386	\$ (1,758)	\$ (3,099)
<b>Denominator:</b>			
<b>Basic EPS:</b>			
Common shares outstanding, beginning of period	4,771,658	4,771,658	4,771,658
Weighted average common shares issued during the period	230,276		
Denominator for basic earnings per common shares			
Weighted average common shares	5,001,934	4,771,658	4,771,658
<b>Diluted EPS:</b>			
Common shares outstanding, beginning of period	4,771,658	4,771,658	4,771,658
Weighted average common shares issued during the period	230,276		
Denominator for diluted earnings per common shares -			
Weighted average common shares	5,001,934	4,771,658	4,771,658

Not included in the computation of earnings per share, assuming dilution for the year ended December, 2011, were options to purchase 797,437 shares of the Company's common stock. These potentially dilutive items were excluded even though the average market price of the common stock exceeded the exercise prices for a portion of the options because the calculation of incremental shares resulted in an anti-dilutive effect.

Not included in the computation of earnings per share-assuming dilution for the year ended December 31, 2010 were options to purchase 878,986 shares of the Company's common stock and warrants to purchase 378,472 shares of the Company's stock. These potentially dilutive items were excluded because the Company incurred a loss for this period and their inclusion would be anti-dilutive.

Not included in the computation of earnings per share-assuming dilution for the year ended December 31, 2009 were options to purchase 716,403 shares of the Company's common stock and warrants to purchase 378,472 shares of the Company's stock. These potentially dilutive items were excluded because the Company incurred a loss for this period and their inclusion would be anti-dilutive.

**13. Stock Based Compensation****MTI Option Plans**

Stock-based incentive awards are provided to employees and directors under the terms of the Company's 1996 Stock Incentive Plan (1996 Plan), 1999 Employee Stock Incentive Plan (1999 Plan) and 2006 Equity Incentive Plan (2006 Plan), which was amended and restated effective June 30, 2011 and September 16, 2009, (collectively, the Plans). Awards under the Plans have generally included at-the-money options and restricted stock grants.

The 1996 Plan was approved by stockholders during December 1996 and expired during October 2006. The 1996 Plan provided an initial aggregate number of 500,000 shares of common stock to be awarded or issued. The number of shares available to be awarded under the 1996 Plan and awards outstanding were adjusted for stock splits and rights offerings. The total number of shares which may be awarded under the 1996 Plan was 468,352 during 2005. Under the 1996 Plan, the Board of Directors was authorized to issue stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, and other stock-based incentives to officers, employees and others.

The 1999 Plan was adopted by the Company's Board of Directors, approved by stockholders on March 18, 1999 and expired during 2009. The 1999 Plan provided an initial aggregate number of 1,000,000 shares of common stock to be awarded or issued. The number of shares to be awarded under the 1999 Plan and awards outstanding were adjusted for stock splits, and during 2005, 2006, and 2007, the total number of shares which could be awarded under the 1999 Plan was 562,500 shares. Under the 1999 Plan, the Board of Directors was authorized to issue stock-based awards to officers, employees and others.

## Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

The 2006 Plan was adopted by the Company's Board of Directors on March 16, 2006 and approved by stockholders on May 18, 2006. The plan was amended and restated by the Board of Directors effective September 16, 2009 and June 30, 2011. The September 16, 2009 Amended and Restated 2006 Equity Incentive Plan increased the initial aggregate number of 250,000 shares of common stock which may be awarded or issued to 600,000, and the June 30, 2011 Amended and Restated 2006 Equity Incentive Plan increased the aggregate number of shares of common stock which may be awarded or issued to 1,200,000. The number of shares which may be awarded under the 2006 Plan and awards outstanding has been adjusted for stock splits and other similar events. Under the 2006 Plan, the Board of Directors is authorized to issue stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, and other stock-based incentives to officers, employees and others. Until stockholder approval is obtained, the Company may not grant further stock options or stock appreciation rights.

Stock-based compensation expense for the year ended December 31, 2011 was generated from fully vested restricted stock grants and fully vested stock awards. Stock options are awards which allow holders to purchase shares of the Company's common stock at a fixed price. Stock options issued to employees generally vest 50% immediately, and then quarterly over the next three years. Options issued to non-employee members of the MTI Board of Directors generally vest upon grant. Certain options granted may be fully or partially exercisable immediately, may vest on other than a four year schedule or vest upon attainment of specific performance criteria. Restricted stock awards generally vest one year after the date of grant; however, certain awards may vest immediately or vest upon attainment of specific performance criteria. Option exercise prices are generally equivalent to the closing market value price of the Company's common stock on the date of grant. Unexercised options generally terminate either seven or ten years after date of grant.

