

RAMBUS INC
Form 10-Q
April 25, 2014
Table of Contents

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

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

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

For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2014

OR

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number: 000-22339

RAMBUS INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

1050 Enterprise Way, Suite 700, Sunnyvale, CA 94089

(Address of principal executive offices) (zip code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (408) 462-8000

94-3112828

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark 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

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

The number of shares outstanding of the registrant's Common Stock, par value \$.001 per share, was 113,744,776 as of March 31, 2014.

Table of Contents

RAMBUS INC.
TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | PAGE |
|--|-----------|
| <u>Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements</u> | <u>3</u> |
| PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION | |
| Item 1. Financial Statements (Unaudited): | |
| <u>Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as of March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013</u> | <u>5</u> |
| <u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013</u> | <u>6</u> |
| <u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss) for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013</u> | <u>7</u> |
| <u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013</u> | <u>8</u> |
| <u>Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements</u> | <u>9</u> |
| <u>Item 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u> | <u>25</u> |
| <u>Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk</u> | <u>37</u> |
| <u>Item 4. Controls and Procedures</u> | <u>38</u> |
| PART II. OTHER INFORMATION | <u>39</u> |
| <u>Item 1. Legal Proceedings</u> | <u>39</u> |
| <u>Item 1A. Risk Factors</u> | <u>39</u> |
| <u>Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u> | <u>49</u> |
| <u>Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities</u> | <u>49</u> |
| <u>Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures</u> | <u>49</u> |
| <u>Item 5. Other Information</u> | <u>49</u> |
| <u>Item 6. Exhibits</u> | <u>49</u> |
| <u>Signature</u> | <u>50</u> |
| <u>Exhibit Index</u> | <u>51</u> |

Table of Contents

NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (“Quarterly Report”) contains forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements include, without limitation, predictions regarding the following aspects of our future:

- Success in the markets of our products and services or our customers’ products;
- Sources of competition;
- Research and development costs and improvements in technology;
- Sources, amounts and concentration of revenue, including royalties;
- Success in signing and renewing license agreements;
- Technology product development;
- Dispositions, acquisitions, mergers or strategic transactions and our related integration efforts;
- Impairment of goodwill and long-lived assets;
- Pricing policies of our customers;
- Changes in our strategy and business model;
- Deterioration of financial health of commercial counterparties and their ability to meet their obligations to us;
- Engineering, marketing and general and administration expenses;
- Contract revenue;
- Operating results;
- International licenses and operations;
- Effects of changes in the economy and credit market on our industry and business;
- Ability to identify, attract, motivate and retain qualified personnel;
- Growth in our business;
- Methods, estimates and judgments in accounting policies;
- Adoption of new accounting pronouncements;
- Effective tax rates;
 - Realization of deferred tax assets/release of deferred tax valuation allowance;
- Trading price of our common stock;
- Internal control environment;
- Corporate governance;
- The level and terms of our outstanding debt;
- Resolution of the governmental agency matters involving us;
- Litigation expenses;
- Protection of intellectual property;
- Terms of our licenses and amounts owed under license agreements;
- Indemnification and technical support obligations;
- Issuances of our securities, which could involve restrictive covenants or be dilutive to our existing stockholders;

Table of Contents

Outcome and effect of current and potential future intellectual property litigation and other significant litigation; and
Likelihood of paying dividends or repurchasing securities.

You can identify these and other forward-looking statements by the use of words such as “may,” “future,” “shall,” “should,” “expects,” “plans,” “anticipates,” “believes,” “estimates,” “predicts,” “intends,” “potential,” “continue,” “projecting” or the neg terms, or other comparable terminology. Forward-looking statements also include the assumptions underlying or relating to any of the foregoing statements.

Actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of various factors, including those set forth under Item 1A, “Risk Factors.” All forward-looking statements included in this document are based on our assessment of information available to us at this time. We assume no obligation to update any forward-looking statements.

Table of Contents

RAMBUS INC.
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
 (Unaudited)

| | March 31, 2014 | December 31, 2013 |
|--|--|----------------------|
| | (In thousands, except shares and par value) | |
| ASSETS | | |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$346,576 | \$338,696 |
| Marketable securities | 56,848 | 48,966 |
| Accounts receivable | 7,816 | 2,251 |
| Prepays and other current assets | 8,766 | 8,253 |
| Deferred taxes | 1,009 | 205 |
| Total current assets | 421,015 | 398,371 |
| Intangible assets, net | 109,260 | 117,172 |
| Goodwill | 116,899 | 116,899 |
| Property, plant and equipment, net | 70,110 | 72,642 |
| Deferred taxes, long-term | 643 | 4,797 |
| Other assets | 3,071 | 3,498 |
| Total assets | \$720,998 | \$713,379 |
| LIABILITIES & STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Accounts payable | \$5,555 | \$7,001 |
| Accrued salaries and benefits | 27,257 | 33,448 |
| Convertible notes, short-term | 168,658 | 164,047 |
| Other accrued liabilities | 8,171 | 8,346 |
| Total current liabilities | 209,641 | 212,842 |
| Convertible notes, long-term | 110,962 | 109,629 |
| Long-term imputed financing obligation | 39,295 | 39,349 |
| Long-term income taxes payable | 1,905 | 6,561 |
| Other long-term liabilities | 7,210 | 4,769 |
| Total liabilities | 369,013 | 373,150 |
| Commitments and contingencies (Notes 9 and 14) | | |
| Stockholders' equity: | | |
| Convertible preferred stock, \$.001 par value: | | |
| Authorized: 5,000,000 shares | | |
| Issued and outstanding: no shares at March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013 | — | — |
| Common stock, \$.001 par value: | | |
| Authorized: 500,000,000 shares | | |
| Issued and outstanding: 113,744,776 shares at March 31, 2014 and 113,459,390 shares at December 31, 2013 | 114 | 113 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 1,132,092 | 1,128,148 |
| Accumulated deficit | (779,924 |) (787,727 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (297 |) (305 |
| Total stockholders' equity | 351,985 | 340,229 |
| Total liabilities and stockholders' equity | \$720,998 | \$713,379 |
| See Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements | | |

Table of Contents

RAMBUS INC.
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
 (Unaudited)

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|--|---|-----------|
| | 2014 | 2013 |
| | (In thousands, except per share amounts) | |
| Revenue: | | |
| Royalties | \$73,637 | \$66,222 |
| Contract and other revenue | 4,651 | 644 |
| Total revenue | 78,288 | 66,866 |
| Operating costs and expenses: | | |
| Cost of revenue* | 10,022 | 6,534 |
| Research and development* | 26,898 | 32,848 |
| Marketing, general and administrative* | 18,820 | 25,122 |
| Gain from sale of intellectual property | (170 |) (1,285 |
| Restructuring charges | 39 | 2,206 |
| Gain from settlement | (510 |) — |
| Total operating costs and expenses | 55,099 | 65,425 |
| Operating income | 23,189 | 1,441 |
| Interest income and other income (expense), net | 13 | (20 |
| Interest expense | (9,926 |) (7,312 |
| Interest and other income (expense), net | (9,913 |) (7,332 |
| Income (loss) before income taxes | 13,276 | (5,891 |
| Provision for income taxes | 5,472 | 4,511 |
| Net income (loss) | \$7,804 | \$(10,402 |
| Net income (loss) per share: | | |
| Basic | \$0.07 | \$(0.09 |
| Diluted | \$0.07 | \$(0.09 |
| Weighted average shares used in per share calculation: | | |
| Basic | 113,590 | 111,599 |
| Diluted | 116,629 | 111,599 |
| <hr/> | | |
| * Includes stock-based compensation: | | |
| Cost of revenue | \$7 | \$— |
| Research and development | \$1,311 | \$1,876 |
| Marketing, general and administrative | \$1,581 | \$3,072 |

See Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

Table of Contents

RAMBUS INC.
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)
 (Unaudited)

| (In thousands) | Three Months Ended | |
|---|--------------------|-------------|
| | March 31, | |
| | 2014 | 2013 |
| Net income (loss) | \$7,804 | \$(10,402) |
| Other comprehensive income (loss): | | |
| Unrealized gain (loss) on marketable securities, net of tax | 8 | (14) |
| Total comprehensive income (loss) | \$7,812 | \$(10,416) |

See Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

7

Table of Contents

RAMBUS INC.
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
 (Unaudited)

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|--|---------------------------------|------------|
| | 2014 | 2013 |
| | (In thousands) | |
| Cash flows from operating activities: | | |
| Net income (loss) | \$7,804 | \$(10,402) |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities: | | |
| Stock-based compensation | 2,899 | 4,948 |
| Depreciation | 3,481 | 3,791 |
| Amortization of intangible assets | 6,797 | 7,040 |
| Non-cash interest expense and amortization of convertible debt issuance costs | 6,242 | 4,089 |
| Deferred income taxes | 5,967 | 263 |
| Non-cash restructuring | — | 653 |
| Gain from sale of intellectual property | (170) | (1,285) |
| Change in operating assets and liabilities, net of effects of acquisitions: | | |
| Accounts receivable | (5,565) | 469 |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets | (183) | 2,965 |
| Accounts payable | 749 | (2,243) |
| Accrued salaries and benefits and other accrued liabilities | (6,682) | 4,646 |
| Income taxes payable | (4,828) | 378 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 16,511 | 15,312 |
| Cash flows from investing activities: | | |
| Purchases of property, plant and equipment | (3,145) | (3,703) |
| Acquisition of intangible assets | — | (1,875) |
| Purchases of marketable securities | (34,050) | (36,699) |
| Maturities of marketable securities | 26,050 | 33,250 |
| Proceeds from sale of intellectual property | 1,250 | 2,000 |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (9,895) | (7,027) |
| Cash flows from financing activities: | | |
| Proceeds received from issuance of common stock under employee stock plans | 1,352 | — |
| Principal payments against lease financing obligation | (60) | (26) |
| Payments under installment payment arrangement | (28) | (28) |
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities | 1,264 | (54) |
| Net increase in cash and cash equivalents | 7,880 | 8,231 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period | 338,696 | 148,984 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period | \$346,576 | \$157,215 |
| Non-cash investing and financing activities during the period: | | |
| Property, plant and equipment received and accrued in accounts payable and other accrued liabilities | \$280 | \$166 |

See Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

Table of Contents

RAMBUS INC.

