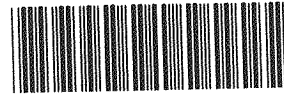


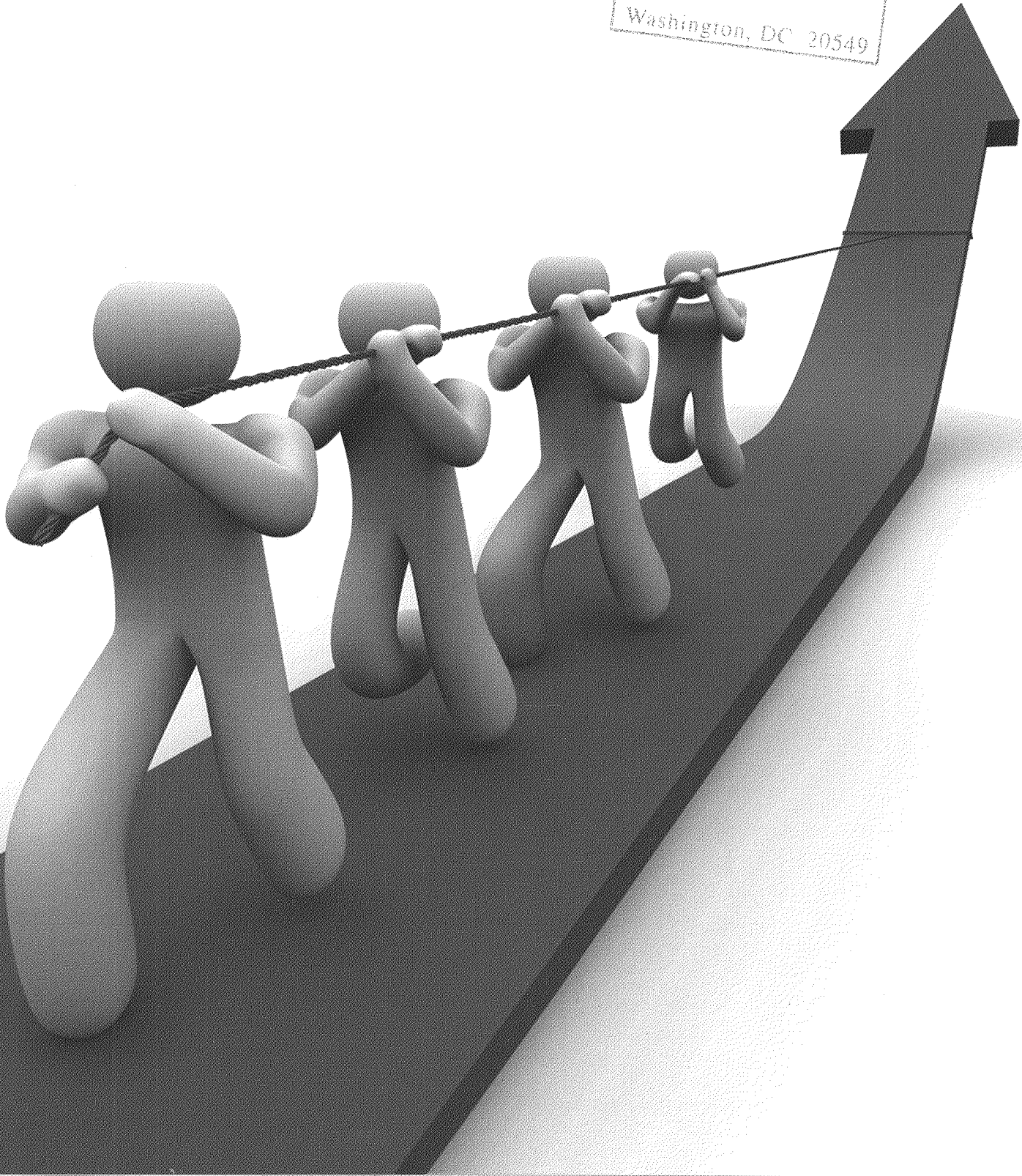
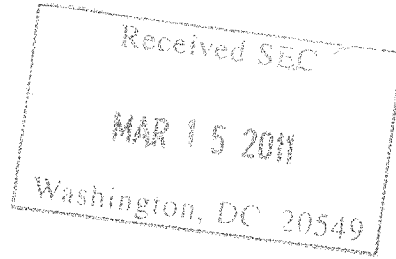


Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc.

# 2010 ANNUAL REPORT

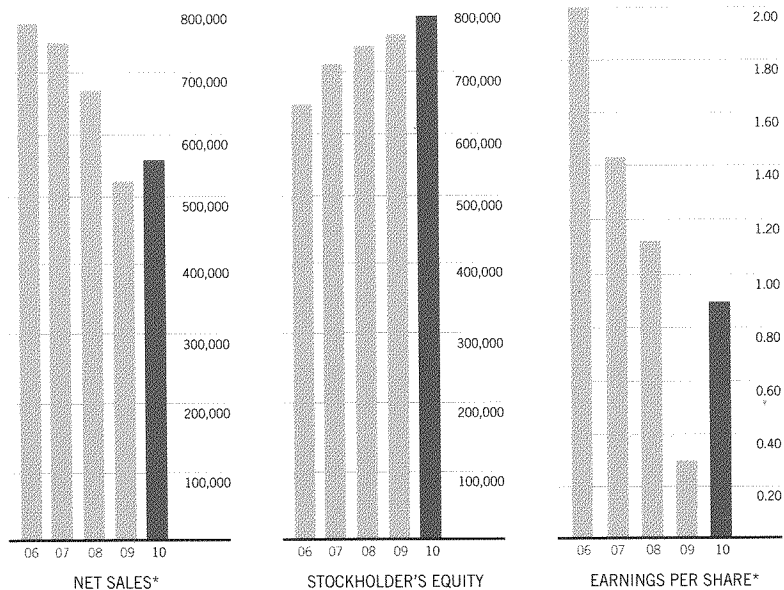


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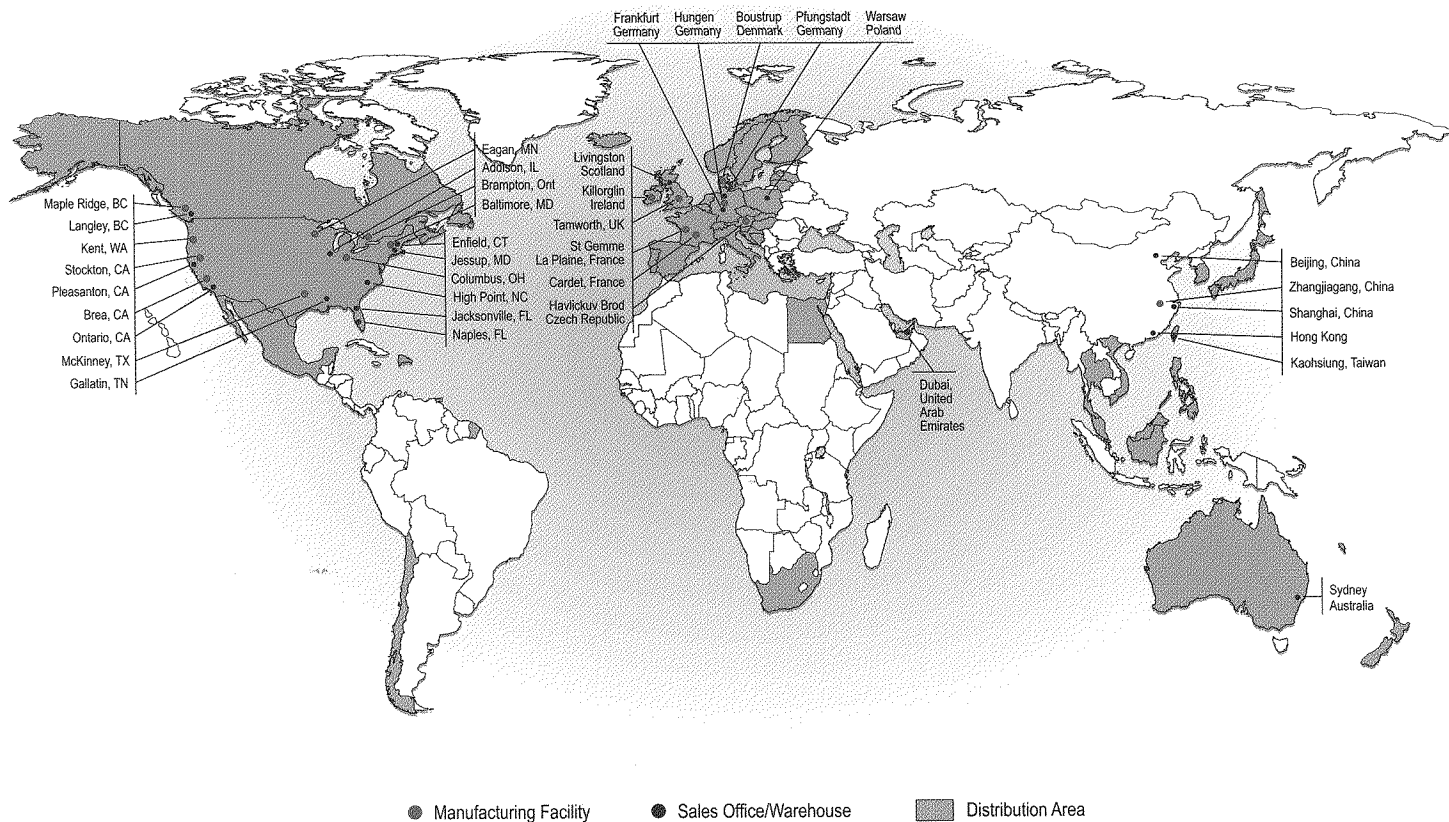


# Financial Highlights

<i>(Dollars in thousands except share and per share amounts)</i>	2010	2009	% Change
Net Sales*	\$555,487	\$526,544	5.5%
Income from Operations*	\$78,424	\$31,496	149.0%
Net Income*	\$44,798	\$14,121	217.2%
Diluted Earnings per Share*	\$0.90	\$0.29	210.3%
Total Assets	\$874,709	\$843,805	3.7%
Stockholders' Equity	\$787,793	\$763,784	3.1%
Common Shares Outstanding	50,095,594	49,377,461	1.5%
Number of Employees*	1,851	1,789	3.5%



\*Amounts are from continuing operations.



This annual report focuses on our inside sales teams around the world. Their contribution to their company's success is invaluable.

# Shareholders' Message

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The year 2010 was our most progressive in organizing Simpson Strong-Tie for a long range international future, as well as strengthening our position in the U.S.. In the process, some of our key managers added global responsibility.

We now have operations in 13 countries scattered around the world, and manufacturing has taken on operations in eight of them.

While it takes time to get the right people, who then build a brand name as we have done in the U.S., Canada and Europe, we continue to make progress in other major future markets like China. And, a somewhat surprising new market is Australia, which, unlike most new markets, became profitable right away.

We are pursuing several expanded product lines as well as geographic directions that should, before long, enable us to increase sales and earnings, regardless of whenever the U.S. housing market significantly improves. We are expanding the fastener line with many new products that will help increase sales in markets where structural solutions are needed.

Our Anchor Systems products should have an increased presence in Europe this year. Several new products should increase sales where we already have a presence, in areas such as Asia/Pacific, where the majority of construction is not wood-related.

We also are examining a new worldwide business this year that is based on construction adhesives. These products are used in construction other than residential. As with any new business, it will take a bit of time to organize it properly, but it could become another significant method of broadening our sales and our ability to offset economic downturns.

While our net income in 2010 was over double that of 2009, it was far from our initial long term goal of 10% net profit on sales of \$1,000,000,000. However, we feel that great progress was made, and is being made, toward the product and geographic expansion that will make Simpson Strong-Tie a long range growing company, regardless of U.S. housing starts.

And we have that essential element to building anything – the best people!

The Board has increased our quarterly dividend from 10 to 12½ cents.

Sincerely,



Tom Fitzmyers  
President & CEO



Barclay Simpson  
Chairman



# Our No-Equal Service starts with Inside Sales

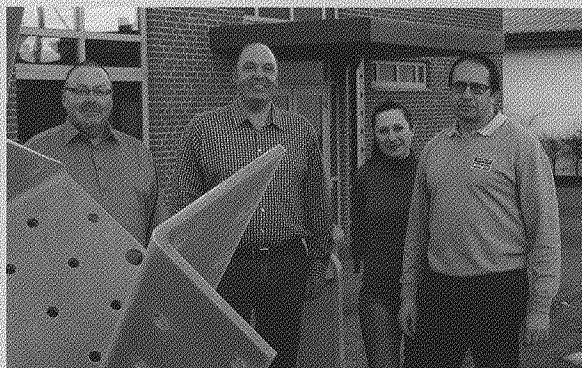
## Job Description:

Ability to perform the following tasks under pressure, with grace and professionalism at all times. Maintain excellent customer service levels.

- Enter product orders into our in-house ERP system
  - Answer phones, faxes and emails throughout the day
  - Respond to customer's technical questions
  - Advise customers on product choices and alternative solutions
  - Continually train on new product development across a wide range of products
  - Document, research and report any issues a customer might have
  - Work with engineering group on advanced technical solutions to customer issues
  - Work with production team to ensure orders are correct
  - Work with shipping department on shipment timing, order changes and scheduling
  - Work with outside sales force to process customer requests, returns and field issues
  - Work with branches on inter-branch shipments
- ▶ Excellent communication skills required, in the language the specific market requires
  - ▶ Ability to multi-task is critical
  - ▶ Calm professional temperament under pressure is essential ...

This describes the job that our Inside Sales Teams perform around the world, every day. They are the point of contact when our customers place orders, and as a result, often build close relationships with them based on respect and trust. They are a dedicated team that communicates with other departments and branches within the company. Our Inside Sales Teams are key to making sure that our customers regard our service as "No Equal."

Many of the inside sales team members have been with Simpson for a long time – tenure of 10 to 15 years and up is common. This is a group of dedicated, hard-working people who really care about our customers. They constantly look for ways to service them better. We recognize their invaluable contribution to the success of our company. We're sharing some of their stories in this year's annual report.



*Nordic Team, L to R: Eric Stjernholm, Kim Strauss, Nina Bountovskaya, Jørgen Larsen*



*Stockton, CA Team, L to R: Gwen Silva, Dan Massoni, Shannon Abercrombie, Pat Maloney, Paul Silva, Mayra Cardenas, Vicki Bennett, Alicia Robertson train with Specialty Fasteners Manager, Mike Bettencourt*



*McKinney, TX Team, L to R – (front row) Roger Neill, Debbie Turner, RD Dominguez. (2nd row) Nanette Baker, Nancy Haker, Heather Ralls. (Back row) Adam Spears*



*Brea, CA Team, (front row), L to R: Connie Hurtado, Darlene Wayne, Tami Carr. (Back row), L to R: Tom Lugo, Randy Ginter, John Santana, Pat Fernandez*



*Nina Rau, Hungen, Germany*



## Stockton, California

Customer service is an all encompassing term for a variety of duties including order entry, problem solver, and friend. We speak to many of our customers on a daily basis, and they become our friends. We get to know their lives, their families, their interests. One of our inside sales people just got a puppy from one of our customers. One rep loaned a trailer to a customer to use until their cabin was built. Some of our customers send us pictures of their kids. We have been through births, deaths, health problems and teenagers with our customers. We truly believe this is part of our "Secret Sauce." We bond with our customers in a way that is not necessarily seen as a vendor relationship, but as family. This helps us to resolve issues together and move on with business at hand. This job is ultimately rewarding when you get that unexpected 'thank you' and the knowledge that you helped make someone's day a little easier.

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## Pfungstadt, Hungen and Frankfurt, Germany

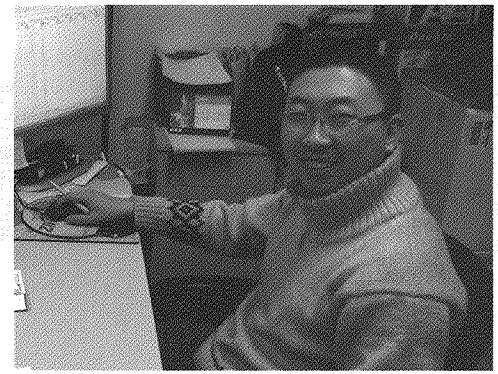
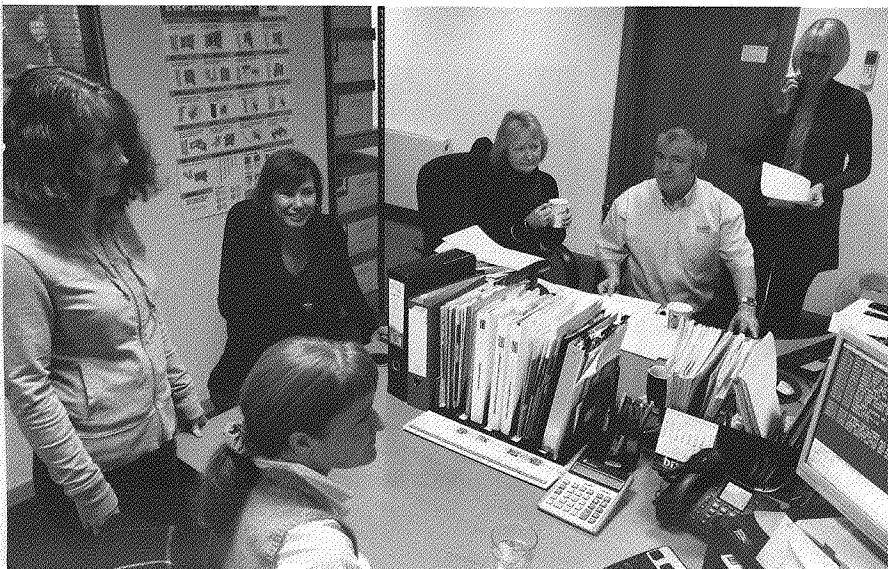
Our three branches in Germany support a wide variety of customers in several languages. They are truly a multi-talented group! There are a total of 8 customer care representatives, and their inside sales experience ranges from a seasoned 20 years with the company to brand new team members. It's a very diverse group. Customer care reps in Germany work with our sales teams and customers in Germany, U.K., France, Italy, Ireland, The Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, Austria, Switzerland, Greece, Poland, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Norway, Hungary, Romania, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Lithuania, China, Australia, United Arab Emirates and the U.S.A. Each country has its cultural mores, as well as different rules and regulations regarding customs, taxes and financial controls, so the teams have to be focused and precise, to ensure that they process transactions correctly.

.....

## McKinney, Texas

We pride ourselves on the relationships we build with our customers. Our customer service reps drop off items on their way home, or over the weekend, to help a customer out of a tight spot. One customer offers to take us all to dinner whenever he comes to visit from Florida. Another sends us a King Cake for Mardi Gras every year. And another sends the best tasting rolls you've ever eaten. A team member received a hand-quilted baby blanket when her son was born. We even had one customer service rep end up marrying a customer! We love our customers and I guess we can say some of them love us right back.

*Tamworth's Builder Merchant Team, UK, clockwise from bottom:  
Kari Higgins, Joanne Flanagan, Sonia Jones, Janet Wood, Martin Joyce, Dawn Banks.*



*Jonson Chen, Beijing, China*



*Frankfurt, Germany Team, L to R: Erik Killian,  
Jana Höptner, Melanie Reinking, Jens Schubert*



*McKinney, TX Team, L to R, (1st row) Rebecca Ash,  
Adam Turner. (2nd row) Karen Brewer,  
Matt Anderson, Rebecca Heckel, Christina Morgan  
(Back row) Kevin Posey*



*Julie Heraudeau, St Gemme La Plaine, France*

### St Gemme La Plaine, France

Our motto is *Toujours plus haut! (higher and higher!)*. This describes our inside sales department well. We've grown from 2 people in 1997, to 6 commercial assistants today, with sales 9 times greater than 13 years ago.

Inside sales are one of the strongest links between our branch and our customers. They serve as the main communication channel between the sales force and the manufacturing team, working in pairs with sales reps. Customer satisfaction is their daily focus. They are definitely a component of Simpson Strong-Tie success in France.

.....

### Brampton, Ontario, Canada

A few months ago, late on Friday afternoon, a call came in from a customer who was at the end of his rope. He was missing an important hanger that his contractor needed for the weekend, to enclose his cabin up north in the woods. We contacted all of our stocking dealers in his area and none of them was able to help at such a short notice. It seemed hopeless, as the jobsite was located 3 hours away, in the "back country." The cabin was five miles off the highway on a dirt road, past the second culvert and right next to the large pine tree! One of our managers was travelling north that night, decided to take a detour and deliver the hanger. He tried in vain to find the location in the dark – no luck. So early Saturday morning, he delivered the hanger to a very delighted, grateful homeowner who understood why Simpson Strong-Tie was a "No Equal" company.

.....

### Boulstrup, Denmark

In a town called Alta, in the most northern part of Norway, the construction manager of a large building site realizes that they are short of 320 angle brackets. They need these to finish mounting the last windows. North of the arctic circle, it's dark day and night in December, frost is hard, and time is short. If construction stops, the race against winters snow and frost will be lost.

Customer Care team member Kim Strauss takes the call: deliver 320 angle brackets to Alta by tomorrow morning at the latest – at any cost. Alta is more than 3,000 km from Boulstrup, so by using a courier taxi, a couple of airliners and some sympathetic service-minded transport companies, the angle brackets were delivered in Alta 20 hours after the call came in. "We know that quick and safe delivery, professional advice and a maximum of flexibility distance us from our competitors. Here we are outstanding. And a high level of customer service is crucial for my team, every day," says team leader Erik Stjernholm.

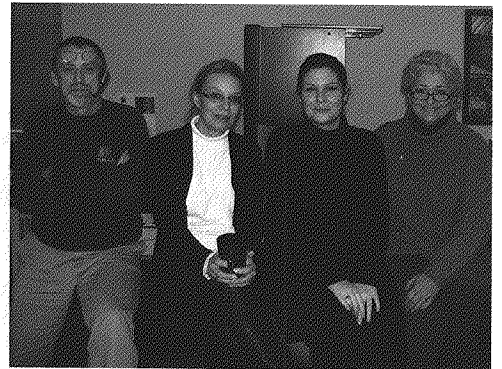
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### Sydney, Australia

Operations manager Robert Torres has been the customer service contact since inception. Due to the phenomenal growth the Australian branch has enjoyed over the past 3 years, the branch added Moises Urbina-Duran to their customer service team in 2010. Together, both Robert and Moises are the front line for the Australian branch in many areas.



French Team, L to R: Laetitia Broix, Régine Tarde, Anouk Coulais, Elise Monier



Brampton, Canada Team, L to R: Lloyd George, Virginia Rabson, Joanne Leblanc, Ann Horne



Apple Liang, Hong Kong, China



Christelle Maslin, St Gemme La Plaine, France



Tamworth's Engineered Timber Division Team, UK, L to R: Susan Kennedy, Susan Hand, Johanna Wilson



Pfungstadt, Germany Team, L to R: Carine Jedele, Reiner Siebenstich, Erika Triller





Melanie enjoys a warm Christmas gift from one of her appreciative customers.



McKinney, TX Team, clockwise from left: Rebecca Ash, Rebecca Heckel, Karen Brewer, Adam Turner, Matt Anderson, Kevin Posey and Christina Morgan take product training with technical expert, Russ Anderson.



Sarah Cepeda is responsible for all administrative, accounting and sales order processing in the Dubai, UAE office.

### Tamworth, United Kingdom

Our two inside sales teams serve the traditional builders merchant network and the engineered timber sector.

Our builders' merchant sector was established in 1996 and serves the maintenance, refurbishment and renovation industry. Our team members have over 42 years experience combined. Sonia Jones, one of our Builders Merchant customer service co-ordinators, looked after one customer for over 13 years, and recently attended his retirement party 200 miles away from where she lives.

The engineered timber division (ETD) customer care team provides dedicated support to the engineered timber industry in the UK. A relatively new team, they have quickly established a strong reputation for going the extra mile. The three ETD inside sales team members provide technical and delivery support, and are regularly involved in experimental projects, working with house builders. For team member Susan Kennedy, a trip to a job site with a freshly pressed 'special' connector in the back of her car is a fairly commonplace occurrence.

.....

### Maple Ridge, BC, Canada

Our current Customer Service department represents 41 years of Simpson Strong-Tie work experience, and that includes Sandra Westhaver who just joined the staff in the fall of 2010. Western Canada is a very large area that is fully serviced by the staff in all areas of Simpson Strong-Tie business. With an experienced staff come high expectations from our customers. They know that they can call in and receive immediate help for custom hanger help, or rush stock orders. The culture in the office is loose, relaxed, and sometimes down right comical, but the focus always remains on satisfying the customers needs. When you combine this group of dedicated employees with our "No Equal" pledge, you have some of the key ingredients of the "Secret Sauce."



Maple Ridge, Canada Team, L to R: Chelene MacAulay, Joanne Fahel, Wayne McRae, Stephanie Hansma, Sandra Westhaver, Arthur Mnatsakanian.



Moises Urbina-Duran and Robert Torres keep Team Australia on track.





*Stockton, CA Team, L to R: Kathleen Masler, Justine Imperial, Shannon Lorentzen, branch engineer Alicia Eikenberry, Susan Shiffler, Thea Parsons, Dena Lee, Donette Angelo*



*Brea, CA Team, (front row) L to R: Kim Hampton, Doris Wang, Heather Nye, Elaine Seale, Mo Shearer. (Back row), L to R: Albert Bernal, Rudy Peralta, Rich Vineyard, Scott Ginter, John Cid*

## Brea, California

The people in our department have been with the company anywhere from 3 to 39 years. That's a lot of talent and knowledge in one department!

Friendships form with customers, which can lead to a little friendly rivalry. On one occasion, we put together a softball team and challenged a local distributor to a friendly game. Simpson won the first game with a close comeback of 11-10. Our opponent won the second game, 16-15. Both teams were evenly matched and we all had a great time. Our opponent is asking about a possible rematch soon, so we will work on our softball skills until we have "No Equal."

## Columbus, Ohio

A legendary football coach at a large midwestern university had highly successful teams, and a very loyal fan base. He was asked about the secret to his success. The coach replied: "It's simple – you win with people."

Our inside sales team in Columbus was built with that simple philosophy. We have found and developed people who deliver No-Equal service daily. This team has over 160 years of Simpson service! Like the coach, we understand how to sell tickets (*build sales*), developing a strong game (*product knowledge*) to build a loyal fan base (*customers*). What skill set and talent do we look for when building this team? Consistently providing excellent customer service is not an easy task. You build raving fans with a great deal of hard work and preparation. Our team members are enthusiastic, pro-active thinkers who enjoy problem-solving and assisting others. They understand that without a fan base enjoying their service experience and buying tickets the team would suffer. We have a culture tied to a "Secret Sauce." We are a big part of that recipe and carry it onto the field each day.



*Columbus, OH Team, clockwise: Jeff Emmons, David Grissom, Sean Clark, Tom Frey, Marshall Cunningham, Dean Young, Bruce Mathias, Joy Steinhäuser, Joe Wesley, Jean Tracy, Tim Antoniak, Jon Craft, Dan Laird, Joe Tripi and Chuck Helge*

# 2010 PSB Scholarship Awards

## 13 Scholarships awarded through the PSB Scholarship Program

The PSB Scholarship Program was started in 1998 and to date, has awarded \$1,017,500 in scholarships to dependent children of Simpson employees for their post-secondary education. This year, there are 14 new recipients and 24 renewals for current students.



Carrie Busha



Abigail Crosser



Stephanie Dankel



Elka DelPortal



Samantha DelPortal



Johnny Ding



Michael Hammontree



Amanda Medina



Mary Morrison



Kaitlynn O'Keefe



Victoria Simons



Bethany Stercho



Kayla Tullos

**Carrie Busha**, daughter of Terry Busha, McKinney, Texas, is a junior at Howard Payne University in Brownwood, Texas, with a major in Biblical studies.

**Abigail Crosser**, daughter of Robert Crosser, McKinney, Texas, is entering the University of South Carolina in Columbia as a business major.

**Stephanie Dankel**, daughter of Roger Dankel, McKinney, Texas, will attend Clemson University, majoring in biomedical engineering.

**Elka DelPortal**, daughter of Cesar DelPortal, Columbus, Ohio. She will attend Ohio State University in Columbus as a pre-med student.

**Samantha DelPortal**, twin sister to Elka, will attend the University of California at Santa Barbara to study economics and accounting.

**Johnny Ding**, son of Frank Ding, Pleasanton, California, will enter the University of California at Santa Barbara studying economics and accounting.

**Michael Hammontree**, son of Mardi Hammontree, McKinney, Texas, will enter the University of Texas at Austin studying architectural engineering.

**Amanda Medina**, daughter of Ted Medina, Stockton, California, is a former PSB scholarship winner while attending Cal State University East Bay for her undergraduate degree. She graduated in 2009 and will return to Cal State to continue her studies in public administration.

**Mary Morrison**, daughter of Dave Morrison, Jacksonville, Florida, will attend Florida State University in Tallahassee as a biology major.

**Kaitlynn O'Keefe**, daughter of Rachael Maxwell, Columbus, Ohio, is in her second year at Ohio State University and will be studying nursing.

**Victoria Simons**, daughter of Tawn Simons, Pleasanton, California, will attend Biola University, studying English.

**Bethany Stercho**, daughter of Doug Stercho, Columbus, Ohio, will be a graphic design major at LaRoche College in Pittsburgh.

**Kayla Tullos** is the daughter of Debbie Tullos, who is based in McKinney, Texas. Kayla is a junior at Texas Tech University in Lubbock studying environmental/civil engineering.

# Company Information



## OFFICE

Street Address: 5956 W. Las Positas Boulevard, Pleasanton, CA 94588, USA (800) 925-5099

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 10789, Pleasanton, CA 94588

## OFFICERS

Barclay Simpson  
Chairman

Thomas J Fitzmyers  
President and Chief Executive Officer

Karen Colonias  
Chief Financial Officer,  
Treasurer and Secretary

Michael J. Herbert  
Vice President

Jeffrey E. Mackenzie  
Vice President

Phillip "Terry" Kingsfather  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Simpson Strong-Tie Company Inc.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Barclay Simpson<sup>(5)</sup>  
Chairman

Thomas J Fitzmyers<sup>(4)</sup>  
President and Chief Executive Officer

Jennifer A. Chatman<sup>(1)(2)(3)(5)</sup>  
Paul J. Cortese Distinguished  
Professor of Management  
Haas School of Business,  
University of California, Berkeley

Earl F. Cheit<sup>(2)(3)(5)</sup>  
Dean Emeritus of the Haas School of Business  
University of California, Berkeley

Gary M. Cusumano<sup>(4)(5)</sup>  
Chairman (retired)  
The Newhall Land and Farming Company

Peter N. Louras, Jr.<sup>(1)(2)(4)(5)</sup>  
Group Vice President (retired)  
The Clorox Company

Robin Greenway MacGillivray<sup>(2)(3)(4)(5)</sup>  
Senior Vice President – One AT&T Integration  
AT&T

Barry Lawson Williams<sup>(1)(3)(4)(5)</sup>  
General Partner (retired)  
Williams Pacific Ventures, Inc.