The Company estimates the fair value of stock options using a Black-Scholes valuation model. Key inputs and assumptions used to estimate the fair value of stock options include the grant price of the award, the expected option term, volatility of the Company's stock, an appropriate risk-free rate, and the Company's dividend yield. Estimates of fair value are not intended to predict actual future events or the value ultimately realized by employees who receive equity awards, and subsequent events are not indicative of the reasonableness of the original estimates of fair value made by the Company.

During 2011, the Company granted 483,225 restricted stock units, which immediately vested and the stock was issued to holders. The fair value of these grants was based on the closing market value price of the Company's common stock on the date of grant. The weighed average exercise prices of these grants was \$.62 per share.

There were no stock options granted during 2011 and 2009.

The fair value of each 2010 stock option grant was estimated at the date of grant using a Black-Scholes Option Pricing Model. The following table presents the weighted-average assumptions used for options granted under the Plans:

	<b>2010</b>	
Option term (years)		5.03
Volatility	128.3	150%
Risk-free interest rate range	1.46	2.04%
Dividend yield		0%
Weighted-average fair value per option granted	\$	0.54

Share-based compensation expense recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Operations is based on awards ultimately expected to vest, therefore, awards are reduced for estimated forfeitures. The revised accounting standard requires forfeitures to be estimated at the time of grant and revised, if necessary, in subsequent periods if actual forfeitures differ from those estimates.

Total share-based compensation expense, related to all of the Company's share-based awards, recognized for the years ended December 31, was comprised as follows:

	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
	<b>(dollars in thousands, except eps)</b>		
Unfunded research and product development	\$ 18	\$ 21	\$ 92
Selling, general and administrative	370	226	413
Share-based compensation expense	\$ 388	\$ 247	\$ 505
Impact on basic and diluted EPS	\$ 0.08	\$ (0.05)	\$ (0.11)

Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

Total unrecognized compensation costs related to non-vested awards as of December 31, 2011 is \$104 thousand, and is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average vesting period of approximately 0.87 years.

F-22

---

## Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

As a result of the amendments in 2011 and 2009 of the 2006 Plan, 600,000 and 350,000 additional shares were made available for granting, respectively. Presented below is a summary of the Company's stock option plans' activity for the years ended December 31:

	2011	2010	2009
Shares under option, beginning	878,986	716,403	780,340
Granted		216,000	171,750
Exercised			
Canceled/Forfeited	(4,851)	(8,506)	(89,799)
Expired	(76,698)	(44,911)	(145,888)
Shares under option, ending	797,437	878,986	716,403
Options exercisable	719,229	719,623	571,617
Remaining shares available for granting of options	261,601	114,591	316,216

The weighted average exercise price for the Plans is as follows for each of the years ended December 31:

	2011	2010	2009
Shares under option, beginning	11.41	15.97	21.56
Granted		0.59	1.31
Exercised			
Canceled/Forfeited	3.23	8.85	4.09
Expired	20.73	32.64	35.91
Shares under option, ending	10.56	11.41	15.97
Options exercisable, ending	11.63	13.59	18.72

The following table summarizes information for options outstanding and exercisable for the Plans as of December 31, 2011:

Exercise Price Range	Outstanding Options			Options Exercisable		
	Number	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Number	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Exercise Price
\$0.00 - \$1.15	272,211	8.38	\$ 0.72	211,569	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.75
\$1.16 - \$3.60	214,554	5.76	\$ 1.72	197,042	\$ 1.75	\$ 1.75
\$3.61 - \$14.24	103,067	2.32	\$ 11.74	103,013	\$ 11.75	\$ 11.75
\$14.25 - \$22.64	45,289	2.22	\$ 19.39	45,289	\$ 19.39	\$ 19.39
\$22.65 - \$33.36	58,248	2.93	\$ 30.37	58,248	\$ 30.37	\$ 30.37
\$33.37 - \$50.24	104,068	1.63	\$ 38.47	104,068	\$ 38.47	\$ 38.47
	797,437	5.26	\$ 10.56	719,229	\$ 11.63	\$ 11.63

The aggregate intrinsic value (i.e. the difference between the closing stock price and the price to be paid by the option holder to exercise the option) is \$0 for the Company's outstanding options and \$0 for the exercisable options as of December 31, 2011. The amounts are based on the Company's closing stock price of \$0.50 as of December 31, 2011.