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Rambus Inc. ("Rambus" or the "Company") and its wholly-owned subsidiaries. All intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements. Investments in entities with less than 20% ownership or in which the Company does not have the ability to significantly influence the operations of the investee are being accounted for using the cost method and are included in other assets.

In the opinion of management, the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements include all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring items) necessary to state fairly the financial position and results of operations for each interim period presented. Interim results are not necessarily indicative of results for a full year.

The unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") applicable to interim financial information. Certain information and Note disclosures included in the financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles have been omitted in these interim statements pursuant to such SEC rules and regulations. The information included in this Form 10-Q should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto in Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013.

Operating Segment Definitions

Operating segments are based upon Rambus' internal organization structure, the manner in which its operations are managed, the criteria used by its Chief Operating Decision Maker ("CODM") to evaluate segment performance and availability of separate financial information regularly reviewed for resource allocation and performance assessment. The Company determined its CODM to be the Chief Executive Officer and determined its operating segments to be: (1) Memory and Interface Division ("MID"), which focuses on the design, development and licensing of technology that is related to memory and interfaces; (2) Cryptography Research Inc. ("CRI"), which focuses on the design, development and licensing of technologies for chip and system security and anti-counterfeiting; (3) Lighting and Display Technologies ("LDT"), which focuses on the design, development and licensing of technologies for lighting; and (4) Chief Technology Office ("CTO"), which focuses on the design, development and productization of emerging technologies.

For the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, only MID, CRI and CTO were reportable segments as each of them met the quantitative thresholds for disclosure as a reportable segment. The results of the remaining other operating segments were combined and shown under "Other."

Reclassifications

Certain prior periods' amounts were reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation. None of these reclassifications had an impact on reported net income (loss) for any of the periods presented.

2. Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In April 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2014-08, "Reporting Discontinued Operations and Disclosures of Disposals of Components of an Entity," which changes the criteria for determining which disposals can be presented as discontinued operations and modifies related disclosure requirements. The new accounting standards update becomes effective for the Company on January 1, 2015. Early adoption is permitted for new disposals (or new classifications as held for sale) that have not been reported in financial statements previously issued or available for issuance. The Company does not expect that this guidance will have an impact on its financial position, results of operations or cash flows as the Company does not currently have discontinued operations.

In July 2013, the FASB issued ASU No. 2013-11 "Presentation of an Unrecognized Tax Benefit When a Net Operating Loss Carryforward, a Similar Tax Loss, or a Tax Credit Carryforward Exists." ("ASU 2013-11"). ASU 2013-11 provides guidance on the presentation of unrecognized tax benefits. ASU 2013-11 requires presenting an unrecognized tax benefit or a portion of an unrecognized tax benefit as a reduction to a deferred tax asset for a net operating loss carryforward, a similar tax loss or a tax credit carry forward, except to the extent a net operating loss

carryforward, a similar tax loss, or a tax credit carryforward is not available at the reporting date under the tax law of the applicable jurisdiction to settle any additional income taxes that would result from the disallowance of a tax position or the tax law of the applicable jurisdiction does not require the entity to use, and

9

Table of Contents

the entity does not intend to use, the deferred tax asset for such purpose, the unrecognized tax benefit should be presented in the financial statements as a liability and should not be combined with deferred tax assets. This accounting standards update became effective for the Company on January 1, 2014 and was applied prospectively to unrecognized tax benefits that existed at the effective date with retrospective application permitted. Upon adoption of this guidance, the Company reclassified \$4.7 million from a long-term tax liability to a reduction of a deferred tax asset.

3. Earnings (Loss) Per Share

Basic earnings (loss) per share is calculated by dividing the net income (loss) by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings per share is calculated by dividing the earnings by the weighted average number of common shares and potentially dilutive securities outstanding during the period.

Potentially dilutive common shares consist of incremental common shares issuable upon exercise of stock options, employee stock purchases, restricted stock and restricted stock units and shares issuable upon the conversion of convertible notes. The dilutive effect of outstanding shares is reflected in diluted earnings per share by application of the treasury stock method. This method includes consideration of the amounts to be paid by the employees, the amount of excess tax benefits that would be recognized in equity if the instrument was exercised and the amount of unrecognized stock-based compensation related to future services. No potential dilutive common shares are included in the computation of any diluted per share amount when a net loss is reported.

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted net income (loss) per share:

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|---|--|--------------|
| | 2014 | 2013 |
| | (In thousands, except per share amounts) | |
| Net income (loss) per share: | | |
| Numerator: | | |
| Net income (loss) | \$ 7,804 | \$ (10,402) |
| Denominator: | | |
| Weighted-average shares outstanding - basic | 113,590 | 111,599 |
| Effect of potential dilutive common shares | 3,039 | — |
| Weighted-average shares outstanding - diluted | 116,629 | 111,599 |
| Basic net income (loss) per share | \$ 0.07 | \$ (0.09) |
| Diluted net income (loss) per share | \$ 0.07 | \$ (0.09) |

For the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, options to purchase approximately 6.9 million and 12.9 million shares, respectively, were excluded from the calculation because they were anti-dilutive after considering proceeds from exercise, taxes and related unrecognized stock-based compensation expense. For the three months ended March 31, 2013, an additional 6.4 million potentially dilutive shares have been excluded from the weighted average dilutive shares because there was a net loss for the period.

4. Intangible Assets and Goodwill

Goodwill

The following tables present goodwill information for each of the reportable segments for the three months ended March 31, 2014:

| Reportable Segment: | December 31, 2013 | Additions to Goodwill | Impairment Charge of Goodwill | March 31, 2014 |
|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| | (In thousands) | | | |
| MID | \$19,905 | \$— | \$— | \$19,905 |
| CTO | — | — | — | — |
| CRI | 96,994 | — | — | 96,994 |
| Other | — | — | — | — |
| Total | \$116,899 | \$— | \$— | \$116,899 |

Table of Contents

| Reportable Segment: | As of March 31, 2014 | | |
|---------------------|---|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| | Gross Carrying Amount (In thousands) | Accumulated Impairment Losses | Net Carrying Amount |
| MID | \$19,905 | \$— | \$19,905 |
| CTO | 8,070 | (8,070) | — |
| CRI | 96,994 | — | 96,994 |
| Other | 13,700 | (13,700) | — |
| Total | \$138,669 | \$(21,770) | \$116,899 |

Intangible Assets

The components of the Company's intangible assets as of March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013 were as follows:

| | Useful Life | As of March 31, 2014 | | |
|--|---------------|--|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| | | Gross Carrying Amount (In thousands) | Accumulated Amortization | Net Carrying Amount |
| Existing technology | 3 to 10 years | \$185,321 | \$(86,476) | \$98,845 |
| Customer contracts and contractual relationships | 1 to 10 years | 31,093 | (20,695) | 10,398 |
| Non-compete agreements | 3 years | 300 | (283) | 17 |
| Total intangible assets | | \$216,714 | \$(107,454) | \$109,260 |
| | Useful Life | As of December 31, 2013 | | |
| | | Gross Carrying Amount (In thousands) | Accumulated Amortization | Net Carrying Amount |
| Existing technology | 3 to 10 years | \$186,202 | \$(80,961) | \$105,241 |
| Customer contracts and contractual relationships | 1 to 10 years | 31,093 | (19,204) | 11,889 |
| Non-compete agreements | 3 years | 300 | (258) | 42 |
| Total intangible assets | | \$217,595 | \$(100,423) | \$117,172 |

During the three months ended March 31, 2014, the Company did not purchase any intangible assets. During the three months ended March 31, 2014, the Company sold portfolios of its intellectual property covering wireless and other technologies for \$2.5 million and the related gain was recorded as gain from sale of intellectual property in the condensed consolidated statements of operations.

The favorable contracts (included in customer contracts and contractual relationships) are acquired patent licensing agreements where the Company has no performance obligations. Cash received from these acquired favorable contracts reduces the favorable contract intangible asset. For the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, the Company received \$0.9 million and \$1.4 million related to the favorable contracts, respectively. As of March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013, the net balance of the favorable contract intangible assets was \$0.1 million and \$1.0 million, respectively.

Amortization expense for intangible assets for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013 was \$6.8 million and \$7.0 million, respectively. The estimated future amortization expense of intangible assets as of March 31, 2014 was as follows (amounts in thousands):

Table of Contents

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Years Ending December 31: | Amount |
| 2014 (remaining 9 months) | \$19,846 |
| 2015 | 25,098 |
| 2016 | 24,335 |
| 2017 | 23,734 |
| 2018 | 10,827 |
| Thereafter | 5,420 |
| | \$109,260 |

It is reasonably possible that the businesses could perform significantly below the Company's expectations or a deterioration of market and economic conditions could occur. This would adversely impact the Company's ability to meet its projected results, which could cause the goodwill in any of its reporting units or long-lived assets in any of its asset groups to become impaired. Significant differences between these estimates and actual cash flows could materially affect the Company's future financial results. If the reporting units are not successful in commercializing new business arrangements, if the businesses are unsuccessful in signing new license agreements or renewing their existing license agreements, or if the Company is unsuccessful in managing its costs, the revenue and income for these reporting units could adversely and materially deviate from their historical trends and could cause goodwill or long-lived assets to become impaired. If the Company determines that its goodwill or long-lived assets are impaired, it would be required to record a non-cash charge that could have a material adverse effect on its results of operations and financial position.

5. Segments and Major Customers

For the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, MID, CRI and CTO were reportable segments as each of them met the quantitative thresholds for disclosure as a reportable segment. The results of the remaining operating segment were shown under "Other."

The Company evaluates the performance of its segments based on segment operating income (loss), which is defined as revenue minus segment operating expenses. Segment operating expenses are comprised of direct operating expenses.

Segment operating expenses do not include marketing, general and administrative expenses and the allocation of certain expenses managed at the corporate level, such as stock-based compensation, amortization, and certain bonus and acquisition costs. The "Reconciling Items" category includes these unallocated marketing, general and administrative expenses as well as corporate level expenses. The presentation of the three months ended March 31, 2013 segment data has been updated accordingly to conform with the 2014 segment operating income (loss) definition.