(1) Member of Compensation and Leadership Development Committee

(2) Member of Audit Committee

(3) Member of Governance and Nominating Committee

(4) Member of Acquisitions and Strategy Committee

(5) Member of Growth Committee

## ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of stockholders will take place at 2:00 p.m., Pacific Daylight Time, on Tuesday, April 26, 2011, at the Company's home office located at 5956 W. Las Positas Boulevard, Pleasanton, California.

## STOCK LISTING

Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc.'s (the "Company's") common stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol "SSD."

## QUARTERLY STOCK DATA

The table below shows the per-share closing price range of the Company's common stock for the last two years as quoted on the New York Stock Exchange.

	2010			2009		
	High	Low	Close	High	Low	Close
4Q	\$31.25	\$25.39	\$30.91	\$27.31	\$23.39	\$26.89
3Q	\$26.17	\$22.04	\$25.78	\$29.60	\$20.10	\$25.26
2Q	\$34.25	\$24.55	\$24.55	\$24.08	\$17.98	\$21.62
1Q	\$28.60	\$22.28	\$27.76	\$27.65	\$13.80	\$18.02

## FORM 10-K

The Company's annual report on Form 10-K (which is included in this report) and its quarterly and current reports on Forms 10-Q and 8-K, are filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and are available upon request. These reports are also available on the company's website at [www.simpsonmfg.com](http://www.simpsonmfg.com).

## INVESTOR RELATIONS

Barclay Simpson  
Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc.  
5956 W. Las Positas Boulevard, Pleasanton, California 94588  
(925) 560-9032

For an investor information package, please call (925) 560-9097

## TRANSFER AGENT & REGISTRAR

Computershare Trust Company, N.A.  
P.O. Box 43078, Providence, RI 02940-3078

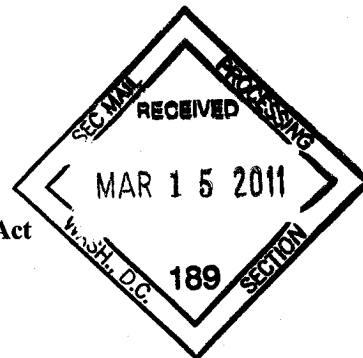
For stockholder inquiries, please call (877) 282-1168  
[www.computershare.com](http://www.computershare.com)

## INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
Three Embarcadero Center, San Francisco, CA 94111-4004



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



(Mark One)

Annual Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010

OR

Transition Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

for the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

Commission file number: 1-13429

Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

94-3196943

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

5956 W. Las Positas Blvd., Pleasanton, CA 94588

(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(925) 560-9000**

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

**Common Stock, par value \$0.01**

(Title of each class)

**New York Stock Exchange, Inc.**

(Name of each exchange on which registered)

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

**None**

(Title of class)

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.

Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act.

Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

Yes  No

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

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

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer  (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes  No

As of June 30, 2010, there were outstanding 49,426,053 shares of the registrant's common stock, par value \$0.01, which is the only outstanding class of common or voting stock of the registrant. The aggregate market value of the shares of common stock held by nonaffiliates of the registrant (based on the closing price for the common stock on the New York Stock Exchange on June 30, 2010) was approximately \$970,120,010. As of February 14, 2011, 50,108,673 shares of the registrant's common stock were outstanding.

#### **Documents Incorporated by Reference**

The information called for by Part III is incorporated by reference to the definitive Proxy Statement for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Company to be held April 26, 2011, which will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission not later than 120 days after December 31, 2010.

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*This document contains forward-looking statements, based on numerous assumptions and subject to risks and uncertainties. Although the Company believes that the forward-looking statements are reasonable, it does not and cannot give any assurance that its beliefs and expectations will prove to be correct. Many factors could significantly affect the Company's operations and cause the Company's actual results to be substantially different from the Company's expectations. Those factors include, but are not limited to: (i) general economic and construction business conditions; (ii) customer acceptance of the Company's products; (iii) relationships with key customers; (iv) materials and manufacturing costs; (v) the financial condition of customers, competitors and suppliers; (vi) technological developments; (vii) increased competition; (viii) changes in capital and credit markets; (ix) governmental and business conditions in countries where the Company's products are manufactured and sold; (x) changes in trade regulations; (xi) the effect of acquisition activity; (xii) changes in the Company's plans, strategies, objectives, expectations or intentions; and (xiii) other risks and uncertainties indicated from time to time in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Actual results might differ materially from results suggested by any forward-looking statements in this report. The Company does not have an obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of the receipt of new information, the occurrence of future events or otherwise. See "Item 1A – Risk Factors."*

## **PART I**

### **Item 1. Business.**

#### **Background**

Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc., a Delaware corporation, (the "Company"), through its subsidiary, Simpson Strong-Tie Company Inc. ("Simpson Strong-Tie" or "SST"), designs, engineers and is a leading manufacturer of wood-to-wood, wood-to-concrete and wood-to-masonry connectors, fasteners and fastening systems, and pre-fabricated shearwalls. SST Anchor Systems offers a full line of adhesives, mechanical anchors, carbide drill bits and powder actuated tools for concrete, masonry and steel. SST offers screw fastening systems and collated screws for various construction applications through the Quik Drive product line and a line of stainless steel fasteners. SST markets its products to the residential construction, light industrial and commercial construction, remodeling and do-it-yourself ("DIY") markets. The Company believes that SST benefits from strong brand name recognition among architects and engineers who frequently specify in building plans the use of Simpson Strong-Tie products. SST has continuously manufactured structural connectors since 1956.

On August 31, 2010, the Company sold substantially all of the assets and liabilities of Simpson Dura-Vent Company, Inc. ("Simpson Dura-Vent") pursuant to an agreement dated June 30, 2010, with M&G Holding B.V. and M&G Dura-Vent, Inc. ("M&G"). The Company decided to sell the assets of Simpson Dura-Vent in order to focus exclusively on the development of its profitable connector products business. Simpson Dura-Vent represented the Company's entire venting product line. The Company retained its real estate in Vacaville, California, which it now leases to M&G, and all Simpson Dura-Vent balances related to cash, employee-related liabilities and specified long-term liabilities.

As a result of the sale of Simpson Dura-Vent, the Company has reorganized into three operating segments consisting of the North American, European and Asia/Pacific segments. The North American segment includes operations primarily in the United States and Canada. The European segment includes operations primarily in France, the United Kingdom, Germany and Denmark. The Asia/Pacific segment includes operations primarily in China, Hong Kong, Australia and the Middle East. These segments are similar in several ways, including the products manufactured and distributed, the types of materials used, the production processes, the distribution channels and the product applications. See Note 14 to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding the assets and performance of each of the Company's operating segments. See "Item 1A – Risk Factors."

Connectors produced by Simpson Strong-Tie typically are steel devices that are used to strengthen, support and connect joints in residential and commercial construction and DIY projects. SST's connector products enhance the safety and durability of the structures in which they are installed and can save time and labor costs. SST's connector products contribute to structural integrity and resistance to seismic, wind and other forces. Applications range from commercial and residential building, to deck construction, to DIY projects. SST produces and markets over 12,000 standard and custom products.

SST emphasizes continuous new product development and often obtains patent protection for its new products. SST's products are marketed in all 50 states of the United States and in Europe, Canada, Asia, Australia, New Zealand, Mexico and several countries in Central and South America, Africa and the Middle East. SST's products



are distributed to home centers, through wholesale distributors, to contractors, to dealers and to original equipment manufacturers (“OEMs”).

SST has developed and uses automated manufacturing processes. Its innovative manufacturing systems and techniques have allowed it to control manufacturing costs, while developing both new products and products that meet customized requirements and specifications. SST’s development of specialized manufacturing processes has also permitted increased operating flexibility and enhanced product design innovation. The Company has 18 manufacturing locations in the United States, Canada, France, Denmark, Ireland, Germany, China and England. In 2009, SST opened a new manufacturing facility in Zhangjiagang, China, and moved its production of mechanical anchors to the new facility from its facility in Brampton, Ontario.

### **Industry and Market Trends**

Based on trade periodicals, participation in trade and professional associations and communications with governmental and quasi-governmental organizations and with customers and suppliers, Simpson Strong-Tie believes that a variety of events and trends have resulted in significant developments in the markets that SST serves. SST’s products are designed to respond to increasing demand resulting from these trends. Some of these events and trends are discussed below.

In the United States, connector usage developed faster in the West than elsewhere due to the low cost and abundance of timber and to local construction practices. Increasingly, the market has been influenced both by growing awareness that the devastation caused by seismic, wind and other disasters can be reduced through improved building codes and construction practices and by environmental concerns that contribute to the increasing cost and reduced availability of wood. Most SST products are listed by recognized building standards agencies as complying with model building codes and are specified by architects and engineers for use in projects they are designing or supervising. The engineered wood products industry continues to develop in response to concerns about the availability of wood, and the Company believes that SST is the leading supplier of connectors for use with engineered wood products. SST operates manufacturing or warehouse facilities in California, Texas, Ohio, Florida, Connecticut, Illinois, Washington, Tennessee, Minnesota, North Carolina, Maryland, Massachusetts, British Columbia, Ontario, England, France, Denmark, Germany, Australia, Scotland, Poland, Ireland, Czech Republic, Hong Kong, Dubai and China.

Natural disasters throughout the world have focused attention on safety concerns relating to the structural integrity of homes and other buildings. The 2010 earthquakes off the coast of Chile and in Haiti, the 1995 earthquake in Kobe, Japan, the 1994 earthquake in Northridge, California, the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake in Northern California, Hurricanes Hugo in 1989 and Andrew in 1992 and a series of hurricanes in 2004 and 2005, including Katrina, in the southeastern United States, and other less cataclysmic natural disasters, damaged and destroyed innumerable homes and other buildings, resulting in heightened consciousness of the fragility of some of those structures.

In recent years, architects, engineers, model code agencies, contractors, building inspectors and legislators have continued efforts to improve structural integrity and safety of homes and other buildings in the face of disasters of various types, including seismic events and storms. Based on ongoing participation in trade and professional associations and communications with governmental and quasi-governmental regulatory agencies, SST believes that building codes are being more uniformly applied and their enforcement is becoming more rigorous.

Recently, there has been consolidation among several of SST’s customer groups. The industry has experienced increased complexity in some home design, and builders are more aggressively trying to reduce their costs. SST has responded to these trends by marketing its products as systems, in addition to individual parts. In some cases, SST uses sophisticated design and specification software to facilitate systems marketing.

The requirements of the Endangered Species Act, the Federal Lands Policy Management Act and the National Forest Management Act have reduced the amount of timber available for harvest from public lands. Over the past several years, this and other factors have led to the increased use of engineered wood products. Engineered wood products, which substitute for strong, clear-grained lumber historically obtained from logging older, large-diameter trees, have been developed to conserve lumber. Engineered wood products frequently require specialized connectors and fasteners. Sales of SST’s engineered wood connector and fastener products have contributed significant revenues over the past several years.

SST continues to develop its distribution through home centers throughout the United States, although SST's sales to home centers declined in 2008, 2009 and 2010. See "Item 7 – Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations."

SST's principal markets are in the building construction industry. That industry is subject to significant volatility due to real estate market cycles, fluctuations in interest rates, the availability, or lack thereof, of credit to builders, developers and consumers, inflation rates, weather, and other factors and trends. The world-wide recession and the decline in residential construction that began in 2007 have reduced the demand for SST's products. See "Item 1A – Risk Factors."

### **Business Strategy**

Simpson Strong-Tie designs, manufactures and sells products that are of high quality and performance, easy to use and cost-effective for customers. SST provides rapid delivery of its products and prompt engineering and sales support. Based on its communications with customers, engineers, architects, contractors and other industry participants, SST believes that its products have strong brand-name recognition, and SST seeks to continue to develop the value of its brand names through a variety of customer-driven strategies. Information provided by customers has led to the development of many of SST's products, and SST expects that customer needs will continue to shape its product development, marketing and services.

Specification in architects' and engineers' plans and drawings influences which products will be used for particular purposes and therefore is key to the use of SST's products in construction projects. SST encourages architects and engineers to specify the installation of SST's products in projects they design and supervise, and encourages construction contractors to accept SST's products. SST maintains frequent contacts with architects, engineers and contractors, as well as private organizations that provide information to building code officials, both to inform them regarding the quality, proper installation, capabilities and value of SST's products and to update them about product modifications and new products that may be useful or necessary. SST sponsors seminars to inform architects, engineers, contractors and building officials on appropriate use and proper installation of its products. Additionally, SST maintains relationships with home builders to promote the use of its products.

SST seeks to expand its product and distribution coverage through several channels:

*Distributors.* SST regularly evaluates its distribution coverage and service levels provided by its distributors and from time to time modifies its distribution strategy and implements changes to address weaknesses and opportunities. SST has various programs to evaluate distributor product mix and conducts promotions to encourage distributors to add SST products that complement the mix of product offerings in their markets.

Through its efforts to increase specifications by architects and engineers, and through increasing the number of products sold to particular contractors, SST seeks to increase sales to channels that serve building contractors. SST continuously seeks to expand the number of contractors served by each distributor through such sales efforts as demonstrations of product cost-effectiveness and information programs.

*Home Centers.* SST intends to increase penetration of the DIY markets by solicitation of home centers and with increased product offerings. SST's sales force maintains on-going contact with home centers to work with them in a broad range of areas including inventory levels, retail display maintenance, and product knowledge training. To satisfy specialized requirements of the home center market, SST has developed extensive bar coding and merchandising aids and has devoted a portion of its research efforts to the development of DIY products.

*Dealers.* In some markets, SST sells its products directly to lumber dealers.

*OEM Relationships.* SST works closely with manufacturers of engineered wood products and OEMs in developing and expanding the application and sales of its engineered wood connector and fastener products. SST has relationships with several of the largest manufacturers of engineered wood products.

While SST is expanding its established facilities outside of California to increase its presence and sales in these markets, sales of some products may relate primarily to certain regions. For example, sales of SST's line of shearwalls are concentrated mostly in the western region of the United States, because their use is primarily intended to resist the effects of seismic forces. Since 1993 SST –

- has established operations in the United Kingdom,

- opened manufacturing, warehouse and distribution facilities in western Canada, and the Midwest, Northeast, and eastern seaboard regions of the United States,
- purchased anchor products manufacturers in Illinois, eastern Canada, France and Ireland and connector product manufacturers in France, Denmark, Germany and Canada,
- acquired the assets of a leading manufacturer and distributor of screw fastening systems and collated screws with manufacturing and distribution operations in Tennessee and distribution in Canada, Europe, Australia and New Zealand, and acquired a German manufacturer with manufacturing in Germany, Czech Republic and China,
- acquired a manufacturer and distributor of stainless steel fasteners with manufacturing in Maryland and distribution in Maryland, Florida and Massachusetts,
- built a manufacturing facility in China and opened sales offices in Hong Kong, Beijing, Shanghai and Dubai for distribution in Asia and the Middle East, and
- acquired the business of a software company which licenses deck design and estimation software.

SST's European investments have established a presence in the European Community through companies with existing customer bases and through servicing United States-based customers operating in Europe. SST also distributes connector, anchor and epoxy products in Mexico, Australia, New Zealand, Asia and the Middle East. SST intends to continue to pursue and expand operations both inside and outside of the United States (see Note 14 to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements).

An SST goal is to manufacture and warehouse its products in geographic proximity to its markets to provide availability and rapid delivery of products to customers and prompt response to customer requests for specially designed products and services. With respect to the DIY and dealer markets, SST's strategy is to keep the customer's retail stores continuously stocked with adequate supplies of the full line of SST's products that those stores carry. SST manages its inventory to help assure continuous product availability. Most customer orders are filled within a few days. High levels of manufacturing automation and flexibility allow SST to maintain its quality standards while continuing to provide prompt delivery.

The Company's long-term strategy is to develop, acquire or invest in product lines or businesses that have the potential to increase the Company's earnings per share over time and that—

- complement SST's existing product lines,
- can be marketed through SST's existing distribution channels,
- might benefit from use of SST's brand names and expertise,
- are responsive to needs of SST's customers,
- expand SST's markets geographically and
- reduce SST's dependence on the United States residential construction market.

### *Products*

Simpson Strong-Tie is a recognized brand name in the markets it serves. SST manufactures and markets products that strengthen the three types of connections typically found in residential and commercial construction: wood-to-wood, wood-to-concrete and wood-to-masonry. Many of SST's connector products are installed in a continuous load path from the foundation to the roof system to tie the structure together. SST also markets specialty screws and nails for proper installation of certain of its connector products. These products have seismic, high-wind, retrofit and remodeling applications for both new construction and DIY markets. Through its Anchor Systems product line, SST offers a full line of adhesives, mechanical anchors, carbide drill bits and powder-actuated pins and tools for numerous anchoring applications in concrete, masonry and steel in both standard and metric sizes. SST also offers screw fastening systems and collated screws for various construction applications through the Quik Drive product line and a line of stainless steel fasteners.

Most of SST's products are listed by recognized model building code agencies. To achieve such listings, SST conducts extensive product testing, which is witnessed and certified by independent testing laboratories. The tests also provide the basis for publication of load ratings for SST structural connectors, and this information is used by architects, engineers, contractors and homeowners. The information is useful across the range of applications of SST's products, from the deck constructed by a homeowner to a multi-story structure designed by an architect or engineer.

SST also manufactures connector products specifically designed for use with engineered wood products, such as wood I-joists. With increased timber costs and reduced availability of trees suitable for making traditional solid sawn lumber, construction with engineered wood products has increased substantially in the last several years. Sales



of SST's engineered wood connector and fastener products have contributed significant revenues over the past several years.

Metal connectors, anchors and fasteners will corrode and lose load-carrying capacity when installed in corrosive environments or exposed to corrosive materials. There are many environments and materials that may cause corrosion, including salt air, fire retardants, preservative-treated wood, dissimilar metals, fumes and fertilizers. The variables present in a single building environment make it impossible to predict accurately if, or when, significant corrosion will begin or reach a critical level. This relative uncertainty makes it crucial that the specifiers be knowledgeable of the potential risks and select a product coating or metal that is suitable for the intended use. Changes in the preservative-treated wood industry have created additional concerns. Effective December 31, 2003, the preservative-treated wood industry voluntarily transitioned from Chromated Copper Arsenate ("CCA-C") used in residential applications to alternative treatments. Testing has shown that certain alternative replacement treatments are generally more corrosive than CCA-C. SST publishes technical bulletins on subjects such as this and others that affect the installation and use of its products. SST makes its technical bulletins available on its website at [www.strongtie.com](http://www.strongtie.com).

### *New Product Development*

SST commits substantial resources to new product development. The majority of SST's products have been developed through its internal research and development program. SST's research and development expense for the three years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, was \$6,535,000, \$5,884,000 and \$6,148,000, respectively. SST is the only known United States manufacturer with the capability to test multi-story wall systems, thus enabling testing rather than calculations alone to prove system performance. SST engineering, sales, product management, and marketing teams work together with architects, engineers, building inspectors, code officials and customers in the new product development process.

SST's product research and development is based largely on needs that customers communicate to the Company. SST's strategy is to develop new products on a proprietary basis, to patent them when appropriate and to seek trade secret protection for others. SST typically develops 10 to 20 new products each year. For example, in 2010, SST introduced several new fastener products, the Strong Drive® Structural Wood Screw for multi-ply Engineered Wood and Truss applications, a collated self drilling screw for fastening hardwood or exotic deck boards, an auto-feed screw driving system for hex-head screws with washers to fastener metal roofing or siding, and several other fasteners in bulk and collated forms for wood and composite decks, metal-to-metal fastening and general construction applications. SST also developed new connector products in 2010 for truss applications, concrete anchorage and bolt installation, stainless steel products for highly corrosive environments, connectors for Cold-Formed Steel applications and general construction and DIY products. SST also redesigned several existing products to increase load capacity, ease installations or reduce installed cost. Within the North American markets, Simpson Anchor Systems introduced its gas-fired concrete nailing system, as well as its newly designed and code listed Strong Bolt II product line.

While continuing to service the new single-family residential housing market, SST has increased development efforts for products used in multi-family residential markets and some light commercial and industrial markets, including Cold-Formed Steel construction. Distribution channels have been receptive to these new products.

### *Sales and Marketing*

Simpson Strong-Tie's sales and marketing programs are implemented through its branch system. SST currently maintains branches in Northern and Southern California, Texas, Ohio, Canada, England, France, Germany, Denmark and China. Each branch is served by its own sales force, as well as manufacturing, warehouse and office facilities. Each branch is responsible for a broad geographic area. Each is responsible for setting and executing sales and marketing strategies that are consistent with the markets that the branch serves and the goals of SST. The North American branches closely integrate their manufacturing activities to enhance product availability. Branch sales forces in North America are supported by marketing managers in the home office in Pleasanton, California. The home office also coordinates issues affecting customers that operate in multiple regions. The sales force maintains close working relationships with customers, develops new business, calls on architects, engineers and building officials and participates in a range of educational seminars.

SST sells its products through an extensive distribution system comprising dealer distributors supplying thousands of retail locations nationwide, contractor distributors, home centers, lumber dealers, manufacturers of engineered wood products, and specialized contractors such as roof framers. In recent years, home centers have been one of

SST's important distribution channels, and SST's sales to The Home Depot exceeded 10% of the Company's consolidated net sales in 2008, 2009 and 2010 (see "Item 1A – Risk Factors," "Item 7 – Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and Note 14 to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements). SST's DIY and dealer products are used to build projects such as decks, patio covers and garage organization systems.

SST dedicates substantial resources to customer service. SST produces numerous publications and point-of-sale marketing aids to serve specifiers, distributors, retailers and users for the various markets that it serves. These publications include general catalogs, as well as various specific catalogs, such as those for its Anchor System products. The catalogs and publications describe the products and provide load and installation information. SST also maintains several linked websites centered on [www.strongtie.com](http://www.strongtie.com), which include catalogs, product and technical information, code reports and other general information related to SST's product lines and promotional programs.

SST's engineers not only design and test products, but also provide engineering support for customers. This support might range from the discussion of a load value in a catalog to testing the suitability of an existing product in a unique application. SST's sales force communicates with customers in each of its marketing channels, through its publications, seminars and frequent sales calls.

Based on its communications with customers, SST believes that its products are important to its customers' businesses, and it is SST's policy to ship products within a few days of receiving the order, with many of the orders shipped the same day as the order is received. Many of SST's customers serve contractors that require rapid delivery of needed products. Home centers and dealers also require superior service because of fluctuating demand and to serve the needs of a broad base of customers. To satisfy these requirements, SST maintains appropriate inventory levels, has redundant manufacturing capability and some multiple dies to produce the same parts. SST also maintains information systems that provide sales and inventory control and forecasting capabilities throughout its network of factories and warehouses. SST also has special programs for contractors intended to ensure the prompt manufacture and delivery of custom products.

Simpson Strong-Tie believes that dealer and home center sales of SST products are significantly greater when the bins and racks at dealer and home center locations are adequately stocked with appropriate products. Various retailers carry varying numbers of SST products. SST's sales force is engaged in ongoing efforts to inform retailers about SST's merchandising programs and the appeal of the SST brand.

### **Manufacturing Process**

Simpson Strong-Tie designs and manufactures most of its standard products. SST has concentrated on making its manufacturing processes as efficient as possible without compromising the quality or flexibility necessary to serve the needs of its customers. SST has developed and uses automated manufacturing processes. SST's innovative manufacturing systems and techniques have allowed it to control manufacturing costs, even while developing both new products and products that meet customized requirements and specifications. SST's development of specialized manufacturing processes also has permitted increased operating flexibility and enhanced product design innovation. As part of ongoing continuous improvement processes in its factories, SST's major North American manufacturing facilities initiated lean manufacturing practices to improve efficiency and customer service. SST sources some products from third party vendors, both domestically and internationally.

SST is committed to helping people build safer structures economically through the design, engineering and manufacturing of structural connectors, pre-fabricated shearwalls, anchors, fasteners and related products. With the support and involvement of management, SST has developed a quality system that manages defined procedures to ensure consistent product quality and also meets the requirements of International Code Council (ICC) product evaluation reports. SST is recognized in its industry as a manufacturer of high quality products. Since 1996, SST's quality system has been registered under ISO 9001, an internationally recognized set of quality-assurance standards. The Company believes that ISO registration is a valuable tool for maintaining its high quality standards. As SST establishes new business locations through expansion or acquisitions, projects are established to integrate SST's quality systems and achieve ISO 9001 registration. In addition, SST has six testing laboratories accredited to ISO standard 17025, an internationally accepted standard that provides requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories.

Most of SST's products are produced with a high level of automation, using progressive dies run in automatic presses making parts from coiled sheet steel at rates that often exceed 100 strokes per minute. SST estimates that it

produces over 500 million product pieces per year. Most of SST's products (SKUs) are bar coded with UPC numbers for easy identification, and nearly all of the products sold to home centers are labeled with bar codes. SST has significant press capacity and has multiple dies for some of its high volume products because of the need to produce these products close to the customer and to provide back-up capacity. The balance of production is accomplished through a combination of manual, blanking and numerically controlled (NC) processes that include robotic welders, lasers and turret punches. This capability allows SST to produce products with little redesign or set-up time, facilitating rapid turnaround for customers. New tooling is also highly automated. Dies are designed and produced using computer aided design (CAD) and computer aided machining (CAM) systems. CAD/CAM capability enables SST to create multiple dies quickly and design them to high standards. SST is constantly reviewing its product line to reduce manufacturing costs, increase automation, and take advantage of new types of materials.

SST also manufactures chemical anchoring products at its facilities in Addison, Illinois, and in Cardet, France. The chemicals are mixed in batches and are then loaded in two-part dispensers. These dispensers mix the product on the job site because set-up times are usually very short. In addition, SST purchases a number of products, primarily fasteners, powder actuated pins and tools and accessories and certain of its mechanical anchoring products, from various sources around the world. These purchased products undergo inspections on a sample basis for conformance with ordered specifications and tolerances before being distributed.

### **Regulation**

Simpson Strong-Tie's product lines are subject to federal, state, county, municipal and other governmental and quasi-governmental regulations that affect product design, development, testing, applications, marketing, sales, installation and use. Most SST products are recognized by building code and standards agencies. Agencies that recognize SST products include the International Code Council Evaluation Service (ICC-ES), the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO), the City of Los Angeles, the State of Florida, and California's Division of the State Architect. These and other agencies adopt various testing and design standards and incorporate them into their related building codes. With the adoption of the International Residential Code and the International Building Code, these standards are being applied more uniformly, and these Codes are recognized throughout most of the United States. SST considers code recognition to be a significant marketing tool and devotes considerable effort to obtaining and maintaining appropriate approvals for its products. SST believes that architects, engineers, contractors and other customers are more likely to purchase structural products that have the appropriate code acceptance than competitive products that lack code acceptance. SST actively participates in industry related professional associations to keep abreast of regulatory changes and to provide information to regulatory agencies.

### **Competition**

Simpson Strong-Tie faces a variety of competition in all of the markets in which it participates. This competition ranges from subsidiaries of large national or international corporations to small regional manufacturers. While price is an important factor, SST competes on the basis of quality, breadth of product line, technical support, availability of inventory, service (including custom design and manufacturing), field support and product innovation. As a result of differences in structural design and building practices and codes, SST's markets tend to differ by region. Within these regions, SST competes with companies of varying size, several of which also distribute their products nationally or internationally.

### **Raw Materials**

The principal raw material used by Simpson Strong-Tie is steel, including stainless steel. SST generally orders steel to specific American Society of Testing and Materials ("ASTM") standards. SST also uses materials such as epoxies and acrylics in the manufacture of its chemical anchoring products. SST purchases raw materials from a variety of commercial sources. SST's practice is to seek cost savings and enhanced quality by purchasing from a limited number of suppliers.

The steel industry is highly cyclical and prices for SST's raw materials are influenced by numerous factors beyond SST's control, including general economic conditions, competition, labor costs, foreign exchange rates, import duties, raw material shortages and trade restrictions. The steel market continues to be dynamic, with a high degree of uncertainty about future pricing trends. Steel prices increased from their levels in mid-2010, as steel mills have been raising prices as demand returns to global steel markets. SST expects steel prices to remain at current levels or to increase throughout 2011. Numerous factors may cause steel prices to increase in the future. In addition to increases in steel prices, mills have added surcharges for zinc, energy and freight in response to increases in their costs. These

and other factors could adversely affect SST's cost and access to steel in 2011. If steel prices increase and SST is not able to maintain its prices or increase them sufficiently, SST's margins could deteriorate. See "Item 1A – Risk Factors" and "Item 7 – Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations." The Company historically has not attempted to hedge against changes in prices of steel or other raw materials.

### **Patents and Proprietary Rights**

Simpson Strong-Tie has United States and foreign patents, the majority of which cover products that SST currently manufactures and markets. These patents, and applications for new patents, cover various design aspects of SST's products, as well as processes used in their manufacture. SST continues to develop new potentially patentable products, product enhancements and product designs. Although SST does not intend to apply for additional foreign patents covering existing products, SST has developed an international patent program to protect new products that it may develop. In addition to seeking patent protection, SST relies on unpatented proprietary technology to maintain its competitive position. See "Item 1A – Risk Factors."

### **Acquisitions and Expansion into New Markets**

The Company's future growth, if any, may depend to some extent on its ability to penetrate new markets, both domestically and internationally. See "Industry and Market Trends" and "Business Strategy." Therefore, the Company may in the future pursue acquisitions of product lines or businesses. See "Item 1A – Risk Factors" and "Item 7 – Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations."

In April 2008, the Company's subsidiary, Simpson Strong-Tie Ireland Limited, purchased certain assets of Liebig International Ltd., an Irish company, Heinrich Liebig Stahldübelwerke GmbH, Liebig GmbH & Co. KG and Liebig International Verwaltungsgesellschaft GmbH, all German companies, Liebig Bolts Limited, an English company, and Liebig International Inc., a Virginia corporation (collectively "Liebig"). Liebig manufactures mechanical anchor products in Ireland and distributes them primarily throughout Europe through warehouses located in Germany and the United Kingdom. Liebig expands the Company's anchor product offerings primarily outside of North America. The purchase price was \$19.2 million in cash, including due diligence and transaction costs. The Company recorded goodwill of \$7.6 million and intangible assets subject to amortization of \$2.7 million as a result of the acquisition. Tangible assets, including real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory and trade accounts receivable, accounted for the balance of the purchase price.

