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

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**FORM 10-Q**

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(Mark one)

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

For the quarterly period ended December 27, 2020

OR

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

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

Commission File Number 0-19528

**QUALCOMM Incorporated**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware  
(State or Other Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation or Organization)

5775 Morehouse Dr., San Diego, California  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

95-3685934  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

92121-1714  
(Zip Code)

(858) 587-1121

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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

<u>Title of each class</u>	<u>Trading Symbol(s)</u>	<u>Name of each exchange on which registered</u>
Common Stock, \$0.0001 par value	QCOM	Nasdaq Stock Market

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 every Interactive Data File required to be submitted 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 such files). Yes ☒ No ☐

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

Large accelerated filer ☒ Accelerated filer ☐ Non-accelerated filer ☐ Smaller reporting company ☐ Emerging growth company ☐

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. ☐

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

Yes ☐ No ☒

The number of shares outstanding of the registrant's common stock was 1,136 million at February 1, 2021.

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**QUALCOMM Incorporated**  
**Form 10-Q**  
**For the Quarter Ended December 27, 2020**

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**Risk Factors Summary:**

Our business is subject to numerous risks and uncertainties, including those described in the section labeled “Risk Factors” in “Part I, Item 2, Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” of this Quarterly Report. These risks include, but are not limited to, the following:

**RISKS RELATED TO THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC**

- *The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has had an adverse effect on our business and results of operations, and may continue to impact us in the future.*

**RISKS RELATED TO INDUSTRY DYNAMICS AND COMPETITION**

- *Our revenues depend on our customers’ and licensees’ sales of products and services based on CDMA, OFDMA and other communications technologies, including 5G, and customer demand for our products based on these technologies.*
- *Our industry is subject to intense competition in an environment of rapid technological change. Our success depends in part on our ability to adapt to such change and compete effectively; and such change and competition could result in decreased demand for our products and technologies or declining average selling prices for our products or those of our customers or licensees.*

**RISKS RELATED TO OUR OPERATING BUSINESSES**

- *We derive a significant portion of our revenues from a small number of customers and licensees, and particularly from their sale of premium tier devices. If revenues derived from these customers or licensees decrease or the timing of such revenues fluctuates, our business and results of operations could be negatively affected.*
- *Our business, particularly our semiconductor business, may suffer as a result of our customers vertically integrating (i.e., developing their own integrated circuit products).*
- *A significant portion of our business is concentrated in China, and the risks of such concentration are exacerbated by U.S./China trade and national security tensions.*

**RISKS SPECIFIC TO OUR LICENSING BUSINESS**

- *Efforts by some OEMs to avoid paying fair and reasonable royalties for the use of our intellectual property may require the investment of substantial management time and financial resources and may result in legal decisions or actions by governments, courts, regulators or agencies, Standards Development Organizations (SDOs) or other industry organizations that harm our business.*
- *Changes in our patent licensing practices, whether due to governmental investigations or private legal proceedings challenging those practices, or otherwise, could adversely impact our business and results of operations.*
- *The continued and future success of our licensing programs requires us to continue to evolve our patent portfolio and to renew or renegotiate license agreements that are expiring or to cover additional future patents.*

**RISKS RELATED TO REGULATORY AND LEGAL CHALLENGES**

- *Our business may suffer as a result of adverse rulings in government investigations or proceedings.*

**RISKS RELATED TO SUPPLY AND MANUFACTURING**

- *We depend on a limited number of third-party suppliers for the procurement, manufacture and testing of our products manufactured in a fabless production model. If we fail to execute supply strategies that provide supply assurance, technology leadership and reasonable margins, our business and results of operations may be harmed. We are also subject to order and shipment uncertainties that could negatively impact our results of operations.*
- *There are numerous risks associated with the operation and control of our manufacturing facilities, including a higher portion of fixed costs relative to a fabless model, environmental compliance and liability, impacts related to climate change, exposure to natural disasters, timely supply of equipment and materials, and various manufacturing issues.*

**RISKS RELATED TO NEW AND ADJACENT INITIATIVES**

- *Our growth depends in part on our ability to extend our technologies and products into new and expanded product areas, and adjacent industry segments or applications beyond mobile. Our research, development and other*

*investments in these new and expanded product areas, industry segments or applications, and related technologies and products, as well as in our existing technologies and products, and new technologies, may not generate operating income or contribute to future results of operations that meet our expectations.*

- We may engage in strategic acquisitions and other transactions or make investments, or be unable to consummate planned strategic acquisitions, which could adversely affect our results of operations or fail to enhance stockholder value.*

#### RISKS RELATED TO CYBERSECURITY OR MISAPPROPRIATION OF OUR CRITICAL INFORMATION

- Our business and operations could suffer in the event of security breaches of our information technology systems, or other misappropriation of our technology, intellectual property or other proprietary or confidential information.*

#### RISKS RELATED TO INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

- The enforcement and protection of our intellectual property may be expensive, could fail to prevent misappropriation or unauthorized use of our intellectual property, could result in the loss of our ability to enforce one or more patents, and could be adversely affected by changes in patent laws, by laws in certain foreign jurisdictions that may not effectively protect our intellectual property and by ineffective enforcement of laws in such jurisdictions.*
- Claims by other companies that we infringe their intellectual property could adversely affect our business.*
- Our use of open source software may harm our business.*

#### RISKS RELATED TO HUMAN CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

- We may not be able to attract and retain qualified employees.*

#### RISKS RELATED TO PRODUCT DEFECTS OR SECURITY VULNERABILITIES

- Failures in our products, or in the products of our customers or licensees, including those resulting from security vulnerabilities, defects or errors, could harm our business.*

#### GENERAL RISK FACTORS

- We operate in the highly cyclical semiconductor industry, which is subject to significant downturns. We are also susceptible to declines in global, regional and local economic conditions generally. Our stock price and financial results are subject to substantial quarterly and annual fluctuations due to these dynamics, among others.*
- Our business may suffer due to the impact of, or our failure to comply with, the various existing, new or amended laws, regulations, policies or standards to which we are subject.*
- There are risks associated with our debt.*
- Tax liabilities could adversely affect our results of operations.*

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)

**QUALCOMM Incorporated**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**  
(In millions, except par value amounts)  
(Unaudited)

	December 27, 2020	September 27, 2020
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 7,076	\$ 6,707
Marketable securities	5,222	4,507
Accounts receivable, net	4,148	4,003
Inventories	2,552	2,598
Other current assets	794	704
Total current assets	19,792	18,519
Deferred tax assets	1,319	1,351
Property, plant and equipment, net	4,033	3,711
Goodwill	6,358	6,323
Other intangible assets, net	1,541	1,653
Other assets	4,436	4,037
Total assets	<u>\$ 37,479</u>	<u>\$ 35,594</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Trade accounts payable	\$ 2,429	\$ 2,248
Payroll and other benefits related liabilities	1,149	1,053
Unearned revenues	540	568
Short-term debt	500	500
Other current liabilities	4,605	4,303
Total current liabilities	9,223	8,672
Unearned revenues	644	761
Income taxes payable	1,855	1,872
Long-term debt	15,231	15,226
Other liabilities	3,146	2,986
Total liabilities	30,099	29,517
Commitments and contingencies (Note 5)		
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.0001 par value; 8 shares authorized; none outstanding	—	—
Common stock and paid-in capital, \$0.0001 par value; 6,000 shares authorized; 1,136 and 1,131 shares issued and outstanding respectively	113	586
Retained earnings	6,974	5,284
Accumulated other comprehensive income	293	207
Total stockholders' equity	7,380	6,077
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	<u>\$ 37,479</u>	<u>\$ 35,594</u>

See accompanying notes.

**QUALCOMM Incorporated**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**  
(In millions, except per share data)  
(Unaudited)

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>	
	<b>December 27, 2020</b>	<b>December 29, 2019</b>
Revenues:		
Equipment and services	\$ 6,442	\$ 3,534
Licensing	1,793	1,543
Total revenues	<u>8,235</u>	<u>5,077</u>
Costs and expenses:		
Cost of revenues	3,489	2,113
Research and development	1,653	1,406
Selling, general and administrative	567	528
Total costs and expenses	<u>5,709</u>	<u>4,047</u>
Operating income	<u>2,526</u>	<u>1,030</u>
Interest expense	(141)	(148)
Investment and other income, net	219	65
Income before income taxes	2,604	947
Income tax expense	(149)	(22)
Net income	<u>\$ 2,455</u>	<u>\$ 925</u>
Basic earnings per share	<u>\$ 2.16</u>	<u>\$ 0.81</u>
Diluted earnings per share	<u>\$ 2.12</u>	<u>\$ 0.80</u>
Shares used in per share calculations:		
Basic	<u>1,134</u>	<u>1,144</u>
Diluted	<u>1,156</u>	<u>1,159</u>

See accompanying notes.

**QUALCOMM Incorporated**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
(In millions)  
(Unaudited)

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>	
	<b>December 27, 2020</b>	<b>December 29, 2019</b>
Net income	\$ 2,455	\$ 925
Other comprehensive income, net of income taxes:		
Foreign currency translation gains	87	31
Net unrealized gains on available-for-sale securities	3	—
Net unrealized gains on derivative instruments	10	3
Other (losses) gains	(3)	8
Certain reclassifications included in net income	(11)	(5)
Total other comprehensive income	86	37
Comprehensive income	<u>\$ 2,541</u>	<u>\$ 962</u>

See accompanying notes.