The tables below present reported segment operating income (loss) for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

| | For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2014 | | | | |
|--|---|----------|-----------|---------|----------|
| | MID | CRI | CTO | Other | Total |
| | (In thousands) | | | | |
| Revenues | \$61,156 | \$12,903 | \$— | \$4,229 | \$78,288 |
| Segment operating expenses | 9,920 | 7,629 | 4,271 | 4,382 | 26,202 |
| Segment operating income (loss) | \$51,236 | \$5,274 | \$(4,271) | \$(153) | \$52,086 |
| Reconciling items | | | | | (28,897) |
| Operating income | | | | | \$23,189 |
| Interest and other income (expense), net | | | | | (9,913) |
| Income before income taxes | | | | | \$13,276 |

Table of Contents

For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2013

| MID | CRI | CTO | Other | Total |
|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------|
|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------|

(In thousands)

| | | | | | |
|--|----------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Revenues | \$59,674 | \$6,883 | \$— | \$309 | \$66,866 |
| Segment operating expenses | 9,884 | 4,888 | 7,171 | 3,629 | 25,572 |
| Segment operating income (loss) | \$49,790 | \$1,995 | \$(7,171) | \$(3,320) | \$41,294 |
| Reconciling items | | | | | (39,853) |
| Operating income | | | | | \$1,441 |
| Interest and other income (expense), net | | | | | (7,332) |
| Loss before income taxes | | | | | \$(5,891) |

The Company's CODM does not review information regarding assets on an operating segment basis. Additionally, the Company does not record intersegment revenue or expense.

Revenue from the Company's major customers representing 10% or more of total revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively, was as follows:

| Customer | Three Months Ended March 31, | | |
|--|------------------------------|------|---|
| | 2014 | 2013 | % |
| Customer A (MID and CRI reportable segments) | 19 | 33 | % |
| Customer B (MID reportable segment) | 15 | * | % |
| Customer C (MID reportable segment) | 12 | * | % |
| Customer D (MID reportable segment) | * | 15 | % |
| Customer E (MID reportable segment) | * | 10 | % |

* Customer accounted for less than 10% of total revenue in the period

Revenue from customers in the geographic regions based on the location of customers' headquarters is as follows:

| (In thousands) | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|----------------|------------------------------|----------|
| | 2014 | 2013 |
| South Korea | \$26,853 | \$22,025 |
| USA | 28,674 | 25,569 |
| Japan | 9,255 | 14,609 |
| Europe | 8,563 | 2,127 |
| Canada | 1,824 | 1,786 |
| Asia-Other | 3,119 | 750 |
| Total | \$78,288 | \$66,866 |

6. Marketable Securities

Rambus invests its excess cash and cash equivalents primarily in U.S. government sponsored obligations, commercial paper, corporate notes and bonds, money market funds and municipal notes and bonds that mature within three years. As of March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013, all of the Company's cash equivalents and marketable securities had a remaining maturity of less than one year.

Table of Contents

All cash equivalents and marketable securities are classified as available-for-sale. Total cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities are summarized as follows:

| (In thousands) | As of March 31, 2014 | | | | | Weighted Rate of Return | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--|
| | Fair Value | Amortized Cost | Gross Unrealized Gains | Gross Unrealized Losses | | | |
| Money market funds | \$317,769 | \$317,769 | \$— | \$— | 0.01 | % | |
| Corporate notes, bonds and commercial paper | 58,347 | 58,355 | 1 | (9) | 0.13 | % | |
| Total cash equivalents and marketable securities | 376,116 | 376,124 | 1 | (9) | | | |
| Cash | 27,308 | 27,308 | — | — | | | |
| Total cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities | \$403,424 | \$403,432 | \$1 | \$(9) | | | |
| (In thousands) | As of December 31, 2013 | | | | | Weighted Rate of Return | |
| | Fair Value | Amortized Cost | Gross Unrealized Gains | Gross Unrealized Losses | | | |
| Money market funds | \$300,605 | \$300,605 | \$— | \$— | 0.01 | % | |
| Corporate notes, bonds and commercial paper | 58,492 | 58,507 | — | (15) | 0.15 | % | |
| Total cash equivalents and marketable securities | 359,097 | 359,112 | — | (15) | | | |
| Cash | 28,565 | 28,565 | — | — | | | |
| Total cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities | \$387,662 | \$387,677 | \$— | \$(15) | | | |

Available-for-sale securities are reported at fair value on the balance sheets and classified as follows:

| | As of | |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|
| | March 31, 2014 | December 31, 2013 |
| | (In thousands) | |
| Cash equivalents | \$319,268 | \$310,131 |
| Short term marketable securities | 56,848 | 48,966 |
| Total cash equivalents and marketable securities | 376,116 | 359,097 |
| Cash | 27,308 | 28,565 |
| Total cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities | \$403,424 | \$387,662 |

The Company continues to invest in highly rated quality, highly liquid debt securities. As of March 31, 2014, these securities have a remaining maturity of less than one year. The Company holds all of its marketable securities as available-for-sale, marks them to market, and regularly reviews its portfolio to ensure adherence to its investment policy and to monitor individual investments for risk analysis, proper valuation, and unrealized losses that may be other than temporary.

The estimated fair value of cash equivalents and marketable securities classified by the length of time that the securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position at March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013 are as follows:

| | Fair Value | | Gross Unrealized Loss | |
|---|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| | March 31, 2014 | December 31, 2013 | March 31, 2014 | December 31, 2013 |
| | (In thousands) | | | |
| Less than one year | | | | |
| Corporate notes, bonds and commercial paper | \$43,151 | \$53,491 | \$(9) | \$(15) |

The gross unrealized loss at March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013 was not material in relation to the Company's total available-for-sale portfolio. The gross unrealized loss can be primarily attributed to a combination of market conditions as well as the demand for and duration of the corporate notes and bonds. The Company has no intent to sell, there is no requirement to sell and the Company believes that it can recover the amortized cost of these investments. The Company has found no evidence of impairment due to credit losses in its portfolio. Therefore, these unrealized losses were recorded in other comprehensive

Table of Contents

income (loss). However, the Company cannot provide any assurance that its portfolio of cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities will not be impacted by adverse conditions in the financial markets, which may require the Company in the future to record an impairment charge for credit losses which could adversely impact its financial results.

See Note 7, "Fair Value of Financial Instruments," for discussion regarding the fair value of the Company's cash equivalents and marketable securities.

7. Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The Company reviews the pricing inputs by obtaining prices from a different source for the same security on a sample of its portfolio. The Company has not adjusted the pricing inputs it has obtained. The following table presents the financial instruments that are carried at fair value and summarizes the valuation of its cash equivalents and marketable securities by the above pricing levels as of March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013:

| As of March 31, 2014 | | | | |
|---|----------------|---|---|--|
| | Total | Quoted Market Prices in Active Markets (Level 1) | Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2) | Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3) |
| | (In thousands) | | | |
| Money market funds | \$317,769 | \$317,769 | \$— | \$— |
| Corporate notes, bonds and commercial paper | 58,347 | — | 58,347 | — |
| Total available-for-sale securities | \$376,116 | \$317,769 | \$58,347 | \$— |
| As of December 31, 2013 | | | | |
| | Total | Quoted Market Prices in Active Markets (Level 1) | Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2) | Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3) |
| | (In thousands) | | | |
| Money market funds | \$300,605 | \$300,605 | \$— | \$— |
| Corporate notes, bonds and commercial paper | 58,492 | — | 58,492 | — |
| Total available-for-sale securities | \$359,097 | \$300,605 | \$58,492 | \$— |

The following table presents the financial instruments that are measured on a nonrecurring basis as of March 31, 2014:

| As of March 31, 2014 | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|---|---|--|---|
| (in thousands) | Carrying Value | Quoted market prices in active markets (Level 1) | Significant other observable inputs (Level 2) | Significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) | Impairment charges for the three months ended March 31, 2014 |
| Investment in non-marketable securities | \$600 | \$— | \$— | \$600 | \$— |

The Company monitors its investments for other-than-temporary impairment and records appropriate reductions in carrying value when necessary. The Company monitors its investments for other-than-temporary losses by considering current factors, including the economic environment, market conditions, operational performance and other specific factors relating to the business underlying the investment, reductions in carrying values when necessary

and the Company's ability and intent to hold the investment for a period of time which may be sufficient for anticipated recovery in the market. Any other-than-temporary loss is reported under "Interest and other income (expense), net" in the condensed consolidated statement of operations. For the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, the Company did not incur any impairment loss on its investments.

Table of Contents

Additionally, the Company cannot provide any assurance that its non-marketable equity security will not be further impacted by adverse changes in the general market conditions or deterioration in business prospects of the investee, which may require the Company in the future to record additional impairment charges which could adversely impact its financial results.

For the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, there were no transfers of financial instruments between different categories of fair value.

The following table presents the financial instruments that are not carried at fair value but require fair value disclosure as of March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013:

| (In thousands) | As of March 31, 2014 | | | As of December 31, 2013 | | |
|---|----------------------|----------------|------------|-------------------------|----------------|------------|
| | Face Value | Carrying Value | Fair Value | Face Value | Carrying Value | Fair Value |
| 5% Convertible Senior Notes due 2014 (the "2014 Notes") | \$ 172,500 | \$ 168,658 | \$ 173,846 | \$ 172,500 | \$ 164,047 | \$ 175,821 |
| 1.125% Convertible Senior Notes due 2018 (the "2018 Notes") | \$ 138,000 | \$ 110,962 | \$ 155,824 | \$ 138,000 | \$ 109,629 | \$ 142,427 |

The fair value of the convertible notes at each balance sheet date is determined based on recent quoted market prices for these notes which is a level two measurement. As discussed in Note 8, "Convertible Notes," as of March 31, 2014, the 2014 Notes and 2018 Notes are carried at their face value of \$172.5 million and \$138.0 million, respectively, less any unamortized debt discount. The carrying value of other financial instruments, including accounts receivable, accounts payable and other accrued liabilities, approximates fair value due to their short maturities.