In July 2008, Simpson Strong-Tie purchased the equity of Ahorn-Geräte & Werkzeuge Vertriebs GmbH, a German company, and its subsidiaries Ahorn Upevnovaci Technika s.r.o., a Czech company, and Ahorn Pacific Fasteners (Kunshan) Co., Ltd., a Chinese company (collectively "Ahorn"). The acquisition broadened Simpson Strong-Tie's collated fastener product line and added production capacity in both Europe and China. The purchase price was \$9.2 million in cash, including due diligence and transaction costs. The Company recorded goodwill of \$3.3 million and intangible assets subject to amortization of \$3.9 million as a result of the acquisition. Net tangible assets, including machinery and equipment, inventory and trade accounts receivable, accounted for the balance of the purchase price.

In January 2009, Simpson Strong-Tie acquired the business of RO Design Corp, a Florida corporation doing business as DeckTools, which licenses deck design and estimation software. The purchase agreement provided for payments totaling \$4.0 million in cash, including \$2.5 million payable after closing and treated as compensation expense when paid to the principal officer of RO Design Corp, as an SST employee. As a result of the acquisition, the Company recorded goodwill of \$0.4 million and intangible assets subject to amortization of \$1.1 million.

In April 2009, the Company's subsidiary, Simpson Strong-Tie Europe EURL, purchased the equity of Agence Internationale Commerciale et Industrielle, S.A.S. ("Aginco"). Aginco manufactures a line of high-quality builder products and distributes them in France. The purchase price was \$22.2 million in cash. The Company has recorded goodwill in connection with the transaction of \$10.5 million and intangible assets subject to amortization of \$6.0 million. Net tangible assets, including machinery and equipment, inventory, and trade accounts receivable, accounted for the balance of the purchase price.

In November 2010, the Company's subsidiary, Socom S.A.S., purchased certain assets of CGMI, formerly called Socom S.A. The purchase price was \$5.2 million in cash. Socom formulates and manufactures a line of chemical anchors in France. As a result of the acquisition, the Company recorded goodwill of \$1.1 million and intangible assets of \$1.6 million. Net tangible assets, including machinery and equipment and inventory accounted for the balance of the purchase price.



## **Seasonality and Cyclical**

Simpson Strong-Tie's sales are seasonal and cyclical. Operating results vary from quarter to quarter and with economic cycles. SST's sales are also dependent, to a large degree, on the North American residential home construction industry. See "Item 1A – Risk Factors" and "Item 7 – Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations."

## **Environmental, Health and Safety Matters**

The Company is subject to environmental laws and regulations governing emissions into the air, discharges into water, and generation, handling, storage, transportation, treatment and disposal of waste materials. The Company is also subject to other federal and state laws and regulations regarding health and safety matters. The Company believes that it has obtained all material licenses and permits required by environmental, health and safety laws and regulations in connection with the Company's operations and that its policies and procedures comply in all material respects with existing environmental, health and safety laws and regulations. See "Item 1A – Risk Factors."

## **Employees and Labor Relations**

As of December 31, 2010, the Company had 1,851 full-time employees, of whom 877 were hourly employees and 974 were salaried employees. The Company believes that its overall compensation and benefits for the most part meet industry averages and that its relations with its employees are good.

A significant number of the employees at two of SST's facilities are represented by labor unions and are covered by collective bargaining agreements. SST's facility in Brea, California, has two of SST's collective bargaining agreements, one with SST's tool and die craftsmen and maintenance workers, and the other with its sheetmetal workers. These two contracts expire February 2012 and June 2012, respectively. Simpson Strong-Tie's facility in Stockton, California, is also a union facility with two collective bargaining agreements, which cover its tool and die craftsmen and maintenance workers, and its sheetmetal workers. These two contracts will expire June 2011 and September 2011, respectively. See "Item 1A – Risk Factors."

## **Available Information**

The SEC maintains an internet site (<http://www.sec.gov>) that contains reports, proxy and information statements, and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC. The Company makes available, free of charge, on its website at [www.simpsonmfg.com](http://www.simpsonmfg.com), copies of its annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, proxy statement, company governance guidelines and code of ethics and the charters of the Audit Committee, Compensation and Leadership Development Committee, and Governance and Nominating Committee of its Board of Directors. Printed copies of any of these materials will be provided free of charge on request.

## **Item 1A. Risk Factors.**

*You should carefully consider the following risks before you decide to buy or hold shares of our common stock. If any of the following risks actually occurs, our business, results of operations or financial condition would likely suffer. In such case, the trading price of our common stock could decline, and you may lose all or part of the money you paid to buy our stock.*

*This and other public reports may contain forward-looking statements based on current expectations, assumptions, estimates and projections about us and our industry. Those forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties. Our actual results could differ materially from those forward-looking statements as a result of many factors, as more fully described below and elsewhere in our public reports. We do not undertake to update publicly any forward-looking statements for any reason, even if new information becomes available or other events occur in the future.*

**Worldwide economic conditions and credit tightening materially and adversely affect our business.**

Our business has been materially and adversely affected by changes in regional, national or global economic conditions. Such changes have included or may include reduced consumer spending, reduced availability of capital, inflation, deflation, adverse changes in interest rates, reduced energy availability and increased energy costs, and government initiatives to manage economic conditions. Continuing instability in financial markets and the deterioration of other national and global economic conditions may have further materially adverse effects on our operations, financial results or liquidity, including the following:

- the financial stability of our customers or suppliers may be compromised, which could result in additional bad debts for us or non-performance by suppliers;
- financial instability of the financial institutions where we have our cash balances invested could result in loss of our principal balance;
- one or more of the financial institutions that make available our revolving credit facility may become unable to fulfill their funding obligations, which could materially and adversely affect our liquidity;
- it may become even more costly or difficult for us to obtain the agreed or additional financing or to refinance our existing credit facility; or
- our assets may be impaired or subject to write down or write off.

Uncertainty about current global economic conditions may cause consumers of our products to postpone or refrain from spending in response to tighter credit, negative financial news, declines in income or asset values, or other adverse economic events or conditions, which could materially reduce demand for our products and materially and adversely affect our financial condition and operating results. Further deterioration of economic conditions would likely exacerbate these adverse effects, result in wide-ranging, adverse and prolonged effects on general business conditions, and materially and adversely affect our operations, financial results and liquidity.

**Failure to comply with industry regulations could result in reduced sales and increased costs.**

The design, capacity and quality of most of our products and manufacturing processes are subject to numerous and extensive regulations and standards promulgated by governmental, quasi-governmental and industry organizations. These regulations and standards are highly technical, complex and subject to frequent revision. If our products or manufacturing processes fail to comply with any regulations or standards, we may not be able to manufacture and market our products profitably. Failure to comply with regulations and standards could therefore materially reduce our sales and increase our costs.

**If we fail to compete effectively, our revenue and profit margins could decline.**

We face a variety of competition in all of the markets in which we participate. Many of our competitors have greater financial and other resources than we do. In addition, other technologies may be the bases for competitive products that could render our products obsolete or noncompetitive. Other companies may find our markets attractive and enter those markets. Competitive pricing, including price competition or the introduction of new products, could have material adverse effects on our revenues and profit margins.

Our ability to compete effectively depends to a significant extent on the specification or approval of our products by architects, engineers, building inspectors, building code officials and customers. If a significant segment of those communities were to decide that the design, materials, manufacturing, testing or quality control of our products is inferior to that of any of our competitors, our sales and profits would be materially reduced.

**If we lose all or part of a large customer, our sales and profits would decline.**

We have substantial sales to a few large customers. Loss of all or part of our sales to a large customer would have a material adverse effect on our revenues and profits. Our largest customer accounted for 11% and 12% of net sales for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. See Note 14 to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements. This customer may endeavor to replace, in some or all markets, our products with lower-priced products supplied by others or may otherwise reduce its purchases of our products. We also might reduce our dependence on our largest customer by reducing or terminating sales to one or more of the customer's subsidiaries. Any reduction in, or termination of, our sales to this customer would at least temporarily, and possibly longer, cause a material reduction in our net sales, income from operations and net income. A reduction in or elimination of our sales to our largest customer, or another of our larger customers, would increase our relative dependence on our remaining large customers.

In addition, our customers include retailers and distributors. Retail and distribution businesses have consolidated over time, which could increase the material adverse effect of losing any of them.

**Increases in prices of raw materials could negatively affect our sales and profits.**

Our principal raw material is steel, including stainless steel. The steel industry is highly cyclical. Numerous factors beyond our control, such as general economic conditions, competition, worldwide demand, material and labor costs, energy costs, foreign exchange rates, import duties and other trade restrictions, influence prices for our raw materials. Consolidation among domestic integrated steel producers, changes in supply and demand in steel markets, changes in foreign currency exchange rates and economic conditions, and other events have led to volatility in steel costs. The domestic steel market is heavily influenced by three major United States manufacturers. We have not always been able, and in the future we might not be able, to increase our product prices in amounts that correspond to increases in costs of raw materials, without materially and adversely affecting our sales and profits.

We have not attempted to hedge against changes in prices of steel or other raw materials. In recent years, however, we have increased our steel purchases in an effort to mitigate the effects of rising steel prices. At the same time, since 2007 our sales have declined with the declines in the housing and financial markets. As a result, our inventory fluctuated substantially. Inventory fluctuation can materially and adversely affect our margins, cash flow and profits.

**If we cannot protect our technology, we will not be able to compete effectively.**

Our ability to compete effectively with other companies depends in part on our ability to maintain the proprietary nature of our technology, in part through patents. We might not be able to protect or rely on our patents. Patents might not issue pursuant to pending patent applications. Others might independently develop the same or similar technology, develop around the patented aspects of any of our products or proposed products, or otherwise obtain access to or circumvent our proprietary technology. We also rely on unpatented proprietary technology to maintain our competitive position. We might not be able to protect our know-how or other proprietary information. If we are unable to maintain the proprietary nature of our significant products, our sales and profits could be materially reduced.

In attempting to protect our proprietary information, we sometimes initiate lawsuits against competitors and others that we believe have infringed or are infringing our rights. In such an event, the defendant may assert counterclaims to complicate or delay the litigation or for other reasons. Litigation may be very costly and may result in adverse judgments that affect our sales and profits materially and adversely.

**Integrating acquired businesses may divert management's attention away from our day-to-day operations.**

We may pursue acquisitions of product lines or businesses. Acquisitions involve numerous risks, including, for example:

- difficulties assimilating the operations and products of acquired businesses;
- diversion of management's attention from other business concerns;
- overvaluation of acquired businesses;
- undisclosed existing or potential liabilities of acquired businesses;
- slow acceptance or rejection of acquired businesses' products by our customers;
- risks of entering markets in which we have little or no prior experience;
- litigation involving activities, properties or products of acquired businesses;
- consumer and other claims related to products of acquired businesses; and
- the potential loss of key employees of acquired businesses.

In addition, future acquisitions may cause us to issue additional equity securities that dilute the value of our existing equity securities, increase our debt, and cause impairment and amortization expenses related to goodwill and other intangible assets, which could materially and adversely affect our profitability. Any acquisition could materially and adversely affect our business and operating results.

**Significant costs to integrate our acquired operations may negatively affect our financial condition and the market price of our stock.**

We will incur costs from integrating acquired business operations, products and personnel. These costs may be significant and may include expenses and other liabilities for employee redeployment, relocation or severance, combining teams and processes in various functional areas, reorganization or closures of facilities, and relocation or

disposition of excess equipment. The integration costs that we incur may negatively affect our profitability and the market price of our stock.

**Our future growth may depend on our ability to penetrate new domestic and international markets, which could reduce our profitability.**

International construction customs, standards, techniques and methods differ from those in the United States. Laws and regulations applicable in new markets may be unfamiliar to us. Compliance may be substantially more costly than we anticipate. As a result, we may need to redesign products, or invent or design new products, to compete effectively and profitably in new markets. We expect that we will need significant time, which may be years, to generate substantial sales or profits in new markets.

Other significant challenges to conducting business in foreign countries include, among other factors, local acceptance of our products, political instability, changes in import and export regulations, changes in tariff and freight rates, fluctuations in foreign exchange rates and currency controls. We might not be able to penetrate these markets and any market penetration that occurs might not be timely or profitable. If we do not penetrate these markets within a reasonable time, we will be unable to recoup part or all of the significant investments we will have made in attempting to do so.

**Seasons and business cycles affect our operating results.**

Our sales are seasonal, with operating results varying from quarter to quarter. With some exceptions, our sales and income have historically been lower in the first and fourth quarters than in the second and third quarters of the year, as customers purchase construction materials in the late spring and summer months for the construction season. In addition, weather conditions, such as unseasonably warm, cold or wet weather, which affect, and sometimes delay or accelerate, installation of some of our products, significantly affect our results of operations. Political and economic events can also affect our sales and profitability.

We have little control over the timing of customer purchases. Sales that we anticipate in one quarter may occur in another quarter, affecting both quarters' results. In addition, we incur significant expenses as we develop, produce and market our products in anticipation of future orders. We maintain high inventory levels and typically ship orders as we receive them, so we operate with little backlog. As a result, net sales in any quarter generally depend on orders booked and shipped in that quarter. A significant portion of our operating expenses is fixed. Planned expenditures are based primarily on sales forecasts. When sales do not meet our expectations, our operating results will be reduced for the relevant quarters, as we will have already incurred expenses based on those expectations.

Our principal markets are in the building construction industry. That industry is subject to significant volatility due to real estate market cycles, fluctuations in interest rates, the availability, or lack thereof, of credit to builders and developers, inflation rates, weather, and other factors and trends. None of these factors or trends is within our control. Declines in commercial and residential construction, such as housing starts, and remodeling projects have reduced, and in the future can be expected to reduce, the demand for our products. Negative economic or construction industry performance adversely affects our business. Declines in construction activity or demand for our products have materially and adversely affected, and could in the future materially and adversely affect, our sales and profitability.

**Product liability claims and product recalls could harm our reputation, sales and financial condition.**

We design and manufacture most of our standard products and expect to continue to do so, although we buy raw materials and some manufactured products from others. We have on occasion found flaws and deficiencies in the manufacturing, design or testing of our products. We also have on occasion found flaws and deficiencies in raw materials and finished goods produced by others. Some flaws and deficiencies have not been apparent until after the products were installed by customers.

Many of our products are integral to the structural soundness or safety of the structures in which they are used. If any flaws or deficiencies exist in our products and if such flaws or deficiencies are not discovered and corrected before our products are incorporated into structures, the structures could be unsafe or could suffer severe damage, such as collapse or fire, and personal injury could result. Errors in the installation of our products, even if the products are free of flaws and deficiencies, could also cause personal injury and unsafe structural conditions. To the extent that such damage or injury is not covered by our product liability insurance and we are held to be liable, we



could be required to correct such damage and to compensate persons who might have suffered injury, and our reputation, business and financial condition could be materially and adversely affected.

Even if a flaw or deficiency is discovered before any damage or injury occurs, we may need to recall products, and we may be liable for any costs necessary to replace recalled products or retrofit the affected structures. Any such recall or retrofit could entail substantial costs and adversely affect our reputation, sales and financial condition. We do not carry insurance against recall costs or the adverse business effect of a recall, and our product liability insurance may not cover retrofit costs.

Claims resulting from a natural disaster might be made against us with regard to damage or destruction of structures incorporating our products. Any such claims, if asserted, could materially and adversely affect our business and financial condition.

**Complying or failing to comply with environmental, health and safety laws and regulations could affect us materially and adversely.**

We are subject to environmental laws and regulations governing emissions into the air, discharges into water, and generation, handling, storage, transportation, treatment and disposal of waste materials. We are also subject to other federal and state laws and regulations regarding health and safety matters.

Our manufacturing operations involve the use of solvents, chemicals, oils and other materials that are regarded as hazardous or toxic. We also use complex and heavy machinery and equipment that can pose severe safety hazards, especially if not properly and carefully used. Some of our products also incorporate materials that are hazardous or toxic in some forms, such as zinc and lead used in some steel galvanizing processes and chemicals used in our acrylic and epoxy anchoring products. The gun powder used in our powder-actuated tools is explosive. Misuse of other materials in some of our products could also cause injury or sickness.

If we do not obtain all material licenses and permits required by environmental, health and safety laws and regulations, we may be subject to regulatory action by governmental authorities. If our policies and procedures do not comply in all respects with existing environmental, health and safety laws and regulations, our activities might violate such laws and regulations. Even if our policies and procedures do comply, but our employees fail or neglect to follow them in all respects, we might incur similar liability. Relevant laws and regulations could change or new ones could be adopted that require us to obtain additional licenses and permits and cause us to incur substantial expense.

Our generation, handling, use, storage, transportation, treatment or disposal of hazardous or toxic materials, machinery and equipment might cause injury to persons or to the environment. We may need to take remedial action if properties that we occupy are contaminated by hazardous or toxic substances.

Any change in laws or regulations, any legal or regulatory violations, or any contamination, could materially and adversely affect our business and financial condition.

**We depend on key management and technical personnel, the loss of whom could harm our business.**

We depend on certain key management and technical personnel, including, among others, Thomas J Fitzmyers, Michael J. Herbert, Phillip "Terry" Kingsfather, Barclay Simpson, Karen Colonias and Jeffrey E. Mackenzie. The loss of one or more key employees could materially and adversely affect us.

Our success also depends on our ability to attract and retain additional highly qualified technical, marketing and management personnel necessary for the maintenance and expansion of our activities. We face strong competition for such personnel. We might not be able to attract or retain such personnel. In addition, when we experience periods with little or no profits, a decrease in compensation based on our profits may make it difficult to attract and retain highly qualified personnel.

**Any work stoppage or interruption by employees could materially and adversely affect our business and financial condition.**

A significant number of our employees are represented by labor unions and are covered by collective bargaining agreements that will expire in 2011 and 2012. A work stoppage or interruption by a significant number of our employees could have a material and adverse effect on our sales and profitability.

**International operations expose us to foreign exchange rate risk.**

We have foreign exchange rate risk in our international operations and through purchases from foreign vendors. We do not currently hedge this risk. Changes in currency exchange rates could materially and adversely affect our sales and profitability.

**Natural disasters could decrease our manufacturing capacity.**

Most of our current and planned manufacturing facilities are located in geographic regions that have experienced major natural disasters, such as earthquakes, floods and hurricanes. For example, the earthquakes in Northridge, California, in January 1994, destroyed several freeways and numerous buildings in the region in which our facilities in Brea are located. Our disaster recovery plan may not be adequate or effective. We do not carry earthquake insurance. Other insurance that we carry is limited in the risks covered and the amount of coverage. Our insurance would not be adequate to cover all of our resulting costs, business interruption and lost profits when a major natural disaster occurs. A natural disaster rendering one or more of our manufacturing facilities totally or partially unusable, whether or not covered by insurance, would materially and adversely affect our business and financial condition.

**Control by our principal stockholder reduces the ability of other stockholders to influence management.**

Barclay Simpson, the Chairman of our Board of Directors, controls approximately 17% of the outstanding shares of our common stock. Mr. Simpson and Thomas J Fitzmyers, our President and Chief Executive Officer (even though he owns less than 1% of the outstanding shares of our common stock), have significant influence with respect to the election of our directors and over some fundamental changes affecting us, such as a merger or sale of assets or amendment of our Certificate of Incorporation or Bylaws.

**Additional financing, if needed, to fund our working capital, growth or acquisitions may not be available on reasonable terms, or at all.**

If our cash requirements for working capital or to fund our growth increase to a level that exceeds the amount of cash that we generate from operations, or if we should decide to make an acquisition that requires more cash than we have available internally and through our current credit arrangements, we will need to seek additional resources. In that event, we may need to enter into additional or new borrowing arrangements or consider equity financing. Additional or new borrowings may not be available on reasonable terms, or at all, especially under current conditions in the financial markets. Our ability to raise money by selling and issuing shares of our common or preferred stock would depend on general market conditions and the demand for our stock. We may be unable to raise adequate capital on reasonable terms by selling stock. If we sell stock, our existing stockholders could experience substantial dilution. Our inability to secure additional financing could prevent the expansion of our business, internally and through acquisitions.

**Any issuance of preferred stock may dilute your investment and reduce funds available for dividends.**

Our Board of Directors is authorized by our Certificate of Incorporation to determine the terms of one or more series of preferred stock and to authorize the issuance of shares of any such series on such terms as our Board of Directors may approve. Any such issuance could be used to impede an acquisition of our business that our Board of Directors does not approve, further dilute the equity investments of holders of our common stock and reduce funds available for the payment of dividends to holders of our common stock.

**Our stock price is likely to be volatile and could drop.**

The trading price of our common stock could be subject to wide fluctuations in response to period to period variations in operating results, changes in earnings estimates by analysts, announcements of technological innovations or new products by us or our competitors, general conditions in the construction and construction materials industries, relatively low trading volume in our common stock and other events or factors. In addition, the stock market is subject to extreme price fluctuations. This volatility has had a substantial effect on the market prices of securities issued by many companies for reasons unrelated to the operating performance of those companies. Securities market fluctuations may materially and adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

**Future sales of common stock could adversely affect our stock price.**

Our issuance of substantial amounts of our common stock could adversely affect the prevailing market price for our common stock. All of the outstanding shares of our common stock are freely tradable without restriction under the Securities Act of 1933, other than 8.7 million shares held (as of February 14, 2011) by our “affiliates,” as that term is defined in Rule 144 under the Securities Act of 1933. Options to purchase 1.1 million shares of our common stock were outstanding as of December 31, 2010, including options to purchase 0.9 million shares that were exercisable. If a substantial number of shares were sold in the public market pursuant to Rule 144 or on exercise of options, the trading price of our common stock in the public market could be adversely affected.

**Delaware law and our stockholder rights plan contain anti-takeover provisions that could deter takeover attempts that might otherwise be beneficial to our stockholders.**

Provisions of Delaware law could make it more difficult for a third party to acquire us. Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law may make the acquisition of Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. and the removal of incumbent officers and directors more difficult by prohibiting stockholders holding 15% or more of our outstanding voting stock from acquiring Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. without the consent of our Board of Directors for at least three years from the date they first hold 15% or more of the voting stock. Barclay Simpson and his affiliates are not subject to this provision of Delaware law with respect to their investment in Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. In addition, our Stockholder Rights Plan has significant anti-takeover effects by causing substantial dilution to a person or group that attempts to acquire us on terms not approved by our Board of Directors.

**We are subject to a number of significant risks that might cause our actual results to vary materially from our plans, targets or projections, including:**

- lack of market acceptance of new products;
- failing to develop new products with significant market potential;
- increased labor costs, including significant increases in worker’s compensation insurance premiums and health care benefits;
- failing to increase, or even maintain, sales and profits;
- failing to anticipate, appropriately invest in and effectively manage the human, information technology and logistical resources necessary to support the growth of our business, including managing the costs associated with such resources;
- failing to integrate, leverage and generate expected rates of return on investments, including expansion of existing businesses and expansion through acquisitions;
- failing to generate sufficient future positive operating cash flows and, if necessary, secure adequate external financing to fund our growth; and
- interruptions in service by common carriers that ship goods within our distribution channels.

**If we change significantly the location, nature or extent of some of our manufacturing operations, we may reduce our net income.**

If we decide to change significantly the location, nature or extent of a portion of our manufacturing operations, we may need to record an impairment of our goodwill. Our goodwill totaled \$70.1 million at December 31, 2010. Recording an impairment of our goodwill correspondingly reduces our net income. In 2007, for example, we decided to move part of our Canadian manufacturing operations to China in 2008 or 2009, and as a result, we recorded a goodwill impairment of \$10.7 million, which materially reduced our net income in 2007. Other changes or events in the future could further impair our recorded goodwill, which could also materially and adversely affect our profitability.

**Impairment charges on goodwill or other intangible assets would adversely affect our financial position and results of operations.**

We are required to perform impairment tests on our goodwill and other intangible assets annually or at any time when events occur that could affect the value of such assets. To determine whether a goodwill impairment has occurred, we compare fair value of each of our reporting units with its carrying value. Significant and unanticipated changes in circumstances, such as significant adverse changes in business climate, adverse actions by regulatory authorities, unanticipated competition, loss of key customers or changes in technology or markets, can require a charge for impairment that can materially and adversely affect our reported net income and our stockholders’ equity. For example, in 2010, our annual impairment test resulted in goodwill impairment charge of \$6.3 million associated with assets acquired in Germany and Ireland in 2008 as part of our European Anchor reporting unit. This reporting

unit's carrying value exceeded its fair value, primarily due to reduced future expected net cash flows. If current adverse conditions in the home-building industry, the financial markets or the economy generally should continue longer than we expect, we may need to take further charges for impairment, which we are not now able to estimate, but which may be substantial.

**Failure of our internal control over financial reporting could harm our business and financial results.**

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. Internal control over financial reporting is a process to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting for external purposes in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. Internal control over financial reporting includes:

- maintaining records that in reasonable detail accurately and fairly reflect our transactions;
- providing reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary for preparation of the consolidated financial statements;
- providing reasonable assurance that receipts and expenditures of our assets are made in accordance with management authorization; and
- providing reasonable assurance that unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of our assets that could have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements would be prevented or detected on a timely basis.

Because of the inherent limitations of internal control, our internal control over financial reporting might not detect or prevent misstatement of our consolidated financial statements. Our growth and entry into new, globally dispersed markets puts significant additional pressure on our system of internal control over financial reporting. Failure to maintain an effective system of internal control over financial reporting could limit our ability to report our financial results accurately and timely or to detect and prevent fraud.

**Failure of our accounting systems could harm our business and financial results.**

We have implemented a new commercially available Microsoft third-party accounting software system, initially focused on replacing our internally developed general ledger and purchasing and payables systems, for use in our operations in the United States, Europe and Asia. Any errors or defects in, or unavailability of, third-party software or our implementation of the systems, could result in errors in our financial statements, which could materially and adversely affect our business. If we continue to use our other internally developed accounting systems and they are not able to accommodate our future business needs, or if we find that they or any new systems we may implement contain errors or defects, our business and financial condition could be materially and adversely affected.

**Our international operations may be materially and adversely affected by factors beyond our control.**

Economic, social and political conditions, laws, practices and customs vary widely among the countries where we produce or sell our products. Our operations outside of the United States are subject to a number of risks and potential costs, including, for example, lower profit margins, less protection of intellectual property and economic, political and social uncertainty in some countries, especially in China and other emerging markets. Our sales and profits depend, in part, on our ability to develop and implement policies and strategies that effectively anticipate and manage these and other risks in the countries where we do business. These and other risks may have a material adverse effect on our operations in any particular country and on our business as a whole. Inflation in emerging markets also makes our products more expensive there and increases the market and credit risks to which we are exposed.

**Our international operations depend on our successful management of our subsidiaries outside of the United States.**

We conduct most of our international business through wholly owned subsidiaries. Managing distant subsidiaries and fully integrating them into our business is challenging. We cannot directly supervise every aspect of the operations of our subsidiaries operating outside the United States. As a result, we rely on local managers and staff. Cultural factors and language differences can result in misunderstandings among internationally dispersed personnel. The risk that unauthorized conduct may go undetected may be greater in subsidiaries outside of the United States. These problems could adversely affect our sales and profits.



**Our manufacturing facilities in China complicate our inventory management.**

We maintain manufacturing capability in various parts of the world, in part to allow us to serve our customers with prompt delivery of needed products. Such customer service is a significant factor in our efforts to compete with larger companies that have greater resources than we have. We have expanded, substantially, our manufacturing in China. Much of the output of our manufacturing in China is and will be intended for export to other parts of Asia and elsewhere. Because of the unusually great distances between our manufacturing facilities in China and the markets to which the products made there will be shipped, we may have difficulty providing adequate service to our customers, which may put us at a competitive disadvantage. Our attempts to provide prompt delivery may necessitate that in China we produce and keep on hand substantially more inventory of finished products than would otherwise be needed. Inventory fluctuations can materially and adversely affect our margins, cash flow and profits.

**If we fail to keep pace with advances in our industry or fail to persuade customers to adopt new products we introduce, customers may not buy our products, which would adversely affect our sales and profits.**

Constant development of new technologies and techniques, frequent new product introductions and strong price competition characterize the construction industry. The first company to introduce a new product or technique to the market gains a competitive advantage. Our future growth depends, in part, on our ability to develop products that are more effective, safer, or incorporate emerging technologies better than our competitors' products. Sales of our existing products may decline rapidly if a competitor were to introduce superior products, or even if we announce a new product of our own. If we fail to make sufficient investments in research and development or if we focus on technologies that do not lead to better products, our current and planned products could be surpassed by more effective or advanced products. If we fail to manufacture our products economically and market them successfully, our sales and profits would be materially and adversely affected.

**Changes in accounting standards could materially and adversely affect our financial results.**

The accounting rules applicable to public companies are subject to frequent revision. Future changes in accounting standards, guidance and interpretations could require us to change the way we measure revenue, expense or balance sheet amounts, which could result in material and adverse change to our reported results of operations or financial condition.

**Climate change could materially and adversely affect our business.**

Scientific reports indicate that, as a result of human activity:

- temperatures around the world have been increasing and are likely to continue to increase as a result of increasing atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide and other carbon compounds,
- the frequency and severity of storms and flooding are likely to increase,
- severe weather is likely to occur in places where the climate has historically been more mild, and
- average sea levels have risen and are likely to rise more, threatening worldwide coastal development.

We cannot predict the effects that these phenomena may have on our business. They might, for example:

- depress or reverse economic development,
- reduce the demand for construction,
- increase the cost and reduce the availability of fresh water,
- destroy forests, increasing the cost and reducing the availability of wood products used in construction,
- increase the cost and reduce the availability of raw materials and energy,
- increase the cost of capital,
- increase the cost and reduce the availability of insurance covering damage from natural disasters,
- lead to claims regarding the content or adequacy of our public disclosures, and
- lead to new laws and regulations that increase our expenses and reduce our sales.

Any of these consequences, and other consequences of climate change that we do not foresee, could materially and adversely affect our sales, profits and financial condition.

**We are subject to U.S. and international tax laws that could affect our financial results.**

We conduct international operations through our subsidiaries. Tax laws affecting international operations are complex and subject to change. Our income tax liabilities in the different countries where we operate depend in part

on internal settlement prices and administrative charges among us and our subsidiaries. These arrangements require us to make judgments with which tax authorities may disagree. Tax authorities may impose additional tariffs, duties, taxes, penalties and interest on us. For example, we manufacture steel products in foreign countries for importation into the U.S. and other countries, and government agencies may impose substantial prospective or retroactive tariffs on such products. Transactions that we have arranged in light of current tax rules could have material and adverse consequences if tax rules change, and changes in tax rules or imposition of any new or increased tariffs, duties and taxes could materially and adversely affect our sales, profits and financial condition.

