

WIDEPOINT CORP
Form 424B3
February 10, 2006

PROSPECTUS

**WIDEPOINT CORPORATION
31,197,139 SHARES OF COMMON STOCK**

This prospectus relates to resale by the selling stockholders of up to 31,197,139 shares of our common stock, \$0.001 par value per share, consisting of (i) 18,728,572 outstanding shares of our common stock; (ii) 11,957,139 shares of our common stock issuable upon the conversion of outstanding shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock and (iii) 511,428 shares of our common stock issuable upon the exercise of outstanding warrants. We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of these shares.

Our common stock is traded on the OTC Bulletin Board under the symbol WDPT. The last reported sale price for our common stock on the OTC Bulletin Board on February 9, 2006 was \$2.10 per share. You are urged to obtain current market quotations for our common stock. The selling stockholders may offer their shares of common stock from time to time, in the open market, in privately negotiated transactions, or a combination of methods, at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to such prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices. The selling stockholders may engage brokers or dealers who may receive commissions or discounts from the selling stockholders. Any broker-dealer acquiring the common stock from the selling stockholders may sell these securities in normal market making activities, through other brokers on a principal or agency basis, in negotiated transactions, to its customers or through a combination of methods. See Plan of Distribution beginning on page 62. We will bear all of the expenses and fees incurred in registering the shares offered by this prospectus.

Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. See Risk Factors beginning on page 5 for a discussion of the risks associated with our business.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is February 9, 2006.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
PROSPECTUS SUMMARY	1
RISK FACTORS	5
SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS	18
USE OF PROCEEDS	19
DILUTION	19
SELECTED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION	20
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF	
FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS	21
PRO FORMA FINANCIAL INFORMATION	32
QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK	35
BUSINESS	36
MANAGEMENT	50
SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT	55
MARKET PRICE OF COMMON STOCK AND DIVIDEND POLICY	58

	Page
SELLING STOCKHOLDERS	59
PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION	62
DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK	64
LEGAL MATTERS	67
EXPERTS	68
WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION	69
INDEX TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	F-1
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF WIDEPOINT CORPORATION	F-2
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONAL	
RESEARCH CONSULTANTS, INC	F-41

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this prospectus. This summary may not contain all of the information that is important to you. You should read the entire prospectus carefully, including Risk Factors beginning on page 5, before deciding to invest in our common stock. Unless the context otherwise requires references in this prospectus to WidePoint, we, us, and our refer to WidePoint Corporation.

WidePoint Corporation

WidePoint Corporation (WidePoint or the Company) is an information technology (IT) services firm with established competencies in federal government and private commercial sector IT consulting services, including planning, managing and implementing IT solutions, software and secure authentication processes, and specialized outsourcing arrangements. Our staff consists of business and computer specialists who help government and civilian customers augment and expand their resident technologic skills and competencies, drive technical innovation, and help develop and maintain a competitive edge in today s rapidly changing technological environment in business.

On October 25, 2004, we completed the acquisition of Operational Research Consultants, Inc., or ORC. ORC specializes in IT integration and secure authentication processes and software, and providing services to the United States Government. ORC has been at the forefront of implementing Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) technologies. PKI technology is rapidly becoming the technology of choice to enable security services within and between different computer systems utilized by various agencies and departments of the U.S. Government. Based on asymmetric key cryptography, PKI technology uses a class of algorithms in which a user can receive two electronic keys, consisting of a public key and a private key, to encrypt any information and/or communication being transmitted to or from the user within a computer network and between different computer networks. The user provides his or her public key to any and all desired persons or entities. The user does not share the private key with anyone else. The public key will encrypt all information and/or communication from any sender and the private key will allow only the holder of the private key to unlock and decrypt such information and/or communication. Thus, the algorithms used in PKI technologies help to achieve authentication of users and information, integrity of all data and communications, non-repudiation or rejection of data and communications, and support confidentiality of data and communications. PKI also speeds up and simplifies the delivery of products and services by providing electronic approaches to processes that historically have been paper based. These electronic solutions depend on PKI for identification and authentication; data integrity; confidentiality of information and transactions; and non-repudiation to facilitate mission-related and transactions internal to an organization and with external organizations. ORC is currently the only entity that has been designated by the United States Government as an External Certificate Authority for the U.S. Government. As such, ORC is authorized to issue all permissible certificate types and services in accordance with Defense Information Systems Agency and National Security Agency standards, necessary for the interoperable, secure exchange of information between U.S. Governmental agencies, contractors, and international allies such as members of NATO.