8. Convertible Notes

The Company's convertible notes are shown in the following table:

| (In thousands) | As of March 31, 2014 | As of December 31, 2013 |
|---|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 5% Convertible Senior Notes due 2014 | \$ 172,500 | \$ 172,500 |
| 1.125% Convertible Senior Notes due 2018 | 138,000 | 138,000 |
| Total principal amount of convertible notes | \$ 310,500 | \$ 310,500 |
| Unamortized discount - 2014 Notes | \$(3,842) | \$(8,453) |
| Unamortized discount - 2018 Notes | (27,038) | (28,371) |
| Total unamortized discount | \$(30,880) | \$(36,824) |
| Total convertible notes | \$ 279,620 | \$ 273,676 |
| Less current portion | 168,658 | 164,047 |
| Total long-term convertible notes | \$ 110,962 | \$ 109,629 |

The 2014 Notes are classified as a short-term liability as they will be due on June 15, 2014.

Interest expense related to the notes for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013 was as follows:

Table of Contents

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|---|---------------------------------|---------|
| | 2014 | 2013 |
| | (In thousands) | |
| 2014 Notes coupon interest at a rate of 5% | \$2,156 | \$2,157 |
| 2014 Notes amortization of discount and debt issuance costs at an additional effective interest rate of 11.7% | 4,769 | 4,089 |
| 2018 Notes coupon interest at a rate of 1.125% | 388 | — |
| 2018 Notes amortization of discount and debt issuance costs at an additional effective interest rate of 5.5% | 1,473 | — |
| Total interest expense on convertible notes | \$8,786 | \$6,246 |

9. Commitments and Contingencies

As of March 31, 2014, the Company's material contractual obligations were as follows (in thousands):

| | Total | Remainder of 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | Thereafter |
|--|-----------|-------------------|----------|---------|---------|-----------|------------|
| Contractual obligations (1) | | | | | | | |
| Imputed financing obligation (2) | \$38,808 | \$ 4,422 | \$6,010 | \$6,156 | \$6,302 | \$6,447 | \$9,471 |
| Leases and other contractual obligations | 7,118 | 2,399 | 2,118 | 1,243 | 1,018 | 340 | — |
| Software licenses (3) | 5,684 | 2,446 | 2,865 | 373 | — | — | — |
| Acquisition retention bonuses (4) | 16,749 | 16,679 | 70 | — | — | — | — |
| Convertible notes | 310,500 | 172,500 | — | — | — | 138,000 | — |
| Interest payments related to convertible notes | 11,300 | 5,089 | 1,553 | 1,553 | 1,553 | 1,552 | — |
| Total | \$390,159 | \$ 203,535 | \$12,616 | \$9,325 | \$8,873 | \$146,339 | \$9,471 |

The above table does not reflect possible payments in connection with uncertain tax benefits of approximately \$20.0 million including \$18.0 million recorded as a reduction of long-term deferred tax assets and \$2.0 million in (1) long-term income taxes payable as of March 31, 2014. As noted below in Note 13, "Income Taxes," although it is possible that some of the unrecognized tax benefits could be settled within the next 12 months, the Company cannot reasonably estimate the outcome at this time.

With respect to the imputed financing obligation, the main components of the difference between the amount (2) reflected in the contractual obligations table and the amount reflected on the condensed consolidated balance sheets are the interest on the imputed financing obligation and the estimated common area expenses over the future periods. Additionally, the amount includes the amended Ohio lease and the amended Sunnyvale lease.

The Company has commitments with various software vendors for non-cancellable license agreements generally (3) having terms longer than one year. The above table summarizes those contractual obligations as of March 31, 2014 which are also presented on the Company's condensed consolidated balance sheet under current and other long-term liabilities.

In connection with acquisitions, the Company is obligated to pay retention bonuses to certain employees and (4) contractors, subject to certain eligibility and acceleration provisions including the condition of employment. The remaining \$16.7 million of CRI retention bonuses payable on June 3, 2014 can be paid in cash or stock at the Company's election.

Building lease expense was approximately \$0.6 million and \$0.9 million for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Deferred rent of \$1.3 million and \$1.4 million as of March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013, respectively, were included primarily in other long-term liabilities.

Table of Contents

Indemnification

The Company enters into standard license agreements in the ordinary course of business. Although the Company does not indemnify most of its customers, there are times when an indemnification is a necessary means of doing business. Indemnification covers customers for losses suffered or incurred by them as a result of any patent, copyright, or other intellectual property infringement or any other claim by any third party arising as result of the applicable agreement with the Company. The Company generally attempts to limit the maximum amount of indemnification that the Company could be required to make under these agreements, to the amount of fees received by the Company.

10. Equity Incentive Plans and Stock-Based Compensation

As of March 31, 2014, 700,058 shares of the 21,400,000 shares approved under the 2006 Equity Incentive Plan (the "2006 Plan") remain available for grant which included an increase of 6,500,000 shares approved by stockholders on April 26, 2012. The 2006 Plan is now the Company's only plan for providing stock-based incentive awards to eligible employees, executive officers, non-employee directors and consultants; however, the 1997 Stock Option Plan (the "1997 Plan") will continue to govern awards previously granted under that plan.

A summary of shares available for grant under the Company's plans is as follows:

| | Shares Available for Grant |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Shares available as of December 31, 2013 | 2,527,428 |
| Stock options granted | (1,797,462) |
| Stock options forfeited | 269,083 |
| Stock options expired under former plans | (9,900) |
| Nonvested equity stock and stock units granted (1) | (308,712) |
| Nonvested equity stock and stock units forfeited (1) | 19,621 |
| Total available for grant as of March 31, 2014 | 700,058 |

For purposes of determining the number of shares available for grant under the 2006 Plan against the maximum (1) number of shares authorized, each share of restricted stock granted reduces the number of shares available for grant by 1.5 shares and each share of restricted stock forfeited increases shares available for grant by 1.5 shares.

General Stock Option Information

The following table summarizes stock option activity under the 1997 Plan and 2006 Plan for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and information regarding stock options outstanding, exercisable, and vested and expected to vest as of March 31, 2014.

| | Options Outstanding | | | Aggregate Intrinsic Value |
|--|---------------------|--|---|---------------------------------|
| | Number of Shares | Weighted Average Exercise Price Per Share | Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term (years) | |
| (In thousands, except per share amounts) | | | | |
| Outstanding as of December 31, 2013 | 11,377,146 | \$ 11.32 | | |
| Options granted | 1,797,462 | \$ 8.78 | | |
| Options exercised | (206,843) | \$ 6.73 | | |
| Options forfeited | (269,083) | \$ 15.20 | | |
| Outstanding as of March 31, 2014 | 12,698,682 | \$ 10.95 | 6.13 | \$36,153 |
| Vested or expected to vest at March 31, 2014 | 11,752,766 | \$ 11.25 | 5.91 | \$32,643 |
| Options exercisable at March 31, 2014 | 6,303,547 | \$ 14.94 | 3.74 | \$10,850 |

No stock options that contain a market condition were granted during the three months ended March 31, 2014. The fair values of the options granted with a market condition were calculated using a binomial valuation model, which estimates the potential outcome of reaching the market condition based on simulated future stock prices. As of both

March 31, 2014 and

18

Table of Contents

December 31, 2013, there were 1,315,000 stock options outstanding that require the Company to achieve minimum market conditions in order for the options to become exercisable.

The aggregate intrinsic value in the table above represents the total pre-tax intrinsic value for in-the-money options at March 31, 2014, based on the \$10.75 closing stock price of Rambus' common stock on March 31, 2014 on the NASDAQ Global Select Market, which would have been received by the option holders had all option holders exercised their options as of that date. The total number of in-the-money options outstanding and exercisable as of March 31, 2014 was 8,833,026 and 2,656,578, respectively.

Employee Stock Purchase Plan

No purchases were made under the 2006 Employee Stock Purchase Plan ("ESPP") during the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. As of March 31, 2014, 19,232 shares under the ESPP remain available for issuance. On September 27, 2013, the Company filed a Registration Statement on Form S-8, registering 1,500,000 additional shares under the ESPP in connection with the commencement of the next subscription period under the ESPP. On April 24, 2014, the Company held its 2014 Annual Meeting of Stockholders where an amendment to the ESPP to increase the number of shares of common stock reserved for issuance under the ESPP by 1,500,000 shares was approved.

Stock-Based Compensation

For the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, the Company maintained stock plans covering a broad range of potential equity grants including stock options, nonvested equity stock and equity stock units and performance based instruments. In addition, the Company sponsors an ESPP, whereby eligible employees are entitled to purchase common stock semi-annually, by means of limited payroll deductions, at a 15% discount from the fair market value of the common stock as of specific dates.

Stock Options

During the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, the Company granted 1,797,462 and 1,619,437 stock options, respectively, with an estimated total grant-date fair value of \$7.0 million and \$3.8 million, respectively. During the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, the Company recorded stock-based compensation expense related to stock options of \$2.2 million and \$3.1 million, respectively.

As of March 31, 2014, there was \$19.4 million of total unrecognized compensation cost, net of expected forfeitures, related to non-vested stock-based compensation arrangements granted under the stock option plans. That cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.5 years. The total fair value of shares vested as of March 31, 2014 was \$63.4 million.

The total intrinsic value of options exercised was \$0.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2014. There were no options exercised during the three months ended March 31, 2013. Intrinsic value is the total value of exercised shares based on the price of the Company's common stock at the time of exercise less the cash received from the employees to exercise the options.

During the three months ended March 31, 2014, net proceeds from employee stock option exercises totaled approximately \$1.4 million.

Employee Stock Purchase Plan

For the three months ended March 31, 2014, the Company recorded an immaterial amount of compensation expense related to the ESPP. For the three months ended March 31, 2013, the Company recorded compensation expense related to the ESPP of \$0.5 million. As of March 31, 2014, there was an immaterial amount of total unrecognized compensation cost related to stock-based compensation arrangements granted under the ESPP. That cost is expected to be recognized over one month.

There were no tax benefits realized as a result of employee stock option exercises, stock purchase plan purchases, and vesting of equity stock and stock units for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013 calculated in accordance with accounting for share-based payments.

Valuation Assumptions

The fair value of stock awards is estimated as of the grant date using the Black-Scholes-Merton ("BSM") option-pricing model assuming a dividend yield of 0% and the additional weighted-average assumptions as listed in the table below.

The following table presents the weighted-average assumptions used to estimate the fair value of stock options granted that contain only service conditions in the periods presented.