There were no unvested restricted stock options for the period ended December 31, 2011.

### MTI Micro Option Plans

MTI Micro has two plans for issuing MTI Micro stock-based incentive awards; the MTI MicroFuel Cells Inc. 2001 Employee, Director and Consultant Stock Option Plan (2001 MTI Micro Plan) and the MTI MicroFuel Cells Inc. 2009 Stock Plan (2009 Micro Plan), (collectively, the MTI Micro Plans).

The 2001 MTI Micro Plan was approved by MTI Micro's stockholders in 2001 and provided an initial aggregate number of 1,766,000 shares of MTI Micro common stock to be awarded. The number of shares which may be awarded under the 2001 MTI Micro Plan and awards outstanding have been adjusted for a 2004 reverse stock split, and during 2005, 2006, and 2007, the total number of shares which may be awarded under the 2001 MTI Micro Plan were 3,416,667 shares. Under the 2001 MTI Micro Plan, the MTI Micro Board of Directors was authorized to award stock options to officers, directors, employees and consultants. During 2005, MTI Micro ceased making grants under the 2001 MTI Micro Plan

and determined that it would make no new awards under this plan in the future.

The MTI Micro Board of Directors approved the 2009 Micro Plan on December 8, 2009. This plan provided an initial aggregate number of 38,000,000 shares of MTI Micro's common stock to be awarded. Under the 2009 Micro Plan, the MTI Micro Board of Directors is authorized to award stock options to directors, employees, consultants and advisors of MTI Micro.

F-23

---

## Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

There were no stock options granted in 2011 and 2009.

On September 15, 2010, MTI Micro granted 6,330,520 options to its employees from the 2009 Micro Plan. The options vest 50% on the grant date and 50% ratably on a quarterly basis over the next three years. The fair value of these stock options granted was estimated at the date of grant using a Black-Scholes Option Pricing Model.

The key inputs and assumptions used to estimate the fair value of these 2010 stock options were as follows:

Option term	5 years		
Volatility	115	%	
Risk-free interest rate	1.46	%	
Dividend yield	0	%	
Fair value per option granted	\$	0.07	

The amount of expense recognized for this grant was \$52 thousand and \$187 thousand for 2011 and 2010, respectively. Share-based compensation expense recognized in the Consolidated Statement of Operations is based on awards ultimately expected to vest, therefore, awards are reduced for estimated forfeitures. The accounting standard requires forfeitures to be estimated at the time of grant and revised, if necessary, in subsequent periods if actual forfeitures differ from those estimates. The Company has assumed a forfeiture rate of 5% for this grant.

On February 10, 2010, MTI Micro granted 28,296,800 options to its employees from the 2009 Micro Plan. The options vest 50% on the grant date and 50% ratably on a quarterly basis over the next three years. The fair value of these stock options granted was estimated at the date of grant using a Black-Scholes Option Pricing Model.

The key inputs and assumptions used to estimate the fair value of these stock options were as follows:

Option term	5 years		
Volatility	115	%	
Risk-free interest rate	2.39	%	
Dividend yield	0	%	
Fair value per option granted	\$	0.07	

The amount of expense recognized for this grant was \$221 thousand and \$1.01 million for 2011 and 2010, respectively. Share-based compensation expense recognized in the Consolidated Statement of Operations is based on awards ultimately expected to vest, therefore, awards are reduced for estimated forfeitures. The accounting standard requires forfeitures to be estimated at the time of grant and revised, if necessary, in subsequent periods if actual forfeitures differ from those estimates. The Company has assumed a forfeiture rate of 5% for this grant.

Presented below is a summary of compensation expense, which is included in the summary of the Company's compensation expense under all share-based awards above, for the MTI Micro Plans:

	2011	2010	2009
	(dollars in thousands)		
Stock option compensation expense	\$ 273	\$ 1,199	\$
Total stock-based compensation expense	\$ 273	\$ 1,199	\$

Total unrecognized compensation costs related to non-vested awards as of December 31, 2011 is \$233 thousand.