**QUALCOMM Incorporated**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
(In millions)  
(Unaudited)

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>	
	<b>December 27, 2020</b>	<b>December 29, 2019</b>
<b>Operating Activities:</b>		
Net income	\$ 2,455	\$ 925
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization expense	364	351
Income tax provision in excess of (less than) income tax payments	53	(131)
Share-based compensation expense	392	294
Net gains on marketable securities and other investments	(195)	(79)
Impairment losses on other investments	1	72
Other items, net	(19)	(26)
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable, net	(141)	(262)
Inventories	62	(17)
Other assets	(97)	(119)
Trade accounts payable	129	396
Payroll, benefits and other liabilities	278	(171)
Unearned revenues	(107)	(115)
Net cash provided by operating activities	3,175	1,118
<b>Investing Activities:</b>		
Capital expenditures	(469)	(296)
Purchases of debt and equity marketable securities	(2,248)	(10)
Proceeds from sales and maturities of debt and equity marketable securities	1,612	129
Acquisitions and other investments, net of cash acquired	(138)	(75)
Other items, net	41	49
Net cash used by investing activities	(1,202)	(203)
<b>Financing Activities:</b>		
Proceeds from short-term debt	819	558
Repayment of short-term debt	(818)	(558)
Repurchases and retirements of common stock	(444)	(762)
Dividends paid	(739)	(710)
Payments of tax withholdings related to vesting of share-based awards	(449)	(203)
Other items, net	(14)	16
Net cash used by financing activities	(1,645)	(1,659)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	41	14
Net increase (decrease) in total cash and cash equivalents	369	(730)
Total cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	6,707	11,839
Total cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 7,076	\$ 11,109

See accompanying notes.



**QUALCOMM Incorporated**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY**  
(In millions, except per share data)  
(Unaudited)

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>	
	<b>December 27, 2020</b>	<b>December 29, 2019</b>
<b>Total stockholders' equity, beginning balance</b>	<u>\$ 6,077</u>	<u>\$ 4,909</u>
<b>Common stock and paid-in capital:</b>		
Balance at beginning of period	\$ 586	\$ 343
Common stock issued under employee benefit plans	1	23
Repurchases and retirements of common stock	(444)	(481)
Share-based compensation	419	318
Tax withholdings related to vesting of share-based payments	(449)	(203)
Balance at end of period	<u>113</u>	<u>—</u>
<b>Retained earnings:</b>		
Balance at beginning of period	5,284	4,466
Net income	2,455	925
Repurchases and retirements of common stock	—	(281)
Dividends	(765)	(734)
Balance at end of period	<u>6,974</u>	<u>4,376</u>
<b>Accumulated other comprehensive income:</b>		
Balance at beginning of period	207	100
Other comprehensive income	86	37
Balance at end of period	<u>293</u>	<u>137</u>
<b>Total stockholders' equity, ending balance</b>	<u>\$ 7,380</u>	<u>\$ 4,513</u>
<b>Dividends per share announced</b>	<u>\$ 0.65</u>	<u>\$ 0.62</u>

See accompanying notes.

**QUALCOMM Incorporated**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**(Unaudited)**

**Note 1. Basis of Presentation and Significant Accounting Policies Update**

**Financial Statement Preparation.** These condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) for interim financial information and the instructions to Rule 10-01 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and notes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, the interim financial information includes all normal recurring adjustments necessary for a fair statement of the results for the interim periods. These condensed consolidated financial statements are unaudited and should be read in conjunction with our Annual Report on Form 10-K for our fiscal year ended September 27, 2020. Operating results for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of operating results for an entire fiscal year. We operate and report using a 52-53 week fiscal year ending on the last Sunday in September. Each of the three months ended December 27, 2020 and December 29, 2019 included 13 weeks.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts and the disclosure of contingent amounts in our condensed consolidated financial statements and the accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current year presentation.

**Recently Adopted Accounting Guidance.**

**Financial Assets:** In June 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued new accounting guidance that changes the accounting for recognizing impairments of financial assets. Under the new accounting guidance, credit losses for financial assets held at amortized cost (such as accounts receivable) are estimated based on expected losses rather than the previous incurred loss impairment model. The new accounting guidance also eliminated the concept of other-than-temporary impairment with credit losses related to available-for-sale debt securities recorded through an allowance for credit losses rather than as a reduction in the amortized cost basis of the securities. We adopted the new accounting guidance in the first quarter of fiscal 2021 under the modified retrospective transition method, except for certain available-for-sale debt securities where the prospective transition method was required, and as a result, prior period results have not been restated. The impact upon adoption was not material to our condensed consolidated financial statements. The future impact of such accounting guidance will largely depend on the future composition and credit quality of our investment portfolio and accounts receivable, as well as future economic conditions.

**Accounting Policy Update.**

**Marketable Securities:** As a result of the adoption of the new accounting guidance described above, we revised our accounting policy beginning in fiscal 2021 as follows.

Marketable securities include marketable equity securities, available-for-sale debt securities and, from time-to-time, certain time deposits. We classify marketable securities as current or noncurrent based on the nature of the securities and their availability for use in current operations. Marketable securities are stated at fair value with all realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments in marketable equity securities and realized gains and losses on available-for-sale debt securities recognized in investment and other income, net. Debt securities are classified as available for sale or held to maturity at the time of purchase and reevaluated at each balance sheet date. The realized and unrealized gains and losses on marketable securities are determined using the specific identification method.

If a debt security has an unrealized loss and we either intend to sell the security or it is more likely than not that we will be required to sell the security before its anticipated recovery, we record an impairment charge to investment and other income, net for the entire amount of the unrealized loss and adjust the amortized cost basis of the security. For the remaining debt securities, if an unrealized loss exists, we separate the impairment into the portion of the loss related to credit factors and the portion of the loss that is not related to credit factors. Unrealized gains or unrealized losses that are not related to credit factors on available-for-sale debt securities are recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income, net of income taxes. Unrealized losses that are related to credit loss factors on available-for-sale debt securities and subsequent adjustments to the credit loss are recorded as an allowance for credit losses, which is included in investment and other income, net. In evaluating whether a credit loss exists, we consider a variety of factors, including the significance of the decline in value as compared to the cost basis; underlying factors contributing to a decline in the prices of securities in a single asset class; the security's relative performance versus its peers, sector or asset class; the market and economy in general; views of external investment managers; news or financial information that has been released specific to the investee; and the outlook for the overall industry in which the investee operates.

**QUALCOMM Incorporated**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
(Unaudited)

**Note 2. Composition of Certain Financial Statement Items**

*Inventories (in millions)*

	December 27, 2020	September 27, 2020
Raw materials	\$ 138	\$ 94
Work-in-process	1,192	1,155
Finished goods	1,222	1,349
	<u>\$ 2,552</u>	<u>\$ 2,598</u>

**Revolving Credit Facility.** On December 8, 2020, we entered into a Revolving Credit Facility replacing our prior Amended and Restated Revolving Credit Facility. There were no outstanding borrowings under the Amended and Restated Revolving Credit Facility at the time of termination. The Revolving Credit Facility provides for unsecured revolving facility loans, swing line loans and letters of credit in an aggregate amount of up to \$4.5 billion, which expires on December 8, 2025. At December 27, 2020, no amounts were outstanding under the Revolving Credit Facility. The Revolving Credit Facility requires that we comply with certain financial covenants, including that we maintain an interest coverage ratio, as defined in the agreement. At December 27, 2020, we were in compliance with the applicable covenants under the Revolving Credit Facility.

**Revenues.** We disaggregate our revenues by segment (Note 6) and type of products and services (as presented on our condensed consolidated statement of operations), and for our QCT segment by revenue stream, which is based on industry segment or application in which our products are sold (as presented below). In certain cases, the determination of QCT revenues by industry segment or application requires the use of certain assumptions. Substantially all of QCT's revenues consist of equipment revenues that are recognized at a point in time, and substantially all of QTL's revenues represent licensing revenues that are recognized over time and are principally from royalties generated through our licensees' sales of mobile handsets. QCT revenue streams were as follows (in millions):

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>	
	December 27, 2020	December 29, 2019
Handsets (1)	\$ 4,216	\$ 2,352
RFFE (2)	1,061	413
Automotive (3)	212	147
IoT (4)	1,044	706
Total QCT revenues	<u>\$ 6,533</u>	<u>\$ 3,618</u>

(1) Includes revenues from products sold for use in mobile handsets, excluding RFFE (radio frequency front-end) components.

(2) Includes all revenues from sales of 4G, 5G sub-6 and 5G millimeter wave RFFE products (a substantial portion of which are sold for use in handsets).

(3) Includes revenues from products sold for use in automobiles, including telematics, connectivity and digital cockpit.

(4) Internet of things (IoT) revenues primarily include products sold for use in cellular and non-cellular connected devices within the following industry segments or applications: consumer, computing, industrial, fixed wireless broadband, voice and music and wireless networking

Revenues recognized from performance obligations satisfied (or partially satisfied) in previous periods were \$110 million and \$92 million for the three months ended December 27, 2020 and December 29, 2019, respectively, and primarily related to QTL royalty revenues recognized related to devices sold in prior periods (including adjustments to prior period royalty estimates, in part based on actual reporting of royalties by our licensees) and certain QCT customer incentives.