19

Table of Contents

| | Stock Option Plans Three Months Ended March 31, | | |
|---|---|--------|---|
| | 2014 | 2013 | |
| Stock Option Plans | | | |
| Expected stock price volatility | 44 | % 47 | % |
| Risk free interest rate | 2.1 | % 0.9 | % |
| Expected term (in years) | 6.1 | 5.4 | |
| Weighted-average fair value of stock options granted to employees | \$3.92 | \$2.33 | |
| No shares were issued under the Employee Stock Purchase Plan during the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013. | | | |

Nonvested Equity Stock and Stock Units

The Company grants nonvested equity stock units to officers, employees and directors. During the three months ended March 31, 2014, the Company granted nonvested equity stock units totaling 205,808 shares under the 2006 Plan. During the three months ended March 31, 2013, the Company granted nonvested equity stock units totaling 276,496 under the 2006 Plan. These awards have a service condition, generally a service period of four years, except in the case of grants to directors, for which the service period is one year. For the three months ended March 31, 2014, the nonvested equity stock units were valued at the date of grant giving them a fair value of approximately \$1.8 million. For the three months ended March 31, 2013, the nonvested equity stock units were valued at the date of grant giving them a fair value of approximately \$1.5 million. In prior years, the Company granted nonvested equity stock units to its employees with vesting subject to the achievement of certain performance conditions. During the three months ended March 31, 2014, the Company did not record any stock-based compensation expense related to these performance stock units as they have been forfeited. During the three months ended March 31, 2013, the achievement of certain performance conditions for certain performance equity stock units was considered probable, and as a result, the Company recognized an immaterial amount of stock-based compensation expense related to these performance stock units for this period.

For the three months ended March 31, 2014, the Company recorded stock-based compensation expense of approximately \$0.7 million related to all outstanding unvested equity stock grants. For the three months ended March 31, 2013, the Company recorded stock-based compensation expense of approximately \$1.3 million related to all outstanding unvested equity stock grants. Unrecognized stock-based compensation related to all nonvested equity stock grants, net of estimated forfeitures, was approximately \$4.3 million at March 31, 2014. This amount is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 2.6 years.

The following table reflects the activity related to nonvested equity stock and stock units for the three months ended March 31, 2014:

| Nonvested Equity Stock and Stock Units | Shares | Weighted-Average Grant-Date Fair Value |
|--|-----------|--|
| Nonvested at December 31, 2013 | 629,649 | \$8.56 |
| Granted | 205,808 | \$8.79 |
| Vested | (117,828) |) \$9.56 |
| Forfeited | (13,078) |) \$6.67 |
| Nonvested at March 31, 2014 | 704,551 | \$8.49 |

11. Stockholders' Equity

Share Repurchase Program

During the three months ended March 31, 2014, the Company did not repurchase any shares of its common stock under its share repurchase program. As of March 31, 2014, the Company had repurchased a cumulative total of approximately 26.3 million shares of its common stock with an aggregate price of approximately \$428.9 million since

the commencement of the program in 2001. As of March 31, 2014, there remained an outstanding authorization to repurchase approximately 5.2 million shares of the Company's outstanding common stock.

Table of Contents

The Company records stock repurchases as a reduction to stockholders' equity. The Company records a portion of the purchase price of the repurchased shares as an increase to accumulated deficit when the price of the shares repurchased exceeds the average original proceeds per share received from the issuance of common stock.

12. Restructuring Charges

The 2013 Plan

During 2013, the Company initiated a restructuring program related primarily to its LDT group as a result of the change in its business strategy to reduce its focus on the lower margin bulb products. Additionally, the Company curtailed its immersive media platform spending (the "2013 Plan"). In connection with this restructuring program, the Company estimated that it would incur aggregate costs of approximately \$3.0 million to \$4.0 million. During the three months ended March 31, 2014, the Company incurred an immaterial amount of restructuring charges related primarily to the reduction in workforce, which was related to the CTO reportable segment. The Company expects to substantially complete its restructuring activities related to this plan by the end of 2014.

The following table summarizes the 2013 Plan restructuring activities during the three months ended March 31, 2014:

| | Employee Severance and Related Benefits (In thousands) | Facilities | Total |
|------------------------------|--|------------|----------|
| Balance at December 31, 2013 | \$1,732 | \$133 | \$1,865 |
| Charges | 39 | — | 39 |
| Payments | (1,613 |) (133 |) (1,746 |
| Balance at March 31, 2014 | \$158 | \$— | \$158 |

13. Income Taxes

The Company recorded a provision for income taxes of \$5.5 million and \$4.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. The provision for income taxes for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013 is primarily comprised of withholding taxes, state taxes and other foreign taxes based upon income earned during the period.

During the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, the Company paid withholding taxes of \$5.1 million and \$3.8 million, respectively.

As of March 31, 2014, the Company's condensed consolidated balance sheets included net deferred tax assets, before valuation allowance, of approximately \$188.7 million, which consists of net operating loss carryovers, tax credit carryovers, amortization, employee stock-based compensation expenses and certain liabilities, partially reduced by deferred tax liabilities associated with the convertible debt instruments. As of March 31, 2014, a full valuation allowance has been recorded against the U.S. deferred tax assets. The Company's deferred tax assets decrease during the three months ended March 31, 2014 is primarily due to the utilization of U.S. tax attribute carryforward.

Management periodically evaluates the realizability of the Company's net deferred tax assets based on all available evidence, both positive and negative. The realization of net deferred tax assets is dependent on the Company's ability to generate sufficient future taxable income during periods prior to the expiration of tax attributes to fully utilize these assets. The Company weighed both positive and negative evidence and determined that there is a continued need for a valuation allowance as the Company is in a cumulative loss position over the previous three years, which is considered significant negative evidence. A sustained period of profitability in the Company's operations is required before the Company would change its judgment regarding the need for a full valuation allowance against its net deferred tax assets. Although the weight of negative evidence related to cumulative losses has decreased as the Company has settled outstanding litigation, the Company believes that this objectively measured negative evidence outweighs the subjectively determined positive evidence of future profitability and, as such, the Company has not changed its judgment regarding the need for a full valuation allowance on its deferred tax assets in the United States.

as of March 31, 2014. However, continued improvement in the Company's operating results, conditioned on its MID, LDT or CRI reporting units successfully commercializing new business arrangements, signing new or renewing existing license agreements and managing costs, could lead to reversal of almost all of the Company's valuation allowance as early as the remainder of 2014. Until such time, consumption of tax attributes to offset profits will reduce the overall level of deferred tax assets subject to valuation allowance. Should the Company determine that it would be able to

Table of Contents

realize its remaining deferred tax assets in the foreseeable future, an adjustment to its remaining deferred tax assets would cause a material increase to income in the period such determination is made.

The Company maintains liabilities for uncertain tax positions within its long-term income taxes payable accounts and as a reduction to existing deferred tax assets to the extent tax attributes are available to offset such liabilities. These liabilities involve judgment and estimation and are monitored by management based on the best information available including changes in tax regulations, the outcome of relevant court cases and other information.

As of March 31, 2014, the Company had approximately \$20.0 million of unrecognized tax benefits, including \$18.0 million recorded as a reduction of long-term deferred tax assets and \$2.0 million in long-term income taxes payable. If recognized, approximately \$2.0 million would be recorded as an income tax benefit. No benefit would be recorded for the remaining unrecognized tax benefits as the recognition would require a corresponding increase in the valuation allowance. As of December 31, 2013, the Company had \$18.8 million of unrecognized tax benefits, including \$12.6 million recorded as a reduction of long-term deferred tax assets and \$6.2 million recorded in long-term income taxes payable.

Although it is possible that some of the unrecognized tax benefits could be settled within the next 12 months, the Company cannot reasonably estimate the outcome at this time.

The Company recognizes interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions as a component of the income tax provision. At March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013, an immaterial amount of interest and penalties is included in long-term income taxes payable.

Rambus files income tax returns for the U.S., California, India and various other state and foreign jurisdictions. The U.S. federal returns are subject to examination from 2012 and forward. The California returns are subject to examination from 2009 and forward. In addition, any research and development credit carryforward or net operating loss carryforward generated in prior years and utilized in these or future years may also be subject to examination. The India returns are subject to examination from fiscal year ending March 2006 and forward. The Company is currently under examination by California for the 2010 and 2011 tax years and by India for fiscal years ending March 2006, 2009 and 2010. Management regularly assesses the likelihood of outcomes resulting from income tax examinations to determine the adequacy of their provision for income taxes and believes their provision for unrecognized tax benefits is adequate. In January 2014, an Internal Revenue Service examination covering the 2010 through 2011 tax years was completed with no audit adjustments.

Additionally, the Company's future effective tax rates could be adversely affected by earnings being higher than anticipated in countries where the Company has higher statutory rates or lower than anticipated in countries where it has lower statutory rates, by changes in valuation of its deferred tax assets and liabilities or by changes in tax laws or interpretations of those laws.

14. Litigation and Asserted Claims

SDRAM, DDR, DDR2, DDR3, gDDR2, GDDR3, GDDR4 Litigation ("DDR2")

U.S District Court in the Northern District of California

On January 25, 2005, Rambus filed a patent infringement suit in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California against SK hynix, Infineon, Nanya, and Inotera. On January 13, 2006, Rambus also filed suit against Micron in the same court for patent infringement. Infineon and Inotera were subsequently dismissed from this litigation as was Samsung, which previously had been added as a defendant. Rambus alleged that certain of its patents were infringed by certain of the defendants' DDR2 and other advanced memory products. On June 11, 2013, Rambus and SK hynix announced that they had entered into a settlement of all outstanding disputes between the parties and on December 9, 2013, Rambus and Micron announced that they had entered into a settlement of all outstanding disputes between the parties, which is described in Note 15, "Agreements with SK hynix and Micron. On March 23, 2014, Rambus and Nanya announced that they had entered into a settlement of all outstanding disputes between the parties. As a result of such settlements, all DDR2 litigation has been dismissed.