We are actively seeking the acquisition of other companies with complementary technical capabilities and are focused on providing IT, software and related services to the federal government (both defense agencies and civilian agencies), state governments, local agencies, and corporate clients. If successful, we anticipate that we will become a significantly larger company with broader capabilities and resources than has been the case historically.

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Corporate Information

Our executive offices are located at One Lincoln Centre, Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois 60181, and our telephone number is 630-629-0003. We maintain a website with the address www.widepoint.com. We are not including the information contained on our website as a part of, or incorporating it by reference into, this prospectus.

1

The Offering

Common stock offered by the selling stockholders	31,197,139 shares
Use of proceeds	WidePoint will not receive any proceeds from the sale of shares in this offering.
OTC Bulletin Board Symbol	"WDPT"

2

SUMMARY FINANCIAL DATA

The following table summarizes the financial data for our business obtained from our audited financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004 and from our unaudited financial statements for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2005. You should read this information with the discussion in Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and our consolidated financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this prospectus.

	Year Ended December 31, (audited)					Nine Months Ended September 30, (unaudited)	
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2004	2005
Statement of Operations Data:							
Revenues	\$ 12,834,474	\$ 5,902,728	\$ 3,495,160	\$ 3,293,508	\$ 5,542,118	\$ 2,470,992	\$ 9,235,904
Cost of revenues	7,014,045	3,122,061	2,489,983	2,460,281	4,484,469	1,850,528	8,155,735
Gross profit	5,820,429	2,780,667	1,005,177	833,227	1,057,649	620,464	1,080,169
	1,856,694	614,786	525,322	430,065	596,564	377,238	478,807

SUMMARY FINANCIAL DATA

3

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	Year Ended December 31, (audited)					Nine Months Ended September 30, (unaudited)	
Sales & marketing expense							
General & administrative expense	8,535,062	2,549,661	643,771	693,220	1,626,454	1,055,922	2,056,233
Facilities closing expense	376,289	43,500	--	--	--	--	--
Disposition of subsidiary	699,203	--	--	--	--	--	--
Impairment of goodwill	--	5,853,693	--	--	--	--	--
Depreciation expense	851,562	545,290	51,792	12,777	15,713	3,322	18,809
Loss from operations	(6,498,381)	(6,826,263)	(215,708)	(302,835)	(1,181,082)	(816,018)	(1,473,680)
Other income (expense):							
Interest income	103,351	44,655	17,658	11,551	5,841	5,006	4,831
Interest expense	(198,971)	(5,231)	(1,559)	(1,304)	(38,144)	(608)	(151,181)
(Loss) Gain from financial instrument	--	--	--	--	(3,070,617)	--	1,228,038
Other	--	--	140,000	1,500	2,118	--	1,910
Net loss before income taxes	(6,594,001)	(6,786,839)	(59,609)	(291,088)	(4,281,884)	(811,620)	(390,082)
Income tax benefit, net	--	--	--	--	(816)	--	(54,274)
Net loss	(6,594,001)	(6,786,839)	(59,609)	(291,088)	(4,281,068)	(811,620)	(335,808)
Basic and diluted net loss per share	\$ (0.51)	\$ (0.52)	\$ (0.00)	\$ (0.02)	\$ (0.26)	\$ (0.05)	\$ (0.01)
Basic and diluted weighted average shares outstanding	12,979,055	12,984,913	14,243,310	15,579,913	16,657,947	16,336,990	22,593,946