Presented below is a summary of the MTI Micro Plans activity for the years ended December 31:

	2011	2010	2009
Shares under option, beginning	33,050,720	15,001	15,001
Granted		34,627,320	
Exercised			
Canceled/Forfeited	(7,926,500)	(1,591,601)	

Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

Shares under option, ending	25,124,220	33,050,720	15,001
Options exercisable	20,040,419	20,131,783	15,001
Remaining shares available for granting of options	12,882,780	4,956,280	38,000,000

F-24

---

Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

The weighted average exercise price for the MTI Micro Plans is as follows for each of the years ended December 31:

	2011	2010	2009
Shares under option, beginning	\$ 0.07	\$ 3.89	\$ 3.89
Granted		0.07	
Exercised			
Canceled/Forfeited	0.07	0.09	
Shares under option, ending	0.07	0.07	3.89
Options exercisable, ending	0.07	0.07	3.89

The weighted average fair value of stock options granted is required to be based on a theoretical statistical model using the preceding Black-Scholes Option Pricing Model assumptions.

The following table summarizes information for options outstanding and exercisable for the MTI Micro Plans as of December 31, 2011:

Exercise Price Range	Number	Outstanding Options		Options Exercisable	
		Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Number	Weighted Average Exercise Price
\$0.07 - \$2.54	25,117,220	8.23	\$ 0.07	20,033,419	\$ 0.07
\$2.55 - \$3.79	2,000	1.25	\$ 2.55	2,000	\$ 2.55
\$3.80 - \$4.65	1,167	0.86	\$ 3.80	1,167	\$ 3.80
\$4.66 - \$4.66	3,833	2.25	\$ 4.66	3,833	\$ 4.66
	25,124,220	8.23	\$ 0.07	20,040,419	\$ 0.07

#### 14. Cash Flows Supplemental Information

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(dollars in thousands)		
<b>Non-Cash Financing Activities:</b>			
Change in investment and paid-in capital resulting from other investors' activity in MTI Micro stock	\$	\$	\$ 3,411

#### 15. Derivatives

The Company held or had outstanding the following derivative financial instruments as of December 31:

	2011	2010	Expiration
<b>Derivatives issued:</b>			
Warrants, exercisable beginning June 20, 2007, to purchase the Company's common stock issued to three investors at a purchase price of \$18.16 per share		378,472	12/19/2011

*Warrant Derivative to Purchase MTI Common Stock:* The warrants issued during the Company's December 2006 capital raise were legally freestanding, detachable and transferable by the holders. The features of the warrant allowed both straight cash exercises as well as cashless exercises. Due primarily to a stipulation in the warrant agreement which allowed a potential cash settlement with the holders if the Company was acquired by, or merged with a private company, these warrants were classified as an asset/liability derivative in accordance with the accounting guidance.

The estimated fair value of this warrant at the date issued was \$18.16 per share, using a Black-Scholes Option Pricing Model and assumptions similar to those used for valuing the Company's employee share-based compensation. The fair value of the derivative was recorded in the Derivative liability line on the consolidated financial statements, and was valued quarterly using the Black-Scholes Option Pricing Model. The assumptions used for the valuations as of December 31 were as follows:

Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

	<b>2010</b>
Expected life of option (days)	365
Risk-free interest rate	0.29%
Expected volatility of stock	219.4%
Expected dividend yield	None

The Company recognized changes in fair value in its Consolidated Statements of Operations in the line titled Gain (loss) on derivatives.

F-25

---

## 16. Commitments and Contingencies

### Contingencies:

#### *Legal*

We are subject to legal proceedings, claims and liabilities which arise in the ordinary course of business. We accrue for losses associated with legal claims when such losses are probable and can be reasonably estimated. These accruals are adjusted as additional information becomes available or circumstances change. Legal fees are charged to expense as they are incurred.

### Commitments:

#### *Leases*

The Company and its subsidiaries lease certain manufacturing, laboratory and office facilities. The leases generally provide for the Company to pay either an increase over a base year level for taxes, maintenance, insurance and other costs of the leased properties or the Company's allocated share of insurance, taxes, maintenance and other costs of leased properties. The leases contain renewal provisions.

Future minimum rental payments required under non-cancelable operating leases (with initial or remaining lease terms in excess of one year) as of December 31, 2011 are (dollars in thousands): \$279 in 2012, \$285 in 2013 and \$266 in 2014. Rent expense under all leases was \$307, \$528, and \$564 thousand for 2011, 2010, and 2009, respectively. Rent expense was reduced during the year ended December 31, 2011 as a result of the Supplemental Lease Extension and Modification Agreement dated September 29, 2011 between Kingfisher, LLC and MTI Micro.