Potential Future Litigation

In addition to the litigation described above, companies continue to adopt Rambus technologies into various products. Rambus has notified many of these companies of their use of Rambus technology and continues to evaluate how to

proceed on these matters. In the ordinary course of business, Rambus may also be involved in other various legal proceedings and claims related to commercial, corporate and securities, labor and employment, wage and hour, and other types of claims. There can be no assurance that any future litigation will be successful or resolved favorably to the Company. The outcome of any litigation, as well as any delay in its resolution, is inherently uncertain and could adversely affect Rambus' ability to license its intellectual property in the future.

Table of Contents

The Company records a contingent liability when it is probable that a loss has been incurred and the amount is reasonably estimable in accordance with accounting for contingencies.

15. Agreements with SK hynix and Micron

SK hynix

On June 11, 2013, Rambus, SK hynix and certain related entities of SK hynix entered into a settlement agreement, pursuant to which the parties have agreed to release all claims against each other with respect to all outstanding litigation between them. Pursuant to the settlement agreement, Rambus and SK hynix entered into a semiconductor patent license agreement on June 11, 2013, under which SK hynix licenses from Rambus non-exclusive rights to certain Rambus patents and has agreed to pay Rambus cash amounts over the next five years. Under the license agreement, Rambus has granted to SK hynix (i) a paid-up perpetual patent license for certain identified SK hynix DRAM products and (ii) a five-year term patent license to all other DRAM and other semiconductor products.

The agreements with SK hynix are considered a multiple element arrangement for accounting purposes. For a multiple element arrangement under the applicable accounting rules, the Company is required to identify specific elements of the arrangement and then determine when those elements should be recognized. The Company identified three elements in the arrangement: antitrust litigation settlement, settlement of past infringement, and license agreement. The Company considered several factors in determining the accounting fair value of the elements of the SK hynix agreements which included a third party valuation using an income approach (collectively the "SK hynix Fair Value"). The inputs and assumptions used in this accounting valuation were from a market participant perspective and included projected customer revenue, royalty rates, estimated discount rates, useful lives and income tax rates, among others. The development of a number of these inputs and assumptions in the model requires a significant amount of management judgment and discretion, and is based upon a number of factors, including the selection of industry comparables, market growth rates and other relevant factors. Changes in any number of these assumptions may have a substantial impact on the SK hynix Fair Value as assigned to each element. These inputs and assumptions represent management's best estimates at the time of the transaction.

During the first quarter of 2014, the Company received cash consideration of \$12.0 million from SK hynix. The amount was allocated between royalty revenue (\$11.8 million) and gain from settlement (\$0.2 million) based on the elements' SK hynix Fair Value.

The remaining \$204.0 million is expected to be paid in successive quarterly payments of \$12.0 million, concluding in the second quarter of 2018.

The cumulative cash receipts through March 31, 2014 and the remaining future cash receipts from the agreements with SK hynix are expected to be recognized as follows assuming no adjustments to the payments under the terms of the agreements:

| | Cumulative Received to-date as of March 31, 2014 | Estimated to Be Received in | | | | | Total Estimated Cash Receipts |
|----------------------|--|-----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------------------------|
| | | Remainder of 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | |
| (in millions) | | | | | | | |
| Royalty revenue | \$35.4 | \$35.5 | \$47.3 | \$47.9 | \$48.0 | \$24.0 | \$238.1 |
| Gain from settlement | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.1 | — | — | 1.9 |
| Total | \$36.0 | \$36.0 | \$48.0 | \$48.0 | \$48.0 | \$24.0 | \$240.0 |

Micron

On December 9, 2013, Rambus, Micron and certain related entities of Micron entered into a settlement agreement, pursuant to which the parties have agreed that they will release all claims against each other with respect to all outstanding litigation between them and certain other potential claims. Pursuant to the settlement agreement, Rambus and Micron entered into a semiconductor patent license agreement on December 9, 2013. Under the license agreement, Rambus has granted to Micron and its subsidiaries and certain affiliated entities (i) a paid-up perpetual patent license for

23

Table of Contents

certain identified Micron DRAM products and (ii) a seven-year term patent license to other memory and semiconductor products.

The agreements with Micron are considered a multiple element arrangement for accounting purposes. For a multiple element arrangement under the applicable accounting rules, the Company is required to identify specific elements of the arrangement and then determine when those elements should be recognized. The Company identified three elements in the arrangement: antitrust litigation settlement, settlement of past infringement, and license agreement. The Company considered several factors in determining the accounting fair value of the elements of the Micron agreements which included a third party valuation using an income approach (collectively the "Micron Fair Value"). The inputs and assumptions used in this accounting valuation were from a market participant perspective and included projected customer revenue, royalty rates, estimated discount rates, useful lives and income tax rates, among others. The development of a number of these inputs and assumptions in the model requires a significant amount of management judgment and discretion, and is based upon a number of factors, including the selection of industry comparables, market growth rates and other relevant factors. Changes in any number of these assumptions may have a substantial impact on the Micron Fair Value as assigned to each element. These inputs and assumptions represent management's best estimates at the time of the transaction.

During the first quarter of 2014, the Company received cash consideration of \$10.0 million from Micron. The amount was allocated between royalty revenue (\$9.7 million) and gain from settlement (\$0.3 million) based on the elements' Micron Fair Value.

The remaining \$264.5 million is expected to be paid in successive quarterly payments of \$10.0 million, concluding in the fourth quarter of 2020.

The cumulative cash receipts through March 31, 2014 and the remaining future cash receipts from the agreements with Micron are expected to be recognized as follows assuming no adjustments to the payments under the terms of the agreements:

| | Cumulative Received to-date as of March 31, 2014 | Estimated to Be Received in Remainder of 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 and thereafter | Total Estimated Cash Receipts |
|----------------------|--|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|------------------------|--|
| (in millions) | | | | | | | | |
| Royalty revenue | \$ 15.0 | \$29.0 | \$38.7 | \$39.5 | \$40.0 | \$40.0 | \$74.5 | \$276.7 |
| Gain from settlement | 0.5 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 0.5 | — | — | — | 3.3 |
| Total | \$ 15.5 | \$30.0 | \$40.0 | \$40.0 | \$40.0 | \$40.0 | \$74.5 | \$280.0 |

Table of Contents

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

This report contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These statements relate to our expectations for future events and time periods. All statements other than statements of historical fact are statements that could be deemed to be forward-looking statements, including any statements regarding trends in future revenue or results of operations, gross margin or operating margin, expenses, earnings or losses from operations, synergies or other financial items; any statements of the plans, strategies and objectives of management for future operations; any statements concerning developments, performance or industry ranking; any statements regarding future economic conditions or performance; any statements regarding negotiations, litigation, investigations, claims, disputes or settlements; any statements of expectation or belief; and any statements of assumptions underlying any of the foregoing. Generally, the words “anticipates,” “believes,” “plans,” “expects,” “future,” “intends,” “may,” “should,” “estimates,” “predicts,” “potential,” “continues” and similar expressions identify forward-looking statements. Our forward-looking statements are based on current expectations, forecasts and assumptions and are subject to risks, uncertainties and changes in condition, significance, value and effect. As a result of the factors described herein, and in the documents incorporated herein by reference, including, in particular, those factors described under “Risk Factors,” we undertake no obligation to publicly disclose any revisions to these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances occurring subsequent to filing this report with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Rambus, RDRAM™, XDR™, FlexIO™ and FlexPhase™ are trademarks or registered trademarks of Rambus Inc. Other trademarks that may be mentioned in this quarterly report on Form 10-Q are the property of their respective owners. Industry terminology, used widely throughout this report, has been abbreviated and, as such, these abbreviations are defined below for your convenience:

| | |
|--|--------|
| Differential Power Analysis | DPA |
| Double Data Rate | DDR |
| Dynamic Random Access Memory | DRAM |
| Graphics Double Data Rate | GDDR |
| Light Emitting Diodes | LED |
| Rambus Dynamic Random Access Memory | RDRAM™ |
| Single Data Rate | SDR |
| Synchronous Dynamic Random Access Memory | SDRAM |
| eXtreme Data Rate | XDR™ |

Table of Contents

From time to time we will refer to the abbreviated names of certain entities and, as such, have provided a chart to indicate the full names of those entities for your convenience.

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Advanced Micro Devices Inc. | AMD |
| Broadcom Corporation | Broadcom |
| Cooper Lighting, LLC | Cooper Lighting |
| Cryptography Research, Inc. | CRI |
| Elpida Memory, Inc. | Elpida |
| Freescale Semiconductor Inc. | Freescale |
| Fujitsu Limited | Fujitsu |
| General Electric Company | GE |
| Infineon Technologies AG | Infineon |
| Inotera Memories, Inc. | Inotera |
| Intel Corporation | Intel |
| International Business Machines Corporation | IBM |
| Joint Electronic Device Engineering Councils | JEDEC |
| Lighting and Display Technology | LDT |
| LSI Corporation | LSI |
| Memory and Interfaces Division | MID |
| Micron Technologies, Inc. | Micron |
| Mobile Technology Division | MTD |
| Nanya Technology Corporation | Nanya |
| Panasonic Corporation | Panasonic |
| Renesas Electronics | Renesas |
| Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. | Samsung |
| SK hynix, Inc. | SK hynix |
| Sony Computer Electronics | Sony |
| ST Microelectronics N.V. | STMicroelectronics |
| Toshiba Corporation | Toshiba |

Table of Contents

Business Overview

We are an innovative technology solutions company that brings invention to market. Our customers leverage our customizable platforms, services and tools to improve, differentiate and accelerate the development of products and services. Our extensive technology portfolio addresses the evolving power, performance and security requirements of the mobile, cloud computing and connected device markets. We drive innovations in memory, chip interfaces and architectures, end-to-end security, and advanced LED lighting, while Rambus Labs looks to disruptions and opportunities in tomorrow's high-growth markets. We generate revenue by licensing our inventions and solutions and providing services to market-leading companies.

While we have historically focused our efforts on the development of technologies for electronics memory and chip interfaces, we have been expanding our portfolio of inventions and solutions to address additional markets in lighting, chip and system security, as well as new areas within the semiconductor industry, such as computational sensing and imaging. We intend to continue our growth into new technology fields, consistent with our mission to create great value through our innovations and to make those technologies available through both our licensing and non-licensing business models. Key to our efforts, both in our current businesses and in any new area of diversification, will be hiring and retaining world-class inventors, scientists and engineers to lead the development of inventions and technology solutions for these fields of focus, and the management and business support personnel necessary to execute our plans and strategies.