	December 31, (audited)				September 30, (unaudited)
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Balance Sheet Data:	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	1,563,544	1,208,660	949,612	463,525	362,879
Working capital	1,495,961	1,340,951	1,113,635	(6,850,739)	(2,121,065)
Total assets	2,193,339	1,736,812	1,465,645	8,391,426	8,053,514
Total liabilities	581,928	328,416	291,284	10,753,997	5,619,670
Accumulated deficit	(40,473,058)	(40,532,667)	(40,823,755)	(45,104,823)	(45,440,631)
Stockholders' equity (deficit)	1,611,411	1,408,396	1,174,361	(2,364,617)	2,432,528

3

SELECTED PRO FORMA FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The following table summarizes the pro forma financial information reflecting our acquisition of Operational Research Consultants, Inc. on October 25, 2004. The proforma information reflects the acquisition of ORC by WidePoint as if the acquisition had taken place on January 1, 2004 for the Statement of Operations of ORC for the year ended December 31, 2004. You should read this information with the financial statements of Operational Research Consultants, Inc. and pro forma financial information set forth elsewhere in this prospectus.

	Year Ended December 31, 2004
WidePoint Pro Forma	

Statement of Operations Data:

Revenues, net	\$ 13,853,008
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SELECTED PRO FORMA FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Operating expenses:	
Cost of sales	10,023,500
Sales, general & administrative	4,599,397
Depreciation expense	332,946
	<hr/>
Loss from operations	(1,102,835)
Other income (expenses):	
Interest income	5,841
Interest expenses	(146,949)
Loss from financial instrument	(3,070,617)
Other	6,043
	<hr/>
Net loss before provision for	
Income taxes	(4,308,517)
Income tax benefit	816
	<hr/>
Net loss	(4,307,701)
	<hr/>
Basic net loss per share	\$ (0.24)
	<hr/>
Basic and diluted weighted-average	
shares outstanding	17,630,447
	<hr/>
	4

RISK FACTORS

Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the risks and uncertainties described below before purchasing our common stock. The risks and uncertainties described below are not the only ones facing our company. Additional risks and uncertainties may also impair our business operations. If any of the following risks actually occur, our business, financial condition or results of operations would likely suffer. In that case, the trading price of our common stock could fall, and you may lose all or part of the money you paid to buy our common stock.

Risks Related to our Operations

We have a history of net losses, and while we expect to realize a substantial increase in future period revenues and we anticipate the realization of net income, there is no assurance that this will be the case and we may not achieve or maintain profitability.

We are engaged primarily in the business of providing information technology (IT) services with established competencies in federal government and private consulting, planning, managing and implementing IT solutions, software and secure authentication processes. We have incurred substantial net losses through September 30, 2005. Although we anticipate a substantial increase in revenues and operational profitability in future quarters, there is no assurance that this will be the case. Revenues and profits generated from our services will depend upon numerous factors, including:

Demand of commercial and federal marketplaces for our range of services,

Effectiveness of our sales and marketing efforts,

Ability to deliver capabilities cost-effectively, and

Competitive environment.

We may need to obtain additional funding to meet our future capital needs. If we are unable to obtain such financings, we may be required to significantly cut back our operations, sell assets or cease operations.