Unearned revenues (which are considered contract liabilities) consist primarily of license fees for intellectual property with continuing performance obligations. In the three months ended December 27, 2020 and December 29, 2019, we recognized revenues of \$185 million and \$178 million, respectively, that were recorded as unearned revenues at September 27, 2020 and September 29, 2019, respectively.

Remaining performance obligations, substantially all of which are included in unearned revenues, represent the aggregate amount of the transaction price of certain customer contracts yet to be recognized as revenues as of the end of the reporting period and exclude revenues related to (a) contracts that have an original expected duration of one year or less and

**QUALCOMM Incorporated**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**(Unaudited)**

(b) sales-based royalties (i.e., future royalty revenues) pursuant to our license agreements. Our remaining performance obligations are primarily comprised of certain customer contracts for which QTL received license fees upfront. At December 27, 2020, we had \$1.2 billion of remaining performance obligations, of which \$403 million, \$496 million, \$238 million, \$65 million and \$26 million was expected to be recognized as revenues for the remainder of fiscal 2021 and each of the subsequent four years from fiscal 2022 through 2025, respectively, and no amounts thereafter.

**Concentrations.** A significant portion of our revenues are concentrated with a small number of customers/licensees of our QCT and QTL segments. Revenues from three customers/licensees comprised 34%, 13% and 10% of total consolidated revenues in the first quarter fiscal 2021, as compared to 14%, 17% and 13% of total consolidated revenues in the first quarter of fiscal 2020. In the first quarter of fiscal 2020, one additional customer/licensee also comprised 12% of total consolidated revenues. The comparability of customer/licensee concentrations for the interim periods presented are impacted by the timing of customer/licensee device launches and/or innovation cycles and other seasonal trends, among other fluctuations in demand.

Accounts receivable at December 27, 2020 and September 27, 2020 included \$1.2 billion and \$1.3 billion, respectively, excluding the impact of foreign withholding taxes, from Huawei related to the remaining amounts due under the previously disclosed settlement agreement to be paid in installments by the end of June 2021 and estimated royalties for sales made in the December 2020 and September 2020 quarters, respectively, under the global patent license agreement with Huawei. Subsequent to December 27, 2020, Huawei paid the second installment of \$500 million (excluding the impact of foreign withholding taxes) under the settlement agreement in accordance with the agreed upon payment schedule.

**Investment and Other Income, Net (in millions)**

	Three Months Ended	
	December 27, 2020	December 29, 2019
Interest and dividend income	\$ 21	\$ 59
Net gains on marketable securities	118	11
Net gains on other investments	34	48
Net gains on deferred compensation plan assets	54	30
Impairment losses on other investments	(1)	(72)
Net gains on derivative investments	9	2
Equity in net losses of investees	(2)	(10)
Net losses on foreign currency transactions	(14)	(3)
	<u>\$ 219</u>	<u>\$ 65</u>

**Note 3. Income Taxes**

As of the first quarter of fiscal 2021, we estimated our annual effective income tax rate to be 11% for fiscal 2021, which is lower than the U.S. federal statutory rate, primarily due to a significant portion of our income qualifying for preferential treatment as foreign-derived intangible income (FDII) at a 13% effective tax rate and due to benefits from our federal research and development tax credit. The effective tax rate of 6% for the first quarter of fiscal 2021 was lower than the estimated annual effective tax rate of 11% primarily due to \$212 million of discrete net tax benefits recorded in the first quarter of fiscal 2021, which principally related to excess tax benefits associated with share-based awards that vested in the first fiscal quarter, foreign currency gains on a noncurrent receivable related to our refund claim of Korean withholding tax and valuation allowance release on foreign tax credit carryforwards. The effective tax rate of 2% for the first quarter of fiscal 2020 included \$102 million of discrete net tax benefits recorded in the first quarter of fiscal 2020, which principally related to excess tax benefits associated with share-based awards that vested in the first fiscal quarter of fiscal 2020, valuation allowance release on capital loss carryforwards and foreign currency gains on a noncurrent receivable related to our refund claim of Korean withholding tax.

In the first quarter of fiscal 2021, the United States Treasury Department issued final regulations on the foreign tax credit, which generally are applicable beginning in fiscal 2021, with certain provisions retroactive to fiscal 2019. As a result of these regulations, our fiscal 2021 estimated annual effective tax rate increased by approximately 1%. The retroactive impact resulting from these new regulations, which was related to fiscal 2019 and fiscal 2020 and recorded discretely in the first quarter of fiscal 2021, was not significant.

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Unrecognized tax benefits were \$2.0 billion and \$1.9 billion at December 27, 2020 and September 27, 2020, respectively, and primarily related to our refund claim of Korean withholding tax. If successful, the refund will result in a corresponding reduction in U.S. foreign tax credits. We expect that the total amount of unrecognized tax benefits at December 27, 2020 will increase in the next 12 months as licensees in Korea continue to withhold taxes on future payments due under their licensing agreements at a rate higher than we believe is owed; such increase is not expected to have a significant impact on our income tax provision.

**Note 4. Capital Stock**

**Stock Repurchase Program.** On July 26, 2018, we announced a stock repurchase program authorizing us to repurchase up to \$30 billion of our common stock. The stock repurchase program has no expiration date. In the first quarter of fiscal 2021, we resumed stock repurchases under the stock repurchase program, which we had suspended in the third quarter of fiscal 2020 in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the three months ended December 27, 2020 and December 29, 2019, we repurchased and retired 3 million and 9 million shares, respectively, for \$444 million and \$762 million, respectively, before commissions. To reflect share repurchases in the consolidated balance sheet, we (i) reduce common stock for the par value of the shares, (ii) reduce paid-in capital for the amount in excess of par to zero during the quarter in which the shares are repurchased and (iii) record the residual amount, if any, to retained earnings. At December 27, 2020, \$4.2 billion remained authorized for repurchase under our stock repurchase program. Since December 27, 2020, we repurchased and retired 2 million shares of common stock for \$311 million.

**Dividends.** On January 20, 2021, we announced a cash dividend of \$0.65 per share on our common stock, payable on March 25, 2021 to stockholders of record as of the close of business on March 4, 2021.

**Earnings Per Common Share.** Basic earnings per common share is computed by dividing net income by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the reporting period. Diluted earnings per share is computed by dividing net income by the combination of the weighted-average number of dilutive common share equivalents, comprised of shares issuable under our share-based compensation plans and the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the reporting period. The following table provides information about the diluted earnings per share calculation (in millions):

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>	
	<b>December 27, 2020</b>	<b>December 29, 2019</b>
Dilutive common share equivalents included in diluted shares	22	15
Shares of common stock equivalents not included because the effect would be anti-dilutive or certain performance conditions were not satisfied at the end of the period	—	—

**Note 5. Commitments and Contingencies**

**Legal and Regulatory Proceedings.**

**Consolidated Securities Class Action Lawsuit:** On January 23, 2017 and January 26, 2017, securities class action complaints were filed by purported stockholders of us in the United States District Court for the Southern District of California against us and certain of our current and former officers and directors. The complaints alleged, among other things, that we violated Sections 10(b) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, by making false and misleading statements and omissions of material fact in connection with certain allegations that we are or were engaged in anticompetitive conduct. The complaints sought unspecified damages, interest, fees and costs. On May 4, 2017, the court consolidated the two actions and appointed lead plaintiffs. On July 3, 2017, the lead plaintiffs filed a consolidated amended complaint asserting the same basic theories of liability and requesting the same basic relief. On September 1, 2017, we filed a motion to dismiss the consolidated amended complaint. On March 18, 2019, the court denied our motion to dismiss. On January 15, 2020, we filed a motion for judgment on the pleadings. The court has not yet ruled on our motion. We believe the plaintiffs' claims are without merit.

**In re Qualcomm/Broadcom Merger Securities Litigation:** On June 8, 2018 and June 26, 2018, securities class action complaints were filed by purported stockholders of us in the United States District Court for the Southern District of California against us and two of our then current officers. The complaints alleged, among other things, that we violated Sections 10(b) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, by failing to

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disclose that we had submitted a notice to the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) in January 2018. The complaints sought unspecified damages, interest, fees and costs. On January 22, 2019, the court appointed the lead plaintiff in the action. On March 18, 2019, the plaintiffs filed a consolidated complaint asserting the same basic theories of liability and requesting the same basic relief. On May 10, 2019, we filed a motion to dismiss the consolidated complaint, and on March 10, 2020, the court granted our motion. On May 11, 2020, the plaintiffs filed a second amended complaint, and on October 8, 2020, the court granted our motion to dismiss the case with prejudice. On November 7, 2020, the plaintiffs filed a notice of appeal. No hearing date has been set. We believe the plaintiffs' claims are without merit.