#### *Licenses*

Under a 2002 NYSERDA contract, MTI Micro agreed to pay NYSERDA a royalty of 5.0% of the sales price of any product sold incorporating IP developed pursuant to the NYSERDA contract. If the product is manufactured by a New York State manufacturer, this royalty is reduced to 1.5%. Total royalties are subject to a cap equal to two times the total contract funds paid by NYSERDA to MTI Micro, and may be reduced to reflect any New York State jobs created by MTI Micro. As of December 31, 2011 and 2010, there are no amounts accrued in the consolidated balance sheets related to this royalty provision.

Under the 2010 NYSERDA contract, MTI Micro agreed to pay NYSERDA a royalty of 5.0% of the sales price of any product sold incorporating IP developed pursuant to the NYSERDA contract. The obligation commences on the first date of the first sale of these products and is in place for fifteen years. Total royalties are subject to a cap equal to three times the total contract funds paid by NYSERDA to MTI Micro. However, if the product is manufactured by a New York State manufacturer, this royalty is reduced to 1.5% and total royalties are subject to a cap equal to one times the total contract funds paid by NYSERDA to MTI Micro. As of December 31, 2011 and 2010, there are no amounts accrued in the consolidated balance sheets related to this royalty provision.

#### *Employment Agreements*

The Company has employment agreements with certain employees that provide severance payments, certain other payments, accelerated vesting and exercise extension periods of certain options upon termination of employment under certain circumstances, as defined in the applicable agreements. As of December 31, 2011, the Company's potential minimum obligation to these employees was approximately \$595 thousand.

#### *Royalty Commitment*

On January 28, 2010, MTI Instruments entered into an Asset Purchase and Sale Agreement with Ernest F. Fullam, Inc., Peter Fullam and Diane Fullam to acquire the tensile stage line of products from Ernest F. Fullam, Inc, a pioneering microscopy accessories company from Clifton Park, NY. As part of the acquisition, Mr. Peter Fullam joined MTI Instruments as a Product Sales Engineer until September 30, 2011, at which time he became a consultant for MTI Instruments, and MTI Instruments purchased machinery, inventory and the rights to use the Fullam/MTI Instruments product name. Additionally, commencing with the calendar quarter ending March 31, 2010 and ending at the close of the calendar quarter ending December 31, 2012, MTI Instruments will pay Ernest F. Fullam, Inc. a royalty equal to 5% of the Gross Sales achieved on specific Fullam products. Royalty expense related to this agreement was \$10 thousand and \$12 thousand for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.



**17. Equity Investments for MTI Micro Related Party**

On September 18, 2008, MTI Micro executed a Convertible Note and Warrant Purchase Agreement, Secured Convertible Promissory Note Agreements (the Bridge Notes), Security Agreement (the Security Agreement) and Warrant Agreements (the Warrants). The investors (the Bridge Investors) included MTI, in the form of conversion of existing debt of \$700 thousand, Dr. Walter L. Robb, a member of the Company's Board of Directors, and MTI Micro's Boards of Directors, and Counter Point Ventures Fund II, LP (Counter Point). Counter Point is a venture capital fund sponsored and managed by Dr. Walter L. Robb. General Electric Pension Trust, an employee benefit plan trust, is a passive limited partner in Counter Point. The Bridge Notes allowed MTI Micro to borrow up to an aggregate of \$2.2 million, including conversion of the outstanding debt totaling \$700 thousand owed to the Company. Under this agreement, MTI Micro closed on \$1.5 million of funding from Other Investors on September 18, 2008.

On February 20, 2009, MTI Micro and the Investors agreed to, among other things, amend the Bridge Notes (Bridge Notes Amendment No. 1) to permit MTI Micro to sell additional Bridge Notes with an additional principal amount of up to \$500 thousand to additional investors, and to extend the maturity date from March 31, 2009 to May 31, 2009 (the Maturity Date). No other terms of the Bridge Notes were amended. Following the effectiveness of Bridge Notes Amendment No. 1, MTI Micro borrowed an additional \$500 thousand from Counter Point, bringing the aggregate outstanding principal amount borrowed under the Bridge Notes, as amended, to \$2.7 million, including conversion of outstanding debt totaling \$700 thousand owed to the Company.

On April 15, 2009, MTI Micro and the Investors agreed to amend the Bridge Notes (Bridge Notes Amendment No. 2) to permit MTI Micro to sell additional Bridge Notes with an additional principal amount of up to \$800 thousand to an additional investor and Counter Point, and to extend the maturity date from May 31, 2009 to March 31, 2010 (the Maturity Date). Effective December 4, 2009, MTI Micro had sold all additional Bridge Notes, as amended. The Bridge Notes had an interest rate of 10%, compounded annually.