If we continue to have operating losses and without the realization of additional capital, or net profit from operations, and/or if we continue to seek out and make acquisitions which require a cash component, then we may need to raise additional capital. On October 25, 2004 and October 29, 2004, we issued and sold to Barron Partners L.P. (Barron) shares of our Series A Convertible Preferred Stock and warrants for an aggregate purchase price of approximately \$3.58 million. In that financing transaction, we also issued a warrant to Westcap Securities, Inc. (Westcap) to purchase 511,428 shares of our common stock at an exercise price of \$0.40 per share. In April and May of 2005, Barron converted a portion of its Series A Convertible Preferred Stock into 3,000,000 shares of common stock and exercised warrants to purchase 2,000,000 shares of common stock for an aggregate purchase price of \$800,000. In August and September 2005, Barron exercised warrants for 2,500,000 shares of common stock providing \$1,000,000 in gross proceeds to the Company. In December 2005, warrants for an additional 5,728,572 shares of common stock were exercised by the holders thereof providing \$ 2,291,429 of additional gross proceeds to the Company. In the event that we do not meet our currently planned operations and capital expenditures, we may require additional funding to support our operations. Additional funding may be unavailable on favorable terms, if at all. If we are unable to obtain sufficient additional funding when needed, we may have to significantly cut back our operations, defer potentially favorable acquisitions, sell some or all of our assets and/or cease operations. In addition, if we raise additional capital by issuing additional equity or convertible debt securities, our existing stockholders may suffer significant dilution and the securities issued could have rights, preferences and privileges more favorable than those of our current stockholders.

5

We may have difficulty responding to changing technology.

The IT industry is characterized by rapidly advancing technology. Our future success will depend, in large part, upon our ability to anticipate and keep pace with advancing technology and competitive innovations. However, we may not be successful in identifying, developing and marketing new products or services or enhancing our existing products or services. In addition, we can give no assurance that new products or services may be developed that will render our current or planned products or services obsolete or inferior. Rapid technological development by competitors may result in our products or services becoming obsolete before we recover a significant portion of the research and development expenses incurred with respect to such products or services.

We may be unable to implement our acquisition program.

Demand for businesses with credible business relationships and capabilities to provide services to various government agencies at the federal, state and local levels is very competitive. To the extent that this competition causes the price for these businesses to elevate beyond reasonable levels where funding for such acquisitions is no longer available, WidePoint may not be able to implement our acquisition strategy. Any significant change in the spending pattern of the federal government could potentially have an adverse effect on acquisition targets and as such, argue against making such acquisitions.

We may have difficulty integrating acquisitions into our existing operations.

To the extent that some acquisitions may have operational complexities due to the nature of their business, the election to not fully integrate such acquisitions may be made if such integration does not quantitatively improve operational or financial efficiencies. Some integration efforts will be phased in to ensure that desired efficiencies are quickly and cost effectively realized. Any element of integration must be justified rationally on potential cost savings realized by the business. If we are unable to successfully integrate some or all of the operations of ORC or future acquisitions this could have a material adverse effect on our business and operations.

We may not receive the full amount of our backlog, which could harm our business.

Our total backlog includes both funded and unfunded orders for services under existing signed contracts, assuming the exercise of all options relating to those contracts that we reasonably believe will be exercised. Congress often appropriates funds for our clients on a yearly basis, even though their contracts with us may call for performance that is expected to take a number of years. As a result, contracts typically are only partially funded at any point during their term, and all or some of the work to be performed under the contracts may remain unfunded unless and until Congress makes subsequent appropriations and the procuring agency allocates funding to the contract.

The dollar amount of our backlog orders believed to be firm as of December 31, 2005 and December 31, 2004 were \$6.6 million and \$6.0 million, respectively. The portion of backlog reasonably expected to be filled during 2006 is \$6.6 million.

We may be unable to implement our acquisition program.

There can be no assurance that our backlog will result in actual revenues in any particular period, or at all, or that any contract included in backlog will be profitable. This is because the actual receipt and timing of any of these revenues is subject to various contingencies, many of which are beyond our control. In addition, we may never realize revenues from some of the engagements that are included in our backlog, and there is a higher degree of risk in this regard with respect to unfunded backlog. The federal government's ability to select multiple winners under multiple award schedule contracts, government-wide acquisition contracts, blanket purchase agreements and other indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity contracts, as well as its right to award subsequent task orders among such multiple winners, means that there is no assurance that unfunded contract backlog will result in actual orders. The actual receipt of revenues on engagements included in backlog may never occur or may change because a program schedule could change or the program could be canceled, or a contract could be reduced, modified, or terminated early. Moreover, under multiple award schedule contracts, government wide acquisition contracts, blanket purchase agreements, and other indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity contracts, the government is frequently not obligated to order more than a minimum quantity of goods or services.