*Consumer Class Action Lawsuit:* Since January 18, 2017, a number of consumer class action complaints have been filed against us in the United States District Courts for the Southern and Northern Districts of California, each on behalf of a putative class of purchasers of cellular phones and other cellular devices. In April 2017, the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation transferred the cases that had been filed in the Southern District of California to the Northern District of California. On May 15, 2017, the court entered an order appointing the plaintiffs' co-lead counsel. On July 11, 2017, the plaintiffs filed a consolidated amended complaint alleging that we violated California and federal antitrust and unfair competition laws by, among other things, refusing to license standard-essential patents to our competitors, conditioning the supply of certain of our baseband chipsets on the purchaser first agreeing to license our entire patent portfolio, entering into exclusive deals with companies, including Apple Inc., and charging unreasonably high royalties that do not comply with our commitments to standard setting organizations. The complaint seeks unspecified damages and disgorgement and/or restitution, as well as an order that we be enjoined from further unlawful conduct. On August 11, 2017, we filed a motion to dismiss the consolidated amended complaint. On November 10, 2017, the court denied our motion, except to the extent that certain claims seek damages under the Sherman Antitrust Act. On July 5, 2018, the plaintiffs filed a motion for class certification, and the court granted that motion on September 27, 2018. On January 23, 2019, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit (Ninth Circuit) granted us permission to appeal the court's class certification order. On January 24, 2019, the court stayed the case pending our appeal. On December 2, 2019, a hearing on our appeal of the class certification order was held before the Ninth Circuit. The Ninth Circuit has not yet ruled on our appeal. We believe the plaintiffs' claims are without merit.

Since November 2017, several other consumer class action complaints have been filed against us in Canada (in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, the Supreme Court of British Columbia and the Quebec Superior Court) and Israel (in the Haifa District Court), each on behalf of a putative class of purchasers of cellular phones and other cellular devices, alleging violations of certain of those countries' competition and consumer protection laws. The claims in these complaints are similar to those in the U.S. consumer class action complaints. The complaints seek unspecified damages. We believe the plaintiffs' claims are without merit.

*ParkerVision, Inc. v. QUALCOMM Incorporated:* On May 1, 2014, ParkerVision filed a complaint against us in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida alleging that certain of our products infringed seven ParkerVision patents. On August 21, 2014, ParkerVision amended the complaint, then captioned ParkerVision, Inc. v. QUALCOMM Incorporated, Qualcomm Atheros, Inc., HTC Corporation, HTC America, Inc., Samsung Electronics Co., LTD., Samsung Electronics America, Inc. and Samsung Telecommunications America, LLC, broadening the allegations. ParkerVision alleged that we infringed 11 ParkerVision patents and sought damages and injunctive and other relief. ParkerVision has subsequently reduced the number of patents asserted to four, granted covenants not to sue on the other patents and dismissed the Samsung and HTC entities from the case. The asserted patents are now expired, and injunctive relief is no longer available. ParkerVision continues to seek damages related to the sale of many of our radio frequency (RF) products sold between 2008 and 2018. Trial is expected to begin no earlier than June 2021. We have previously prevailed on infringement claims asserted by ParkerVision in related lawsuits and have successfully invalidated a number of their patent claims in patent office proceedings. We believe that ParkerVision's claims are without merit.

*Korea Fair Trade Commission (KFTC) Investigation (2015):* On March 17, 2015, the KFTC notified us that it was conducting an investigation of us relating to the Korean Monopoly Regulation and Fair Trade Act (MRFTA). On December 27, 2016, the KFTC announced that it had reached a decision in the investigation, finding that we violated provisions of the MRFTA. On January 22, 2017, we received the KFTC's formal written decision, which found that the following conducts violate the MRFTA: (i) refusing to license, or imposing restrictions on licenses for, cellular communications standard-essential patents with competing modem chipset makers; (ii) conditioning the supply of modem chipsets to handset suppliers on their execution and performance of license agreements with us; and (iii) coercing agreement terms including portfolio license terms, royalty terms and free cross-grant terms in executing patent license agreements with handset makers. The KFTC's decision orders us to: (a) upon request by modem chipset companies, engage in good-faith negotiations for patent license agreements, without offering unjustifiable conditions, and if necessary submit to a determination of terms by an

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independent third party; (b) not demand that handset companies execute and perform under patent license agreements as a precondition for purchasing modem chipsets; (c) not demand unjustifiable conditions in our license agreements with handset companies and, upon request, renegotiate existing patent license agreements; and (d) notify modem chipset companies and handset companies of the decision and order imposed on us and report to the KFTC new or amended agreements. According to the KFTC's decision, the foregoing will apply to transactions between us and the following enterprises: (1) handset manufacturers headquartered in Korea and their affiliate companies; (2) enterprises that sell handsets in or to Korea and their affiliate companies; (3) enterprises that supply handsets to companies referred to in (2) above and the affiliate companies of such enterprises; (4) modem chipset manufacturers headquartered in Korea and their affiliate companies; and (5) enterprises that supply modem chipsets to companies referred to in (1), (2) or (3) above and the affiliate companies of such enterprises. The KFTC's decision also imposed a fine of 1.03 trillion Korean won (approximately \$927 million), which we paid on March 30, 2017.

On February 21, 2017, we filed an action in the Seoul High Court to cancel the KFTC's decision. The Seoul High Court held hearings concluding on August 14, 2019 and, on December 4, 2019, announced its judgment affirming certain portions of the KFTC's decision and finding other portions of the KFTC's decision unlawful. The Seoul High Court cancelled the KFTC's remedial orders described in (c) above, and solely insofar as they correspond thereto, the Seoul High Court cancelled the KFTC's remedial orders described in (d) above. The Seoul High Court dismissed the remainder of our action to cancel the KFTC's decision. On December 19, 2019, we filed a notice of appeal to the Korea Supreme Court challenging those portions of the Seoul High Court decision that are not in our favor. The KFTC filed a notice of appeal to the Korea Supreme Court challenging the portions of the Seoul High Court decision that are not in its favor. Both we and the KFTC have filed briefs on the merits. The Korea Supreme Court has not yet ruled on our appeal or that of the KFTC. We believe that our business practices do not violate the MRFTA.

*Korea Fair Trade Commission (KFTC) Investigation (2020):* On June 8, 2020, the KFTC informed us that it was conducting an investigation of us relating to the MRFTA. The KFTC has not provided a formal notice on the scope of their investigation, but we believe it concerns our business practices in connection with our sale of radio frequency front-end (RFFE) components. If a violation is found, a broad range of remedies is potentially available to the KFTC, including imposing a fine (of up to 3% of our sales in the relevant markets during the alleged period of violation) and/or injunctive relief prohibiting or restricting certain business practices. It is difficult to predict the outcome of this matter or what remedies, if any, may be imposed by the KFTC. We believe that our business practices do not violate the MRFTA.

*Icera Complaint to the European Commission (EC):* On June 7, 2010, the EC notified and provided us with a redacted copy of a complaint filed with the EC by Icera, Inc. (subsequently acquired by Nvidia Corporation) alleging that we were engaged in anticompetitive activity. On July 16, 2015, the EC announced that it had initiated formal proceedings in this matter. On July 18, 2019, the EC issued a decision confirming their preliminary view that between 2009 and 2011, we engaged in predatory pricing by selling certain baseband chipsets to two customers at prices below cost with the intention of hindering competition and imposed a fine of approximately 242 million euros. On October 1, 2019, we filed an appeal of the EC's decision with the General Court of the European Union. The court has not yet ruled on our appeal. We believe that our business practices do not violate the European Union (EU) competition rules.

In the third quarter of fiscal 2019, we recorded a charge of \$275 million to other expenses related to this EC fine. We provided a financial guarantee in the first quarter of fiscal 2020 to satisfy the obligation in lieu of cash payment while we appeal the EC's decision. The fine is accruing interest at a rate of 1.50% per annum while it is outstanding. In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2019, we designated the liability as a hedge of our net investment in certain foreign subsidiaries, with gains and losses recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income as a component of the foreign currency translation adjustment. At December 27, 2020, the liability, including related foreign currency losses and accrued interest (which, to the extent they were not related to the net investment hedge, were recorded in investment and other income, net), was \$301 million and included in other current liabilities.

*European Commission (EC) Investigation:* On October 15, 2014, the EC notified us that it was conducting an investigation of us relating to Articles 101 and/or 102 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU). On July 16, 2015, the EC announced that it had initiated formal proceedings in this matter. On January 24, 2018, the EC issued a decision finding that pursuant to an agreement with Apple Inc. we paid significant amounts to Apple on the condition that it exclusively use our baseband chipsets in its smartphones and tablets, reducing Apple's incentives to source baseband chipsets from our competitors and harming competition and innovation for certain baseband chipsets, and imposed a fine of 997 million euros. On April 6, 2018, we filed an appeal of the EC's decision with the General Court of the European Union. A

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hearing before the court is scheduled for May 4-6, 2021. We believe that our business practices do not violate the EU competition rules.

In the first quarter of fiscal 2018, we recorded a charge of \$1.2 billion to other expenses related to this EC fine. We provided financial guarantees in the third quarter of fiscal 2018 to satisfy the obligation in lieu of cash payment while we appeal the EC's decision. The fine is accruing interest at a rate of 1.50% per annum while it is outstanding. In the first quarter of fiscal 2019, we designated the liability as a hedge of our net investment in certain foreign subsidiaries, with gains and losses recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income as a component of the foreign currency translation adjustment. At December 27, 2020, the liability, including related foreign currency losses and accrued interest (which, to the extent they were not related to the net investment hedge, were recorded in investment and other income, net), was \$1.3 billion and included in other current liabilities.