On December 9, 2009, MTI Micro entered into a Secured Convertible Promissory Note Negotiated Conversion Agreement (the Conversion Agreement) with the Company and the other Bridge Investors. The parties agreed to, among other things, convert the aggregate principal and accrued interest amount of \$3.9 million outstanding under the Bridge Notes into an aggregate of 55,864,425 shares of Common Stock of MTI Micro using a conversion price per share of \$0.07 (the Negotiated Conversion). Warrants to purchase MTI Micro common stock at \$0.07 per share were issued to Bridge Investors for an aggregate of 5,081,237 shares. As an incentive for MTI Micro to agree to the terms of the Negotiated Conversion, MTI Micro, the Company and the Bridge Investors also agreed that immediately prior to the consummation of the Negotiated Conversion, MTI Micro would issue to each current MTI Micro stockholder (including the Company), without consideration, a warrant (MTI Micro Warrant) exercisable after one (1) year for up to 50% of the aggregate number of shares of Common Stock each such MTI Micro stockholder currently held in MTI Micro, at \$0.07 per share and with a term of seven (7) years. Accordingly, immediately prior to the consummation of the Negotiated Conversion on December 9, 2009, MTI Micro issued MTI Micro Warrants exercisable for an aggregate of 32,779,310 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock.

As a result of the Negotiated Conversion, the Company converted an aggregate principal and accrued interest amount of \$787 thousand outstanding under the Bridge Notes into an aggregate of 11,241,666 shares of Common Stock of MTI Micro, and the Company's ownership interest in MTI Micro decreased from approximately 97.3% to approximately 61.8%, or 67.8% on a fully-diluted basis including the MTI Micro Warrants issued to all current MTI Micro stockholders and the Bridge Warrants. The balance of the Bridge Note payable was \$0 as of December 31, 2009.

On January 11, 2010, MTI Micro entered into the Purchase Agreement with Counter Point. Counter Point is a venture capital fund sponsored and managed by Dr. Walter L. Robb, a member of the Board of Directors of the Company and MTI Micro, and a current stockholder of MTI Micro. Pursuant to the Purchase Agreement, MTI Micro issued and sold to Counter Point 28,571,429 shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the MTI Micro Common Stock), at a purchase price per share of \$0.07, over a period of twelve months, and warrants (MTI Micro Warrants) to purchase shares of MTI Micro Common Stock equal to 20% of the shares of MTI Micro Common Stock purchased under the Purchase Agreement at an exercise price of \$0.07 per share. The sale and issuance of the MTI Micro Common Stock and MTI Micro Warrants occurred over multiple closings (each, a Closing). Nine Closings occurred through December 31, 2010, with MTI Micro raising \$1.9 million from the sale of 26,952,386 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock and MTI Micro Warrants to purchase 5,390,477 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock to Counter Point. The final Closing occurred on January 5, 2011, with MTI Micro raising \$113 thousand from the sale of 1,619,043 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock and MTI Micro Warrants to purchase 323,809 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock to Counter Point.

On February 9, 2011, Amendment No. 1 was entered into between MTI Micro and Counter Point. Pursuant to Amendment No. 1, MTI Micro issued and sold to Counter Point 6,428,574 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock at a purchase price per share of \$0.07, through December 31, 2011, and MTI Micro Warrants to purchase shares of MTI Micro Common Stock equal to 20% of the shares of MTI Micro Common Stock purchased under Amendment No. 1 at an exercise price of \$0.07 per share. The sale and issuance of the MTI Micro Common Stock and MTI Micro Warrants occurred over multiple closings (each, a Closing) occurring over four one-month closing periods (each, a Closing Period). Four

Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

Closings occurred through September 30, 2011, with MTI Micro raising \$450 thousand from the sale of 6,428,574 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock and MTI Micro Warrants to purchase 1,285,715 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock to Counter Point.

F-27

---

On September 23, 2011, Amendment No. 2 was entered into between MTI Micro and Counter Point. Pursuant to Amendment No. 2, MTI Micro issued and sold to Counter Point 1,200,000 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock at a purchase price per share of \$0.07, through December 31, 2011, and MTI Micro Warrants to purchase shares of MTI Micro Common Stock equal to 20% of the shares of MTI Micro Common Stock purchased under Amendment No. 2 at an exercise price of \$0.07 per share. The sale and issuance of the MTI Micro Common Stock and MTI Micro Warrants occurred over multiple closings (each, a Closing) occurring over four one-month closing periods (each, a Closing Period). Four Closings occurred through December 31, 2011, with MTI Micro raising \$84 thousand from the sale of 1,200,000 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock and MTI Micro Warrants to purchase 240,000 shares of MTI Micro Common Stock to Counter Point.