6

We have identified ineffective disclosure controls and procedures and material weaknesses in the design of our internal control over financial reporting.

We determined that our disclosure controls and procedures were ineffective at December 31, 2004 and at the end of each of the quarters during the year ended December 31, 2005, and that we had material weaknesses in the design of our internal control over financial reporting as of such dates, as discussed below. If not effectively remediated, such ineffective controls or material weaknesses could result in our non-timely filing of periodic reports or in accounting deficiencies in financial reporting.

With respect to ineffective disclosure controls and procedures, we discovered in November 2004 that the service provider we had engaged to Edgarize and file the proxy statement used in connection with our December 2003 annual meeting of stockholders and our 2002 annual report to stockholders inadvertently had not made such filings with the SEC. We immediately arranged for the making of those filings in November 2004 and have subsequently used other service providers to Edgarize and make our SEC filings. An additional internal reporting process was instituted in the first quarter of 2004 to track and confirm our filing of SEC reports. Furthermore, the material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting identified at the end of each of the quarters during 2005 and discussed below contributed to the ineffectiveness of our controls and procedures as of such dates.

The material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting identified at the end of each of the quarters in 2005 resulted from insufficient technical accounting expertise within our accounting function to resolve non-routine or complex accounting and tax matters that occurred in connection with: (i) our acquisition of ORC in October 2004; (ii) the determination of the proper accounting treatment of the financial instrument relating to the warrants issued by the Company to Barron in October 2004; and (iii) the determination of the proper accounting treatment of the shares of common stock issued and held in escrow following the acquisition by the Company of Chesapeake Government Technologies, Inc. (Chesapeake) in April 2004. The material weaknesses in internal controls resulted in: (i) our late filing on April 19, 2005 (four days after the extended due date) of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2004; (ii) the need to restate the recorded amount of the financial instrument at December 31, 2004 and March 31, 2005 due to the failure to mark-to-market such instrument at December 31, 2004; (iii) the need to reclassify the amortized costs relating to the ORC acquisition in cost of sales and not in amortization and depreciation, and to record the preferred stock issued to Barron as temporary preferred equity and not permanent preferred equity; and (iv) the need to restate our financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2004 and the first three quarters of 2005 to reflect changes in our accounting relating to the Chesapeake acquisition. The Chesapeake-related restatements: (i) eliminated the intangible asset associated with the acquisition; (ii) reversed the related amortization expense; (iii) expensed as consulting fees the cost of the transaction attributable to the cost of issuance of the non-escrowed shares and other direct costs at the time of the acquisition; (iv) recorded and expensed as consulting fees in cost of sales the release of the shares from escrow at December 31, 2004; (v) expensed in cost of sales and recorded the value of those shares in equity meeting the contractual performance measures that would result in the release of those shares from escrow after the filing of the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005; and (vi) recorded the shares in equity as common stock issuable until such time as they can be reclassified as common stock upon the release of the shares earned from escrow.

It should be noted that all of the warrants issued in October 2004 to Barron, which resulted in the need to recognize the financial instrument as a liability due to the cash penalty provision in the registration rights agreement relating thereto, were exercised prior to the end of 2005. Consequently, the Company will not be required to record such financial instrument at December 31, 2005.

In order to remediate the weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting, we employed a consulting firm in January 2005 with the requisite accounting expertise to resolve the above issues, which arose as a result of accounting comments raised by the SEC in connection with its review of the Company's periodic reports and this Registration Statement. We believe that the above material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting, and related ineffective disclosure controls and procedures resulting therefrom, were remedied on January 19, 2006 upon the filing by the Company of amendments to its prior periodic reports containing restated financial statements reflecting the resolution of the above accounting issues. Furthermore, we believe that the total costs associated with the remediation were not material in amount.