*European Commission (EC) Investigation regarding Radio Frequency Front End (RFFE):* On December 3, 2019, we received a Request for Information from the EC notifying us that it is investigating whether we engaged in anti-competitive behavior in the European Union (EU)/European Economic Area (EEA) by leveraging our market position in 5G baseband processors in the RFFE space. We have responded to the Request for Information. If a violation is found, a broad range of remedies is potentially available to the EC, including imposing a fine (of up to 10% of our annual revenues) and/or injunctive relief prohibiting or restricting certain business practices. It is difficult to predict the outcome of this matter or what remedies, if any, may be imposed by the EC. We believe that our business practices do not violate the EU competition rules.

*United States Federal Trade Commission (FTC) v. QUALCOMM Incorporated:* On September 17, 2014, the FTC notified us that it was conducting an investigation of us relating to Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act (FTCA). On January 17, 2017, the FTC filed a complaint against us in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California alleging that we were engaged in anticompetitive conduct and unfair methods of competition in violation of Section 5 of the FTCA by conditioning the supply of cellular modem chipsets on the purchaser first agreeing to a license to our cellular standard-essential patents, paying incentives to purchasers of cellular modem chipsets to induce them to accept certain license terms, refusing to license our cellular standard-essential patents to our competitors and entering into alleged exclusive dealing arrangements with Apple Inc. The complaint sought a permanent injunction against our alleged violations of the FTCA and other unspecified ancillary equitable relief. On August 30, 2018, the FTC moved for partial summary judgment that our commitments to license our cellular standard-essential patents to the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS) and the Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) require us to make licenses available to rival sellers of cellular modem chipsets. On November 6, 2018, the court granted the FTC's partial summary judgment motion. Trial was held January 4-29, 2019.

On May 21, 2019, the court issued an Order setting forth its Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law. The court concluded that we had monopoly power in the CDMA and premium-tier Long Term Evolution (LTE) cellular modem chip markets, and that we had used that power in these two markets to engage in anticompetitive acts, including (1) using threats of lack of access to cellular modem chip supply to coerce OEMs to accept license terms that include unreasonably high royalty rates; (2) refusing to license our cellular standard-essential patents to competitors selling cellular modem chips; and (3) entering into exclusive dealing arrangements with OEMs that foreclosed our rivals. The court further found that the royalties we charge OEMs are unreasonably high and reflect the use of our monopoly power over CDMA and premium-tier LTE cellular modem chips rather than just the value of our patents. The court concluded that our unreasonably high royalties constitute an anticompetitive surcharge on cellular modem chips sold by our competitors, which increases the effective price of our competitors' cellular modem chips, reduces their margins and results in exclusivity. The court also found that our practice of not licensing competitors' cellular modem chips violated our commitments to certain standard-development organizations and a duty under the antitrust laws to license competing cellular modem chip makers and helped us maintain our royalties at unreasonably high levels. Finally, the court found that incentive funds entered into with certain OEMs further harmed competing cellular modem chip makers' ability to undermine our monopoly position, prevented rivals from entering the market and restricted the sales of those competitors that do enter. The court concluded that the combined effect of our conduct, together with our monopoly power, harmed the competitive process.

The court imposed the following injunctive relief: (1) we must not condition the supply of cellular modem chips on a customer's patent license status, and we must negotiate or renegotiate license terms with customers in good faith under conditions free from the threat of lack of access to or discriminatory provision of cellular modem chip supply or associated technical support or access to software; (2) we must make exhaustive cellular standard-essential patent licenses available to cellular modem chip suppliers on fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory (FRAND) terms and submit, as necessary, to arbitral or judicial dispute resolution to determine such terms; (3) we may not enter into express or de facto exclusive dealing



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agreements for the supply of cellular modem chips; and (4) we may not interfere with the ability of any customer to communicate with a government agency about a potential law enforcement or regulatory matter. The court also ordered us to submit to compliance and monitoring procedures for a period of seven years and to report to the FTC on an annual basis regarding our compliance with the above remedies.

We disagree with the court's conclusions, interpretation of the facts and application of the law. On May 31, 2019, we filed with the court a Notice of Appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit (Ninth Circuit). On July 8, 2019, we filed a Motion for Partial Stay of Injunction Pending Appeal and a Consent Motion to Expedite Appeal in the Ninth Circuit. On August 23, 2019, the Ninth Circuit granted our Motion for Partial Stay. On February 13, 2020, the Ninth Circuit heard oral argument.

On August 11, 2020, the Ninth Circuit issued its opinion, which reversed the district court's judgment, vacated its injunction and vacated its partial grant of summary judgment. The Ninth Circuit stated that the district court erred in holding that we are under an antitrust duty to license rival chip manufacturers and noted that our practice of licensing our standard-essential patents exclusively at the OEM level does not violate the antitrust laws. The Ninth Circuit also held that the district court's "anticompetitive surcharge" theory failed to state a cogent theory of anticompetitive harm and that our patent-licensing royalties and "no license, no chips" policy do not impose an anticompetitive surcharge on rivals' modem chip sales and do not undermine competition in either the CDMA or premium LTE chip markets. While agreeing with the district court that our 2011 and 2013 agreements with Apple were structured like exclusive dealing contracts, the Ninth Circuit nonetheless held that neither agreement had the actual or practical effect of substantially foreclosing competition in the CDMA modem chip market, and because Apple terminated these agreements years ago, the district court had improperly issued an injunction. The Ninth Circuit noted that neither the Sherman Act nor any other law prohibits companies like us from (1) licensing their standard-essential patents independently from their chip sales and collecting royalties, and/or (2) limiting their chip customer base to licensed OEMs. On September 25, 2020, the FTC filed a Petition for Rehearing *En Banc*. On October 28, 2020, the Ninth Circuit denied the FTC's petition.

*Contingent losses and other considerations:* We will continue to vigorously defend ourselves in the foregoing matters. However, litigation and investigations are inherently uncertain, and we face difficulties in evaluating or estimating likely outcomes or ranges of possible loss in antitrust and trade regulation investigations in particular. Other than with respect to the EC fines, we have not recorded any accrual at December 27, 2020 for contingent losses associated with these matters based on our belief that losses, while reasonably possible, are not probable. Further, any possible amount or range of loss cannot be reasonably estimated at this time. The unfavorable resolution of one or more of these matters could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition or cash flows. We are engaged in numerous other legal actions not described above arising in the ordinary course of our business (for example, proceedings relating to employment matters or the initiation or defense of proceedings relating to intellectual property rights) and, while there can be no assurance, we believe that the ultimate outcome of these other legal actions will not have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition or cash flows.

**Note 6. Segment Information**

We are organized on the basis of products and services and have three reportable segments. Our operating segments reflect the way our businesses and management/reporting structure are organized internally and the way our Chief Operating Decision Maker (CODM), who is our CEO, reviews financial information, makes operating decisions and assesses business performance. We also consider, among other items, the way budgets and forecasts are prepared and reviewed and the basis on which executive compensation is determined, as well as the similarity of business activities within our operating segments, such as the nature of products, the level of shared products, technology and other resources, production processes and customer base. We conduct business primarily through our QCT (Qualcomm CDMA Technologies) semiconductor business and our QTL (Qualcomm Technology Licensing) licensing business. QCT develops and supplies integrated circuits and system software based on 3G/4G/5G and other technologies for use in mobile devices, wireless networks, devices used in the internet of things (IoT), broadband gateway equipment, consumer electronic devices and automotive systems for telematics and infotainment. QTL grants licenses or otherwise provides rights to use portions of our intellectual property portfolio, which includes certain patent rights essential to and/or useful in the manufacture, sale or use of certain wireless products. Our QSI (Qualcomm Strategic Initiatives) reportable segment makes strategic investments and includes revenues and related costs associated with development contracts with an investee. We also have nonreportable segments, including QGOV (Qualcomm Government Technologies), our cloud AI inference processing initiative and other technology and service initiatives.

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Our CODM allocates resources to and evaluates the performance of our segments based on revenues and earnings (loss) before income taxes (EBT). Segment EBT includes the allocation of certain corporate expenses to the segments, including depreciation and amortization expense related to unallocated corporate assets. Certain income and charges are not allocated to segments in our management reports because they are not considered in evaluating the segments' operating performance. Unallocated income and charges include certain interest expense, certain net investment income, certain share-based compensation, gains and losses on our deferred compensation plan liabilities and related assets and certain research and development expenses, selling, general and administrative expenses and other expenses or income that were deemed to be not directly related to the businesses of the segments. Additionally, unallocated charges include recognition of the step-up of inventories and property, plant and equipment to fair value, amortization of certain intangible assets and certain other acquisition-related charges, third-party acquisition and integration services costs and certain other items, which may include major restructuring and restructuring-related costs, goodwill and long-lived asset impairment charges and awards, settlements and/or damages arising from legal or regulatory matters.