**Contracts that we file as exhibits to our public reports contain recitals, representations and warranties that may not be factually correct.**

The parties to any agreement or other instrument that we file as an exhibit to this or any other report did not necessarily intend that any recital, representation, warranty or other statement of purported fact in the instrument establishes or confirms any fact, even if it is worded as such. The parties generally intended such statements to allocate contractual risk between the parties, and the statements often are subject to standards of materiality that differ from the standards applicable to our reports. In addition, such statements may have been qualified by other materials that we have not filed with (or incorporated by reference into) this or any other report or document. Such exhibits should be read in the context of our other disclosures in our reports. We believe the text of each of our reports was complete and correct in all material respects when we filed it.

**If we are unable to protect our information systems against data corruption, cyber-based attacks or network security breaches, our operations could be disrupted.**

We depend on information technology networks and systems, including the internet, to process, transmit and store electronic information. We depend on our information technology infrastructure for electronic communications among our locations around the world and between our personnel and our subsidiaries, customers and suppliers. Security breaches of this infrastructure could create system disruptions, shutdowns or unauthorized disclosure of confidential information. Security breaches could disrupt our operations, and we could suffer financial damage or loss because of lost or misappropriated information.

**Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments.**

None.

**Item 2. Properties.**

The Company owns its home office in Pleasanton, California, and its principal United States manufacturing facilities in Stockton and San Bernardino County, California, McKinney, Texas, and Columbus, Ohio. The principal manufacturing facilities located outside the United States, the majority of which are owned, are in Canada, the United Kingdom, France, Denmark and China. The Company also owns and leases smaller manufacturing facilities, warehouses, research and development facilities and sales offices throughout the United States, Europe, Australia, Asia and the Middle East. As of February 28, 2011, the Company's owned and leased facilities were as follows:

	Number Of Properties	Approximate Square Footage		
		Owned	Leased	Total
		(in thousands of square feet)		
North America	27	2,274	765	3,039
Europe	15	471	196	667
Asia/Pacific	8	175	30	205
Administrative and all other	<u>3</u>	<u>368</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>368</u>
Total	<u>53</u>	<u>3,288</u>	<u>991</u>	<u>4,279</u>

The Company's properties are constructed primarily of steel, brick or concrete and, in management's opinion, are maintained in good operating condition. The Company's manufacturing facilities are equipped with specialized equipment and use extensive automation. The Company considers its existing and planned facilities to be suitable and adequate for its operations as currently conducted and as planned through 2011. The Company's leased facilities typically have renewal options and have expiration dates through 2022. The Company believes it will be able to extend leases on its various facilities as necessary, as they expire. The manufacturing facilities currently are being

operated with one full shift. The Company anticipates that it may require additional facilities to accommodate possible future growth.

The Company retained its real estate in Vacaville, California, and on completion of the sale of the Simpson Dura-Vent assets to M&G, the Company leased its facilities in Vacaville, California, to M&G for approximately \$0.9 million per year for ten years. These properties are classified as “Administrative and all other.”

The Company has classified its facilities in San Leandro, California, Visalia, California, and a facility in France associated with the Aginco acquisition as an assets held for sale. The facility in Visalia was sold in January 2011 and no significant gain or loss was realized.

In March 2010, the Company acquired a facility in San Bernardino County, California, for \$19.2 million in cash. The Company plans to consolidate its operations from Brea, California, and its former leased warehouse in Ontario, California, into this facility in the second quarter of 2011. The Company sold all of the real estate associated with its Brea properties in July 2010 for \$14.7 million in cash and recorded a gain on the sale of \$5.2 million.

### **Item 3. Legal Proceedings.**

From time to time, the Company is involved in various legal proceedings and other matters arising in the normal course of business.

Four lawsuits (the “Hawaii Cases”) have been filed against the Company in the Hawaii First Circuit Court: *Alvarez v. Haseko Homes, Inc. and Simpson Manufacturing, Inc.*, Civil No. 09-1-2697-11 (“Hawaii Case 1”); *Ke Noho Kai Development, LLC v. Simpson Strong-Tie Company, Inc., and Honolulu Wood Treating Co., LTD.*, Hawaii Case No. 09-1-1491-06 SSM (“Hawaii Case 2”); *North American Specialty Ins. Co. v. Simpson Strong-Tie Company, Inc. and K.C. Metal Products, Inc.*, Case No. 09-1-1490-06 VSM (“Hawaii Case 3”); and *Charles et al. v. Haseko Homes, Inc. et al. and Third Party Plaintiffs Haseko Homes, Inc. et al. v Simpson Strong-Tie Company, Inc., et al.*, Civil No. 09-1-1932-08 (“Hawaii Case 4”). Hawaii Case 1 was filed on November 18, 2009. Hawaii Cases 2 and 3 were originally filed on June 30, 2009. Hawaii Case 4 was filed on August 19, 2009. The Hawaii Cases all relate to alleged premature corrosion of the Company’s strap tie holdown products installed in buildings in a housing development known as Ocean Pointe in Honolulu, Hawaii, allegedly causing property damage. Hawaii Case 1 is a putative class action brought by the owners of allegedly affected Ocean Pointe houses. Hawaii Case 1 was originally filed as *Kai et al. v. Haseko Homes, Inc., Haseko Construction, Inc. and Simpson Manufacturing, Inc.*, Case No. 09-1-1476, but was voluntarily dismissed and then re-filed with a new representative plaintiff. Hawaii Case 2 is an action by the builders and developers of Ocean Pointe against the Company, claiming that either the Company’s strap tie holdowns are defective in design or manufacture or the Company failed to provide adequate warnings regarding the products’ susceptibility to corrosion in certain environments. Hawaii Case 3 is a subrogation action brought by the insurance company for the builders and developers against the Company claiming the insurance company expended funds to correct problems allegedly caused by the Company’s products. Hawaii Case 4, like Hawaii Case 1, is a putative class action brought by owners of allegedly affected Ocean Pointe homes. In Hawaii Case 4, Haseko Homes, Inc. (“Haseko”), the developer of the Ocean Pointe development, has brought a third party complaint against the Company alleging that any damages for which Haseko may be liable are actually the fault of the Company. None of the Hawaii Cases alleges a specific amount of damages sought, although each of the Hawaii Cases seeks compensatory damages, and Hawaii Case 1 seeks punitive damages. The Company is currently investigating the facts underlying the claims asserted in the Hawaii Cases, including, among other things, the cause of the alleged corrosion; the severity of any problems shown to exist; the buildings affected; the responsibility of the general contractor, various subcontractors and other construction professionals for the alleged damages; the amount, if any, of damages suffered; and the costs of repair, if needed. At this time, the likelihood that the Company will be found liable for any property damage allegedly suffered and the extent of such liability, if any, are unknown. Based on facts currently known to the Company, the Company believes that all or part of the claims alleged in the Hawaii Cases may be covered by its insurance policies. The Company intends to defend itself vigorously in connection with the Hawaii Cases.

On October 28, 2009, a patent infringement lawsuit, entitled *Ei-Land Corporation v. Simpson Strong-Tie Company Inc., Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc., et al.*, was filed against the Company in the United States District Court, for the Eastern District of Texas, Marshall Division, 2:09-cv-00337-TJW. In this action, Plaintiff alleges that the Company’s Steel Strong Wall® product infringes several claims of a patent owned by Plaintiff. Plaintiff seeks monetary damages in the form of a reasonable royalty based on the Company’s manufacture and sale of the allegedly infringing product. Plaintiff does not manufacture the invention disclosed by the patent-in-suit. The lawsuit is currently pending in the Eastern District of Texas, although the Company has filed a Petition for Writ of

Mandamus with the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit requesting transfer of the case to the Northern District of California. The Federal Circuit has not yet rendered a decision on the Company's writ petition. The Company denies the allegations of the Plaintiff's complaint and has counterclaimed on the ground that the patent-in-suit is invalid. If the case remains pending in the Eastern District of Texas, trial is set to begin on April 2, 2012.

The Company is not engaged in any other legal proceedings as of the date hereof, which the Company expects individually or in the aggregate to have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, cash flows or results of operations. The resolution of claims and litigation is subject to inherent uncertainty and could have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, cash flows or results of operations.

## PART II

### Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities.

The Company's common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") under the symbol "SSD." The following table shows the range of high and low closing sale prices per share of the common stock as reported by the NYSE and dividends paid per share of common stock for the calendar quarters indicated:

	Quarter	Market Price		Dividends
		High	Low	Paid
<b>2010</b>				
Fourth.....		\$ 31.25	\$ 25.39	\$ 0.10
Third.....		26.17	22.04	0.10
Second.....		34.25	24.55	0.10
First.....		28.60	22.28	0.10
<b>2009</b>				
Fourth.....		\$ 27.31	\$ 23.39	\$ 0.10
Third.....		29.60	20.10	0.10
Second.....		24.08	17.98	0.10
First.....		27.65	13.80	0.10

The Company estimates that as of February 8, 2011, approximately 13,000 persons beneficially owned shares of the Company's common stock either directly or through nominees.

In February 2011, the Company's Board of Directors declared a dividend of \$0.125 per share to be paid on April 28, 2011, to stockholders of record on April 7, 2011. The Company began declaring quarterly dividends of \$0.05 per common share in January 2004. Future dividends, if any, will be determined by the Company's Board of Directors, based on the Company's earnings, cash flows, financial condition and other factors deemed relevant by the Board of Directors.

In February 2011, the Company's Board of Directors authorized the Company to repurchase up to \$100.0 million of the Company's common stock. The authorization will remain in effect through the end of 2011. This replaces the \$50.0 million repurchase authorization from December 2009. The Company did not repurchase any shares in 2010, 2009 or 2008.



The following table sets forth certain information as of December 31, 2010, concerning (a) all equity compensation plans of the Company previously approved by the stockholders and (b) all equity compensation plans of the Company not previously approved by the stockholders.

<b>Plan Category</b>	<b>(a) Number of securities to be issued on exercise of outstanding options, warrants &amp; rights</b>	<b>(b) Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants &amp; rights</b>	<b>(c) Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a))</b>
Equity compensation plans approved by stockholders	1,124,216 (1)	\$34.19	7,256,434 (2)
Equity compensation plans not approved by stockholders	0	N/A	72,000 (3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,124,216</b>	<b>\$34.19</b>	<b>7,328,434</b>

(1) Excludes an additional 1,362,000 shares subject to options granted under the Company's 1994 Stock Option Plan on February 3, 2011, and 30,000 shares subject to options granted under the Company's 1995 Stock Option Plan on February 15, 2015.

(2) Includes 1,362,000 shares subject to options granted under the Company's 1994 Stock Option Plan on February 3, 2011, and 30,000 shares subject to options granted under the Company's 1995 Stock Option Plan on February 15, 2015.

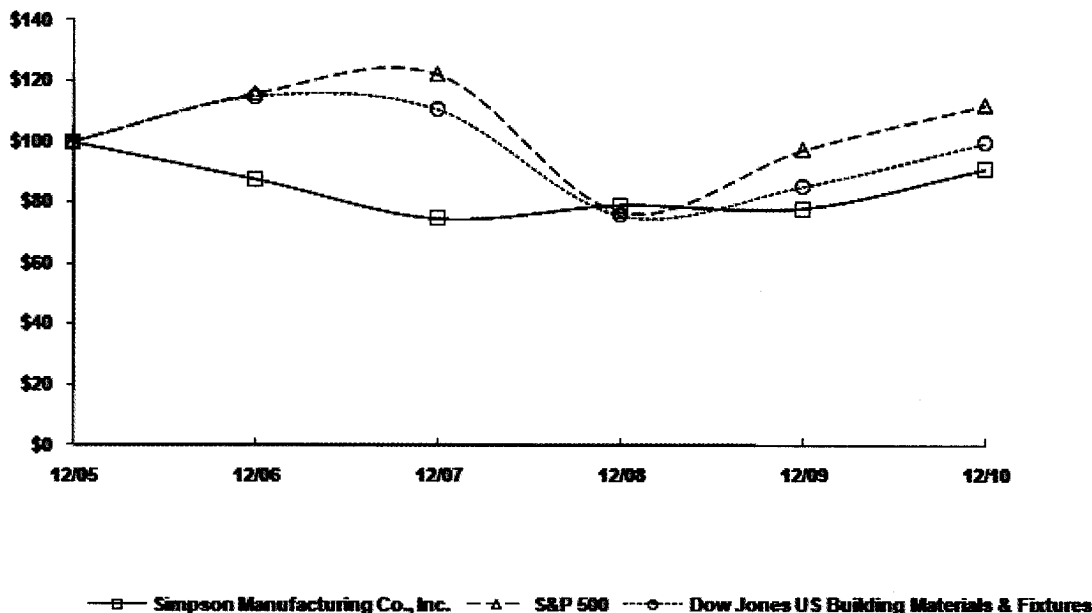
(3) Includes 6,600 shares issued on January 3, 2011, under the Company's 1994 Employee Stock Bonus Plan. As of December 31, 2010, the Company had reserved 200,000 shares of common stock for issuance as bonuses under the 1994 Employee Stock Bonus Plan, of which 128,000 shares had been issued.

## Company Stock Price Performance

The graph below compares the cumulative total stockholder return on the Company's common stock from December 31, 2005, through December 31, 2010, with the cumulative total return on the S & P 500 Index and the Dow Jones Building Materials Index over the same period (assuming the investment of \$100 in the Company's common stock and in each of the indices on December 31, 2005, and reinvestment of all dividends).

### COMPARISON OF 5 YEAR CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURN\*

Among Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc., the S&P 500 Index and the Dow Jones US Building Materials & Fixtures Index



\*\$100 invested on 12/31/05 in stock or index, including reinvestment of dividends.  
Fiscal year ending December 31.

## Item 6. Selected Financial Data.

The following table sets forth selected consolidated financial information with respect to the Company for each of the five years ended December 31, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007 and 2006 (presented in thousands, except per share amounts), derived from the Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company. The Company sold its venting operation in 2010 and has classified the venting operation as discontinued operations for the periods presented herein. The Company adopted the revised business combinations guidance codified as the "Business Combinations" topic and the revised guidance in the "Income Taxes" topic of the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification™ ("ASC") regarding the accounting for the uncertainty in income taxes, on January 1, 2009, and January 1, 2007, respectively. Selected consolidated statement of operations data for the year ended December 31, 2006, have been recast for the retrospective application of new accounting guidance for noncontrolling interests in a consolidated subsidiary, to which the Company became subject beginning January 1, 2009. The presentation of the information in the tables below complies with the accounting pronouncements, but is not necessarily comparable with prior years. The financial information below includes acquired company results of operations beginning on the dates of acquisition. For a summary of recent acquisitions, see "Note 2 — Acquisitions" to the consolidated financial statements included herein. The data presented below should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and related Notes thereto and "Item 7 – Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" included elsewhere herein.

	<b>Years Ended December 31,</b>				
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Statement of Operations Data:</b>					
Net sales	\$ 555,487	\$ 526,544	\$ 676,724	\$ 745,692	\$ 771,176
Cost of sales	<u>311,349</u>	<u>341,645</u>	<u>404,163</u>	<u>449,064</u>	<u>446,008</u>
Gross profit	244,138	184,899	272,561	296,628	325,168
Research and development and other engineering expense	21,110	18,756	20,173	19,026	18,445
Selling expense	63,293	58,790	73,509	69,010	64,013
General and administrative expense	79,788	75,063	86,880	86,083	89,035
Impairment of goodwill	6,292	-	2,964	10,666	-
Loss (gain) on sale of assets	<u>(4,769)</u>	<u>794</u>	<u>(122)</u>	<u>(713)</u>	<u>362</u>
Income from operations	78,424	31,496	89,157	112,556	153,313
Loss in equity method investment, before tax	(535)	(194)	(486)	(33)	(96)
Interest income, net	<u>148</u>	<u>175</u>	<u>2,606</u>	<u>5,773</u>	<u>3,764</u>
Income from continuing operations before income taxes	78,037	31,477	91,277	118,296	156,981
Provision for income taxes from continuing operations	<u>33,239</u>	<u>17,356</u>	<u>36,102</u>	<u>48,466</u>	<u>59,234</u>
Net income attributable to non-controlling interest	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>166</u>
Income from continuing operations, net of tax	<u>44,798</u>	<u>14,121</u>	<u>55,175</u>	<u>69,830</u>	<u>97,581</u>
Discontinued operations:					
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	(23,419)	(2,986)	(1,625)	(1,720)	8,051
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes from discontinued operations	<u>(7,207)</u>	<u>(1,082)</u>	<u>(384)</u>	<u>(632)</u>	<u>3,136</u>
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of tax	<u>(16,212)</u>	<u>(1,904)</u>	<u>(1,241)</u>	<u>(1,088)</u>	<u>4,915</u>
Net income attributable to Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. stockholders	<u>\$ 28,586</u>	<u>\$ 12,217</u>	<u>\$ 53,934</u>	<u>\$ 68,742</u>	<u>\$ 102,496</u>
Earnings (loss) per share of common stock attributable to Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. stockholders:					
Basic					
Continuing operations	\$ 0.91	\$ 0.29	\$ 1.13	\$ 1.44	\$ 2.02
Discontinued operations	(0.33)	(0.04)	(0.03)	(0.02)	0.10
Net income	0.58	0.25	1.11	1.42	2.12
Diluted					
Continuing operations	\$ 0.90	\$ 0.29	\$ 1.13	\$ 1.43	\$ 2.00
Discontinued operations	(0.33)	(0.04)	(0.03)	(0.02)	0.10
Net income	0.58	0.25	1.10	1.40	2.10
Cash dividends declared per share of common stock	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.32

	December 31,				
	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
<b>Balance Sheet Data:</b>					
Working capital	\$ 511,640	\$ 458,607	\$ 455,703	\$ 438,538	\$ 399,082
Property, plant and equipment, net	177,072	187,814	193,318	198,117	197,180
Total assets	874,709	843,805	830,200	817,679	735,334
Line of credit and long-term debt, including current portion	—	—	26	1,029	665
Total liabilities	86,916	80,021	81,174	94,279	82,459
Total stockholders' equity	787,793	763,784	749,026	723,400	652,875

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

*This document contains forward-looking statements, based on numerous assumptions and subject to risks and uncertainties. Although the Company believes that the forward-looking statements are reasonable, it does not and cannot give any assurance that its beliefs and expectations will prove to be correct. Many factors could significantly affect the Company's operations and cause the Company's actual results to be substantially different from the Company's expectations. See "Item 1A - Risk Factors." Actual results might differ materially from results suggested by any forward-looking statements in this report. The Company does not have an obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of the receipt of new information, the occurrence of future events or otherwise.*

The following is a discussion and analysis of the consolidated financial condition and results of continuing operations, unless stated otherwise, for the Company for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, and of certain factors that may affect the Company's prospective financial condition and results of operations. The following should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and related Notes appearing elsewhere herein.

### Overview

The Company's net sales decreased to \$555.5 million in 2010 from \$676.7 million in 2008, reflecting slower homebuilding activity. Net sales decreased in 2010 from 2008 in all regions of the United States, with above-average rates of decline in California and the western and southwestern portions of the country, and net sales to home centers decreased significantly over the same period. Sales decreased in Europe, while showing increases in Canada, Asia and Australia over the same period. Although sales in Europe have decreased from 2008 to 2010, expansion has partly offset the decrease, due in part to the acquisitions of:

- Certain assets of Liebig International Ltd., an Irish company, Heinrich Liebig Stahldübelwerke GmbH, Liebig GmbH & Co. KG and Liebig International Verwaltungsgesellschaft GmbH, all German companies, Liebig Bolts Limited, an English company, and Liebig International Inc., a Virginia corporation (collectively "Liebig"), in April 2008,
- Ahorn-Geräte & Werkzeuge Vertriebs GmbH, a German company, and its subsidiaries Ahorn Upevnovací Technika s.r.o., a Czech company, and Ahorn Pacific Fasteners (Kunshan) Co., Ltd., a Chinese company (collectively "Ahorn"), in July 2008,
- Agence Internationale Commerciale et Industrielle, S.A.S., a French company ("Aginco"), in April 2009, and
- Certain assets of CGMI, formerly called Socom S.A., a French company ("Socom"), in November 2010.

Gross profit margin increased from 40.3% in 2008 to 44.0% in 2010, primarily due to decreased costs of materials, partly offset by a higher proportion of fixed overhead costs.

In recent years, home center sales have declined, although at a lower rate than the Company's consolidated net sales. A large part of the home center sales was sales to The Home Depot, which exceeded 10% of the Company's consolidated net sales in the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009, and 2008 (see "Item 1A – Risk Factors" and Note 14 to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements). Consolidation of retailers and distributors has occurred over time. While the consolidation of these large retailers and distributors provides the Company with opportunities for growth, the increasing size and importance of individual customers exposes Simpson Strong-Tie to potential over-dependence. The loss of any of the larger home centers and distributors as customers would have a material adverse effect on SST, unless and until either such customers are replaced or SST makes the necessary adjustments (if possible) to compensate for the loss of business.



## Results of Operations

The following table sets forth, for the years indicated, the percentage of net sales of certain items in the Company's Consolidated Statements of Operations.

	<b>Years Ended December 31,</b>		
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>
Net sales	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of sales	<u>56.0%</u>	<u>64.9%</u>	<u>59.7%</u>
Gross profit	44.0%	35.1%	40.3%
Research and development and other engineering	3.8%	3.6%	3.0%
Selling expense	11.4%	11.2%	10.9%
General and administrative expense	14.4%	14.3%	12.8%
Impairment of goodwill	1.1%	-	0.4%
Loss (gain) on sale of assets	<u>(0.9%)</u>	<u>0.2%</u>	<u>-</u>
Income from operations	14.1%	6.0%	13.2%
Income (loss) in equity method investment	(0.1%)	-	(0.1%)
Interest income, net	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>0.4%</u>
Income from continuing operations, before income taxes	14.0%	6.0%	13.5%
Provision for income taxes from continuing operations	<u>6.0%</u>	<u>3.3%</u>	<u>5.3%</u>
Income from continuing operations, net of tax	<u>8.1%</u>	<u>2.7%</u>	<u>8.2%</u>
Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax	<u>(2.9%)</u>	<u>(0.4%)</u>	<u>(0.2%)</u>
Net income	<u>5.1%</u>	<u>2.3%</u>	<u>8.0%</u>

## Comparison of the Years Ended December 31, 2010 and 2009

The following table illustrates the change in the Company's continuing operations from 2009 to 2010, and the increases or decreases for each category by segment.

<i>(in thousands)</i>	<b>Continuing Operations 2009</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease) in Operating Segment</b>				<b>Continuing Operations 2010</b>
		<b>North America</b>	<b>Europe</b>	<b>Asia/ Pacific</b>	<b>Admin &amp; All Other</b>	
Net sales	\$ 526,544	\$ 17,194	\$ 7,698	\$ 3,732	\$ 319	\$ 555,487
Cost of sales	<u>341,645</u>	<u>(23,410)</u>	<u>(6,869)</u>	<u>(122)</u>	<u>105</u>	<u>311,349</u>
Gross profit	184,899	40,604	14,567	3,854	214	244,138
Research and development and other engineering expense	18,756	2,372	76	31	(125)	21,110
Selling expense	58,790	4,374	391	314	(576)	63,293
General and administrative expense	75,063	10,318	(2,597)	(360)	(2,636)	79,788
Impairment of goodwill	-	-	6,292	-	-	6,292
Loss (gain) on sale of assets	<u>794</u>	<u>(7,560)</u>	<u>2,030</u>	<u>(33)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,769)</u>
Income from operations	31,496	31,100	8,375	3,902	3,551	78,424
Loss in equity method investment, before tax	(194)	(341)	-	-	-	(535)
Interest income, net	<u>175</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>(54)</u>	<u>105</u>	<u>(127)</u>	<u>148</u>
Income from continuing operations before income taxes	31,477	30,808	8,321	4,007	3,424	78,037
Provision for income taxes from continuing operations	<u>17,356</u>	<u>12,259</u>	<u>2,803</u>	<u>441</u>	<u>380</u>	<u>33,239</u>
Income from continuing operations, net of tax	<u>\$ 14,121</u>	<u>\$ 18,549</u>	<u>\$ 5,518</u>	<u>\$ 3,566</u>	<u>\$ 3,044</u>	<u>\$ 44,798</u>

## Net Sales

The following table represents net sales by segment for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2010:

(in thousands)

	<u>North America</u>	<u>Europe</u>	<u>Asia/ Pacific</u>	<u>Admin &amp; All Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
December 31, 2009	\$ 427,428	\$ 93,616	\$ 5,500	\$ –	\$ 526,544
December 31, 2010	<u>444,622</u>	<u>101,314</u>	<u>9,232</u>	<u>319</u>	<u>555,487</u>
Increase	17,194	7,698	3,732	319	28,943
Percentage increase	4.0%	8.2%	67.9%	–	5.5%

In 2010, net sales increased 5.5% to \$555.5 million as compared to net sales of \$526.5 million in 2009. Sales in the North American segment increased 4.0% from \$427.4 million in 2009 to \$444.6 million in 2010, which was 59.4% of the total Company's overall increase. The North American segment accounted for 80.0% of the Company's total sales in 2010, a slight decrease from 81.2% in 2009. The increase in net sales in North America resulted from an increase in sales volume as average prices were flat. In 2010, sales increased throughout most of North America. The growth in the United States was strongest in the midwestern and northeastern regions, while sales in California and the western region declined slightly as compared to 2009. Sales in Canada increased significantly. Sales to dealer distributors and lumber dealers increased, while sales to contractor distributors and home centers decreased over the same period. Sales in the European segment increased 8.2% from \$93.6 million in 2009 to \$101.3 million in 2010, which was 26.6% of the Company's overall increase. The European segment accounted for 18.2% of the Company's total sales in 2010, a slight increase from 17.8% in 2009. The increase in net sales in Europe resulted from an increase in sales volume as average prices were flat. Sales in Asia and Australia, although relatively small, have increased as the Company has recently expanded its presence in the region. Sales increased across most of the Company's major product lines.

## Gross Profit

The following table represents gross profit by segment for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2010:

(in thousands)

	<u>North America</u>	<u>Europe</u>	<u>Asia/ Pacific</u>	<u>Admin &amp; All Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
December 31, 2009	\$ 164,768	\$ 20,843	\$ (1,244)	\$ 532	\$ 184,899
December 31, 2010	<u>205,372</u>	<u>35,410</u>	<u>2,610</u>	<u>746</u>	<u>244,138</u>
Increase	40,604	14,567	3,854	214	59,239
Percentage increase	24.6%	69.9%	–	40.3%	32.0%

Gross profit increased 32.0% to \$244.1 million in 2010 from \$184.9 million in 2009. As a percentage of net sales, gross profit increased from 35.1% in 2009 to 44.0% in 2010. The increase in gross margins was primarily due to lower manufacturing costs, including lower costs of material, labor and overhead, and increased absorption of fixed overhead, as a result of higher production volumes. The Company continues to face uncertainty in the cost and availability of steel. Several factors are contributing to this uncertainty. Steel prices increased from their levels in mid-2010, as steel mills have been raising prices as demand returns to global steel markets. The Company expects steel prices to remain at current levels or to increase throughout 2011. The steel market continues to be dynamic, however, with a high degree of uncertainty about future pricing trends. If steel prices increase and the Company is not able to maintain its prices or increase them sufficiently, the Company's margins could deteriorate. As a percentage of net sales, gross profit in the North American segment increased from 38.5% in 2009 to 46.2% in 2010, in the European segment increased from 22.3% in 2009 to 35.0% in 2010, and in the Asia/Pacific segment increased from a loss of 22.6% in 2009 to a profit of 28.3% in 2010. All segments benefited from the increased absorption of fixed overhead, as a result of higher production volumes and lower manufacturing costs, including lower costs of material, labor and overhead.

## Research and Development and Other Engineering Expense

Research and development and engineering expense increased 12.6% from \$18.8 million in 2009 to \$21.1 million in 2010, primarily due to increases in personnel costs of \$1.6 million and cash profit sharing of \$1.5 million. These changes were mostly attributable to the North American segment.

### *Selling Expense*

Selling expense increased 7.7% from \$58.8 million in 2009 to \$63.3 million in 2010, primarily due to increases in cash profit sharing and commissions of \$3.3 million, professional services of \$1.0 million and personnel costs of \$0.4 million. These changes were mostly attributable to the North American segment.

### *General and Administrative Expense*

General and administrative expense increased 6.3% from \$75.1 million in 2009 to \$79.8 million in 2010. The increase was due primarily to increases in cash profit sharing of \$5.5 million resulting from higher operating profits, information technology expenses of \$2.4 million, professional fees of \$1.8 million and stock option expense of \$1.6 million, partly offset by decreases in personnel costs, excluding stock option expense, of \$2.0 million, bad debt expense of \$1.4 million, intangible asset amortization expense of \$1.1 million, depreciation expense of \$0.9 million and various other items. These changes were mostly attributable to the North American segment.

### *Impairment of Goodwill*

The impairment charge taken in 2010, which resulted from the Company's annual impairment test in the fourth quarter, was associated with assets that were acquired in Germany and Ireland in 2008 and was associated with the European anchor products reporting unit. The reporting unit's carrying value exceeded the fair value, primarily due to reduced future expected net cash flows. The method to determine the fair value of the European anchor products reporting unit was a discounted cash flow model. This reporting unit was associated with the European segment. See "Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates – Goodwill Impairment Testing."

### *Gain on Sale of Assets*

In 2010, the Company's North American segment recorded gains on sale of assets of \$4.8 million, primarily due to the sale of its real estate in Brea, California.

### *Stock Option Expense*

The Company estimates that the pre-tax stock option expense for 2011 will be \$8.5 million related to stock options granted during 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and through February 2011.

### *Provision for Income Taxes*

The effective tax rate was 42.6% in 2010, as compared to 55.1% in 2009. The decrease in the effective tax rate as compared to the prior year was primarily due to improved operations in countries where valuation allowances are recorded against tax losses, partly offset by a goodwill impairment charge for which a tax benefit was not recognized. The change in the provision for income taxes was mostly attributable to the North American segment.

### *Discontinued Operations*

The Company recorded a loss from discontinued operations, net of tax, of \$16.2 million for 2010, primarily as a result of a pre-tax impairment charge of \$21.4 million recorded as a result of entering into an agreement to sell substantially all of the assets of Simpson Dura-Vent.

## Comparison of the Years Ended December 31, 2009 and 2008

The following table illustrates the changes in the Company's continuing operations from 2008 to 2009 the increases or decreases for each category by segment.