We have four operational units: (1) Memory and Interfaces Division, or MID, which focuses on the design, development and licensing of technology that is related to memory and interfaces; (2) Cryptography Research, Inc., or CRI, which focuses on the design, development and licensing of technologies for chip and system security and anti-counterfeiting; (3) Lighting and Display Technologies, or LDT, which focuses on the design, development and licensing of technologies for lighting; and (4) Chief Technology Office, or CTO, which focuses on the design, development and productization of emerging technologies. As of March 31, 2014, MID, CRI and CTO were considered reportable segments as they met the quantitative thresholds for disclosure as a reportable segment. The results of the remaining operating segment were shown under "Other." For additional information concerning segment reporting, see Note 5, "Segments and Major Customers," of Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements of this Form 10-Q.

Our strategy is to evolve from providing primarily patent licenses to providing additional technology, products and services while creating and leveraging strategic synergies to increase revenue. We believe that the successful execution of this strategy requires an exceptional business model that relies on the skills and talent of our employees. Accordingly, we seek to hire and retain world-class scientific and engineering expertise in all of our fields of technological focus, as well as the executive management and operating personnel required to successfully execute our business strategy. In order to attract the quality of employees required for this business model, we have created an environment and culture that encourages, fosters and supports research, development and innovation in breakthrough technologies with significant opportunities for broad industry adoption. We believe we have created a compelling company for inventors and innovators who are able to work within a business model and platform that focuses on technology development to drive strong future growth.

As of March 31, 2014, our semiconductor, lighting, security and other technologies are covered by 1,745 U.S. and foreign patents. Additionally, we have 771 patent applications pending. Some of the patents and pending patent applications are derived from a common parent patent application or are foreign counterpart patent applications. We have a program to file applications for and obtain patents in the United States and in selected foreign countries where we believe filing for such protection is appropriate and would further our overall business strategy and objectives. In some instances, obtaining appropriate levels of protection may involve prosecuting continuation and counterpart patent applications based on a common parent application. We believe our patented innovations provide our customers with the ability to achieve improved performance, lower risk, greater cost-effectiveness and other benefits in their products and services.

Our inventions and technology solutions are offered to our customers through either a patent license or a solutions license. Today, a majority of our revenues are derived from patent licenses, through which we provide our customers a license to use a portion of our broad portfolio of patented inventions. The license provides our customers with a

defined right to use our innovations in the customer's own digital electronics products, systems or services, as applicable. The licenses may also define the specific field of use where our customers may use or employ our inventions in their products. License agreements are structured with fixed, variable or a hybrid of fixed and variable royalty payments over certain defined periods ranging for up to ten years. Leading consumer product, semiconductor and system companies such as AMD, Broadcom, Freescale, Fujitsu, GE, Intel, LSI, Micron, Panasonic, Renesas, Samsung, SK hynix, STMicroelectronics and Toshiba have licensed our patents for use in their own products. The majority of our intellectual property in MID was developed in-house and we intend to expand our business strategy of monetizing our MID intellectual property to include the sale of select intellectual property. As any sales executed under this expanded strategy represent a component of our ongoing major or central operations and activities, we will record the related proceeds as revenue.

Table of Contents

We also offer our customers solutions licenses to support the implementation and adoption of our technology in their products or services. Our customers include leading companies such as Cooper Lighting, GE, IBM, Panasonic, Samsung, Sony and Toshiba. Our solutions license offerings include a range of technologies for incorporation into our customers' products and systems. We also offer a range of services as part of our solutions licenses which can include know-how and technology transfer, product design and development, system integration, and other services. These solutions license agreements may have both a fixed price (non-recurring) component and ongoing royalties. Further, under solutions licenses, our customers typically receive licenses to our patents necessary to implement these solutions in their products with specific rights and restrictions to the applicable patents elaborated in their individual contracts with us.

The remainder of our revenue is product sales and contract services revenue which includes license fees and engineering services fees. The timing and amounts invoiced to customers can vary significantly depending on specific contract terms and can therefore have a significant impact on deferred revenue or account receivables in any given period.

We intend to continue making significant expenditures associated with engineering, marketing, general and administration and expect that these costs and expenses will continue to be a significant percentage of revenue in future periods. Whether such expenses increase or decrease as a percentage of revenue will be substantially dependent upon the rate at which our revenue or expenses change.

Executive Summary

During the first quarter of 2014, we signed a broad five-year patent license agreement with Nanya. Pursuant to this agreement, we provided Nanya with rights to certain memory-related Rambus innovations through the second quarter of 2018 and settled all outstanding claims with Nanya, including resolution of past use of our patented innovations. Research and development continues to play a key role in our efforts to maintain product innovations. Our engineering expenses in the aggregate for the three months ended March 31, 2014 decreased \$2.4 million as compared to the same period in 2013 primarily due to decreased accrual of retention bonuses of \$2.2 million, decreased stock-based compensation expenses of \$0.6 million, decreased prototyping costs of \$0.4 million, decreased amortization expense of \$0.2 million and decreased travel costs of \$0.2 million, offset by an increase in cost of sales due to the manufacture and sale of light guides of \$2.4 million.

Marketing, general and administrative expenses in the aggregate for the three months ended March 31, 2014 decreased \$6.3 million as compared to the same period in 2013 primarily due to decreased litigation expenses of \$1.9 million, decreased stock-based compensation expenses of \$1.5 million, decreased consulting costs of \$0.9 million, decreased headcount related costs of \$0.5 million, decreased facilities costs of \$0.4 million and decreased accrual of retention bonuses of \$0.4 million.

Trends

There are a number of trends that may have a material impact on us in the future, including but not limited to, the evolution of memory technology, adoption of LEDs in general lighting, the use and adoption of our inventions or technologies and global economic conditions with the resulting impact on sales of consumer electronic systems.

We have a high degree of revenue concentration, with our top five customers representing approximately 64% and 70% of our revenue for three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. As a result of renewing with Samsung in 2013 and settling with SK hynix and Micron in 2013, Samsung, SK hynix and Micron are expected to account for a significant portion of our ongoing licensing revenue. For the three months ended March 31, 2014, revenue from Micron, Samsung and SK hynix each accounted for 10% or more of our total revenue. For the three months ended March 31, 2013, revenue from LSI, Renesas and Samsung accounted for 10% or more of our total revenue. We expect to continue to experience significant revenue concentration for the foreseeable future.

The particular customers which account for revenue concentration have varied from period to period as a result of the addition of new contracts, expiration of existing contracts, renewals of existing contracts, industry consolidation and the volumes and prices at which the customers have recently sold to their customers. These variations are expected to continue in the foreseeable future.

The semiconductor industry is intensely competitive and highly cyclical, limiting our visibility with respect to future sales. To the extent that macroeconomic fluctuations negatively affect our principal customers, the demand for our

technology may be significantly and adversely impacted and we may experience substantial period-to-period fluctuations in our operating results.

The royalties we receive from our semiconductor customers are partly a function of the adoption of our technologies by system companies. Many system companies purchase semiconductors containing our technologies from our customers and do not have a direct contractual relationship with us. Our customers generally do not provide us with details as to the identity or volume of licensed semiconductors purchased by particular system companies. As a result, we face difficulty in analyzing the extent to which our future revenue will be dependent upon particular system companies. System companies face intense

Table of Contents

competitive pressure in their markets, which are characterized by extreme volatility, frequent new product introductions and rapidly shifting consumer preferences.

The highly fragmented general lighting industry is undergoing a fundamental shift from incandescent technology to cold cathode fluorescent lights and LED driven technology due to the need to reduce energy consumption and to comply with government mandates. LED lighting typically saves energy costs as compared to existing installed lighting. Our LDT group's patents in LED edge-lit light guide technology can be applied in the design of next generation LED lighting products.

During 2013, we changed our business strategy to increase our focus on general lighting technologies instead of lower margin bulb products. With this shift to focus on the general lighting market, the strategy of the LDT group is to focus on providing the market with novel, patented light guide technologies and products to customers who are leading the transition to solid-state LED-based lamps and fixtures.

Another recent shift in our business strategy regarding our core display patents led us in 2013 to sell a set of patent assets to Acacia where Acacia can proceed independently with a licensing program. We have a proceeds-sharing program in place with Acacia upon their licensing of these patent assets. We retain the rights to use certain application techniques and may selectively engage with customers who need our roll-to-roll manufacturing intellectual property and capability for extra-large display panel designs.

Global demand for effective security technologies continues to increase. In particular, highly integrated devices such as smart phones and tablets are increasingly used for applications requiring security such as mobile payments, content protection, corporate information and user data. Our CRI group is primarily focused on positioning its DPA countermeasures and CryptoFirewall™ technology solutions to capitalize on these trends and growing adoption among technology partners and customers.

Our revenue from companies headquartered outside of the United States accounted for approximately 63% and 62% of our total revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. We expect that revenue derived from international customers will continue to represent a significant portion of our total revenue in the future. To date, all of the revenue from international customers has been denominated in U.S. dollars. However, to the extent that such customers' sales to their customers are not denominated in U.S. dollars, any revenue that we receive as a result of such sales could be subject to fluctuations in currency exchange rates. In addition, if the effective price of licensed products sold by our foreign customers were to increase as a result of fluctuations in the exchange rate of the relevant currencies, demand for licensed products could fall, which in turn would reduce our revenue. We do not use financial instruments to hedge foreign exchange rate risk.

For additional information concerning international revenue, see Note 5, "Segments and Major Customers," of Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements of this Form 10-Q.

Engineering costs in the aggregate and as a percentage of revenue decreased for the three months ended March 31, 2014 as compared to the same period in the prior year. In the near term, we expect engineering costs to be higher as we intend to continue to make investments in the infrastructure and technologies required to maintain our product innovation in semiconductor, lighting, security and other technologies.

Marketing, general and administrative expenses in the aggregate and as a percentage of revenue decreased for the three months ended March 31, 2014 as compared to the same period in the prior year. In the past, our litigation expenses have been high and difficult to predict due to litigation stemming from the use of our inventions. Because we have successfully negotiated settlements and license agreements with SK hynix, Micron and Nanya, we have settled all outstanding litigation and should no longer have material litigation expenses related to these matters. In the near term, we expect a decrease in our marketing, general and administrative costs as compared to prior years due to our past restructuring plans.