As of December 31, 2011, the Company owned an aggregate of approximately 47.6% of the outstanding shares of MTI Micro or 53.3% of the outstanding common stock and warrants issued of MTI Micro, and Dr. Robb and Counter Point owned approximately 45.2% and 5.1%, respectively of the outstanding shares of MTI Micro or 40.3% and 4.3%, respectively of the outstanding common stock and warrants issued of MTI Micro.

On December 9, 2011, MTI Instruments purchased laboratory and computer equipment from MTI Micro for a total of \$84 thousand, which was funded by the Company.

### 18. Geographic and Segment Information

The Company sells its products on a worldwide basis with its principal markets listed in the table below where information on product revenue and funded research and development revenue is summarized by geographic area for the Company as a whole for each of the years ended December 31:

	2011 (dollars in thousands)	2010	2009
<b>Product revenue:</b>			
United States	\$ 6,856	\$ 4,703	\$ 3,908
Singapore	1,066	170	23
Hong Kong	736	684	251
Japan	337	238	612
Korea	9	180	103
China	163	318	13
Taiwan	92	231	50
Malaysia	53	64	5
Other Pacific Rim	13	13	
Germany	203	4	12
United Kingdom	128	58	149
Netherlands	125	164	147
Austria	28		
France	57	3	
Switzerland	78		
Other Europe	27	43	56
Canada	125	168	59
Middle East	34	33	202
Russia	73	2	3
Turkey	9		463
Rest of World	68	103	207
<b>Total product revenue</b>	<b>\$ 10,280</b>	<b>\$ 7,179</b>	<b>\$ 6,263</b>
<b>Funded research and development revenue:</b>			
United States	\$ 13	\$ 1,234	\$ 2,043
<b>Total funded research and development revenue</b>	<b>\$ 13</b>	<b>\$ 1,234</b>	<b>\$ 2,043</b>
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$ 10,293</b>	<b>\$ 8,413</b>	<b>\$ 8,306</b>

Revenues are attributed to regions based on the location of customers.

## Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

The Company operates in two business segments, Test and Measurement Instrumentation and New Energy. The Test and Measurement Instrumentation segment designs, manufactures, markets and services high performance test and measurement instruments and systems, wafer characterization tools for the semiconductor and solar industries, tensile stage systems for materials testing at academic and industrial settings, and computer-based balancing systems for aircraft engines. The New Energy segment is focused on commercializing direct methanol fuel cells. The Company's principal operations are located in North America.

F-28

---

Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

The accounting policies of the Test and Measurement Instrumentation and New Energy segments are similar to those described in the summary of significant accounting policies (Note 2). The Company evaluates performance based on profit or loss from operations before income taxes. Inter-segment sales and expenses are not significant.

Total product revenues contributed of the Test and Measurement Instrumentation products segment and their percentage of total product revenues for each of the years ended December 31 are shown below:

	2011		2010		2009	
	Sales	%	Sales	%	Sales	%
	<b>(dollars in thousands)</b>					
Aviation Balancing Systems	\$ 5,359	52.1 %	\$ 3,007	41.9 %	\$ 2,768	44.2 %
Precision Instruments	3,983	38.8	2,804	39.1	2,619	41.8
Semiconductor and Solar Metrology	938	9.1	1,368	19.0	876	14.0
Total	\$ 10,280	100.0 %	\$ 7,179	100.0 %	\$ 6,263	100.0 %

In the Test and Measurement Instrumentation segment, the U.S. Air Force accounted for \$2.3 million or 22.4% of total revenue in 2011, \$1.6 million or 22.3% of total product revenue in 2010, and \$1.2 million or 19.2% of total product revenue in 2009. The largest commercial customer in 2011 was a Southeast Asian distributor, who accounted for \$1.1 million or 10.7% of total product revenue in 2011. The largest commercial customer in 2010 was a Chinese distributor, who accounted for \$560 thousand, or 7.8% of total product revenue in 2010. The largest commercial customer in 2009 was a domestic US defense contractor, who accounted for \$618 thousand or 9.9% of total product revenue in 2009.