<i>(in thousands)</i>	Continuing Operations 2008	Increase (Decrease) in Operating Segment				Continuing Operations 2009
		North America	Europe	Asia/ Pacific	Admin & All Other	
Net sales	\$ 676,724	\$ (125,590)	\$ (24,747)	\$ 157	\$ –	\$ 526,544
Cost of sales	404,163	(52,116)	(12,297)	2,115	(220)	341,645
Gross profit	272,561	(73,474)	(12,450)	(1,958)	220	184,899
Research and development and other engineering expense	20,173	(2,129)	713	19	(20)	18,756
Selling expense	73,509	(13,968)	(876)	175	(50)	58,790
General and administrative expense	86,880	(13,297)	2,499	(1,228)	209	75,063
Impairment of goodwill	2,964	–	(2,964)	–	–	–
Loss (gain) on sale of assets	(122)	2,484	(1,602)	34	–	794
Income from operations	89,157	(46,564)	(10,220)	(958)	81	31,496
Loss in equity method investment, before tax	(486)	292	–	–	–	(194)
Interest income, net	2,606	(249)	(32)	(77)	(2,073)	175
Income from continuing operations before income taxes	91,277	(46,521)	(10,252)	(1,035)	(1,992)	31,477
Provision for income taxes from continuing operations	36,102	(16,095)	(2,642)	(207)	198	17,356
Income from continuing operations, net of tax	\$ 55,175	\$ (30,426)	\$ (7,610)	\$ (828)	\$ (2,190)	\$ 14,121

### Net Sales

The following table represents net sales by segment for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2009:

<i>(in thousands)</i>	North America	Europe	Asia/ Pacific	Admin & All Other	Total
December 31, 2008	\$ 553,018	\$ 118,363	\$ 5,343	\$ –	\$ 676,724
December 31, 2009	427,428	93,616	5,500	–	526,544
Increase (decrease)	(125,590)	(24,747)	157	–	(150,180)
Percentage increase (decrease)	(22.7%)	(20.9%)	2.9%	–	(22.2%)

In 2009, net sales decreased 22.2% to \$526.5 million compared to net sales of \$676.7 million for 2008. Sales in the North American segment decreased 22.7% from \$553.0 million in 2008 to \$427.4 million in 2009, which was 83.6% of the total Company's overall decrease. The North American segment accounted for 81.2% of the Company's total sales in 2009, a slight decrease from 81.7% in 2008. The decrease in net sales in North America resulted from a decrease in sales volume, partly offset by an increase in average prices of 8.8%. In 2009, sales declined throughout the United States and Canada. The western and southeastern regions had the largest decreases in sales. Sales to contractor distributors and dealer distributors decreased as a result of the weakness in the U.S. housing market. Sales to home centers also decreased. Sales in the European segment decreased 20.9% from \$118.4 million in 2008 to \$93.6 million in 2009, which was 16.5% of the Company's overall decrease. The European segment accounted for 17.8% of the Company's total sales in 2009, a slight increase from 17.5% in 2008. The decrease in net sales in Europe resulted from a decrease in sales volume, partly offset by a slight increase in average prices of 1.1%. Sales decreased across all of the Company's major product lines, particularly those used in new home construction.

## Gross Profit

The following table represents gross profit by segment for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2009:

(in thousands)

	<u>North America</u>	<u>Europe</u>	<u>Asia/ Pacific</u>	<u>Admin &amp; All Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
December 31, 2008	\$ 238,242	\$ 33,293	\$ 714	\$ 312	\$ 272,561
December 31, 2009	<u>164,768</u>	<u>20,843</u>	<u>(1,244)</u>	<u>532</u>	<u>184,899</u>
Increase (decrease)	(73,474)	(12,450)	(1,958)	220	(87,662)
Percentage increase (decrease)	(30.8%)	(37.4%)	(274.3%)	70.5%	(32.2%)

Gross profit decreased 32.2% from \$272.6 million in 2008 to \$184.9 million in 2009. As a percentage of net sales, gross profit decreased from 40.3% in 2008 to 35.1% in 2009. The decrease in gross margins was primarily due to reduced absorption of fixed overhead, as a result of lower production volumes, as well as higher manufacturing costs, including higher costs of material and labor. The Company continued to face uncertainty in the cost and availability of steel. Several factors contributed to this uncertainty. The price of steel, the Company's primary raw material, increased in the second half of 2009. As a percentage of net sales, gross profit in the North American segment decreased from 43.1% in 2008 to 38.5% in 2009, in the European segment decreased from 28.1% in 2008 to 22.3% in 2009, and in the Asia/Pacific segment decreased from 13.4% to a loss of 22.6% in 2009. All segments were adversely affected by the reduced absorption of fixed overhead, as a result of lower production volumes, while the North American segment also experienced higher manufacturing costs, including higher costs of material and labor.

### *Research and Development and Other Engineering Expense*

Research and development and other engineering expense decreased 7.0% from \$20.2 million in 2008 to \$18.8 million in 2009, primarily due to a \$1.0 million decrease in professional service fees and a \$1.0 million decrease in cash profit sharing, partly offset by various other items. These changes were mostly attributable to the North American segment.

### *Selling Expense*

Selling expense decreased 20.0% from \$73.5 million in 2008 to \$58.8 million in 2009. This decrease was due primarily to a \$5.3 million decrease in expenses associated with sales and marketing personnel, mostly related to cost-cutting measures, a \$4.3 million decrease in promotional expenditures and a decrease of \$3.9 million in cash profit sharing resulting from decreased operating profits. These changes were mostly attributable to the North American segment.

### *General and Administrative Expense*

General and administrative expense decreased 13.6% from \$86.9 million in 2008 to \$75.1 million in 2009. This decrease was due primarily to a \$6.0 million decrease in cash profit sharing resulting from decreased operating profits, a \$2.5 million decrease in administrative personnel expenses, related in part to cost-cutting measures, a \$1.5 million decrease in legal and professional service expenses, a \$1.2 million decrease in information technology expenses and a \$1.2 million decrease in the provision for bad debt, partly offset by various other items. These changes were mostly attributable to the North American segment.

### *Interest Income and Expense*

Interest income is generated on the Company's cash and cash equivalents balances. Interest income decreased primarily as a result of lower interest rates. Interest expense includes interest, facility fees on its line of credit, account maintenance fees and bank charges. As managing excess cash is primarily a treasury function, this change was mostly attributable to "Administrative and All Other."

### *Provision for Income Taxes*

The effective tax rate was 55.1% in 2009, up from 39.6% in 2008. The effective tax rate is higher than the statutory rate primarily due to the valuation allowances taken on foreign losses, differences between the U.S. statutory tax rate and the local tax rate in countries where the Company operates and a reduced benefit from the reduction or loss of



enterprise zone tax credits at two of the Company's facilities in California. The change in the provision for income taxes was mostly attributable to the North American segment.

### Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The critical policies described below affect the Company's more significant judgments and estimates used in the preparation of the Consolidated Financial Statements. If the Company's business conditions change or if it uses different assumptions or estimates in the application of these and other accounting policies, the Company's future results of operations could be adversely affected.

#### Inventory Valuation

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or net realizable value (market). Cost includes all costs incurred in bringing each product to its present location and condition, as follows:

- Raw materials and purchased finished goods – principally valued at cost determined on a weighted average basis.
- In-process products and finished goods – cost of direct materials and labor plus attributable overhead based on a normal level of activity.

The Company writes the gross value of the inventory down to its net realizable value. The Company estimates net realizable value based on estimated selling price less further costs to completion and disposal. The Company impairs slow-moving products by comparing inventories on hand to future projected demand. Obsolete inventory is on-hand supply of a product in excess of two years' sales of that product or a supply of that product that the Company believes is no longer marketable. The Company revalues obsolete inventory as having no net realizable value and impairs its full carrying value. The Company has consistently applied this methodology. The Company believes that this approach is prudent and makes suitable provisions for slow-moving and obsolete inventory. When provisions are established, a new cost basis of the inventory is created.

Comparable inventory values are as follows (in thousands):

	<u>December 31,</u>	
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Gross Inventories:		
Raw materials	\$ 61,996	\$ 61,408
In-process products	18,364	21,113
Finished goods	82,568	92,115
Less:		
Slow-moving, obsolete and net realizable value provisions	<u>(10,631)</u>	<u>(10,882)</u>
Net inventory valuation	<u>\$ 152,297</u>	<u>\$ 163,754</u>

Activity in the inventory reserve is summarized as follows (in thousands):

	<u>Years ended December 31,</u>		
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Beginning balance	\$ 10,882	\$ 10,029	\$ 10,338
Provisions released following disposal of inventory	(5,297)	(47)	(749)
Additional provisions made	<u>5,046</u>	<u>900</u>	<u>440</u>
Ending balance	<u>\$ 10,631</u>	<u>\$ 10,882</u>	<u>\$ 10,029</u>

Unexpected change in market demand, building codes or buyer preferences could reduce the rate of inventory turnover and require the Company to increase its reserve for obsolescence.

### Revenue Recognition

The Company recognizes revenue when the earnings process is complete, net of applicable provision for discounts, returns and incentives, whether actual or estimated, based on the Company's experience. This generally occurs when products are shipped to the customer in accordance with the sales agreement or purchase order, ownership and risk of loss pass to the customer, collectability is reasonably assured and pricing is fixed or determinable. The Company's general shipping terms are F.O.B. shipping point, where title is transferred and revenue is recognized when the products are shipped to customers. When the Company sells F.O.B. destination point, title is transferred and the Company recognizes revenue on delivery or customer acceptance, depending on terms of the sales agreement. Service sales, representing after-market repair and maintenance, engineering activities, software license sales and service and lease income, though significantly less than 1% of net sales and not material to the consolidated financial statements, are recognized as the services are completed or the software products and services are delivered. If actual costs of sales returns, incentives and discounts were to significantly exceed the recorded estimated allowance, the Company's sales would be adversely affected.

### Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

The Company assesses the collectability of specific customer accounts that would be considered doubtful based on the customer's financial condition, payment history, credit rating and other factors that the Company considers relevant, or accounts that the Company assigns for collection. The Company reserves for the portion of those outstanding balances that the Company believes it is not likely to collect, based on historical collection experience. The Company also reserves 100% of the amount that it deems potentially uncollectable due to a customer's bankruptcy or deteriorating financial condition. If the financial condition of the Company's customers were to deteriorate, resulting in inability to make payments, additional allowances may be required.

Activity in the allowance for doubtful accounts is summarized as follows (in thousands):

	<u>Years ended December 31,</u>		
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Beginning balance	\$ 4,667	\$ 4,368	\$ 2,724
Adjustments, recoveries and write-offs	(3,242)	(367)	(787)
Increase (decrease) to bad debt provision	<u>(81)</u>	<u>666</u>	<u>2,431</u>
Ending balance	<u>\$ 1,344</u>	<u>\$ 4,667</u>	<u>\$ 4,368</u>

### Goodwill Impairment Testing

The "Intangibles—Goodwill and Other" topic of the FASB ASC requires that goodwill be tested for impairment at the reporting unit level (operating segment or one level below an operating segment) on an annual basis (in the fourth quarter for the Company) and between annual tests if an event occurs or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of a reporting unit below its carrying value. These events or circumstances could include a significant change in the business climate, legal factors, operating performance indicators, competition, or disposition or relocation of a significant portion of a reporting unit. Application of the goodwill impairment test requires judgment, including the identification of reporting units, assignment of assets and liabilities to reporting units, assignment of goodwill to reporting units, and determination of the fair value of each reporting unit. The fair value of each reporting unit is estimated using discounted cash flow methodologies or a combination of market approaches, if information is readily available, and discounted cash flow methodologies. This process requires significant judgments, including estimation of future cash flows, which depends on internal forecasts, estimation of the long-term rate of growth for the Company's business, the useful life over which cash flows will occur, and determination of the Company's weighted average cost of capital. Changes in these estimates and assumptions could materially affect the determination of fair value or goodwill impairment for each reporting unit. Actual cash flows in the future may differ significantly from those assumed. The Company has allocated goodwill to reporting units based on the reporting unit or units expected to benefit from the acquisition. Reporting units are generally determined based on country or region of operations.

The impairment charge taken in 2010, which was a result of the Company's annual impairment test in the fourth quarter of 2010, related to assets that were acquired in Germany and Ireland in 2008 and associated with the European anchor products reporting unit. The reporting unit's carrying value exceeded the fair value, primarily due to reduced future expected net cash flows. The impairment charge taken in 2008, which was a result of the Company's annual impairment test in the fourth quarter of 2008, related to assets that were acquired in England in

1999 and was associated with the Company's U.K. reporting unit. The reporting unit's carrying value exceeded the fair value, primarily due to reduced future expected net cash flows. The method to determine the fair value of the European anchor products and U.K. reporting units were discounted cash flow models. At December 31, 2010, the remaining balance of goodwill of the U.K. reporting unit was \$1.3 million. The goodwill associated with the European anchor products reporting unit was fully impaired. These reporting units are both associated with the European segment. No other reporting units had a risk of impairment in 2010.

### **Effect of New Accounting Standards**

Recent authoritative guidance issued by the FASB (including technical corrections to the ASC), the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and the Securities and Exchange Commission did not or is not expected to have a material effect on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

### **Liquidity and Sources of Capital**

The Company's liquidity needs arise principally from working capital requirements, capital expenditures and business acquisitions. During the three years ended December 31, 2010, the Company relied on internally generated funds to finance these needs. The Company's working capital requirements are seasonal with the highest need typically occurring in the second and third quarters of the year. Cash and cash equivalents were \$335.0 million and \$250.4 million at December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Working capital was \$511.6 million and \$458.6 million at December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. As of December 31, 2010, the Company had no borrowings on its revolving line of credit. The Company had unused capacity on this and other credit facilities of \$204.6 million.

As of December 31, 2010, the Company's investments consisted of only United States Treasury securities and money market funds aggregating \$212.7 million. Cash collected by the Company's United States subsidiaries is routinely transferred into cash management accounts which typically do not have restrictions on withdrawals. As of December 31, 2010, the Company had \$60.1 million or 17.9% of its cash and cash equivalents held outside the United States in accounts belonging to various Company foreign operating entities. The majority of this balance is held in foreign currencies and could be subject to additional taxation if it were repatriated to the United States.

The Company's operating activities provided \$77.2 million, \$126.2 million and \$56.1 million in net cash in 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively. In 2010, cash was provided by net income of \$28.6 million and noncash expenses totaling \$50.2 million, primarily impairments of assets, depreciation, amortization and stock-based compensation charges, changes in deferred income taxes of \$7.0 million, and an increase in trade accounts payable of \$4.7 million. These increases were partially offset by increases in inventories of \$12.1 million and trade accounts receivable of \$3.7 million that were not related to discontinued operations. The Company's inventories decreased 7.0% from \$163.8 million at December 31, 2009, to \$152.3 million at December 31, 2010, primarily due to the Simpson Dura-Vent sale, partly offset by purchases of raw materials. The balance of the cash provided in 2010 resulted from changes in other asset and liability accounts, none of which was material.

The Company's investing activities provided \$7.9 million in 2010 and used \$39.5 million and \$51.0 million in net cash in 2009 and 2008, respectively. Cash received for the sale of the Simpson Dura-Vent business was \$28.3 million in 2010. Cash paid for capital expenditures was \$28.3 million in 2010, up from \$15.2 million in 2009. The cash paid was partly offset by sales of assets of \$14.8 million. The Company used \$27.6 million of these expenditures in 2010 to acquire or improve real estate, primarily to purchase its new manufacturing facility in San Bernardino County, California. The Company's planned capital expenditures for 2011 total approximately \$35 million. The Company also used \$1.8 million in 2010 to make loans to related parties.

In November 2010, the Company's subsidiary, Socom S.A.S., purchased certain assets of CGMI, formerly called Socom S.A. ("Socom"). The purchase price was \$5.2 million in cash. Socom formulates and manufactures a line of chemical anchors in France. Cash paid for asset acquisitions decreased from \$24.3 million in 2009 when the Company acquired Aginco and RO Design Corp.

In March 2010, the Company acquired a facility in San Bernardino County, California, for \$19.2 million in cash. The Company plans to consolidate its operations from Brea, California, and its former leased warehouse in Ontario, California, into this facility in the second quarter of 2011. The Company sold all of the real estate associated with its Brea operations in July 2010 for \$14.7 million in cash and recorded a gain on the sale of \$5.2 million.

At December 31, 2010, the Company had vacant facilities, in San Leandro, California, Visalia, California, and France, which it classified as assets held for sale. If any of the facilities are expected to be sold below carrying value, the Company will record an impairment charge equal to the amount by which carrying value exceeds net realized value. The facility in Visalia was sold in January 2011 and no significant gain or loss was realized.

The Company is continuing to evaluate its alternatives for the operations at its facility in Ireland. The Company has not yet decided if or when it will relocate the manufacturing operations, and hopes to maintain research and development and limited operations at this location. The Company would record an impairment charge equal to an amount by which its carrying value exceeds its net realized value if this facility qualifies for held for sale accounting treatment or if its value is not recoverable as an in-use asset.

The Company's financing activities used \$1.8 million, \$11.7 million, and \$13.0 million in net cash in 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively. Uses of cash for financing activities were primarily from payments of cash dividends of \$19.8 million. Cash provided by financing activities was primarily from the issuance of the Company's common stock on the exercise of stock options totaling \$17.9 million. In February 2011, the Company's Board of Directors declared a dividend of \$0.125 per share, a total of \$6.3 million, to be paid on April 28, 2011, to stockholders of record on April 7, 2011.

In February 2011, the Company's Board of Directors authorized the Company to repurchase up to \$100.0 million of the Company's common stock. The authorization will remain in effect through the end of 2011. This replaced the \$50.0 million repurchase authorization from December 2009. The Company made no repurchases during 2010, 2009 or 2008.

In October 2007, the Company entered into an unsecured credit agreement with a syndicate of banks providing for a 5-year revolving credit facility of \$200 million. The Company has the ability to increase the amount available under the credit agreement by an additional \$200 million, to a maximum of \$400 million, by obtaining additional commitments from existing lenders or new lenders and satisfying certain other conditions. Under existing conditions in credit markets, the Company does not believe that additional commitments will be available on terms the Company considers reasonable. The Company is required to pay an annual facility fee of 0.08% to 0.10% of the available commitments under the credit agreement, regardless of usage, with the applicable fee determined on a quarterly basis based on the Company's leverage ratio. Amounts borrowed under the credit agreement will bear interest at an annual rate equal to either, at the Company's option, (a) the British Bankers Association London Interbank Offered Rate for the appropriate currency appearing on Reuters Screen LIBOR01-02 Page (the "LIBO Rate") plus a spread of from 0.27% to 0.40%, as determined on a quarterly basis based on the Company's leverage ratio, or (b) the base rate, plus a spread of 0.50%. The Company will pay participation fees for outstanding standby letters of credit at an annual rate equal to the LIBO Rate plus the applicable spreads described in the preceding sentence, and will pay market-based fees for commercial letters of credit. Loans outstanding under the credit agreement may be prepaid at any time without penalty except for LIBO Rate breakage costs and expenses.

The proceeds of loans advanced under the credit agreement and letters of credit issued thereunder may be used for working capital and other general corporate needs of the Company, to pay dividends to the Company's stockholders or to repurchase outstanding securities of the Company as permitted by the credit agreement, and to finance acquisitions by the Company permitted by the credit agreement. No loans or letters of credit are currently outstanding under the credit agreement. The Company and its subsidiaries are required to comply with various affirmative and negative covenants. The covenants include provisions that would limit the availability of funds as a result of a material adverse change to the Company's financial position or results of operations. As of December 31, 2010, the Company was in compliance with its financial covenants under the loan agreement.

The Company's contractual obligations, as of December 31, 2010, for future payments are as follows, in thousands:

<u>Contractual Obligation</u>	<u>Payments Due by Period</u>				
	<u>Total all periods</u>	<u>Less than 1 year</u>	<u>1 – 3 years</u>	<u>3 – 5 years</u>	<u>More than 5 years</u>
Debt interest obligations	293	160	133	–	–
Operating lease obligations	15,614	6,151	5,283	1,759	2,421
Purchase obligations	9,684	5,728	3,915	41	–
Total	<u>\$ 25,591</u>	<u>\$ 12,039</u>	<u>\$ 9,331</u>	<u>\$ 1,800</u>	<u>\$ 2,421</u>

Purchase obligations consist of commitments primarily related to the acquisition, construction or expansion of facilities and equipment, consulting agreements, and minimum purchase quantities of certain raw materials. The Company is not a party to any long-term supply contracts with respect to the purchase of raw materials or finished goods. Debt interest obligations include interest payments on fixed-term debt, line-of-credit borrowings and annual facility fees on the Company's primary line-of-credit facility. Interest on line-of-credit facilities was estimated based on historical borrowings and repayment patterns. The Company's primary line-of-credit facility includes annual facility fees from 0.08% to 0.10%, depending on the Company's leverage ratio, on the unused portion of the facilities.

The Company adopted the revised guidance in the "Income Taxes" topic of the FASB ASC regarding uncertain tax positions on January 1, 2007. At December 31, 2010, the Company's expected payment for contractual obligations includes \$6.9 million of gross liability for uncertain tax positions, although the Company cannot estimate the amount realized or the timing of cash settlement of this liability. This amount does not include any amount receivable that may arise from the settlement of the Company's uncertain tax positions. See Notes 1 and 10 to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements.

### **Inflation**

The Company believes that the effect of inflation on the Company has not been material in recent years, as general inflation rates have remained relatively low. The Company's main raw material, however, is steel, and increases in steel prices may adversely affect the Company's gross margins if it cannot recover the higher costs through price increases.

### **Indemnification Provisions**

In the normal course of business, the Company indemnifies employees, officers, directors, consultants and third parties with which the Company has contractual arrangements under terms that may require the Company to make payments in relation to certain events. The Company has not incurred significant obligations under indemnification provisions historically, and does not expect to incur significant obligations in the future. Accordingly, the Company has not recorded a liability for these indemnities.

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

The Company has no variable interest-rate debt investments.

The Company has foreign exchange rate risk in its international operations, primarily Europe and Canada, and through purchases from foreign vendors. The Company does not currently hedge this risk. If the exchange rate were to change by 10% in any one country where the Company has operations, the change in net income would not be material to the Company's operations taken as a whole. The translation adjustment resulted in a decrease in accumulated other comprehensive income of \$4.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, primarily due to the effect of the strengthening of the United States dollar in relation to most European currencies, partly offset by the weakening United States dollar in relation to the Canadian dollar.



**Item 8. Consolidated Financial Statements and Supplementary Data.**

**SIMPSON MANUFACTURING CO., INC.  
INDEX TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Consolidated financial statements	
Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.....	46
Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2010 and 2009 .....	47
Consolidated Statements of Operations for the years ended	
December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 .....	48
Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity for the years ended	
December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010 .....	49
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended	
December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 .....	50
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements .....	51
Financial Statement Schedule	
Schedule II – Valuation and Qualifying Accounts .....	78

## Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc.:

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements listed in the accompanying index present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. and its subsidiaries at December 31, 2010 and 2009, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2010 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. In addition, in our opinion, the financial statement schedule listed in the accompanying index presents fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein when read in conjunction with the related consolidated financial statements. Also in our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2010, based on criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). The Company's management is responsible for these financial statements and financial statement schedule, for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in Item 9A of the 2010 Annual Report. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements, on the financial statement schedule, and on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our integrated audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement and whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audits of the financial statements included examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audits also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinions.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (i) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (ii) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (iii) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

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

As described in Item 9A of the 2010 Annual Report, management has excluded Socom S.A.S ("Socom") from its assessment of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2010, because it was acquired by the Company in a purchase business combination during 2010. We have also excluded Socom from our audit of internal control over financial reporting. Socom is a subsidiary of Simpson Strong-Tie Company Inc. and its combined total assets and total revenues represent approximately 0.7% and 0.2%, respectively, of the related consolidated financial statement amounts as of and for the year ended December 31, 2010.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
San Francisco, California  
February 28, 2011

**Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. and Subsidiaries**  
**Consolidated Balance Sheets**

*(In thousands, except per share data)*

	<b>December 31,</b>	
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 335,049	\$ 250,381
Trade accounts receivable, net	68,256	77,317
Inventories	152,297	163,754
Deferred income taxes	10,189	13,970
Assets held for sale	10,787	7,887
Other current assets	14,678	16,766
Total current assets	591,256	530,075
Property, plant and equipment, net	177,072	187,814
Goodwill	70,069	81,626
Equity method investment	213	748
Intangible assets	23,466	28,852
Deferred income taxes	2,579	5,598
Other noncurrent assets	10,054	9,092
Total assets	\$ 874,709	\$ 843,805
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
Current liabilities		
Trade accounts payable	\$ 35,164	\$ 28,462
Accrued liabilities	31,372	29,209
Accrued profit sharing trust contributions	5,591	7,018
Accrued cash profit sharing and commissions	2,805	2,427
Accrued workers' compensation	4,684	4,352
Total current liabilities	79,616	71,468
Long-term liabilities	7,300	8,553
Total liabilities	86,916	80,021
Commitments and contingencies (Note 9)		
Stockholders' equity		
Preferred stock, par value \$0.01; authorized shares, 5,000; issued and outstanding shares, none	-	-
Common stock, par value \$0.01; authorized shares, 160,000; issued and outstanding shares, 50,096 and 49,377 at December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively	500	493
Additional paid-in capital	165,425	146,036
Retained earnings	607,241	598,493
Accumulated other comprehensive income	14,627	18,762
Total stockholders' equity	787,793	763,784
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 874,709	\$ 843,805

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

**Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. and Subsidiaries**  
**Consolidated Statements of Operations**

*(In thousands, except per share data)*

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2010	2009	2008
Net sales	\$ 555,487	\$ 526,544	\$ 676,724
Cost of sales	311,349	341,645	404,163
Gross profit	244,138	184,899	272,561
Operating expenses:			
Research and development and other engineering	21,110	18,756	20,173
Selling	63,293	58,790	73,509
General and administrative	79,788	75,063	86,880
Impairment of goodwill	6,292	-	2,964
Loss (gain) on sale of assets	(4,769)	794	(122)
	165,714	153,403	183,404
Income from operations	78,424	31,496	89,157
Loss in equity method investment, before tax	(535)	(194)	(486)
Interest income	492	542	2,977
Interest expense	(344)	(367)	(371)
Income from continuing operations before taxes	78,037	31,477	91,277
Provision for income taxes from continuing operations	33,239	17,356	36,102
Income from continuing operations, net of tax	44,798	14,121	55,175
Discontinued operations:			
Loss from discontinued operations	(23,419)	(2,986)	(1,625)
Benefit from income taxes from discontinued operations	(7,207)	(1,082)	(384)
Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax	(16,212)	(1,904)	(1,241)
Net income	\$ 28,586	\$ 12,217	\$ 53,934
Earnings (loss) per common share:			
Basic			
Continuing operations	\$ 0.91	\$ 0.29	\$ 1.13
Discontinued operations	(0.33)	(0.04)	(0.03)
Net income	0.58	0.25	1.11
Diluted			
Continuing operations	\$ 0.90	\$ 0.29	\$ 1.13
Discontinued operations	(0.33)	(0.04)	(0.03)
Net income	0.58	0.25	1.10
Weighted average number of shares outstanding			
Basic	49,498	49,135	48,636
Diluted	49,612	49,256	48,970

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

**Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. and Subsidiaries**  
**Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity**  
for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010  
*(In thousands, except per share data)*

	<u>Common Stock</u>		<u>Additional</u>	<u>Retained</u>	<u>Accumulated</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Shares</u>	<u>Par Value</u>	<u>Paid-in</u>	<u>Earnings</u>	<u>Other</u>	
			<u>Capital</u>		<u>Comprehensive</u>	
					<u>Income</u>	
Balance, January 1, 2008	48,552	\$ 485	\$ 126,119	\$ 571,499	\$ 25,297	\$ 723,400
Comprehensive income:						
Net income	-	-	-	53,934	-	53,934
Other comprehensive income:						
Translation adjustment	-	-	-	-	(19,578)	(19,578)
Comprehensive income						34,356
Options exercised	410	5	6,876	-	-	6,881
Stock compensation expense	-	-	3,249	-	-	3,249
Tax benefit of options exercised	-	-	376	-	-	376
Cash dividends declared on						
common stock, \$0.40 per share	-	-	-	(19,483)	-	(19,483)
Common stock issued at						
\$26.59 per share	9	-	247	-	-	247
Balance, December 31, 2008	<u>48,971</u>	<u>490</u>	<u>136,867</u>	<u>605,950</u>	<u>5,719</u>	<u>749,026</u>
Comprehensive income:						
Net income	-	-	-	12,217	-	12,217
Other comprehensive income:						
Translation adjustment	-	-	-	-	13,043	13,043
Comprehensive income						25,260
Options exercised	396	3	7,624	-	-	7,627
Stock compensation expense	-	-	1,690	-	-	1,690
Tax benefit of options exercised	-	-	(445)	-	-	(445)
Cash dividends declared on						
common stock, \$0.40 per share	-	-	-	(19,674)	-	(19,674)
Common stock issued at						
\$27.76 per share	10	-	300	-	-	300
Balance, December 31, 2009	<u>49,377</u>	<u>493</u>	<u>146,036</u>	<u>598,493</u>	<u>18,762</u>	<u>763,784</u>
Comprehensive income:						
Net income	-	-	-	28,586	-	28,586
Other comprehensive income:						
Translation adjustment	-	-	-	-	(4,135)	(4,135)
Comprehensive income						24,451
Options exercised	707	7	17,941	-	-	17,948
Stock compensation expense	-	-	3,577	-	-	3,577
Tax benefit of options exercised	-	-	(2,430)	-	-	(2,430)
Cash dividends declared on						
common stock, \$0.40 per share	-	-	-	(19,838)	-	(19,838)
Common stock issued at						
\$26.42 per share	12	-	301	-	-	301
Balance, December 31, 2010	<u>50,096</u>	<u>\$ 500</u>	<u>\$ 165,425</u>	<u>\$ 607,241</u>	<u>\$ 14,627</u>	<u>\$ 787,793</u>

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



**Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. and Subsidiaries**  
**Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows**

(In thousands)

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2010	2009	2008
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net income	\$ 28,586	\$ 12,217	\$ 53,934
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Loss (gain) on sale of assets	(4,763)	797	(124)
Loss on sale of discontinued operations	657	-	-
Depreciation and amortization	22,861	29,387	30,209
Impairment loss on discontinued operations	16,916	-	-
Impairment of long-lived assets	419	-	-
Impairment of goodwill	6,292	-	2,964
Deferred income taxes	6,956	(2,198)	(1,079)
Noncash compensation related to stock plans	3,712	2,200	3,823
Loss in equity method investment	535	194	486
Excess tax benefit of options exercised	(10)	(359)	(515)
Write down of excess and obsolete inventory	5,046	900	440
Provision for (recovery of) doubtful accounts	(81)	666	2,431
Accrued interest earned from related party	-	(78)	-
Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of effects of acquisitions and dispositions:			
Trade accounts receivable	(3,715)	2,574	9,862
Inventories	(12,143)	92,589	(32,408)
Other current assets	1,026	(4,123)	174
Other noncurrent assets	41	(1,146)	(1,213)
Trade accounts payable	4,678	4,770	(7,456)
Accrued liabilities	2,223	(6,754)	(5,433)
Accrued profit sharing trust contributions	(1,442)	(2,614)	1,070
Accrued cash profit sharing and commissions	432	92	(1,773)
Other long-term liabilities	(1,257)	1,520	(684)
Accrued workers' compensation	332	66	170
Income taxes payable	(104)	(4,540)	1,254
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>77,197</u>	<u>126,160</u>	<u>56,132</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Capital expenditures	(28,341)	(15,226)	(15,984)
Asset acquisitions, net of cash acquired	(5,214)	(24,261)	(36,346)
Loans made to related parties	(1,798)	(1,204)	(1,300)
Loans repaid by related parties	50	-	-
Contribution to equity investment	-	-	(700)
Proceeds from sale of discontinued operations	28,346	-	-
Proceeds from sale of capital assets	14,841	1,218	3,305
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	<u>7,884</u>	<u>(39,473)</u>	<u>(51,025)</u>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Line of credit borrowings	-	1,514	3,655
Repayment of line of credit borrowings	-	(1,540)	(4,659)
Issuance of Company's common stock	17,948	7,627	6,881
Excess tax benefit of options exercised	10	359	515
Dividends paid	(19,764)	(19,633)	(19,440)
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>(1,806)</u>	<u>(11,673)</u>	<u>(13,048)</u>
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash	<u>1,393</u>	<u>4,617</u>	<u>(7,451)</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	84,668	79,631	(15,392)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	250,381	170,750	186,142
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>\$ 335,049</u>	<u>\$ 250,381</u>	<u>\$ 170,750</u>

**Supplemental Disclosure of Cash Flow Information**

<b>Cash paid during the year for</b>			
Interest	\$ 232	\$ 287	\$ 296
Income taxes	20,508	23,322	36,956
<b>Noncash activity during the year for</b>			
Noncash capital expenditures	\$ 3,276	\$ 278	\$ 296
Noncash asset acquisition	-	-	1,457
Common stock issued for compensation	301	300	247
Dividends declared but not paid	5,013	4,939	4,897
Noncash equity method investment acquisition (Note 6)	-	728	-

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

# **Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. and Subsidiaries**

## **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

### 1. Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### *Nature of Operations*

Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc., through its subsidiary Simpson Strong-Tie Company Inc. ("Simpson Strong-Tie") and its other subsidiaries (collectively, the "Company"), designs, engineers and manufactures wood-to-wood, wood-to-concrete and wood-to-masonry connectors, screw fastening systems and collated screws, stainless steel fasteners, pre-fabricated shearwalls and moment-frames and a line of adhesives, mechanical anchors and powder-actuated tools for concrete, masonry and steel. The Company markets its products to the residential construction, light industrial and commercial construction, remodeling and do-it-yourself markets.