Our continued investment in research and development projects, involvement in any future litigation or other legal proceedings and any lower revenue from our customers in the future, will negatively affect our cash from operations.

Results of Operations

The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the percentage of total revenue represented by certain items reflected in our unaudited condensed consolidated statements of operations:

29

Table of Contents

| | Three Months Ended | | | |
|---|--------------------|-----------|--|----|
| | March 31, | | | |
| | 2014 | 2013 | | |
| Revenue: | | | | |
| Royalties | 94.1 | % 99.0 | | % |
| Contract and other revenue | 5.9 | % 1.0 | | % |
| Total revenue | 100.0 | % 100.0 | | % |
| Operating costs and expenses: | | | | |
| Cost of revenue* | 12.8 | % 9.8 | | % |
| Research and development* | 34.4 | % 49.1 | | % |
| Marketing, general and administrative* | 24.1 | % 37.5 | | % |
| Gain from sale of intellectual property | (0.2) |)% (1.9) | |)% |
| Restructuring charges | 0.0 | % 3.3 | | % |
| Gain from settlement | (0.7) |)% — | | % |
| Total operating costs and expenses | 70.4 | % 97.8 | | % |
| Operating income (loss) | 29.6 | % 2.2 | | % |
| Interest income and other income (expense), net | 0.0 | % (0.1) | |)% |
| Interest expense | (12.7) |)% (10.9) | |)% |
| Interest and other income (expense), net | (12.7) |)% (11.0) | |)% |
| Income (loss) before income taxes | 17.0 | % (8.8) | |)% |
| Provision for income taxes | 7.0 | % 6.7 | | % |
| Net income (loss) | 10.0 | % (15.5) | |)% |

* Includes stock-based compensation:

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-------|--|---|
| Cost of revenue | 0.0 | % — | | % |
| Research and development | 1.7 | % 2.8 | | % |
| Marketing, general and administrative | 2.0 | % 4.6 | | % |

| | Three Months | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|--------|------------|---|
| | Ended March 31, | | | |
| | 2014 | 2013 | Change in | |
| (Dollars in millions) | | | Percentage | |
| Total Revenue | | | | |
| Royalties | \$73.6 | \$66.3 | 11.2 | % |
| Contract and other revenue | 4.7 | 0.6 | NM* | |
| Total revenue | \$78.3 | \$66.9 | 17.1 | % |

*NM — percentage is not meaningful

Royalty Revenue

Patent Licenses

Our patent royalties increased approximately \$8.5 million to \$70.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2014 from \$61.9 million for the same period in 2013. The increase was primarily due to royalty revenue recognized from the agreements signed with Micron, Nanya and SK hynix, offset by lower royalty revenue from Samsung and recognition of a one-time royalty revenue during the first quarter of 2013 from LSI.

We are continuously in negotiations for licenses with prospective customers. We expect patent royalties will continue to vary from period to period based on our success in adding new customers, as well as the level of variation in our customers' reported shipment volumes, sales price and mix, offset in part by the proportion of customer payments that are fixed or hybrid in nature.

Table of Contents

Solutions Licenses

Royalties from solutions licenses decreased approximately \$1.2 million to \$3.2 million for the three months ended March 31, 2014 from \$4.4 million for the same period in 2013. The decrease was primarily due to lower royalties reported from XDR™ DRAM associated with decreased shipments of the Sony PlayStation®3 product.

In the future, we expect solutions royalties will continue to vary from period to period based on our customers' shipment volumes, sales prices, and product mix.

Royalty Revenue by Reportable Segments

Royalty revenue from the MID reportable segment, which includes patent and solutions license royalties, increased approximately \$1.5 million to \$61.2 million for the three months ended March 31, 2014 from \$59.7 million for the same period in 2013. The increase was primarily due to royalty revenue recognized from the agreements signed with Micron, Nanya and SK hynix offset by lower royalty revenue from Samsung and recognition of one-time royalty revenue during the first quarter of 2013 from LSI.

Royalty revenue from the CRI reportable segment increased approximately \$5.9 million to \$12.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2014 from \$6.5 million for the same period in 2013. The increase was primarily due to the license agreements signed with Samsung during 2013.

Royalty revenue from the Other reportable segment was immaterial for both the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, and remained relatively flat period over period.

Contract and Other Revenue

Contract and other revenue consist of revenue from technology development as well as sale of LED edge-lit products. Contract and other revenue increased approximately \$4.1 million to \$4.7 million for the three months ended March 31, 2014 from \$0.6 million for the same period in 2013. The increase was primarily due to increased lighting technology development projects and sales of light guides.

We believe that contract and other revenue will increase over time as we continue to roll out new LDT products to the market. Revenue from technology development contracts will continue to fluctuate over time based on our ongoing contractual requirements, the amount of work performed, the timing of completing engineering deliverables, and the changes to work required, as well as new technology development contracts booked in the future.

Contract and Other Revenue by Reportable Segments

Contract and other revenue from the MID reportable segment was immaterial for both the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013.

Contract and other revenue from the CRI reportable segment increased approximately \$0.2 million to \$0.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2014 from \$0.3 million for the same period in 2013, primarily due to new evaluation and test equipment contracts.

Contract and other revenue from the Other reportable segment increased approximately \$4.0 million to \$4.2 million for the three months ended March 31, 2014 from \$0.2 million for the same period in 2013. The increase was primarily due to increased lighting technology development projects and sales of light guides.

Table of Contents

Engineering costs:

| (Dollars in millions) | Three Months Ended | | Change in Percentage |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--------|-------------------------|
| | March 31, 2014 | 2013 | |
| Engineering costs | | | |
| Cost of revenue | \$4.3 | \$0.1 | NM* |
| Amortization of intangible assets | 5.7 | 6.4 | (10.3)% |
| Stock-based compensation | 0.0 | 0.0 | —% |
| Total cost of revenue | 10.0 | 6.5 | 53.4% |
| Research and development | 25.6 | 30.9 | (17.4)% |
| Stock-based compensation | 1.3 | 1.9 | (30.1)% |
| Total research and development | 26.9 | 32.8 | (18.1)% |
| Total engineering costs | \$36.9 | \$39.3 | (6.3)% |

*NM — percentage is not meaningful

Total engineering costs decreased \$2.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2014 as compared to the same period in 2013 primarily due to decreased accrual of retention bonuses of \$2.2 million, decreased stock-based compensation expenses of \$0.6 million, decreased prototyping costs of \$0.4 million, decreased amortization expense of \$0.2 million and decreased travel costs of \$0.2 million, offset by an increase in cost of sales due to sales of light guides of \$2.4 million.

In the near term, we expect engineering costs to be approximately the same or higher as we intend to continue to make investments in the infrastructure and technologies required to maintain our product innovation in semiconductor, lighting, security and other technologies.

Marketing, general and administrative costs:

| (Dollars in millions) | Three Months Ended | | Change in Percentage |
|---|--------------------|--------|-------------------------|
| | March 31, 2014 | 2013 | |
| Marketing, general and administrative costs | | | |
| Marketing, general and administrative costs | \$17.2 | \$22.0 | (21.8)% |
| Stock-based compensation | 1.6 | 3.1 | (48.5)% |
| Total marketing, general and administrative costs | \$18.8 | \$25.1 | (25.0)% |

Total marketing, general and administrative costs decreased \$6.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2014 primarily due to decreased litigation expenses of \$1.9 million, decreased stock-based compensation expenses of \$1.5 million, decreased consulting costs of \$0.9 million, decreased headcount related costs of \$0.5 million, decreased facilities costs of \$0.4 million and decreased accrual of retention bonuses of \$0.4 million.

In the future, marketing, general and administrative costs will vary from period to period based on the trade shows, advertising, legal, acquisition and other marketing and administrative activities undertaken, and the change in sales, marketing and administrative headcount in any given period. In the near term, we expect our marketing, general and administrative costs to remain relatively flat.

Gain from sale of intellectual property:

| (Dollars in millions) | Three Months Ended | | Change in Percentage |
|---|--------------------|-------|-------------------------|
| | March 31, 2014 | 2013 | |
| Gain from sale of intellectual property | \$0.2 | \$1.3 | (86.8)% |

Table of Contents

During the first quarter of 2014, we sold portfolios of our patent assets covering wireless and other technologies. During the first quarter of 2013, we sold portfolios of our patent assets covering lighting technologies. As part of the transactions, we received an initial upfront payment and expect to receive subsequent payments if and when our partner is successful in licensing that portfolio.

Gain from settlement:

| (Dollars in millions) | Three Months Ended | | Change in Percentage |
|-----------------------|--------------------|------|-------------------------|
| | March 31, 2014 | 2013 | |
| Gain from settlement | \$0.5 | \$— | N/A* |

*N/A — not applicable

The settlements with SK hynix and Micron are multiple element arrangements for accounting purposes. For a multiple element arrangement, we are required to determine the fair value of the elements. We considered several factors in determining the accounting fair value of the elements of the settlement with SK hynix and the settlement with Micron which included a third party valuation using an income approach (the "SK hynix Fair Value" and "Micron Fair Value," respectively). The total gain from settlement related to the settlements with SK hynix and Micron was \$1.9 million and \$3.3 million, respectively. During the three months ended March 31, 2014, we recognized \$0.5 million as gain from settlement, which represents the portion of the SK hynix Fair Value and Micron Fair Value of the cash consideration allocated to the resolution of the antitrust litigation settlements. Refer to Note 15, "Agreements with SK hynix and Micron," of Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements of this Form 10-Q for further discussion.

Restructuring charges:

| (Dollars in millions) | Three Months Ended | | Change in Percentage |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-------|-------------------------|
| | March 31, 2014 | 2013 | |
| Restructuring charges | \$0.0 | \$2.2 | N/A* |

*N/A — not applicable

During 2013, we initiated a restructuring program related primarily to our LDT group as a result of the change in our business strategy to reduce our focus on the lower margin bulb products. Additionally, we curtailed our immersive media platform spending. We recorded an immaterial charge related to this plan during the first quarter of 2014. Refer to Note 12, "Restructuring Charges," of Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements of this Form 10-Q for further discussion.

Interest and other income (expense), net:

Three Months