We may be unable to implement our acquisition program.

Risks Related to Our Industry

The demand for business and technology consulting services weakened significantly in 2001 and 2002, and demand may remain weak if the current improvement in the economic climate does not continue.

The market for our consulting services and the technologies used in our solutions has changed rapidly over the last five years. The market for advanced technology consulting services expanded dramatically during 1999 and most of 2000, but declined significantly in 2001 and 2002. Since the second half of 2000, many companies have experienced financial difficulties or uncertainty, and canceled or delayed spending on technology initiatives as a result. These companies typically are not demonstrating the same urgency regarding technology initiatives that existed during the economic expansion that stalled in 2000. This trend worsened for some companies following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in the United States and the accounting scandals involving Enron, Worldcom, Tyco and other companies. The economic uncertainty caused by recent military actions in Afghanistan and Iraq further depressed technology spending in the Commercial sector, although increased requirements and capabilities have characterized spending levels in the Government sector. While the overall economic climate has begun to show signs of improvement since the third quarter of 2003, this improvement may not continue for a meaningful period of time. If the economic climate does not improve significantly, large companies may continue to cancel or delay their business and technology consulting initiatives because of the weak economic climate, or for other reasons, and our business, financial condition and results of operations would be materially and adversely affected.

Our market is highly competitive and we may not be able to continue to compete effectively.

The markets for the services we provide are highly competitive. We currently compete with companies from a variety of market segments, including publicly and privately held firms, large accounting and consulting firms, systems consulting and implementation firms, application software firms, service groups of computer equipment companies and other general management consulting firms. We also compete regularly with offshore outsourcing companies, and we expect competition from these companies to increase in the future, especially on development, application management services and outsourcing engagements. We compete frequently for client engagements against companies with far higher revenues and larger numbers of consultants than we have. Recent consolidations of large consulting companies within our market have further increased the size and resources of some of these competitors. These competitors are often able to offer more scale, which in some instances has enabled them to significantly discount their services in exchange for revenues in other areas or at later dates. Additionally, in an effort to maintain market share, many of our competitors are heavily discounting their services to unprofitable levels. Some of our competitors have gone out of business. If we cannot keep pace with the intense competition in our marketplace, our business, financial condition and results of operations will suffer.

We have significant fixed operating costs, which may be difficult to adjust in response to unanticipated fluctuations in revenues.

A high percentage of our operating expenses, particularly personnel, rent and depreciation, are fixed in advance of any particular quarter. As a result, an unanticipated decrease in the number or average size of, or an unanticipated delay in the scheduling for, our projects may cause significant variations in operating results in any particular quarter and could have a material adverse effect on operations for that quarter.

An unanticipated termination or decrease in size or scope of a major project, a client's decision not to proceed with a project we anticipated or the completion during a quarter of several major client projects could require us to maintain underutilized employees and could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. Our revenues and earnings may also fluctuate from quarter to quarter because of such factors as:

- the contractual terms and timing of completion of projects, including achievement of certain business results;
- any delays incurred in connection with projects;

-
- the adequacy of provisions for losses and bad debts;
 - the accuracy of our estimates of resources required to complete ongoing projects;
 - loss of key highly skilled personnel necessary to complete projects; and

general economic conditions.

We may lose money if we do not accurately estimate the costs of fixed-price engagements.

Some of our projects may be based on fixed-price, fixed-time contracts, rather than contracts in which payment to us is determined on a time and materials basis. Our failure to accurately estimate the resources required for a project, or our failure to complete our contractual obligations in a manner consistent with the project plan upon which our fixed-price, fixed-time contract was based, could adversely affect our overall profitability and could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. In addition, we may fix the price for some projects at an early stage of the process, which could result in a fixed price that turns out to be too low and, therefore, could adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our clients could unexpectedly terminate their contracts for our services.