The Company operates exclusively in the building products industry. The Company's products are sold primarily in the United States, Canada, Europe, Asia and the South Pacific. Revenues have some geographic market concentration on the west coast of the United States. A portion of the Company's business is therefore dependent on economic activity within this region and market. The Company is dependent on the availability of steel, its primary raw material.

#### *Principles of Consolidation*

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. and its subsidiaries. Investments in 50% or less owned entities are accounted for using either cost or the equity method. The Company consolidates all variable interest entities (VIEs) where it is the primary beneficiary. There were no VIEs as of December 31, 2009 or 2010. All significant intercompany transactions have been eliminated.

#### *Use of Estimates*

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

#### *Revenue Recognition*

The Company recognizes revenue when the earnings process is complete, net of applicable provision for discounts, returns and incentives, whether actual or estimated based on the Company's experience. This generally occurs when products are shipped to the customer in accordance with the sales agreement or purchase order, ownership and risk of loss pass to the customer, collectability is reasonably assured and pricing is fixed or determinable. The Company's general shipping terms are F.O.B. shipping point, where title is transferred and revenue is recognized when the products are shipped to customers. When the Company sells F.O.B. destination point, title is transferred and the Company recognizes revenue on delivery or customer acceptance, depending on terms of the sales agreement. Service sales, representing after-market repair and maintenance, engineering activities, software license sales and service and lease income, though significantly less than 1% of net sales and not material to the consolidated financial statements, are recognized as the services are completed or the software products and services are delivered. If actual costs of sales returns, incentives and discounts were to significantly exceed the recorded estimated allowance, the Company's sales would be adversely affected.

#### *Cash Equivalents*

The Company considers all highly liquid investments with an original or remaining maturity of three months or less at the time of purchase to be cash equivalents.

### *Investments*

The Company has only one minority investment in a privately held company. These kinds of investment are carried either at cost or by the equity method of accounting, depending on the Company's ownership interest and its ability to influence the operating or financial decisions of the investee, and are classified as long-term investments.

The Company periodically reviews its investments for impairment. If the carrying value of an investment exceeds its fair value and the decline in fair value is determined to be other-than-temporary, the Company writes down the value of the investment to its fair value. The Company generally believes an other-than-temporary decline occurs when the fair value of an investment is below the carrying value for two consecutive quarters.

### *Allowance for Doubtful Accounts*

The Company assesses the collectability of specific customer accounts that would be considered doubtful based on the customer's financial condition, payment history, credit rating and other factors that the Company considers relevant, or accounts that the Company assigns for collection. The Company reserves for the portion of those outstanding balances that the Company believes it is not likely to collect based on historical collection experience. The Company also reserves 100% of the amount that it deems potentially uncollectable due to a customer's deteriorating financial condition or bankruptcy. If the financial condition of the Company's customers were to deteriorate, resulting in probable inability to make payments, additional allowances may be required.

### *Inventory Valuation*

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or net realizable value (market). Cost includes all costs incurred in bringing each product to its present location and condition, as follows:

- Raw materials and purchased finished goods for resale – principally valued at cost determined on a weighted average basis.
- In-process products and finished goods – cost of direct materials and labor plus attributable overhead based on a normal level of activity.

The Company applies net realizable value and obsolescence to the gross value of the inventory. The Company estimates net realizable value based on estimated selling price less further costs to completion and disposal. The Company provides for slow-moving products by comparing inventories on hand to future projected demand. Obsolete inventory is on-hand supply of a product in excess of two years' sales of that product or a supply of that product that the Company believes is no longer marketable. The Company revalues obsolete inventory as having no net realizable value and writes off its full carrying value. The Company has consistently applied this methodology. The Company believes that this approach is prudent and makes suitable provisions for slow-moving and obsolete inventory. When provisions are established, a new cost basis of the inventory is created.

### *Sales Incentive and Advertising Allowances*

The Company records estimated reductions to revenues for sales incentives, primarily rebates for volume discounts, and allowances for co-operative advertising.

### *Allowances for Sales Discounts*

The Company records estimated reductions to revenues for discounts taken on early payment of invoices by its customers.

### *Warranties*

The Company provides product warranties for specific product lines and accrues for estimated future warranty costs, none of which has been material to the consolidated financial statements, in the period in which the sale is recorded. In a limited number of circumstances, the Company may also agree to indemnify customers against legal claims made against those customers by the end users of the Company's products. Historically, payments made by the Company, if any, under such agreements have not had a material effect on the Company's consolidated results of operations, cash flows or financial position.

### *Fair Value of Financial Instruments*

The “Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures” topic of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) Accounting Standards Codification™ (“ASC”) establishes a valuation hierarchy for disclosure of the inputs used to measure fair value. This hierarchy prioritizes the inputs into three broad levels as follows: Level 1 inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities; Level 2 inputs are quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets or inputs that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly through market corroboration, for substantially the full term of the financial instrument; Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs based on the Company’s assumptions used to measure assets and liabilities at fair value. A financial asset’s or liability’s classification within the hierarchy is determined based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

As of December 31, 2010, the Company’s investments consisted of only United States Treasury securities and money market funds aggregating \$212.7 million, which are maintained in cash equivalents and are carried at cost, approximating fair value, based on Level 1 inputs. There are no other recurring fair value measurements.

### *Property, Plant and Equipment*

Property, plant and equipment are carried at cost. Major renewals and betterments are capitalized. Maintenance and repairs are expensed on a current basis. When assets are sold or retired, their costs and accumulated depreciation are removed from the accounts, and the resulting gains or losses are reflected in the consolidated statements of operations.

The “Intangibles—Goodwill and Other” topic of the FASB ASC provides guidance on capitalization of the costs incurred for computer software developed or obtained for internal use. The Company capitalizes substantially all external costs and qualifying internal costs related to the purchase and implementation of software projects used for business operations and engineering design activities. Capitalized software costs primarily include purchased software and external consulting fees. Capitalized software projects are amortized over the estimated useful lives of the software.

### *Depreciation and Amortization*

Depreciation of software, machinery and equipment is provided for using accelerated methods over the following estimated useful lives:

Software	3 to 5 years
Machinery and equipment	3 to 10 years

Buildings and site improvements are depreciated using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives, which range from 15 to 45 years. Leasehold improvements are amortized using the straight-line method over the shorter of the expected life or the remaining term of the lease. Amortization of purchased intangible assets with finite useful lives is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets.

### *Cost of Sales*

The types of costs included in cost of sales include material, labor, factory and tooling overhead, shipping, and freight costs. Major components of these expenses are material costs, such as steel, packaging and cartons, personnel costs, and facility costs, such as rent, depreciation and utilities, related to the production and distribution of the Company’s products. Inbound freight charges, purchasing and receiving costs, inspection costs, warehousing costs, internal transfer costs, and other costs of the Company’s distribution network are also included in cost of sales.

### *Tool and Die Costs*

Tool and die costs are included in product costs in the year incurred.

### *Shipping and Handling Fees and Costs*

The Company’s general shipping terms are F.O.B. shipping point. Shipping and handling fees and costs are included in revenues and product costs, as appropriate, in the year incurred.

### *Product Research and Development Costs*

Product research and development costs, which are included in operating expenses and are charged against income as incurred, were \$6.5 million, \$5.9 million and \$6.1 million in 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively. The types of

costs included as product research and development expenses are typically related to salaries and benefits and supplies. The Company amortizes acquired patents over their remaining lives and performs periodic reviews for impairment. The cost of internally developed patents is expensed as incurred.

#### *Selling Costs*

Selling costs include expenses associated with selling, merchandising and marketing the Company's products. Major components of these expenses are personnel, sales commissions, facility costs such as rent, depreciation and utilities, professional services, information technology related costs, sales promotion, advertising, literature and trade shows.

#### *Advertising Costs*

Advertising costs are included in selling expenses, are expensed when the advertising occurs, and were \$5.4 million, \$5.3 million and \$8.9 million in 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

#### *General and Administrative Costs*

General and administrative costs include personnel, information technology related costs, facility costs such as rent, depreciation and utilities, professional services, amortization of intangibles and bad debt charges.

#### *Income Taxes*

Income taxes are calculated using an asset and liability approach. The provision for income taxes includes federal, state and foreign taxes currently payable and deferred taxes, due to temporary differences between the financial statement and tax bases of assets and liabilities. In addition, future tax benefits are recognized to the extent that realization of such benefits is more likely than not.

#### *Sales Taxes*

Pursuant to the "Revenue Recognition" topic of the FASB ASC, the Company presents taxes collected and remitted to governmental authorities on a net basis in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations.

#### *Foreign Currency Translation*

The local currency is the functional currency of the Company's operations in Europe, Canada, Asia, Australia and New Zealand. Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated using the exchange rate on the balance sheet date. Revenues and expenses are translated using average exchange rates prevailing during the year. The translation adjustment resulting from this process is shown separately as a component of stockholders' equity. Foreign currency transaction gains or losses are included in general and administrative expenses and have not been significant in any of the years presented.

#### *Segments and Discontinued Operations*

The Company had operated under two reportable segments, the connector products segment and the venting products segment. As set forth in Note 16 "Discontinued Operations," on August 31, 2010, the Company sold substantially all of the assets and liabilities of its venting segment. Accordingly, the Company has classified the results of the venting products segment, including impairments and losses of goodwill and other assets, as discontinued operations in the Consolidated Statements of Operations for all periods presented. Except as otherwise stated below and except with respect to items reflected on the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets set forth above, discussion in these notes pertains to the Company's continuing operations.

As a result of the sale of the assets of Simpson Dura-Vent Company, Inc ("Simpson Dura-Vent"), the Company has reorganized its operating segments into three reportable operating segments consisting of North America, Europe and Asia/Pacific.

#### *Common Stock*

Subject to the rights of holders of any preferred stock that may be issued in the future, holders of common stock are entitled to receive such dividends, if any, as may be declared from time to time by the Company's Board of Directors (the "Board") out of legally available funds, and in the event of liquidation, dissolution or winding-up of the Company, to share ratably in all assets available for distribution. The holders of common stock have no preemptive or conversion rights. Subject to the rights of any preferred stock that may be issued in the future, the

holders of common stock are entitled to one vote per share on any matter submitted to a vote of the stockholders, except that, subject to compliance with pre-meeting notice and other conditions pursuant to the Company's Bylaws, stockholders may cumulate their votes in an election of directors, and each stockholder may give one candidate a number of votes equal to the number of directors to be elected multiplied by the number of shares held by such stockholder or may distribute such stockholder's votes on the same principle among as many candidates as such stockholder thinks fit. There are no redemption or sinking fund provisions applicable to the common stock.

In 1999, the Company declared a dividend distribution of one Right to purchase Series A Participating preferred stock per share of common stock. The Rights will be exercisable, unless redeemed earlier by the Company, if a person or group acquires, or obtains the right to acquire, 15% or more of the outstanding shares of common stock or commences a tender or exchange offer that would result in it acquiring 15% or more of the outstanding shares of common stock, either event occurring without the prior consent of the Company. The amount of Series A Participating preferred stock that the holder of a Right is entitled to receive and the purchase price payable on exercise of a Right are both subject to adjustment. Any person or group that acquires 15% or more of the outstanding shares of common stock without the prior consent of the Company would not be entitled to this purchase. Any stockholder who held 25% or more of the Company's common stock when the Rights were originally distributed would not be treated as having acquired 15% or more of the outstanding shares unless such stockholder's ownership is increased to more than 40% of the outstanding shares.

The Rights will expire on June 14, 2019, or they may be redeemed by the Company at one cent per Right prior to that date. The Rights do not have voting or dividend rights and, until they become exercisable, have no dilutive effect on the earnings of the Company. One million shares of the Company's preferred stock have been designated Series A Participating preferred stock and reserved for issuance on exercise of the Rights. No event during 2010 made the Rights exercisable.

#### *Preferred Stock*

The Board has the authority to issue the authorized and unissued preferred stock in one or more series with such designations, rights and preferences as may be determined from time to time by the Board. Accordingly, the Board is empowered, without stockholder approval, to issue preferred stock with dividend, redemption, liquidation, conversion, voting or other rights that could adversely affect the voting power or other rights of the holders of the Company's common stock.

#### *Net Income per Common Share*

Basic net income per common share is computed based on the weighted average number of common shares outstanding. Potentially dilutive shares, using the treasury stock method, are included in the diluted per-share calculations for all periods when the effect of their inclusion is dilutive.

The following is a reconciliation of basic earnings per share ("EPS") to diluted EPS:

*(in thousands, except  
per-share amounts)*

	<b>Year Ended December 31,</b>		
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>
Earnings from continuing operations, net of tax	\$ 44,798	\$ 14,121	\$ 55,175
Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax	<u>(16,212)</u>	<u>(1,904)</u>	<u>(1,241)</u>
Net income available to common stockholders	<u>\$ 28,586</u>	<u>\$ 12,217</u>	<u>\$ 53,934</u>
Basic weighted average shares outstanding	49,498	49,135	48,636
Dilutive effect of potential common stock equivalents – stock options	<u>114</u>	<u>121</u>	<u>334</u>
Diluted weighted average shares outstanding	<u>49,612</u>	<u>49,256</u>	<u>48,970</u>
Net earnings (loss) per share – basic:			
Continuing operations	\$ 0.91	\$ 0.29	\$ 1.13
Discontinued operations	(0.33)	(0.04)	(0.03)
Net income	0.58	0.25	1.11



Net earnings (loss) per share – diluted:				
Continuing operations	\$	0.90	\$	0.29
Discontinued operations		(0.33)		(0.04)
Net income		0.58		0.25
				1.13
				(0.03)
				1.10
Potentially dilutive securities excluded from earnings per diluted share because their effect is anti-dilutive		1,018		1,037
				1,077

Anti-dilutive shares attributable to outstanding stock options were excluded from the calculation of diluted net income per share.

The potential tax benefits derived from the amount of the average stock price for the period in excess of the grant date fair value of stock options, known as the windfall tax benefit, is added to the proceeds of stock option exercises under the treasury stock method for computing the amount of dilutive securities used to determine the outstanding shares for the calculation of diluted earnings per share.

### *Comprehensive Income*

Comprehensive income, which is included in the consolidated statements of stockholders' equity, is defined as net income plus other comprehensive income. Other comprehensive income consists of changes in foreign currency translation adjustments recorded directly into stockholders' equity. The components of accumulated other comprehensive income as of December 31, 2010, were \$14.6 million, net of tax of \$0.9 million, and as of December 31, 2009, were \$18.8 million, net of tax of \$0.9 million, all of which comprised foreign currency translation adjustments.

### *Concentration of Credit Risk*

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to concentrations of credit risk consist of cash in banks, short-term investments in United States Treasury securities, money market funds and trade accounts receivable. The Company maintains its cash in demand deposit and money market accounts held primarily at eight banks.

### *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*

The Company maintains two stock option plans under which it may grant incentive stock options and non-qualified stock options, although the Company has granted only non-qualified stock options under these plans. The Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. 1994 Stock Option Plan (the "1994 Plan") is principally for the Company's employees, and the Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. 1995 Independent Director Stock Option Plan (the "1995 Plan") is for its independent directors. The Company generally grants options under each of the 1994 Plan and the 1995 Plan once each year. The exercise price per share of each option granted in February 2010, February 2009 and February 2008 under the 1994 Plan equaled the closing market price per share of the Company's common stock as reported by the New York Stock Exchange on the day preceding the day that the Compensation Committee of the Board met to approve the grant of the options. The exercise price per share under each option granted under the 1995 Plan is at the fair market value on the date specified in the 1995 Plan. Options vest and expire according to terms established at the grant date.

Under the 1994 Plan, no more than 16 million shares of the Company's common stock may be sold (including shares already sold) pursuant to all options granted under the 1994 Plan. Under the 1995 Plan, no more than 320 thousand shares of common stock may be sold (including shares already sold) pursuant to all options granted under the 1995 Plan. Options granted under the 1994 Plan typically vest evenly over the requisite service period of four years and have a term of seven years. The vesting of options granted under the 1994 Plan will be accelerated if the grantee ceases to be employed by the Company after reaching age sixty or if there is a change in control of the Company. Options granted under the 1995 Plan are fully vested on the date of grant.

The following table represents the Company's stock option activity, including both continuing and discontinued operations, for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008:

<i>(in thousands)</i>	<b>Years Ended December 31,</b>		
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>
Stock option expense recognized in operating expenses	\$ 3,338	\$ 1,746	\$ 3,400
Tax benefit of stock option expense in provision for income taxes	1,212	544	1,341
Stock option expense, net of tax	<u>\$ 2,126</u>	<u>\$ 1,202</u>	<u>\$ 2,059</u>
Fair value of shares vested	<u>\$ 3,577</u>	<u>\$ 1,690</u>	<u>\$ 3,249</u>
Proceeds to the Company from the exercise of stock options	<u>\$ 17,948</u>	<u>\$ 7,627</u>	<u>\$ 6,881</u>
Tax benefit from exercise of stock options, including windfall (shortfall) tax benefits	<u>\$ (2,430)</u>	<u>\$ (445)</u>	<u>\$ 376</u>
<i>(in thousands)</i>	<b>At December 31,</b>		
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>
Stock option cost capitalized in inventory	<u>\$ 284</u>	<u>\$ 45</u>	<u>\$ 101</u>

The stock compensation expense included in cost of sales, research and development and engineering expense, selling expense, or general and administrative expense depends on the job functions performed by the employees to whom the stock options were granted. Shares of common stock issued on exercise of stock options under the plans are registered under the Securities Act of 1933.

The assumptions used to calculate the fair value of options granted are evaluated and revised, as necessary, to reflect market conditions and the Company's experience.

Under the 1994 Plan, the Company allows for full vesting on ceasing to be employed by the Company if the employee becomes "retirement-eligible" by reaching age sixty. Prior to the adoption in 2006 of revised stock compensation guidance in the "Compensation – Stock Compensation" topic of the FASB ASC, stock-based employee compensation expense was recorded over the nominal vesting period and if a retirement-eligible employee retired before the end of the vesting period, the Company recorded unrecognized compensation cost at the date of retirement (the "nominal vesting period approach"). The nominal vesting period is four years of service subsequent to the grant date. The "non-substantive vesting period approach" specifies that awards, in substance, become vested when the employee's retention of the award is no longer contingent on providing service. Under this approach, the unrecorded compensation cost is expensed when that condition is met even if the employee continues providing service to the Company. This would be the case for existing grants when an employee becomes retirement-eligible, as well as when a retirement-eligible employee is granted an award.

#### *Goodwill*

The Company reviews for impairment its indefinite lived intangible assets annually, in the fourth quarter of each year, and whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value of an asset may not be recoverable in accordance with the "Intangibles—Goodwill and Other" topic of the FASB ASC. These events or circumstances could include a significant change in the business climate, legal factors, operating performance indicators, competition, or disposition or relocation of a significant portion of a reporting unit. This topic requires that management perform a two-step impairment test on goodwill. In the first step, management compares the fair value of each reporting unit to its carrying value. The fair value calculation uses a discounted cash flow model and may be supplemented by market approaches if information is readily available. If the carrying value of the net assets assigned to the reporting unit exceeds the fair value of the reporting unit, a second step of the impairment test must be performed to determine the implied fair value of the reporting unit's goodwill. If the carrying value of a reporting unit's goodwill exceeds its implied fair value, an impairment charge equal to the difference between the implied fair value of the goodwill and the carrying cost would be recorded.

Determining the fair value of a reporting unit or an indefinite-lived purchased intangible asset is a judgment involving significant estimates and assumptions. These estimates and assumptions include revenue growth rates and

operating margins used to calculate projected future cash flows, risk-adjusted discount rates, and future economic and market conditions (Level 3 fair value inputs). The Company bases its fair value estimates on assumptions that management believes to be reasonable but that are unpredictable and inherently uncertain. Actual future results may differ from those estimates. The impairment charge taken in 2010, which was a result of the Company's annual impairment test in the fourth quarter of 2010, was associated with assets that were acquired in Germany and Ireland in 2008 and was associated with the European anchor products reporting unit. The reporting unit's carrying value exceeded the fair value, primarily due to reduced future expected net cash flows. The impairment charge taken in 2008, which was a result of the Company's annual impairment test in the fourth quarter of 2008, was associated with assets that were acquired in England in 1999 and was associated with the Company's U.K. reporting unit. The reporting unit's carrying value exceeded the fair value, primarily due to reduced future expected net cash flows. The method to determine the fair value of the European anchor products and U.K. reporting units were discounted cash flow models. At December 31, 2010, the remaining balance of goodwill of the U.K. reporting unit was \$1.3 million. The goodwill associated with the European anchor products reporting unit was fully impaired. The Company's annual goodwill impairment analysis did not result in any impairment charges in 2009.

The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill, by segment, as of December 31, 2009 and 2010, were as follows:

(in thousands)

	<u>North America</u>	<u>Europe</u>	<u>Asia Pacific</u>	<u>Venting Products Discontinued Operations</u>	<u>Total</u>
Balance as of January 1, 2009:					
Goodwill	\$ 50,042	\$ 27,233	\$ 560	\$ 4,414	\$ 82,249
Accumulated impairment losses	(10,666)	(2,964)	—	—	(13,630)
	<u>39,376</u>	<u>24,269</u>	<u>560</u>	<u>4,414</u>	<u>68,619</u>
Goodwill acquired	420	10,689	—	—	11,109
Adjustments due to recognition of deferred tax assets	—	3,474	—	(1)	3,473
Reclassifications	1,244	(6,317)	907	22	(4,144)
Foreign exchange	535	1,785	249	—	2,569
Balance as of December 31, 2009:					
Goodwill	52,241	36,864	1,716	4,435	95,256
Accumulated impairment losses	(10,666)	(2,964)	—	—	(13,630)
	<u>41,575</u>	<u>33,900</u>	<u>1,716</u>	<u>4,435</u>	<u>81,626</u>
Goodwill acquired	—	1,100	—	—	1,100
Foreign exchange	186	(2,341)	225	—	(1,930)
Impairment	—	(6,292)	—	(4,435)	(10,727)
Balance as of December 31, 2010:					
Goodwill	52,427	35,623	1,941	4,435	94,426
Accumulated impairment losses	(10,666)	(9,256)	—	(4,435)	(24,357)
	<u>\$ 41,761</u>	<u>\$ 26,367</u>	<u>\$ 1,941</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 70,069</u>

As a result of the entry into the agreement to sell the assets of Simpson Dura-Vent, the Company recorded a goodwill impairment charge of \$4.4 million in discontinued operations. See Note 16.

#### *Intangible Assets*

The total gross carrying amount and accumulated amortization of intangible assets subject to amortization at December 31, 2010, were \$38.7 million and \$15.2 million, respectively. The aggregate amount of amortization expense of intangible assets, including both continuing and discontinued operations, for the year ended December 31, 2010, was \$4.6 million. As a result of the entry into the agreement to sell assets of Simpson Dura-Vent, the Company recorded an intangible assets impairment charge of \$1.6 million in discontinued operations. See Note 16.

The changes in the carrying amounts of patents, unpatented technologies and non-compete agreements and other intangible assets subject to amortization, including both continuing and discontinued operations, as of December 31, 2009 and 2010, were as follows:

(in thousands)

<u>Patents</u>	<u>Gross Carrying Amount</u>	<u>Accumulated Amortization</u>	<u>Net Carrying Amount</u>
Balance at January 1, 2009	\$ 6,929	\$ (3,130)	\$ 3,799
Amortization	—	(628)	(628)
Foreign exchange	10	—	10
Balance at December 31, 2009	<u>6,939</u>	<u>(3,758)</u>	<u>3,181</u>
Amortization	—	(626)	(626)
Foreign exchange	(18)	—	(18)
Balance at December 31, 2010	<u>\$ 6,921</u>	<u>\$ (4,384)</u>	<u>\$ 2,537</u>
<u>Unpatented Technology</u>	<u>Gross Carrying Amount</u>	<u>Accumulated Amortization</u>	<u>Net Carrying Amount</u>
Balance at January 1, 2009	\$ 3,835	\$ (3,228)	\$ 607
Acquisition	1,070	—	1,070
Reclassifications	1,866	—	1,866
Amortization	—	(1,088)	(1,088)
Foreign exchange	26	—	26
Removal of fully amortized asset	<u>(3,835)</u>	<u>3,835</u>	<u>—</u>
Balance at December 31, 2009	<u>2,962</u>	<u>(481)</u>	<u>2,481</u>
Amortization	—	(398)	(398)
Foreign exchange	(114)	—	(114)
Balance at December 31, 2010	<u>\$ 2,848</u>	<u>\$ (879)</u>	<u>\$ 1,969</u>
<u>Non-Compete Agreements, Trademarks and Other</u>	<u>Gross Carrying Amount</u>	<u>Accumulated Amortization</u>	<u>Net Carrying Amount</u>
Balance at January 1, 2009	\$ 7,993	\$ (1,966)	\$ 6,027
Acquisition	90	—	90
Reclassifications	240	—	240
Amortization	—	(1,547)	(1,547)
Foreign exchange	62	—	62
Removal of fully amortized asset	<u>(290)</u>	<u>290</u>	<u>—</u>
Balance at December 31, 2009	<u>8,095</u>	<u>(3,223)</u>	<u>4,872</u>
Acquisition	1,633	—	1,633
Amortization	—	(1,358)	(1,358)
Impairment	—	(166)	(166)
Foreign exchange	(164)	—	(164)
Removal of fully amortized asset	<u>(436)</u>	<u>436</u>	<u>—</u>
Balance at December 31, 2010	<u>\$ 9,128</u>	<u>\$ (4,311)</u>	<u>\$ 4,817</u>

<u>Customer Relationships</u>	<u>Gross Carrying Amount</u>	<u>Accumulated Amortization</u>	<u>Net Carrying Amount</u>
Balance at January 1, 2009	\$ 16,874	\$ (3,854)	\$ 13,020
Acquisition	5,880	–	5,880
Reclassifications	1,786	–	1,786
Amortization	–	(2,865)	(2,865)
Foreign exchange	497	–	497
Removal of fully amortized asset	<u>(1,755)</u>	<u>1,755</u>	<u>–</u>
Balance at December 31, 2009	23,282	(4,964)	18,318
Amortization	–	(2,190)	(2,190)
Impairment	–	(1,478)	(1,478)
Foreign exchange	(507)	–	(507)
Removal of fully amortized asset	<u>(3,018)</u>	<u>3,018</u>	<u>–</u>
Balance at December 31, 2010	<u>\$ 19,757</u>	<u>\$ (5,614)</u>	<u>\$ 14,143</u>

Intangible assets, net, by segment were as follows:

<u>At December 31, 2009</u>			
<u>Total Intangible Assets</u>	<u>Gross Carrying Amount</u>	<u>Accumulated Amortization</u>	<u>Net Carrying Amount</u>
North America	\$ 24,022	\$ (8,186)	\$ 15,836
Europe	13,934	(2,965)	10,969
Asia/Pacific	31	(31)	–
Venting Products (discontinued operations)	<u>3,291</u>	<u>(1,244)</u>	<u>2,047</u>
Total	<u>\$ 41,278</u>	<u>\$ (12,426)</u>	<u>\$ 28,852</u>

<u>At December 31, 2010</u>			
<u>Total Intangible Assets</u>	<u>Gross Carrying Amount</u>	<u>Accumulated Amortization</u>	<u>Net Carrying Amount</u>
North America	\$ 24,022	\$ (10,792)	\$ 13,230
Europe	<u>14,632</u>	<u>(4,396)</u>	<u>10,236</u>
Total	<u>\$ 38,654</u>	<u>\$ (15,188)</u>	<u>\$ 23,466</u>

At December 31, 2010, estimated future amortization of intangible assets was as follows:

<i>(in thousands)</i>	
2011	\$ 4,323
2012	3,847
2013	3,280
2014	3,066
2015	2,333
Thereafter	<u>6,617</u>
	<u>\$ 23,466</u>

#### *Adoption of Statements of Financial Accounting Standards*

Effective January 1, 2010, the Company adopted the guidance codified in the “Consolidation” topic of the FASB ASC, amending the accounting and disclosure requirements for the consolidation of VIEs. This guidance clarifies the characteristics that identify a VIE and changes how a reporting entity identifies a primary beneficiary that would consolidate the VIE from a quantitative risks and rewards calculation to a qualitative approach based on which variable interest holder has controlling financial interest and the ability to direct the most significant activities that affect the VIE’s economic performance. This guidance requires the primary beneficiary assessment to be performed on a continuous basis and also requires additional disclosures about an entity’s involvement with the VIE,

restrictions on the VIE's assets and liabilities that are included in the reporting entity's consolidated balance sheet, significant risk exposures due to the entity's involvement with the VIE, and how its involvement with a VIE affects the reporting entity's consolidated financial statements. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material effect on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

### *Recently Issued Accounting Standards*

Recent authoritative guidance issued by the FASB (including technical corrections to the ASC), the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and the Securities and Exchange Commission did not have and is not expected to have a material effect on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

## 2. Acquisitions

In April 2008, the Company's subsidiary, Simpson Strong-Tie Ireland Limited, purchased certain assets of Liebig International Ltd., an Irish company, Heinrich Liebig Stahldübelwerke GmbH, Liebig GmbH & Co. KG and Liebig International Verwaltungsgesellschaft GmbH, all German companies, Liebig Bolts Limited, an English company, and Liebig International Inc., a Virginia corporation (collectively "Liebig"). Liebig manufactures mechanical anchor products in Ireland and distributes them primarily throughout Europe through warehouses located in Germany and the United Kingdom. Liebig expanded the Company's anchor product offerings in its European and Asia/Pacific segments. The purchase price was \$19.2 million in cash, including due diligence and transaction costs. As a result of the acquisition, the Company recorded goodwill of \$7.6 million, none of which is deductible for income tax purposes, and intangible assets subject to amortization of \$2.7 million. The weighted-average amortization period for the intangible assets is 9.6 years. Tangible assets, including real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory and trade accounts receivable, net of liabilities assumed, accounted for the balance of the purchase price. Through this acquisition, the Company increased its presence in the European and Asian anchor markets with metric size products. The Company believes that the additional product line and geographic sales coverage will further its position in the construction products market. These factors contributed to a purchase price in excess of fair market value of Liebig's net tangible and intangible assets acquired, and as a result, the Company has recorded goodwill in connection with the transaction. In the fourth quarter of 2010, the Company, as a result of its annual impairment test, fully impaired this goodwill. See Note 1.