The table below presents revenues and EBT for reportable segments (in millions):

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>	
	<b>December 27, 2020</b>	<b>December 29, 2019</b>
<b>Revenues</b>		
QCT	\$ 6,533	\$ 3,618
QTL	1,660	1,404
QSI	9	20
Reconciling items	33	35
Total	<u>\$ 8,235</u>	<u>\$ 5,077</u>
<b>EBT</b>		
QCT	\$ 1,919	\$ 479
QTL	1,270	1,017
QSI	158	(3)
Reconciling items	(743)	(546)
Total	<u>\$ 2,604</u>	<u>\$ 947</u>

Reconciling items for revenues and EBT in the previous table were as follows (in millions):

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>	
	<b>December 27, 2020</b>	<b>December 29, 2019</b>
<b>Revenues</b>		
Nonreportable segments	\$ 33	\$ 35
	<u>\$ 33</u>	<u>\$ 35</u>
<b>EBT</b>		
Unallocated cost of revenues	\$ (74)	\$ (90)
Unallocated research and development expenses	(406)	(259)
Unallocated selling, general and administrative expenses	(178)	(117)
Unallocated interest expense	(142)	(147)
Unallocated investment and other income, net	71	82
Nonreportable segments	(14)	(15)
	<u>\$ (743)</u>	<u>\$ (546)</u>

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**Note 7. Fair Value Measurements**

The following table presents our fair value hierarchy for assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis at December 27, 2020 (in millions):

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
<b>Assets</b>				
Cash equivalents	\$ 1,970	\$ 3,684	\$ —	\$ 5,654
Marketable securities:				
U.S. Treasury securities and government-related securities	19	8	—	27
Corporate bonds and notes	—	4,675	—	4,675
Mortgage- and asset-backed and auction rate securities	—	95	35	130
Equity securities	425	—	—	425
Total marketable securities	444	4,778	35	5,257
Derivative instruments	—	60	—	60
Other investments	590	—	9	599
Total assets measured at fair value	\$ 3,004	\$ 8,522	\$ 44	\$ 11,570
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Derivative instruments	\$ —	\$ 19	\$ —	\$ 19
Other liabilities	590	—	—	590
Total liabilities measured at fair value	\$ 590	\$ 19	\$ —	\$ 609

**Activity within Level 3 of the Fair Value Hierarchy.** Other investments included in Level 3 at December 27, 2020 were comprised of non-marketable debt instruments. Activity for marketable securities and other investments classified within Level 3 was insignificant during the three months ended December 27, 2020 (primarily related to settlements of non-marketable debt instruments) and the three months ended December 29, 2019 (primarily related to purchases of non-marketable debt instruments). Activity for other liabilities classified within Level 3 was insignificant during the three months ended December 29, 2019.

**Assets Measured and Recorded at Fair Value on a Nonrecurring Basis.** We measure certain assets and liabilities at fair value on a nonrecurring basis. These assets and liabilities include equity method and non-marketable equity investments, assets acquired and liabilities assumed in an acquisition or in a nonmonetary exchange, and property, plant and equipment and intangible assets that are written down to fair value when they are held for sale or determined to be impaired. During the three months ended December 27, 2020 and December 29, 2019, certain of our non-marketable equity investments were written down to their estimated fair values, which was recorded as a component of impairment losses on other investments in investment and other income, net (Note 2), and certain other non-marketable equity investments were remeasured to their estimated fair values based on observable price changes in orderly transactions for identical or similar securities, which is recorded as a component of net gains on other investments in investment and other income, net (Note 2). The estimation of fair value used in the fair value measurements required the use of significant unobservable inputs, and as a result, the fair value measurements were classified as Level 3.

**Long-term Debt.** At December 27, 2020 and September 27, 2020, the aggregate fair value of our outstanding floating- and fixed-rate notes, based on Level 2 inputs, was approximately \$17.7 billion and \$17.5 billion, respectively.

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**Note 8. Marketable Securities**

We classify marketable securities as current or noncurrent based on the nature of the securities and their availability for use in current operations. Our marketable securities were comprised as follows (in millions):

	Current		Noncurrent (1)	
	December 27, 2020	September 27, 2020	December 27, 2020	September 27, 2020
Available-for-sale debt securities:				
U.S. Treasury securities and government-related securities	\$ 27	\$ 10	\$ —	\$ —
Corporate bonds and notes	4,675	4,049	—	—
Mortgage- and asset-backed and auction rate securities	95	66	35	35
Total available-for-sale debt securities	4,797	4,125	35	35
Equity securities	425	352	—	—
Time deposit (2)	—	30	—	—
Total marketable securities	<u>\$ 5,222</u>	<u>\$ 4,507</u>	<u>\$ 35</u>	<u>\$ 35</u>

(1) Noncurrent marketable securities were included in other assets.

(2) At September 27, 2020, marketable securities also included a time deposit with an original maturity of greater than 90 days.

The contractual maturities of available-for-sale debt securities were as follows (in millions):

	December 27, 2020
<b>Years to Maturity</b>	
Less than one year	\$ 2,810
One to five years	1,892
No single maturity date	130
Total	<u>\$ 4,832</u>

Debt securities with no single maturity date included mortgage- and asset-backed securities and auction rate securities.

**Note 9. Subsequent Events**

In January 2021, we announced that we entered into a definitive agreement to acquire NuVia, Inc. (NUVIA) for approximately \$1.4 billion before working capital and other adjustments, a substantial portion of which will be paid in cash and the remaining amount of which relates to unvested NUVIA equity awards that will be assumed or replaced in connection with the acquisition and will be recognized as compensation expense over the related post-acquisition service vesting period. NUVIA has certain in-process technologies and is comprised of a CPU (central processing unit) and technology design team with expertise in high performance processors, SoC (system-on-chip) and power management for compute-intensive devices and applications. Upon completion of development, NUVIA's technologies are expected to be integrated into certain QCT products. The acquisition has been approved by the requisite number of NUVIA's stockholders and is subject to receipt of regulatory approval in the United States and other customary closing conditions. The acquisition is expected to close in the second quarter of fiscal 2021.

## ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

This information should be read in conjunction with the condensed consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto included in "Part I, Item 1" of this Quarterly Report and with "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" for the fiscal year ended September 27, 2020 contained in our 2020 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

This Quarterly Report (including but not limited to this section titled Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations) contains forward-looking statements regarding our business, investments, financial condition, results of operations, cash flows and prospects. Forward-looking statements also include but are not limited to statements regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and its potential future impact on: the global economy, economic uncertainty and consumer and business confidence; demand for devices that incorporate our products and intellectual property; our and the global wireless industry's supply chains, transportation and distribution networks and workforces; 5G network deployments; and our business, revenues, results of operations, cash flows and financial condition; as well as statements regarding our planning assumptions, workforce practices, the duration and severity of the pandemic, and government and other actions to mitigate the spread of, and to treat, COVID-19. Forward-looking statements further include but are not limited to statements regarding industry, market, business, product, technology, commercial, competitive or consumer trends, including seasonality; the 5G transition; our businesses, growth potential or strategies, or factors that may impact them; challenges to our licensing business, including by licensees, governments, governmental agencies or regulators, standards bodies or others; challenges to our QCT business; other legal or regulatory matters; competition; new or expanded product areas, adjacent industry segments or applications; costs or expenditures including research and development, selling, general and administrative, restructuring or restructuring-related charges, working capital or information technology systems; our debt, financing, stock repurchase or dividend programs; our liquidity and capital resources; strategic investments or acquisitions, and the anticipated timing or benefits thereof; adoption and application of future accounting guidance; tax law changes; our tax structure or strategies; U.S./China trade or national security policies; and the potential business or financial statement impacts of any of the above, among others. Words such as "expects," "anticipates," "intends," "plans," "believes," "seeks," "estimates" and similar expressions or variations of such words are intended to identify forward-looking statements, but are not the exclusive means of identifying forward-looking statements in this Quarterly Report.

Although forward-looking statements in this Quarterly Report reflect our good faith judgment, such statements can only be based on facts and factors currently known by us. Consequently, forward-looking statements are inherently subject to risks and uncertainties and actual results and outcomes may differ materially from the results and outcomes discussed in or anticipated by the forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences in results and outcomes include without limitation those discussed under the heading "Risk Factors" below, as well as those discussed elsewhere in this Quarterly Report. Further, see the Risk Factor titled *"The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has had an adverse effect on our business and results of operations, and may continue to impact us in the future,"* and note that many of the risks and uncertainties set forth in other Risk Factors will be exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, government and business responses thereto and any further resulting decline in the global business and economic environment, as well as the extent and/or speed of global economic recovery. Readers are urged not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this Quarterly Report. We undertake no obligation to revise or update any forward-looking statements in order to reflect any event or circumstance that may arise after the date of this Quarterly Report. Readers are urged to carefully review and consider the various disclosures made in this Quarterly Report, which attempt to advise interested parties of the risks and factors that may affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

### First Quarter Fiscal 2021 Overview and Other Recent Events

Revenues for the first quarter of fiscal 2021 were \$8.2 billion, an increase of 62% compared to the year ago quarter, with net income of \$2.5 billion, an increase of 165% compared to the year ago quarter. Highlights and other key developments from the first quarter of fiscal 2021 and other recent events included:

- QCT and QTL results were positively impacted by Apple's fall device launches in advance of the holiday season.
- QCT revenues increased by 81% in the first quarter of fiscal 2021 compared to the year ago quarter, primarily due to an increase in demand for 5G products across handsets and RFFE, along with higher automotive and IoT revenues.
- QTL revenues increased by 18% in the first quarter of fiscal 2021 compared to the year ago quarter, primarily due an increase in estimated sales of 3G/4G/5G-based multimode products from our key licensees (in part due to the new license agreement with Huawei), partially offset by the negative impact of COVID-19 and lower demand in China for licensees' products that incorporate our intellectual property.