In the New Energy segment, the DOE accounted for \$6 thousand or 49.7% of total funded research and development revenue in 2011, \$944 thousand or 77.0% of total funded research and development revenue in 2010, and \$2.0 million or 100.0% of total funded research and development revenue in 2009.

Summarized financial information concerning the Company's reportable segments is shown in the following table. The Other column includes corporate related items and items such as income taxes or unusual items, which are not allocated to reportable segments. The Reconciling Items column includes non-controlling interests in a consolidated entity. In addition, segments' non-cash items include any depreciation in reported profit or loss. The New Energy segment figures include the Company's direct micro fuel cell operations. As a result of the suspension of the MTI Micro operations, the New Energy segment will continue to be included in these tables during 2012 as long as they remain in our consolidated operations. The activity presented will be reflective of the minimal activity anticipated to be incurred by MTI Micro during 2012.

<u>(Dollars in thousands)</u>	Test and Measurement Instrumentation			New Energy	Other	Condensed Reconciling Items		Consolidated Totals
Year Ended December 31, 2011								
Product revenue	\$	10,280	\$		\$		\$	10,280
Funded research and development revenue				13				13
Research and product development expenses		1,243		223				1,466
Selling, general and administrative expenses		2,306		993		1,695		4,994
Segment profit (loss) from operations before income taxes and non-controlling interest		2,476		(1,460)		(916)		100
Segment profit (loss)		2,476		(1,462)		634		738
Total assets		3,038		173		3,191		6,402
Capital expenditures		170				5		175
Depreciation		90		210		7		307

Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

(Dollars in thousands)	Test and Measurement			Reconciling Items	Condensed Consolidated Totals
	Instrumentation	Non-Energy	Other		
Year Ended December 31, 2010					
Product revenue	\$ 7,179	\$	\$	\$	\$ 7,179
Funded research and development revenue		1,234			1,234
Research and product development expenses	959	2,896			3,855
Selling, general and administrative expenses	1,984	1,950	1,086		5,020
Segment profit (loss) from operations before income taxes and non-controlling interest	886	(3,639)	(639)		(3,392)
Segment profit (loss)	886	(3,639)	(643)	1,638	(1,758)
Total assets	1,751	639	1,211		3,601
Capital expenditures	47				47
Depreciation	81	385	15		481

(Dollars in thousands)	Test and Measurement			Reconciling Items	Condensed Consolidated Totals
	Instrumentation	Non-Energy	Other		
Year Ended December 31, 2009					
Product revenue	\$ 6,263	\$	\$	\$	\$ 6,263
Funded research and development revenue		2,043			2,043
Research and product development expenses	965	4,479			5,444
Selling, general and administrative expenses	1,822	105	1,357		3,284
Segment profit (loss) from operations before income taxes and non-controlling interest	381	(3,171)	(839)	57	(3,572)
Segment profit (loss)	381	(3,171)	(631)	322	(3,099)
Total assets	1,949	1,061	731		3,741
Capital expenditures		7			7
Depreciation	103	496	61		660

The following table presents the details of Other segment (loss) profit for each of the years ended December 31:

	2011	2010	2009
	(dollars in thousands)		
Corporate and other (expenses) income:			
Depreciation	\$ (7)	\$ (15)	\$ (61)
Salaries and benefits	(984)	(161)	
Interest income			68
Gain (loss) on derivatives	73	(2)	(29)
Income tax benefit (expense)	1,550	(4)	(208)
Other (expense) income, net	2	(461)	(401)
Total income (expense)	\$ 634	\$ (643)	\$ (631)

## 19. Line of Credit

On September 20, 2011, MTI Instruments entered into a working capital line of credit with First Niagara Bank, N.A. Pursuant to the Demand Grid Note, MTI Instruments may borrow from time to time up to \$400 thousand to support its working capital needs. The note is payable upon demand, and the interest rate on the note is equal to the prime rate with a floor of 4.0% per annum. The note is secured by a lien on all of the assets of MTI Instruments and is guaranteed by the Company. The line of credit is subject to a review date of June 30, 2012. Under the line of credit, MTI Instruments is required to hold a line balance of \$0 for 30 consecutive days out during each consecutive year. As of December 31, 2011, there were no amounts outstanding under the line of credit.

## 20. Subsequent Events

Edgar Filing: MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY INC - Form 10-K

The Company has evaluated subsequent events and transactions through the date of this filing for potential recognition or disclosure in the consolidated financial statements and has noted no subsequent events requiring recognition or disclosure.

F-30

---