In July 2008, Simpson Strong-Tie purchased the equity of Ahorn-Geräte & Werkzeuge Vertriebs GmbH, a German company, and its subsidiaries Ahorn Upevnovaci Technika s.r.o., a Czech company, and Ahorn Pacific Fasteners (Kunshan) Co., Ltd., a Chinese company (collectively "Ahorn"). The acquisition broadened Simpson Strong-Tie's collated fastener product line and added production capacity in Europe. The purchase price was \$9.2 million in cash, including due diligence and transaction costs. As a result of the acquisition, the Company recorded goodwill of \$3.3 million, none of which is deductible for income tax purposes, and intangible assets subject to amortization of \$3.9 million. The weighted-average amortization period for the intangible assets is 7.0 years. Tangible assets, including machinery and equipment, inventory and trade accounts receivable, net of liabilities assumed, accounted for the balance of the purchase price. The Company believes that the additional product lines and geographic production and distribution will further its position in the collated fastener markets. These factors contributed to a purchase price in excess of fair market value of Ahorn's net tangible and intangible assets acquired, and as a result, the Company has recorded goodwill in connection with the transaction.

In January 2009, Simpson Strong-Tie acquired the business of RO Design Corp, a Florida corporation doing business as DeckTools, which licenses deck design and estimation software. The software provides professional deck builders, home centers and lumber yards a simple, graphics-driven solution for designing decks and estimating material and labor costs for the project. The purchase agreement provided for payments totaling \$4.0 million in cash, including \$2.5 million payable after the closing and treated as compensation expense when paid to the principal officer of RO Design Corp, as an employee of Simpson Strong-Tie. As a result of the acquisition, the Company recorded goodwill of \$0.4 million, which is deductible for income tax purposes, and intangible assets subject to amortization of \$1.1 million in the North American segment. The weighted-average amortization period for the intangible assets is 6.0 years. The Company believes that the software will add software-related sales and further its position in the connector products market. These factors contributed to a purchase price in excess of fair market value of RO Design Corp's net tangible and intangible assets acquired, and as a result, the Company has recorded goodwill in connection with the transaction.

In April 2009, the Company's subsidiary, Simpson Strong-Tie Europe EURL, purchased the equity of Agence Internationale Commerciale et Industrielle, S.A.S. ("Aginco"). Aginco manufactures a line of high-quality builder products and distributes them in France. The purchase price was \$22.2 million in cash. Through this acquisition, the

Company increased its presence in the connector market, primarily in France. This factor contributed to a purchase price in excess of fair market value of Aginco's net tangible and intangible assets acquired, and as a result, the Company has recorded goodwill in connection with the transaction of \$10.5 million, none of which is deductible for income tax purposes, and intangible assets subject to amortization of \$6.0 million in the European segment. The weighted-average amortization period for the intangible assets is 7.9 years. Tangible assets, including machinery and equipment, inventory and trade accounts receivable, net of liabilities assumed, accounted for the balance of the purchase price. The Company believes that the increased presence will further its position in the European connector products market. This factor contributed to a purchase price in excess of fair market value of Aginco's net tangible and intangible assets acquired, and as a result, the Company has recorded goodwill in connection with the transaction.

In November 2010, the Company's subsidiary, Socom S.A.S., purchased certain assets of CGMI, formerly called Socom S.A. ("Socom"). The purchase price was \$5.2 million in cash. Socom formulates and manufactures a line of chemical anchors in France. The Company believes that the additional presence will further its position in the construction products market. This factor contributed to a purchase price in excess of fair market value of Socom's net tangible and intangible assets acquired, and as a result, the Company has recorded goodwill in connection with the transaction of \$1.1 million, which is expected to be deductible for income tax purposes, and intangible assets of \$1.6 million in the European segment. The weighted-average amortization period for the intangible assets is 6.9 years. Net tangible assets, including machinery and equipment and inventory accounted for the balance of the purchase price. The Company believes that the increased presence will further its position in the European anchor products market. This factor contributed to a purchase price in excess of fair market value of Socom's net tangible and intangible assets acquired, and as a result, the Company has recorded goodwill in connection with the transaction. The Company has not finalized the Socom purchase price allocation, as the Company is still obtaining information and analyzing the fair value of certain assets, and has not yet assigned the acquired goodwill to a reporting unit.

The results of operations of the Socom business acquired in 2010 are included in the Company's consolidated results of operations since the date of the acquisition. Results of operations of acquired businesses for periods prior to 2010 were not material to the Company on either an individual or aggregate basis, and accordingly, pro forma results of operations have not been presented.

### 3. Trade Accounts Receivable, net

Trade accounts receivable consisted of the following:

<i>(in thousands)</i>	<b>December 31,</b>	
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
Trade accounts receivable	\$ 70,781	\$ 83,892
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(1,344)	(4,667)
Allowance for sales discounts	(1,181)	(1,908)
	<u>\$ 68,256</u>	<u>\$ 77,317</u>

The Company sells products on credit and generally does not require collateral. The Company's largest customer accounted for 14% of trade accounts receivable as of December 31, 2010.



#### 4. Inventories

The components of inventories consisted of the following:

<i>(in thousands)</i>	<b>December 31,</b>	
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
Raw materials	\$ 61,996	\$ 61,408
In-process products	18,364	21,113
Finished products	<u>71,937</u>	<u>81,233</u>
	<u>\$ 152,297</u>	<u>\$ 163,754</u>

#### 5. Property, Plant and Equipment, net

Property, plant and equipment consisted of the following:

<i>(in thousands)</i>	<b>December 31,</b>	
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
Land	\$ 26,384	\$ 23,729
Buildings and site improvements	141,834	148,381
Leasehold improvements	3,693	3,893
Machinery and equipment	<u>186,021</u>	<u>226,436</u>
	357,932	402,439
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	<u>(189,751)</u>	<u>(216,157)</u>
	168,181	186,282
Capital projects in progress	<u>8,891</u>	<u>1,532</u>
	<u>\$ 177,072</u>	<u>\$ 187,814</u>

Included in property, plant and equipment at December 31, 2010 and 2009, are fully depreciated assets with an original cost of \$98.6 million and \$105.8 million, respectively. These fully depreciated assets are still in use in the Company's operations.

Depreciation expense for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, was \$16.8 million, \$19.7 million and \$21.1 million, respectively.

The Company's vacant facility in San Leandro, California, was classified as an asset held for sale as of December 31, 2010, consistent with the classification at December 31, 2009, and is being actively marketed. As of December 31, 2010, the Company also classified as assets held for sale two facilities, one in Visalia, California, which was sold in January 2011 for its approximate carrying value, and one in France, associated with the North American and European segments, respectively. The facility in France, with a fair value of \$1.2 million as determined using Level 2 inputs based on bids received from prospective buyers, was written down from its carrying amount of \$1.6 million.

In March 2010, the Company acquired a facility in San Bernardino County, California, for \$19.2 million in cash. The Company plans to consolidate its operations from Brea, California, and its former leased warehouse in Ontario, California, into this facility in the second quarter of 2011. The Company sold all of the real estate associated with its Brea properties in July 2010 for \$14.7 million in cash and recorded a gain on the sale of \$5.2 million.

#### 6. Investments

At December 31, 2010, the Company had a 40.6% equity interest in Keymark Enterprises, LLC ("Keymark"), for which the Company accounts using the equity method. Keymark develops software that assists in designing and engineering residential structures. The Company's relationship with Keymark includes the specification of the Company's products in the Keymark software. The Company has no obligation to make any additional capital contributions to Keymark. In October 2008, the Company made an additional voluntary capital contribution of \$0.7 million to Keymark and at the same time lent \$1.3 million to Keymark's other owner, which concurrently contributed that amount to Keymark's capital. The loan bears interest at the annual rate of 6%, and Keymark's other owner pledged a 10% equity interest (subject to adjustment) in Keymark as collateral for the loan and interest. The

Company's sole recourse is to this equity interest. In October 2009, Keymark's other owner defaulted under terms of the loan and pledge agreement, and the Company foreclosed on a 5.6% equity interest in Keymark, which increased the Company's equity interest in Keymark to its current 40.6%. As a result, a principal balance of \$0.7 million remained outstanding at December 31, 2010. The remaining principal and accrued interest would have been due in full in October 2010, but the Company extended the due date to March 2011. The remaining principal and interest are backed by the pledge of the additional ownership interest in Keymark of 5% (subject to adjustment) and is non-recourse.

#### 7. Accrued Liabilities

Accrued liabilities consisted of the following:

*(in thousands)*

	<u>December 31,</u>	
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Sales incentive and advertising accruals	\$ 12,439	\$ 11,823
Labor related liabilities	5,718	4,950
Vacation liability	4,697	5,449
Dividend payable	5,013	4,939
Other	<u>3,505</u>	<u>2,048</u>
	<u>\$ 31,372</u>	<u>\$ 29,209</u>

#### 8. Debt

The Company has revolving lines of credit with different banks in the United States and Europe. The Company's primary credit facility, a revolving line of credit with \$200.0 million in available credit, charges interest at LIBOR plus 0.27% (at December 31, 2010, LIBOR plus 0.27% was 0.53%), expires in October 2012, and has commitment fees payable at the annual rate of 0.08% on the unused portion of the facility. Other revolving credit lines, with combined available credit of \$4.7 million at December 31, 2010, charge interest ranging from 1.3% to 3.5% and have various maturity dates. There were no outstanding balances at December 31, 2010 or 2009.

The revolving lines of credit are guaranteed by the Company and its designated subsidiaries.

In October 2007, the Company entered into an unsecured credit agreement with a syndicate of banks providing for a 5-year revolving credit facility of \$200 million. The Company has the ability to increase the amount available under the credit agreement by an additional \$200 million, to a maximum of \$400 million, by obtaining additional commitments from existing lenders or new lenders and satisfying certain other conditions. Under existing conditions in credit markets, the Company does not believe that additional commitments will be available on terms the Company considers reasonable. The Company is required to pay an annual facility fee of 0.08% to 0.10% on the available commitments under the credit agreement, regardless of usage, with the applicable fee determined on a quarterly basis based on the Company's leverage ratio. Amounts borrowed under the credit agreement will bear interest at an annual rate equal to either, at the Company's option, (a) the British Bankers Association London Interbank Offered Rate for the appropriate currency appearing on Reuters Screen LIBOR01-02 Page (the "LIBO Rate") plus a spread of from 0.27% to 0.40%, as determined on a quarterly basis based on the Company's leverage ratio, or (b) the base rate, plus a spread of 0.50%. The Company will pay participation fees for outstanding standby letters of credit at an annual rate equal to the LIBO Rate plus the applicable spreads described in the preceding sentence, and will pay market-based fees for commercial letters of credit. Loans outstanding under the credit agreement may be prepaid at any time without penalty except for LIBO Rate breakage costs and expenses.

The proceeds of loans advanced under the credit agreement and letters of credit issued thereunder may be used for working capital and other general corporate needs of the Company, to pay dividends to the Company's stockholders or to repurchase outstanding securities of the Company as permitted by the credit agreement, and to finance acquisitions by the Company permitted by the credit agreement. No loans or letters of credit are currently outstanding under the credit agreement.

The Company and its subsidiaries are required to comply with various affirmative and negative covenants. The covenants include provisions that would limit the availability of funds as a result of a material adverse change to the

Company's financial position or results of operations. The Company was in compliance with its financial covenants under the loan agreement as of December 31, 2010.

The Company incurs interest costs, which include interest, maintenance fees and bank charges. The amount of costs incurred, capitalized, and expensed for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, consisted of the following:

<i>(in thousands)</i>	<u>Years Ended December 31,</u>		
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Interest costs incurred	\$ 518	\$ 471	\$ 548
Less: Interest capitalized	(174)	(104)	(177)
Interest expense	<u>\$ 344</u>	<u>\$ 367</u>	<u>\$ 371</u>

## 9. Commitments and Contingencies

### *Leases*

Certain properties occupied by the Company are leased. The leases expire at various dates through 2022 and generally require the Company to assume the obligations for insurance, property taxes and maintenance of the facilities.

Rental expense for 2010, 2009 and 2008 with respect to all leased property was approximately \$7.1 million, \$6.6 million and \$6.4 million, respectively.

At December 31, 2010, minimum rental commitments under all noncancelable leases were as follows:

<i>(in thousands)</i>	
2011	\$ 6,151
2012	3,953
2013	1,330
2014	962
2015	797
Thereafter	<u>2,421</u>
	<u>\$ 15,614</u>

Some of these minimum rental commitments contain renewal options and provide for periodic rental adjustments based on changes in the consumer price index or current market rental rates.

The nominal term of Simpson Strong-Tie International Inc.'s ("SSTI's") lease in the United Kingdom is 25 years (expiring in 2022) but provides an option to terminate without penalty in either the fifteenth year (2012) or twentieth year (2017) on one year's written notice by SSTI. Future minimum rental payments, through 2012, under the first cancellation option of this lease are included in minimum rental commitments in the table above.

### *Other Contractual Obligations*

Purchase obligations consist of commitments primarily related to the acquisition, construction or expansion of facilities and equipment, consulting agreements, and minimum purchase quantities of certain raw materials. The Company is not a party to any long-term supply contracts with respect to the purchase of raw materials or finished goods. Debt interest obligations include interest payments on fixed-term debt, line-of-credit borrowings and annual facility fees on the Company's primary line-of-credit facility. Interest on line-of-credit facilities was estimated based on historical borrowings and repayment patterns.

At December 31, 2010, other contractual obligations were as follows:

(in thousands)

	<b>Purchase Obligations</b>	<b>Debt Interest Obligations</b>	<b>Total</b>
2011	\$ 5,728	\$ 160	\$ 5,888
2012	2,041	133	2,174
2013	1,874	—	1,874
2014	41	—	41
2015	—	—	—
Thereafter	—	—	—
	<u>\$ 9,684</u>	<u>\$ 293</u>	<u>\$ 9,977</u>

#### *Employee Relations*

Approximately 16% of the Company's employees are represented by labor unions and are covered by collective bargaining agreements. Simpson Strong-Tie's facility in Brea, California, has two collective bargaining agreements, one with its tool and die craftsmen and maintenance workers, and the other with its sheetmetal workers. These two contracts expire February 2012 and June 2012, respectively. Simpson Strong-Tie's facility in Stockton, California, is also a union facility with two collective bargaining agreements, which cover its tool and die craftsmen and maintenance workers, and its sheetmetal workers. These two contracts will expire June 2011 and September 2011, respectively.

#### *Environmental*

The Company's policy with regard to environmental liabilities is to accrue for future environmental assessments and remediation costs when information becomes available that indicates that it is probable that the Company is liable for any related claims and assessments and the amount of the liability is reasonably estimable. The Company does not believe that these matters will have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, cash flows or results of operations.

#### *Litigation*

From time to time, the Company is involved in various legal proceedings and other matters arising in the normal course of business.

Four lawsuits (the "Hawaii Cases") have been filed against the Company in the Hawaii First Circuit Court: *Alvarez v. Haseko Homes, Inc. and Simpson Manufacturing, Inc.*, Civil No. 09-1-2697-11 ("Hawaii Case 1"); *Ke Noho Kai Development, LLC v. Simpson Strong-Tie Company, Inc., and Honolulu Wood Treating Co., LTD.*, Hawaii Case No. 09-1-1491-06 SSM ("Hawaii Case 2"); *North American Specialty Ins. Co. v. Simpson Strong-Tie Company, Inc. and K.C. Metal Products, Inc.*, Case No. 09-1-1490-06 VSM ("Hawaii Case 3"); and *Charles et al. v. Haseko Homes, Inc. et al. and Third Party Plaintiffs Haseko Homes, Inc. et al. v. Simpson Strong-Tie Company, Inc., et al.*, Civil No. 09-1-1932-08 ("Hawaii Case 4"). Hawaii Case 1 was filed on November 18, 2009. Hawaii Cases 2 and 3 were originally filed on June 30, 2009. Hawaii Case 4 was filed on August 19, 2009. The Hawaii Cases all relate to alleged premature corrosion of the Company's strap tie holdown products installed in buildings in a housing development known as Ocean Pointe in Honolulu, Hawaii, allegedly causing property damage. Hawaii Case 1 is a putative class action brought by the owners of allegedly affected Ocean Pointe houses. Hawaii Case 1 was originally filed as *Kai et al. v. Haseko Homes, Inc., Haseko Construction, Inc. and Simpson Manufacturing, Inc.*, Case No. 09-1-1476, but was voluntarily dismissed and then re-filed with a new representative plaintiff. Hawaii Case 2 is an action by the builders and developers of Ocean Pointe against the Company, claiming that either the Company's strap tie holdowns are defective in design or manufacture or the Company failed to provide adequate warnings regarding the products' susceptibility to corrosion in certain environments. Hawaii Case 3 is a subrogation action brought by the insurance company for the builders and developers against the Company claiming the insurance company expended funds to correct problems allegedly caused by the Company's products. Hawaii Case 4, like Hawaii Case 1, is a putative class action brought by owners of allegedly affected Ocean Pointe homes. In Hawaii Case 4, Haseko Homes, Inc. ("Haseko"), the developer of the Ocean Pointe development, has brought a third party complaint against the Company alleging that any damages for which Haseko may be liable are actually the fault of the Company. None of the Hawaii Cases alleges a specific amount of damages sought, although each of the Hawaii Cases seeks compensatory damages, and Hawaii Case 1 seeks punitive damages. The Company is currently investigating the facts underlying the claims asserted in the Hawaii Cases, including, among other things, the cause

of the alleged corrosion; the severity of any problems shown to exist; the buildings affected; the responsibility of the general contractor, various subcontractors and other construction professionals for the alleged damages; the amount, if any, of damages suffered; and the costs of repair, if needed. At this time, the likelihood that the Company will be found liable for any property damage allegedly suffered and the extent of such liability, if any, are unknown. Based on facts currently known to the Company, the Company believes that all or part of the claims alleged in the Hawaii Cases may be covered by its insurance policies. The Company intends to defend itself vigorously in connection with the Hawaii Cases.

On October 28, 2009, a patent infringement lawsuit, entitled *Ei-Land Corporation v. Simpson Strong-Tie Company Inc., Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc., et al.*, was filed against the Company in the United States District Court, for the Eastern District of Texas, Marshall Division, 2:09-cv-00337-TJW. In this action, Plaintiff alleges that the Company's Steel Strong Wall® product infringes several claims of a patent owned by Plaintiff. Plaintiff seeks monetary damages in the form of a reasonable royalty based on the Company's manufacture and sale of the allegedly infringing product. Plaintiff does not manufacture the invention disclosed by the patent-in-suit. The lawsuit is currently pending in the Eastern District of Texas, although the Company has filed a Petition for Writ of Mandamus with the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit requesting transfer of the case to the Northern District of California. The Federal Circuit has not yet rendered a decision on the Company's writ petition. The Company denies the allegations of the Plaintiff's complaint and has counterclaimed on the ground that the patent-in-suit is invalid. If the case remains pending in the Eastern District of Texas, trial is set to begin on April 2, 2012.

The Company is not engaged in any other legal proceedings as of the date hereof, which the Company expects individually or in the aggregate to have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, cash flows or results of operations. The resolution of claims and litigation is subject to inherent uncertainty and could have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, cash flows or results of operations.

#### *Other*

Corrosion, hydrogen embrittlement, cracking, material hardness, wood pressure-treating chemicals, misinstallations, misuse, design and assembly flaws, environmental conditions or other factors can contribute to failure of fasteners, connectors, and tool products. On occasion, some of the fasteners and connectors that the Company sells have failed, although the Company has not incurred any material liability resulting from those failures. The Company attempts to avoid such failures by establishing and monitoring appropriate product specifications, manufacturing quality control procedures, inspection procedures and information on appropriate installation methods and conditions. The Company subjects its products to extensive testing, with results and conclusions published in Company catalogues and on its websites. Based on test results to date, the Company believes that, generally, if its products are appropriately selected, installed and used in accordance with the Company's guidance, they may be reliably used in appropriate applications.

10. Income Taxes

The provision for income taxes from continuing operations consisted of the following:

<i>(in thousands)</i>	<b>Years Ended December 31,</b>		
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>
Current			
Federal	\$ 20,310	\$ 15,521	\$ 28,936
State	3,896	3,111	4,801
Foreign	3,417	(18)	3,696
Deferred			
Federal	3,673	14	(1,878)
State	1,726	49	26
Foreign	217	(1,321)	521
	<u>\$ 33,239</u>	<u>\$ 17,356</u>	<u>\$ 36,102</u>

Income from continuing operations before income taxes for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, consisted of the following:

<i>(in thousands)</i>	<b>Years Ended December 31,</b>		
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>
Domestic	\$ 78,183	\$ 49,934	\$ 88,260
Foreign	(146)	(18,457)	3,017
	<u>\$ 78,037</u>	<u>\$ 31,477</u>	<u>\$ 91,277</u>

Reconciliations between the statutory federal income tax rates and the Company's effective income tax rates as a percentage of income before income taxes for its continuing operations were as follows:

<i>(in thousands)</i>	<b>Years Ended December 31,</b>		
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>
Federal tax rate	35.0%	35.0%	35.0%
State taxes, net of federal benefit	4.9%	7.0%	3.5%
Tax benefit of domestic manufacturing deduction	(2.3%)	(2.9%)	(1.8%)
Change in valuation allowance	3.3%	7.6%	1.6%
Difference between United States statutory and local tax rates	2.0%	7.6%	0.3%
Change in uncertain tax position	(0.7%)	(1.7%)	—%
Other	0.4%	2.5%	1.0%
Effective income tax rate	<u>42.6%</u>	<u>55.1%</u>	<u>39.6%</u>

The tax effects of the significant temporary differences that constitute the deferred tax assets and liabilities at December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, were as follows:

(in thousands)

	<b>December 31,</b>		
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>
<b>Current deferred tax assets</b>			
State tax	\$ 1,197	\$ 1,061	\$ 1,958
Workers' compensation	1,816	1,719	1,685
Health claims	519	391	540
Vacation liability	786	843	611
Allowance for doubtful accounts	351	1,614	1,450
Inventories	5,141	7,150	5,344
Sales incentive and advertising allowances	399	781	683
State tax credit carry forward	125	126	-
Accrued rent reserves	-	5	-
Unrealized foreign exchange gain or loss	86	96	-
Other, net	271	549	75
	<u>10,691</u>	<u>14,335</u>	<u>12,346</u>
Less valuation allowances	<u>(502)</u>	<u>(365)</u>	<u>(351)</u>
	<u>\$ 10,189</u>	<u>\$ 13,970</u>	<u>\$ 11,995</u>
<b>Long-term deferred tax assets (liabilities)</b>			
Depreciation	\$ (1,614)	\$ 259	\$ (535)
Goodwill and other intangibles amortization	(1,447)	(3,704)	(1,106)
Deferred compensation related to stock options	4,841	6,562	7,550
State tax credit carry forward	-	-	126
Uncertain tax positions' unrecognized tax benefits	1,438	1,250	1,551
Keymark investments basis difference	663	447	593
Non-United States tax loss carry forward	5,548	5,011	2,499
Tax effect on cumulative translation adjustment	(826)	(799)	(850)
Other	641	1,095	952
	<u>9,244</u>	<u>10,121</u>	<u>10,780</u>
Less valuation allowances	<u>(6,665)</u>	<u>(4,523)</u>	<u>(2,025)</u>
	<u>\$ 2,579</u>	<u>\$ 5,598</u>	<u>\$ 8,755</u>

The total deferred tax assets for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, were \$19.2 million, \$25.0 million and \$24.3 million, respectively. The total deferred tax liabilities for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009, and 2008, were \$6.5 million, \$5.5 million and \$3.6 million, respectively.

At December 31, 2010, the Company had \$26.7 million of tax loss carryforwards in various non-United States taxing jurisdictions. Tax loss carryforwards of \$1.1 million, \$3.3 million and \$0.2 million will expire in 2013, 2014 and 2015, respectively, if not utilized. The remaining tax losses can be carried forward indefinitely.

At December 31, 2010 and 2009, the Company had deferred tax valuation allowances of \$7.2 million and \$4.9 million, respectively. The changes in the valuation allowance for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, were \$2.3 million, \$2.5 million and \$1.5 million, respectively.

The Company does not provide for federal income taxes on the undistributed earnings of its international subsidiaries because such earnings are reinvested and, in the Company's opinion, will continue to be reinvested indefinitely. At December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, the Company had not provided federal income taxes on undistributed earnings of \$14.6 million, \$12.9 million and \$16.2 million, respectively, from its international subsidiaries. Should these earnings be distributed in the form of dividends or otherwise, the Company would be subject to both United States income taxes and withholding taxes in various international jurisdictions. These taxes may be partially offset by United States foreign tax credits. Determination of the related amount of unrecognized deferred United States income taxes is not practicable because of the complexities associated with this hypothetical calculation. United States federal income taxes are provided on the earnings of the Company's foreign branches, which are included in the United States federal income tax return.



The “Income Taxes” topic of the FASB ASC prescribes a recognition threshold that a tax position is required to meet before being recognized in the financial statements and provides guidance on derecognition, measurement, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure and transition issues.

A reconciliation of the beginning and ending amounts of unrecognized tax benefits in 2010, 2009 and 2008 was as follows:\*

<i>(in thousands)</i>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Balance at January 1	\$ 6,422	\$ 6,705	\$ 7,668
Additions based on tax positions related to prior years	1,236	640	573
Reductions based on tax positions related to prior years	(537)	(632)	(875)
Additions for tax positions of the current year	951	902	801
Settlements	(59)	—	—
Lapse of statute of limitations	<u>(2,151)</u>	<u>(1,193)</u>	<u>(1,462)</u>
Balance at December 31	<u>\$ 5,862</u>	<u>\$ 6,422</u>	<u>\$ 6,705</u>

\* Foreign currency translation amounts are included within each line as applicable.

Included in the balance of unrecognized tax benefits at December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, are tax positions of \$1.2 million, \$1.5 million and \$1.8 million, respectively, which, if recognized, would reduce the effective tax rate. The Company does not believe it is reasonably possible that the total amounts of unrecognized tax benefits will significantly increase or decrease within the next 12 months.

The Company recognizes accrued interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits in income tax expense, which is a continuation of the Company’s historical accounting policy. During the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, accrued interest decreased by \$463 thousand and \$88 thousand, respectively, as a result of the reversal of accrued interest associated with the lapse of statutes of limitations. During the year ended December 31, 2008, the Company recognized \$0.2 million in potential interest payments before income tax benefits. At December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, the Company had accrued \$1.1 million, \$1.6 million and \$1.7 million, respectively, for the potential payment of interest, before income tax benefits.

At December 31, 2010, the Company remained subject to United States federal income tax examinations for the tax years 2007 through 2010. In addition, the Company remained subject to state, local and foreign income tax examinations primarily for the tax years 2005 through 2010.

#### 11. Retirement Plans

The Company has six defined contribution retirement plans covering substantially all salaried employees and nonunion hourly employees. Two of the plans, covering United States employees, provide for annual contributions in amounts that the Board may authorize, subject to certain limitations, but in no event more than the amounts permitted under the Internal Revenue Code as deductible expense. The other four plans, covering the Company’s European and Canadian employees, require the Company to make contributions ranging from 3% to 15% of the employees’ compensation. The total cost for these retirement plans for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, was \$6.3 million, \$6.1 million and \$8.8 million, respectively.

The Company also contributes to various industry-wide, union-sponsored pension funds for hourly employees who are union members. Payments to these funds aggregated \$1.7 million for each of the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, and \$2.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2008.

#### 12. Related Party Transactions

The Company pays an airplane charter company standard hourly rates when an airplane is hired for use by its Chief Executive Officer in travel between his home and Company offices or by him and other Company employees in travel on business. For the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, the total cost to the Company for this and other airplanes that were used was \$532 thousand, \$409 thousand and \$274 thousand, respectively, including \$30 thousand, \$27 thousand and \$21 thousand, respectively, paid to the Company’s Chief Executive Officer for compensation. The independent members of the Board unanimously approved this arrangement. The Company

computes the compensation cost of the use of airplanes using the Standard Industrial Fare Level (“SIFL”) tables prescribed under applicable Internal Revenue Service regulations.

In December 2007, the Company extended its lease on a property in Addison, Illinois, which is co-owned by Gerald Hagel, who has served as a vice president of Simpson Strong-Tie since March 2007. The extension is for an additional five years through 2012. The Company paid \$270 thousand per year to lease the property from Mr. Hagel and his wife Susan Hagel, a former employee of Simpson Strong-Tie.