In both our commercial and federal sector businesses, some of our contracts can be canceled by the client with limited advance notice and without significant penalty. Termination by any client of a contract for our services could result in a loss of expected revenues and additional expenses for staff that were allocated to that client's project. We could be required to maintain underutilized employees who were assigned to the terminated contract. The unexpected cancellation or significant reduction in the scope of any of our large projects could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

We may be liable to our clients for damages caused by our services or by our failure to remedy system failures.

Many of our projects involve technology applications or systems that are critical to the operations of our clients' businesses. If we fail to perform our services correctly, we may be unable to deliver applications or systems to our clients with the promised functionality or within the promised time frame, or to satisfy the required service levels for support and maintenance. While we have taken precautionary actions to create redundancy and back-up systems, any such failures by us could result in claims by our clients for substantial damages against us. Although we attempt to limit the amount and type of our contractual liability for defects in the applications or systems we provide, and carry insurance coverage that mitigates this liability in certain instances, we cannot be assured that these limitations and insurance coverages will be applicable and enforceable in all cases. Even if these limitations and insurance coverages are found to be applicable and enforceable, our liability to our clients for these types of claims could be material in amount and affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

If we do not attract and retain qualified professional staff, we may not be able to adequately perform our client engagements and could be limited in accepting new client engagements.

Our business is labor intensive, and our success depends upon our ability to attract, retain, train and motivate highly skilled employees. Intense competition exists for employees who have specialized skills or significant experience in business and technology consulting. The improvement in demand for business and technology consulting services that began in the third quarter of 2003 has also increased the need for highly skilled employees. We may not be successful in attracting enough employees to achieve our desired expansion or staffing plans. Furthermore, the industry turnover rates for these types of employees are high, and we may not be successful in retaining, training and motivating the employees we are able to attract. Any inability to attract, retain, train and motivate employees could impair our ability to adequately manage and complete existing projects and to bid for or accept new client engagements. Such inability may also force us to hire expensive independent contractors, which could increase our costs and reduce our profitability on client engagements. We must also devote substantial managerial and financial resources to monitoring and managing our workforce and other resources. Our future success will depend on our ability to manage the levels and related costs of our workforce and other resources effectively.

We may be unable to protect our proprietary methodology.

Our success depends, in part, upon our proprietary methodology and other intellectual property rights. We rely upon a combination of trade secrets, nondisclosure and other contractual arrangements, and copyright and trademark laws to protect our proprietary rights. We generally enter into nondisclosure and confidentiality agreements with our employees, partners, consultants, independent sales agents and clients, and limit access to and distribution of our proprietary information. We cannot be certain that the steps we take in this regard will be adequate to deter misappropriation of our proprietary information or that we will be able to detect unauthorized use and take appropriate steps to enforce our intellectual property rights. Specifically in the Government sector, statutory contracting regulations protect the rights of Federal Agencies to retain access to, and utilization of, proprietary intellectual property utilized in the delivery of contracted services to such Agencies. Although we believe that our services and products do not infringe on the intellectual property rights of others, infringement claims may be asserted against us in the future, and, if asserted, these claims may be successful. A successful claim against us could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

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Our directors and officers have significant voting power and may substantially influence the outcome of any stockholder vote.

Our directors and officers, in the aggregate, beneficially own approximately 9,917,499 shares of our common stock, or approximately 21.8% of our issued and outstanding shares of common stock. As a result, they have the ability to substantially influence, and may effectively control the outcome of corporate actions requiring stockholder approval, including the election of directors. This concentration of ownership may also have the effect of delaying or preventing a change in control of WidePoint, even if such a change in control would benefit other investors.

We have a concentrated ownership structure and our directors and officers in conjunction with Barron's common stock and upon its conversion of all of the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock, would beneficially own a total of approximately 51% of the o