- In January 2021, we announced that we entered into a definitive agreement to acquire NuVia, Inc. (NUVIA) for approximately \$1.4 billion. NUVIA is comprised of a CPU (central processing unit) and technology design team with expertise in high performance processors, SoC (system-on-chip) and power management for compute-intensive devices and applications. Upon development, NUVIA's technologies are expected to be integrated into certain QCT products. The acquisition is expected to close in the second quarter of fiscal 2021.

## Our Business and Operating Segments

We develop and commercialize foundational technologies and products used in mobile devices and other wireless products. We derive revenues principally from sales of integrated circuit products and licensing our intellectual property, including patents and other rights.

We are organized on the basis of products and services and have three reportable segments. We conduct business primarily through our QCT (Qualcomm CDMA Technologies) semiconductor business and our QTL (Qualcomm Technology Licensing) licensing business. Our QSI (Qualcomm Strategic Initiatives) reportable segment makes strategic investments. We also have nonreportable segments, including QGOV (Qualcomm Government Technologies), our cloud AI inference processing initiative and other technology and service initiatives.

Our reportable segments are operated by QUALCOMM Incorporated and its direct and indirect subsidiaries. QTL is operated by QUALCOMM Incorporated, which owns the vast majority of our patent portfolio. Substantially all of our products and services businesses, including QCT, and substantially all of our engineering, research and development functions, are operated by Qualcomm Technologies, Inc. (QTI), a wholly-owned subsidiary of QUALCOMM Incorporated, and QTI's subsidiaries. Neither QTI nor any of its subsidiaries has any right, power or authority to grant any licenses or other rights under or to any patents owned by QUALCOMM Incorporated.

**Seasonality.** Many of our products and much of our intellectual property are incorporated into consumer wireless devices, which are subject to seasonality and other fluctuations in demand. Our revenues have historically fluctuated based on consumer demand for devices, as well as on the timing of customer/licensee device launches and/or innovation cycles (such as the transition to the next generation of wireless technologies). This has resulted in fluctuations in QCT revenues in advance of and during device launches incorporating our products and in QTL revenues when licensees' sales occur. We expect QCT revenues to continue to be impacted by seasonal trends related to product launch timing for sales made to Apple under our multi-year chipset supply agreement. These trends may or may not continue in the future and have been impacted by the decline in consumer demand resulting from COVID-19. Further, the trends for QTL have been, and may in the future be, impacted by disputes and/or resolutions with licensees and/or governmental investigations or proceedings.

## Results of Operations

### Revenues (in millions)

	Three Months Ended		
	December 27, 2020	December 29, 2019	Change
Equipment and services	\$ 6,442	\$ 3,534	\$ 2,908
Licensing	1,793	1,543	250
	<u>\$ 8,235</u>	<u>\$ 5,077</u>	<u>\$ 3,158</u>

### First quarter 2021 vs. 2020

The increase in revenues in the first quarter of fiscal 2021 was primarily due to:

- + \$2.9 billion in higher equipment and services revenues from our QCT segment
- + \$256 million in higher licensing revenues from our QTL segment

*Costs and Expenses (in millions, except percentages)*

	Three Months Ended		
	December 27, 2020	December 29, 2019	Change
Cost of revenues	\$ 3,489	\$ 2,113	\$ 1,376
Gross margin	58 %	58 %	

**First quarter 2021 vs. 2020**

Gross margin percentage remained flat in the first quarter of fiscal 2021 primarily due to:

- decrease in higher margin QTL licensing revenues in proportion to QCT revenues
- + increase in QCT gross margin

	Three Months Ended		
	December 27, 2020	December 29, 2019	Change
Research and development	\$ 1,653	\$ 1,406	\$ 247
% of revenues	20 %	28 %	

**First quarter 2021 vs. 2020**

The increase in research and development expenses in the first quarter of fiscal 2021 was primarily due to:

- + \$170 million increase driven by higher costs related to the development of wireless and integrated circuit technologies, including 5G and application processor technologies
- + \$74 million increase in share-based compensation expense

	Three Months Ended		
	December 27, 2020	December 29, 2019	Change
Selling, general and administrative	\$ 567	\$ 528	\$ 39
% of revenues	7 %	10 %	

**First quarter 2021 vs. 2020**

The increase in selling, general and administrative expenses in the first quarter of fiscal 2021 was primarily due to:

- + \$22 million increase in share-based compensation expense
- + \$20 million in higher expenses driven by revaluation of our deferred compensation obligation on strong stock market performance (which resulted in a corresponding increase in net gains on deferred compensation plan assets within investment and other income, net due to the revaluation of the related assets)

*Interest Expense and Investment and Other Income, Net (in millions)*

	Three Months Ended		
	December 27, 2020	December 29, 2019	Change
Interest expense	\$ 141	\$ 148	\$ (7)
Investment and other income, net			
Interest and dividend income	\$ 21	\$ 59	\$ (38)
Net gains on marketable securities	118	11	107
Net gains on other investments	34	48	(14)
Net gains on deferred compensation plan assets	54	30	24
Impairment losses on other investments	(1)	(72)	71
Net gains on derivative instruments	9	2	7
Equity in net losses of investees	(2)	(10)	8
Net losses on foreign currency transactions	(14)	(3)	(11)
	<u>\$ 219</u>	<u>\$ 65</u>	<u>\$ 154</u>

***Income Tax Expense (in millions, except percentages)***

The following table summarizes the primary factors that caused our income tax provision to differ from the expected income tax provision at the U.S. federal statutory rate:

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>	
	<b>December 27, 2020</b>	<b>December 29, 2019</b>
Expected income tax provision at federal statutory tax rate	\$ 547	\$ 199
Excess tax benefit associated with share-based awards	(163)	(47)
Foreign currency gain related to foreign withholding tax receivable	(79)	(43)
Benefit from foreign-derived intangible income (FDII) deduction	(75)	(46)
Benefit related to the research and development tax credit	(59)	(25)
Benefit from releasing valuation allowance on capital losses	(8)	(44)
Other	(14)	28
Income tax expense	\$ 149	\$ 22
Effective tax rate	6 %	2 %

As of the first quarter of fiscal 2021, we estimated our annual effective income tax rate to be 11% for fiscal 2021, which is lower than the U.S. federal statutory rate, primarily due to a significant portion of our income qualifying for preferential treatment as foreign-derived intangible income (FDII) at a 13% effective tax rate and due to benefits from our federal research and development tax credit.

In the first quarter of fiscal 2021, the United States Treasury Department issued final regulations on the foreign tax credit, which generally are applicable beginning in fiscal 2021, with certain provisions retroactive to fiscal 2019. As a result of these regulations, our fiscal 2021 estimated annual effective tax rate increased by approximately 1%. The retroactive impact resulting from these new regulations, which was related to fiscal 2019 and fiscal 2020 and recorded discretely in the first quarter of fiscal 2021, was not significant.



## Segment Results

The following should be read in conjunction with our financial results for the first quarter of fiscal 2021 for each reportable segment included in this Quarterly Report in “Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, Note 6. Segment Information.”

### *QCT Segment (in millions, except percentages)*

	Three Months Ended		
	December 27, 2020	December 29, 2019	Change
<b>Revenues</b>			
Handsets (1)	\$ 4,216	\$ 2,352	\$ 1,864
RFFE (2)	1,061	413	648
Automotive (3)	212	147	65
IoT (4)	1,044	706	338
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>\$ 6,533</b>	<b>\$ 3,618</b>	<b>\$ 2,915</b>
<b>EBT (5)</b>	<b>\$ 1,919</b>	<b>\$ 479</b>	<b>\$ 1,440</b>
<b>EBT as a % of revenues</b>	<b>29 %</b>	<b>13 %</b>	<b>16 %</b>

(1) Includes revenues from products sold for use in mobile handsets, excluding RFFE (radio frequency front-end) components.

(2) Includes all revenues from sales of 4G, 5G sub-6 and 5G millimeter wave RFFE products (a substantial portion of which are sold for use in handsets).

(3) Includes revenues from products sold for use in automobiles, including telematics, connectivity and digital cockpit.

(4) Internet of things (IoT) revenues primarily include products sold for use in cellular and non-cellular connected devices within the following industry segments or applications: consumer, computing, industrial, fixed wireless broadband, voice and music and wireless networking

(5) Earnings (loss) before taxes.

Substantially all of QCT’s revenues consist of equipment and services revenues, which were \$6.4 billion and \$3.5 billion in the first quarter of fiscal 2021 and fiscal 2020, respectively. QCT handsets, automotive and IoT revenues mostly relate to sales of our stand-alone Mobile Data Modems, Snapdragon platforms (which include processors and modems), radio frequency, power management and wireless connectivity integrated chipsets.