In October 2008, the Company voluntarily contributed \$0.7 million to Keymark, for which the Company accounts using the equity method, and lent \$1.3 million to Keymark’s other owner, which concurrently contributed that amount to Keymark’s capital. See Note 6.

In 2010, the Company paid Keymark \$0.8 million for professional fees owed to Keymark for software development. In December 2009, the Company lent \$0.6 million to Keymark for working capital needs. This loan bears interest at an annual rate of 7%, payable monthly, and the principal amount will be due and payable in December 2012. This loan is backed by the intellectual property of Keymark.

In December 2009 and January 2010, the Company made loans of \$0.7 million and \$1.8 million to two entities related to Keymark. Both of these loans bear interest at an annual rate of 5.5%, payable monthly, and the principal amounts will be due and payable in February 2013, or earlier if Keymark is sold. Each of these loans is backed by a real property deed of trust.

### 13. Stock Option and Stock Bonus Plans

The Company currently has two stock option plans (see Note 1 – *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*). Participants are granted stock options only if the applicable company-wide or profit-center operating goals, or both, established by the Compensation Committee of the Board at the beginning of the year, are met.

The fair value of each option award is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model. Expected volatility is based on historical volatilities of the Company’s common stock measured monthly over a term that is equivalent to the expected life of the option. The expected terms of options granted are estimated based on the Company’s prior exercise experience and future expectations of the exercise and termination behavior of the grantees. The risk-free rate is based on the yield of United States Treasury zero-coupon bonds with maturities comparable to the expected life in effect at the time of grant. The dividend yield is based on the expected dividend rate on the grant date.

The assumptions used in the Black-Scholes option pricing model for options committed to be granted in 2011, and for those granted in 2010, 2009 and 2008, for both continuing and discontinued operations, were as follows:

<b>Number of Options Granted</b> <i>(in thousands)</i>	<b>Grant Date</b>	<b>Risk- Free Interest Rate</b>	<b>Dividend Yield</b>	<b>Expected Life</b>	<b>Volatility</b>	<b>Exercise Price</b>	<b>Fair Value</b>
<b>1994 Plan</b>							
1,362	02/03/11	2.62%	1.75%	6.2 years	39.0%	\$29.66 to \$32.63	\$10.33
148	02/02/10	2.93%	1.62%	6.5 years	36.0%	\$24.75	\$8.46
24	02/23/09	2.08%	2.48%	6.5 years	30.9%	\$16.10	\$4.06
29	02/04/09	2.17%	1.88%	6.5 years	30.9%	\$21.25	\$5.86
14	04/23/08	3.15%	1.55%	6.0 years	27.1%	\$25.74	\$6.92
40	02/13/08	2.90%	1.68%	6.0 years	27.1%	\$23.78	\$6.16
<b>1995 Plan</b>							
30	02/15/11	2.92%	1.76%	6.6 years	38.0%	\$29.58	\$10.49

No options were granted under the 1995 Plan in 2010, 2009 or 2008.

The following table summarizes the Company's stock option activity for the year ended December 31, 2010:

<b><u>Non-Qualified Stock Options</u></b>	<b>Shares</b> <i>(in thousands)</i>	<b>Weighted-Average Exercise Price</b>	<b>Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Life</b>	<b>Aggregate Intrinsic Value*</b> <i>(in thousands)</i>
Outstanding at January 1, 2010	1,792	\$31.31	2.2	\$1,680
Granted	148	\$24.75		
Exercised	(707)	\$25.40		
Forfeited	(109)	\$31.05		
Outstanding at December 31, 2010	<u>1,124</u>	\$34.19	2.6	\$1,891
Outstanding and expected to vest at December 31, 2010	<u>1,116</u>	\$34.26	2.6	\$1,833
Exercisable at December 31, 2010	<u>944</u>	\$36.05	2.0	\$687

\* The intrinsic value represents the amount by which the fair market value of the underlying common stock exceeds the exercise price of the option, using the closing price per share of \$30.91 on December 31, 2010.

The total intrinsic value of options exercised during the three years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, was \$1.4 million, \$3.0 million and \$3.7 million, respectively.

A summary of the status of unvested options as of December 31, 2010, and changes during the year ended December 31, 2010, is presented below:

<b><u>Unvested Options</u></b>	<b>Shares</b> <i>(in thousands)</i>	<b>Weighted-Average Grant-Date Fair Value</b>
Unvested at January 1, 2010	140	\$8.57
Granted	148	\$8.46
Vested	(108)	\$9.62
Unvested at December 31, 2010	<u>180</u>	\$7.85

As of December 31, 2010, total unrecognized compensation cost of \$12.6 million was related to unvested share-based compensation arrangements granted under the 1994 Plan. This cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 4.0 years. Options granted under the 1995 Plan are fully vested and expense is fully recognized as of the date of grant.

The Company also maintains a Stock Bonus Plan whereby it awards shares to employees, who do not otherwise participate in one of the Company's stock option plans. The number of shares awarded, as well as the period of service, are considered by the Compensation Committee of the Board, at its discretion. In 2010, 2009 and 2008, the Company issued, and committed to issue, 8 thousand, 10 thousand and 11 thousand shares, respectively, which resulted in pre-tax compensation charges, for both continuing and discontinued operations, of \$0.4 million, \$0.5 million and \$0.4 million for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively. These employees are also awarded cash bonuses, which are included in these charges, to compensate for their income taxes payable as a result of the stock bonuses. Shares have been issued under this Plan in the year following the year in which the employee reached the tenth anniversary of employment with the Company.

14. Segment Information

The Company is organized into three reporting segments. The segments are defined by the regions where the Company's products are manufactured, marketed and distributed to the Company's customers. The three regional segments are the North American segment, comprising primarily the United States and Canada, the European segment and the Asia/Pacific segment, comprising the Company's operations in China, Hong Kong, the south Pacific and the Middle East. These segments are similar in several ways, including the types of materials, the production processes, the distribution channels and the product applications.

The Company was organized into two reporting segments, connector products and venting products. The Company changed its reporting segments after selling its venting products business in 2010. The Company has restated the corresponding segment information for each period presented.

The following table illustrates certain measurements used by management to assess the performance of the segments described above as of December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, or for the years then ended:

<i>(in thousands)</i>					
<u>2010</u>	<u>North America</u>	<u>Europe</u>	<u>Asia/ Pacific</u>	<u>Administrative &amp; All Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
Net sales	\$ 444,622	\$ 101,314	\$ 9,232	\$ 319	\$ 555,487
Sales to other segments *	3,994	136	9,140	-	13,270
Income (loss) from operations	81,007	(3,674)	(111)	1,202	78,424
Depreciation and amortization	13,588	4,626	1,233	1,704	21,151
Goodwill impairment	-	6,292	-	-	6,292
Long-lived asset impairment	-	419	-	-	419
Significant non-cash charges	2,645	390	47	607	3,689
Income tax expense	28,712	2,440	289	1,798	33,239
Capital expenditures and acquisitions	26,305	6,370	512	368	33,555
Total assets	557,762	123,669	25,576	167,702	874,709
<u>2009</u>	<u>North America</u>	<u>Europe</u>	<u>Asia/ Pacific</u>	<u>Administrative &amp; All Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
Net sales	\$ 427,428	\$ 93,616	\$ 5,500	\$ -	\$ 526,544
Sales to other segments *	5,129	282	2,274	-	7,685
Income (loss) from operations	49,895	(12,050)	(4,013)	(2,336)	31,496
Depreciation and amortization	17,062	5,006	972	2,127	25,167
Long-lived asset impairment	-	197	-	-	197
Significant non-cash charges	1,718	307	12	115	2,152
Income tax expense (benefit)	16,146	(364)	(152)	1,726	17,356
Capital expenditures and acquisitions	3,816	30,372	3,673	1,626	39,487
Total assets	496,970	133,676	20,150	193,009	843,805
<u>2008</u>	<u>North America</u>	<u>Europe</u>	<u>Asia/ Pacific</u>	<u>Administrative &amp; All Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
Net sales	\$ 553,018	\$ 118,363	\$ 5,343	\$ -	\$ 676,724
Sales to other segments *	3,913	13	62	-	3,988
Income (loss) from operations	96,472	(1,829)	(3,054)	(2,432)	89,157
Depreciation and amortization	19,861	3,980	241	1,775	25,857
Goodwill impairment	-	2,964	-	-	2,964
Significant non-cash charges	2,818	430	20	423	3,691
Income tax expense	33,528	2,278	55	241	36,102
Capital expenditures and acquisitions	4,275	29,569	8,090	10,396	52,330
Total assets	494,803	108,067	9,863	217,467	830,200

\* The sales to other segments are eliminated on consolidation.

Total assets from discontinued operations of \$71.6 million and \$77.2 million at December 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively, and capital expenditures and acquisitions from the discontinued operations of \$0.4 million and \$10.0 million for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively, are included in “Administrative and All Other” for each of the years presented.

Cash collected by the Company’s United States subsidiaries is routinely transferred into the Company’s cash management accounts, and therefore has been included in the total assets of “Administrative and All Other.” Cash and short-term investment balances in “Administrative and All Other” were \$274.6 million, \$205.1 million and \$136.2 million as of December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively. The significant non-cash charges comprise compensation related to the awards under the stock option plans and the stock bonus plan. The Company’s measure of profit or loss for its reportable segments is income (loss) from operations. The reconciling amounts between consolidated income before tax and consolidated income from operations are net interest income, which is primarily attributed to “Administrative and All Other,” and loss from equity method investment, which is attributed to the North American segment.

The following table illustrates how the Company’s net sales and long-lived assets were distributed geographically as of December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, or for the years then ended:

<i>(in thousands)</i>	<b>2010</b>		<b>2009</b>		<b>2008</b>	
	<b>Net Sales</b>	<b>Long-Lived Assets</b>	<b>Net Sales</b>	<b>Long-Lived Assets</b>	<b>Net Sales</b>	<b>Long-Lived Assets</b>
United States	\$ 401,675	\$ 154,182	\$ 393,078	\$ 157,228	\$ 510,336	\$ 172,185
Canada	43,165	6,117	34,121	5,818	42,334	5,231
Denmark	18,623	3,533	18,893	4,658	29,175	4,616
United Kingdom	20,233	1,660	18,157	2,150	25,882	1,248
France	34,552	12,573	31,897	13,634	30,538	5,952
Germany	24,221	1,278	21,269	1,434	28,315	1,990
Ireland	2,769	3,454	2,552	3,993	3,637	4,177
China/Hong Kong	5,027	10,522	2,890	11,105	2,659	9,056
Australia	4,205	276	2,610	344	2,685	72
Other countries	1,017	604	1,077	626	1,163	495
	<u>\$ 555,487</u>	<u>\$ 194,199</u>	<u>\$ 526,544</u>	<u>\$ 200,990</u>	<u>\$ 676,724</u>	<u>\$ 205,022</u>

Net sales and long-lived assets, net of intangible assets, are attributable to the country where the operations are located. Long-lived assets of the Company’s discontinued venting operations, which were sold in 2010, were \$12.0 million and \$15.1 million, respectively, at December 31, 2009 and 2008, and are included in the “United States” amount for those years.

The Company’s largest customer, attributable mostly to the North America segment, accounted for 11%, 12% and 10% of net sales for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

#### 15. Subsequent Events

In February 2011, the Board declared a dividend of \$0.125 per share, a total currently estimated at \$6.3 million, to be paid on April 28, 2011, to stockholders of record on April 7, 2011.

In February 2011, the Board authorized the Company to repurchase up to \$100.0 million of the Company’s common stock. The authorization will remain in effect through the end of 2011.

16. Discontinued Operations

On August 31, 2010, the Company sold substantially all of the assets and liabilities of Simpson Dura-Vent to M&G Holding B.V. and M&G Dura-Vent, Inc. (collectively ("M&G") pursuant to an agreement dated June 30, 2010. The Company decided to sell the assets of Simpson Dura-Vent to focus exclusively on the development of its profitable connector products business. Simpson Dura-Vent represented the Company's entire venting operating segment. The sale price, which is subject to post-closing adjustments, was \$28.3 million, of which \$27.7 million was received on closing. The Company recorded a loss on sale of \$0.7 million.

The results from discontinued operations, including the impairment charges described below, for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, were as follows:

(in thousands)

	<b>Years Ended December 31,</b>		
	<b>2010 *</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>
Net sales	\$ 33,372	\$ 58,526	\$ 79,775
Cost of sales	<u>28,073</u>	<u>49,851</u>	<u>70,027</u>
Gross profit	5,299	8,675	9,748
Operating expenses	6,683	11,560	11,363
Impairment charge	21,350	-	-
Loss on sale	657	-	-
Other expenses	<u>28</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>10</u>
Loss from discontinued operations	(23,419)	(2,986)	(1,625)
Benefit from income taxes from discontinued operations	<u>(7,207)</u>	<u>(1,082)</u>	<u>(384)</u>
Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax	<u>\$ (16,212)</u>	<u>\$ (1,904)</u>	<u>\$ (1,241)</u>

\* The Company sold the discontinued operation on August 31, 2010.

The Company sold the following Simpson Dura-Vent net assets and liabilities, valued at their book value:

(in thousands)

Accounts receivable	\$ 11,925
Inventory	18,164
Other current assets	30
Accounts payable	(436)
Other accrued liabilities	<u>(680)</u>
Total net assets sold	<u>\$ 29,003</u>

The net loss of \$0.7 million recorded on the sale of the Simpson Dura-Vent net assets and liabilities is calculated as follows:

(in thousands)

Net proceeds received	\$ 28,346
Carrying value of net assets sold	<u>29,003</u>
Loss on sale	<u>\$ 657</u>

In the second quarter of 2010, as a result of the entry into the agreement to sell assets of Simpson Dura-Vent, the Company recorded a pre-tax impairment charge of \$21.4 million based on Level 2 fair value inputs, which included professional fees of \$0.7 million, in discontinued operations. The assets impaired consisted of goodwill in the amount of \$4.4 million, intangible assets of \$1.6 million, fixed assets of \$10.7 million, inventory of \$3.8 million and other non-current assets of \$0.2 million. The Company retained its real estate in Vacaville, California, all Simpson Dura-Vent balances related to cash, employee-related liabilities and specified long-term liabilities. On completion of the sale of the assets, the Company leased its facilities in Vacaville, California, to M&G for approximately \$0.9 million per year for ten years.

17. Selected Quarterly Financial Data (Unaudited)

The following table sets forth selected quarterly financial data for each of the quarters in 2010 and 2009:

<i>(in thousands, except per share amounts)</i>	2010				2009			
	<u>Fourth Quarter</u>	<u>Third Quarter</u>	<u>Second Quarter</u>	<u>First Quarter</u>	<u>Fourth Quarter</u>	<u>Third Quarter</u>	<u>Second Quarter</u>	<u>First Quarter</u>
Net sales	\$ 119,606	\$ 146,447	\$ 165,614	\$ 123,820	\$ 115,118	\$ 150,085	\$ 152,198	\$ 109,144
Cost of sales	<u>71,979</u>	<u>80,750</u>	<u>88,828</u>	<u>69,793</u>	<u>77,585</u>	<u>92,724</u>	<u>92,987</u>	<u>78,349</u>
Gross profit	47,627	65,697	76,786	54,027	37,533	57,361	59,211	30,795
Research and development and other engineering	4,954	5,715	5,700	4,742	4,752	4,632	4,860	4,512
Selling	15,865	15,946	16,610	14,872	14,488	14,200	15,409	14,693
General and administrative	22,331	20,001	20,524	16,933	18,748	18,188	19,033	19,094
Impairment of goodwill	6,292	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Loss (gain) on sale of assets	<u>43</u>	<u>(5,217)</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>388</u>	<u>561</u>	<u>164</u>	<u>180</u>	<u>(111)</u>
Income (loss) from operations	(1,858)	29,252	33,937	17,092	(1,016)	20,177	19,729	(7,393)
Income (loss) in equity method investment	(106)	(153)	(131)	(144)	20	—	(21)	(193)
Interest income (expense), net	<u>—</u>	<u>110</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>(34)</u>	<u>103</u>
Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes	(1,964)	29,209	33,832	16,960	(930)	20,216	19,674	(7,483)
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes from continuing operations	<u>2,535</u>	<u>10,801</u>	<u>12,773</u>	<u>7,130</u>	<u>1,844</u>	<u>8,012</u>	<u>8,442</u>	<u>(942)</u>
Income from continuing operations, net of tax	<u>(4,499)</u>	<u>18,408</u>	<u>21,059</u>	<u>9,830</u>	<u>(2,774)</u>	<u>12,204</u>	<u>11,232</u>	<u>(6,541)</u>
Discontinued operations:								
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	—	(1,196)	(21,176)	(1,048)	(16)	800	(824)	(2,946)
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes from discontinued operations	<u>—</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>(6,820)</u>	<u>(417)</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>246</u>	<u>(275)</u>	<u>(1,078)</u>
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of tax	<u>—</u>	<u>(1,226)</u>	<u>(14,356)</u>	<u>(631)</u>	<u>(41)</u>	<u>554</u>	<u>(549)</u>	<u>(1,868)</u>
Net income (loss)	<u>\$ (4,499)</u>	<u>\$ 17,182</u>	<u>\$ 6,703</u>	<u>\$ 9,199</u>	<u>\$ (2,815)</u>	<u>\$ 12,758</u>	<u>\$ 10,683</u>	<u>\$ (8,409)</u>
Earnings (loss) per common share:								
Basic								
Continuing operations	\$ (0.09)	\$ 0.37	\$ 0.43	\$ 0.20	\$ (0.06)	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.23	\$ (0.13)
Discontinued operations	—	(0.02)	(0.29)	(0.01)	—	0.01	(0.01)	(0.04)
Net income	(0.09)	0.35	0.14	0.19	(0.06)	0.26	0.22	(0.17)
Diluted								
Continuing operations	\$ (0.09)	\$ 0.37	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.20	\$ (0.06)	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.23	\$ (0.13)
Discontinued operations	—	(0.02)	(0.29)	(0.01)	—	0.01	(0.01)	(0.04)
Net income	(0.09)	0.35	0.14	0.19	(0.06)	0.26	0.22	(0.17)
Cash dividends declared per common share	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.10



Basic and diluted income per common share for each of the quarters presented above is based on the respective weighted average numbers of common and dilutive potential common shares outstanding for each quarter, and the sum of the quarters may not necessarily be equal to the full year basic and diluted net income per common share amounts.

In the fourth quarter of 2010, the Company recorded an impairment charge of goodwill of \$6.3 million. See Note 1 – *“Goodwill and Intangible Assets.”*

SCHEDULE II

**Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. and Subsidiaries**

**VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS  
for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008**

Column A <i>(in thousands)</i>	Column B	Column C <u>Additions</u>		Column D	Column E
<u>Classification</u>	<u>Balance at Beginning of Year</u>	<u>Charged to Costs and Expenses</u>	<u>Charged to Other Accounts – Write-offs</u>	<u>Deductions</u>	<u>Balance at End of Year</u>
<b>Year Ended December 31, 2010</b>					
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 4,667	\$ (81)	\$ –	\$ 3,242	\$ 1,344
Allowance for obsolete inventory	10,882	5,046	–	5,297	10,631
Allowance for sales discounts	1,908	794	–	1,521	1,181
Allowance for deferred tax assets	4,888	3,344	–	1,065	7,167
<b>Year Ended December 31, 2009</b>					
Allowance for doubtful accounts	4,368	666	–	367	4,667
Allowance for obsolete inventory	10,029	900	–	47	10,882
Allowance for sales discounts	1,556	1,623	–	1,271	1,908
Allowance for deferred tax assets	2,376	2,685	–	173	4,888
<b>Year Ended December 31, 2008</b>					
Allowance for doubtful accounts	2,724	2,431	–	787	4,368
Allowance for obsolete inventory	10,338	440	–	749	10,029
Allowance for sales discounts	1,815	1,600	–	1,859	1,556
Allowance for deferred tax assets	918	1,507	–	49	2,376

## **Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosures.**

None.

### **Item 9A. Controls and Procedures.**

*Disclosure Controls and Procedures.* As of December 31, 2010, an evaluation of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures was performed under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's management, including the chief executive officer ("CEO") and the chief financial officer ("CFO"). Based on that evaluation, the CEO and the CFO concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective at the reasonable assurance level as of that date and that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures at that date were designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in the reports that it files or submits under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is recorded, processed, summarized and reported, within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms, including ensuring that information required to be disclosed by the Company in such reports is accumulated and communicated to the Company's management, including the CEO and the CFO, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosures.

The Company's management, including the CEO and the CFO, does not, however, expect that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures or the Company's internal control over financial reporting will necessarily prevent all fraud and material errors. An internal control system, no matter how well conceived and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the control system are met. In addition, the design of a control system must reflect the facts that there are resource constraints and that the benefits of controls must be considered relative to their costs. The inherent limitations in an internal control system include the realities that judgments can be faulty and that breakdowns can occur because of simple error or mistake. Controls also can be circumvented by the individual acts of some persons, by collusion of two or more people, or by management override of controls. The design of any system of internal control is also based in part on assumptions about the likelihood of future events, and there can be only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that any design will succeed in achieving its stated goals under all potential events and conditions. Over time, controls may become inadequate because of changes in circumstances, or the degree of compliance with the policies and procedures may deteriorate.

*Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting.* During the three months ended December 31, 2010, the Company made no changes to its internal controls over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act")), that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, its internal controls over financial reporting.

*Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting.* Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(f)). Management assessed the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2010, using criteria established in *Internal Control-Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission ("COSO") and concluded that the Company maintained effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2010.

The Company's management has excluded Socom from its assessment of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2010, because it was acquired by the Company during 2010. The total assets and total net sales of this acquisition represent less than 1% of the respective related consolidated financial statement amounts as of and for the year ended December 31, 2010.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm that audited the Company's consolidated financial statements included in this Form 10-K, has issued a report on the Company's internal control over financial reporting, which is included herein.

### **Item 9B. Other Information.**

None.

## PART III

### **Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance.**

Information required by this Item will be contained in the Company's proxy statement for the annual meeting of its stockholders to be held on April 26, 2011, to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission not later than 120 days following the end of the Company's fiscal year ended December 31, 2010, which information is incorporated herein by reference.

### **Item 11. Executive Compensation.**

Information required by this Item will be contained in the Company's proxy statement for the annual meeting of its stockholders to be held on April 26, 2011, to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission not later than 120 days following the end of the Company's fiscal year ended December 31, 2010, which information is incorporated herein by reference.

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

Certain information required by this Item will be contained in the Company's proxy statement for the annual meeting of its stockholders to be held on April 26, 2011, to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission not later than 120 days following the end of the Company's fiscal year ended December 31, 2010, which information is incorporated herein by reference. The other information required by this Item appears in this report under "Item 5 – Market for Company's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities," which is incorporated herein by reference.

### **Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence.**

Information required by this Item will be contained in the Company's proxy statement for the annual meeting of its stockholders to be held on April 26, 2011, to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission not later than 120 days following the end of the Company's fiscal year ended December 31, 2010, which information is incorporated herein by reference.

### **Item 14. Principal Accounting Fees and Services.**

Information required by this Item will be contained in the Company's proxy statement for the annual meeting of its stockholders to be held on April 26, 2011, to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission not later than 120 days following the end of the Company's fiscal year ended December 31, 2010, which information is incorporated herein by reference.

## PART IV

### Item 15. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules.

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

1. Consolidated financial statements

The following consolidated financial statements are filed as a part of this report:

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2010 and 2009

Consolidated Statements of Operations for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

2. Financial Statement Schedules

The following consolidated financial statement schedule for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2010, is filed as part of this Annual Report:

Schedule II—Valuation and Qualifying Accounts—Years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

All other schedules have been omitted as the required information is not present or is not present in amounts sufficient to require submission of the schedule, or because the information required is included in the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto.

(b) Exhibits

The following exhibits are either incorporated by reference into this report or filed with this report, as indicated below.

- 3.1 Certificate of Incorporation of Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc., as amended, is incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 of its Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2007.
- 3.2 Bylaws of Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc., as amended through December 13, 2010, are incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 of its Current Report on Form 8-K dated December 16, 2010.
- 4.1 Amended Rights Agreement dated as of June 15, 2009, between Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. and Computershare Trust Company, N.A., which includes as Exhibit B the form of Rights Certificate, is incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc.'s Registration Statement on Form 8-A/A dated June 15, 2009.
- 4.2 Certificate of Designation, Preferences and Rights of Series A Participating Preferred Stock of Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc., dated July 30, 1999, is incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 of its Registration Statement on Form 8-A dated August 4, 1999.
- 10.1 Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. 1994 Stock Option Plan, as amended through February 13, 2008, is incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc.'s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2008.
- 10.2 Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. 1995 Independent Director Stock Option Plan, as amended through November 18, 2004, is incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 of Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc.'s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2008.

- 10.3 Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. Executive Officer Cash Profit Sharing Plan, as amended through February 25, 2008, is incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 of Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc.'s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2008.
- 10.4 Credit Agreement dated as of October 10, 2007, among Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. as Borrower, the Lenders party thereto, Wells Fargo Bank as Agent, and Simpson Strong Tie Company Inc., and Simpson Strong-Tie International, Inc. as Guarantors, is incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 of Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc.'s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2010.
- 10.5 Form of Indemnification Agreement between Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. and its directors and executive officers, as well as the officers of Simpson Strong-Tie Company Inc. and Simpson Dura-Vent Company, Inc., is incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 of Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2004.
- 10.6 Compensation of Named Executive Officers is incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10 of Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 8, 2011.
21. List of Subsidiaries of the Registrant is filed herewith.
23. Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm is filed herewith.
31. Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certifications are filed herewith.
32. Section 1350 Certifications are filed herewith.
- 99.1 Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. 1994 Employee Stock Bonus Plan, as amended through November 18, 2004, is incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.1 of Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007.
- 101 Financial statements from the annual report on Form 10-K of Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. for the year ended December 31, 2010, formatted in XBRL, are filed herewith and include: (i) the Consolidated Balance Sheets, (ii) the Consolidated Statements of Operations, (iii) the Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity, (iv) the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows and (v) the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements tagged as blocks of text.

**Exhibit 21**

**Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. and Subsidiaries**  
**List of Subsidiaries of Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc.**  
**At February 28, 2011**

1. Simpson Strong-Tie Company Inc., a California corporation
2. Simpson Strong-Tie International, Inc., a California corporation
3. Simpson Strong-Tie Canada, Limited, a Canadian corporation
4. Simpson Strong-Tie Europe EURL, a French corporation
5. Simpson Strong-Tie, S.A.S., a French corporation
6. Simpson Strong-Tie Japan, Inc., a California corporation
7. Simpson Strong-Tie Australia, Inc., a California corporation
8. Simpson Strong-Tie A/S, a Danish corporation
9. Simpson Strong-Tie GmbH, a German corporation
10. Simpson Strong-Tie Sp.z.o.o., a Polish corporation
11. Simpson France SCI, a French corporation
12. Simpson Strong-Tie Australia Pty Limited, an Australian corporation
13. Simpson Strong-Tie Mexico, S. de R.L. de C.V., a Mexican corporation
14. Simpson Strong-Tie Asia Limited, a Hong Kong company
15. Simpson Strong-Tie Asia Holding Limited, a Hong Kong company
16. Simpson Strong-Tie (Beijing) Company Limited, a Chinese company
17. Simpson Strong-Tie (Zhangjiagang) Co., Ltd., a Chinese company
18. Simpson Strong-Tie Ireland Limited, an Irish company
19. Ahorn-Geräte & Werkzeuge Vertriebs GmbH, a German company
20. Simpson Strong-Tie s.r.o., a Czech company
21. Societe Civile Immobiliere IMAG SCI, a French corporation
22. Socom S.A.S., a French corporation



**Exhibit 23**

**Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

We hereby consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statements on Form S-8 (File No. 333-97313 and File No. 333-97315) of Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. of our report dated February 28, 2011, relating to the financial statements, financial statement schedule, and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, which appears in this Form 10-K.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
San Francisco, California  
February 28, 2011

Exhibit 31

**Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. and Subsidiaries  
Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certifications**

I, Thomas J Fitzmyers, certify that:

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

**DATE:** February 28, 2011

By /s/Thomas J Fitzmyers  
Thomas J Fitzmyers  
Chief Executive Officer

Exhibit 31 (continued)

**Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. and Subsidiaries  
Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certifications**

I, Karen Colonias, certify that:

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

DATE: February 28, 2011

By /s/Karen Colonias  
Karen Colonias  
Chief Financial Officer

Exhibit 32

**Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. and Subsidiaries**  
**Section 1350 Certifications**

The undersigned, Thomas J Fitzmyers and Karen Colonias, being the duly elected and acting Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, respectively, of Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), hereby certify that the annual report of the Company on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010, fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and that information contained in such report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Dated: February 28, 2011

/s/Thomas J Fitzmyers  
Thomas J Fitzmyers

/s/Karen Colonias  
Karen Colonias

*A signed original of this written statement required by Section 1350 of Chapter 63 of Title 18 of the United States Code has been provided to Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. and will be retained by Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff on request.*

## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Dated: February 28, 2011

Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc.  
(Registrant)

By /s/Karen Colonias  
Karen Colonias  
Chief Financial Officer  
and Duly Authorized Officer  
of the Registrant  
(principal accounting and financial officer)

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

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
<b>Chief Executive Officer:</b>		
<u>/s/Thomas J Fitzmyers</u> (Thomas J Fitzmyers)	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director	<u>February 28, 2011</u>
<b>Chief Financial Officer:</b>		
<u>/s/Karen Colonias</u> (Karen Colonias)	Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Secretary (principal accounting and financial officer)	<u>February 28, 2011</u>
<b>Directors:</b>		
<u>/s/Barclay Simpson</u> (Barclay Simpson)	Chairman of the Board	<u>February 28, 2011</u>
<u>/s/Jennifer A. Chatman</u> (Jennifer A. Chatman)	Director	<u>February 28, 2011</u>
<u>/s/Earl F. Cheit</u> (Earl F. Cheit)	Director	<u>February 28, 2011</u>
<u>/s/Gary M. Cusumano</u> (Gary M. Cusumano)	Director	<u>February 28, 2011</u>
<u>/s/Peter N. Louras</u> (Peter N. Louras)	Director	<u>February 28, 2011</u>
<u>/s/Robin G. MacGillivray</u> (Robin G. MacGillivray)	Director	<u>February 28, 2011</u>
<u>/s/Barry Lawson Williams</u> (Barry Lawson Williams)	Director	<u>February 28, 2011</u>

# Our Quality Policy

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We help people build safer structures economically.

We do this by designing, engineering and manufacturing "No Equal" structural connectors and other related products that meet or exceed our customers' needs and expectations.

Everyone is responsible for product quality and is committed to ensuring the effectiveness of the quality management system.

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**SIMPSON MANUFACTURING CO., INC.**  
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