### **First quarter 2021 vs. 2020**

The increase in QCT revenues in the first quarter of fiscal 2021 was primarily due to:

- + higher handsets revenues, primarily driven by \$926 million in higher revenues per chipset and \$899 million in higher chipset shipments, both of which are primarily due to an increase in demand for 5G products, a substantial portion of which is attributable to higher sales to Apple
- + higher RFFE revenues, primarily driven by an increase in demand for 5G products from Apple and other major OEMs
- + higher automotive revenues, primarily driven by an increase in demand for telematics products
- + higher IoT revenues, primarily driven by an increase in demand for connected devices due to the continued work and learn from home environment

QCT EBT as a percentage of revenues increased in the first quarter of fiscal 2021 primarily due to:

- + higher revenues
- + higher gross margin percentage, primarily driven by favorable mix from an increase in demand for 5G products
- higher operating expenses, primarily driven by higher research and development costs

**QTL Segment (in millions, except percentages)**

	Three Months Ended		
	December 27, 2020	December 29, 2019	Change
Licensing revenues	\$ 1,660	\$ 1,404	\$ 256
EBT	1,270	1,017	253
EBT as a % of revenues	77 %	72 %	5 %

As a result of the global patent license agreement entered into with Huawei in July 2020, QTL results for the first quarter of fiscal 2021 included revenues for royalties due on sales made by Huawei in the December 2020 quarter. We did not record any revenues in the first quarter of fiscal 2020 for royalties due on the sales of Huawei's consumer wireless products.

**First quarter 2021 vs. 2020**

The increase in QTL licensing revenues in the first quarter of fiscal 2021 was primarily due to an increase in estimated sales of 3G/4G/5G-based multimode products from our key licensees (in part due to the new license agreement with Huawei), partially offset by the negative impact of COVID-19 and lower demand in China for licensees' products that incorporate our intellectual property.

QTL EBT as a percentage of revenues increased in the first quarter of fiscal 2021 primarily due to higher revenues.

**QSI Segment (in millions)**

	Three Months Ended		
	December 27, 2020	December 29, 2019	Change
Equipment and services revenues	\$ 9	\$ 20	\$ (11)
EBT	158	(3)	161

**First quarter 2021 vs. 2020**

The increase in QSI EBT in the first quarter of fiscal 2021 was primarily due to:

- + \$88 million increase in net gains on investments, primarily driven by unrealized gains on marketable equity investments
- + \$71 million decrease in impairment losses on non-marketable equity investments

**Looking Forward**

In the coming years, we expect new consumer demand for 3G/4G/5G multimode and 5G products and services to ramp around the world as we transition from 3G/4G multimode and 4G products and services. We believe that 5G will drive growth and transformation in emerging device categories and industries that will create new business models and new services, resulting from the expanding adoption of certain technologies that are already commonly used in smartphones by industry segments or applications beyond mobile, such as automotive and IoT. We believe it is important that we remain a leader in 5G technology development, standardization, intellectual property creation and licensing of 5G technologies, and to be a leading developer and supplier of 5G integrated circuit products in order to sustain and grow our business long-term.

As we look forward to the next several months and beyond, our business may be impacted by the following key items:

- The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in significant economic uncertainty and has led to a global recession. While the pandemic has had a negative impact on consumer demand for some devices that incorporate our products and intellectual property, as compared to economic conditions and consumer demand prior to the pandemic, we currently do not expect a significant impact on our results of operations in the future. We have not experienced, and we currently do not anticipate a material adverse impact on our ability, or our suppliers' ability, to manufacture and test our products or on our ability to provide our products to our customers due to the pandemic. Workforce changes that we implemented in fiscal 2020 are expected to remain in effect in the near term. The degree to which the COVID-19 pandemic impacts our business, financial condition and results of operations will depend on future developments, which are highly uncertain. See "Risk Factors" in this Quarterly Report, specifically the Risk Factor titled "*The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has had an adverse effect on our business and results of operations, and may continue to impact us in the future.*"
- In May 2019, in *United States Federal Trade Commission (FTC) v. QUALCOMM Incorporated*, the district court issued an Order ruling against us and imposing certain injunctive relief. On August 11, 2020, on appeal, the Ninth Circuit reversed the district court's judgment, vacated its injunction and vacated its partial grant of summary

judgment. On September 25, 2020, the FTC filed a Petition for Rehearing *En Banc*. On October 28, 2020, the Ninth Circuit denied the FTC's petition. Regulatory authorities in certain other jurisdictions are investigating and/or have investigated our business practices and instituted proceedings against us, and they or other regulatory authorities may do so in the future. Unfavorable resolutions of one or more of these matters have had and could in the future have a material adverse effect on our business, revenues, results of operations, financial condition and cash flows. See "Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, Note 5. Commitments and Contingencies" and "Risk Factors" in this Quarterly Report, including the Risk Factors titled "*Changes in our patent licensing practices, whether due to governmental investigations or private legal proceedings challenging those practices, or otherwise, could adversely impact our business and results of operations*" and "*Our business may suffer as a result of adverse rulings in government investigations or proceedings.*"

- We expect QCT revenues to continue to be favorably impacted compared to the prior year as we make shipments to support Apple's iPhone products, as well as reflect increased demand for connected devices resulting from the continued work and learn from home environment.
- We have seen and expect to continue to see increased demand from certain Chinese OEMs as they position to gain device share, particularly in China. Since it will take time for us to adapt our supply chain process, and due to the limited supply capacity across the semiconductor industry, primarily at the leading node, we do not expect to realize the full benefit from this increased demand from OEMs.
- We expect commercial 5G network deployments and device launches will continue through calendar 2021 and beyond.
- We expect our research and development costs will increase, primarily due to increased investment towards advancements in 5G and application processor technologies and certain other long-term initiatives, as well as an increase in share-based compensation expense.
- We expect continued intense competition, particularly in China, as our competitors expand their product offerings and/or reduce the prices of their products as part of a strategy to attract new and/or retain existing customers.
- Current U.S./China trade relations and/or national security protection policies may negatively impact our business, growth prospects and results of operations. See "Risk Factors" in this Quarterly Report, including the Risk Factor titled "*A significant portion of our business is concentrated in China, and the risks of such concentration are exacerbated by U.S./China trade and national security tensions.*"

In addition to the foregoing business and market-based matters, we continue to devote resources to working with and educating participants in the wireless value chain and governments as to the benefits of our licensing program and our extensive technology investments in promoting a highly competitive and innovative wireless industry. However, we expect that certain companies may continue to be dissatisfied with the need to pay reasonable royalties for the use of our technologies and not welcome the success of our licensing program in enabling new, highly cost-effective competitors to their products. Accordingly, such companies, and/or governments or regulators, may continue to challenge our business model in various forums throughout the world.

Further discussion of risks related to our business is provided in the section labeled "Risk Factors" included in this Quarterly Report.

#### Liquidity and Capital Resources

Our principal sources of liquidity are our existing cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities, cash generated from operations and cash provided by our debt programs. The following tables present selected financial information related to our liquidity at December 27, 2020 and September 27, 2020 and for the first three months of fiscal 2021 and 2020 (in millions):

	December 27, 2020	September 27, 2020	Change
Cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities	\$ 12,333	\$ 11,249	\$ 1,084
Accounts receivable, net	4,148	4,003	145
Inventories	2,552	2,598	(46)
Short-term debt	500	500	—
Long-term debt	15,231	15,226	5
Noncurrent income taxes payable	1,855	1,872	(17)

	Three Months Ended		
	December 27, 2020	December 29, 2019	Change
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 3,175	\$ 1,118	\$ 2,057
Net cash used by investing activities	(1,202)	(203)	(999)
Net cash used by financing activities	(1,645)	(1,659)	14

The net increase in cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities was primarily due to net cash provided by operating activities, partially offset by \$739 million in cash dividends paid, \$469 million in capital expenditures, \$449 million in payments of tax withholdings related to the vesting of share-based awards and \$444 million in payments to repurchase shares of our common stock.

The increase in accounts receivable was primarily due to an increase in QCT revenues, partially offset by timing of QCT integrated circuit shipments during the quarter. Accounts receivable from Huawei related to the remaining amounts due under the previously disclosed settlement agreement remained unchanged during the first three months of fiscal 2021 as Huawei paid the second installment of \$500 million (excluding the impact of foreign withholding taxes) subsequent to December 27, 2020 in accordance with the agreed upon payment schedule.

**Debt.** At December 27, 2020, we had \$15.5 billion of principal floating- and fixed-rate notes outstanding. Our remaining debt has maturity dates in 2022 through 2050.

We have an unsecured commercial paper program, which provides for the issuance of up to \$4.5 billion of commercial paper. Net proceeds from this program are used for general corporate purposes. At December 27, 2020, we had \$500 million of commercial paper outstanding.

On December 8, 2020, we entered into a Revolving Credit Facility replacing our prior Amended and Restated Revolving Credit Facility. There were no outstanding borrowings under the Amended and Restated Revolving Credit Facility at the time of termination. The Revolving Credit Facility provides for unsecured revolving facility loans, swing line loans and letters of credit in an aggregate amount of up to \$4.5 billion, which expires on December 8, 2025. At December 27, 2020, no amounts were outstanding under the Revolving Credit Facility.

We may issue new debt in the future. COVID-19 has led to disruption and volatility in the global capital markets, which may adversely impact the cost of and access to capital. The amount and timing of additional borrowings, if any, will depend on a number of factors, including but not limited to maturities of our existing debt, acquisitions and strategic investments, favorable and/or acceptable interest rates and changes in corporate income tax law. Additional information regarding our outstanding debt is provided in "Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, Note 6. Debt" in our 2020 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

**Income Taxes.** At December 27, 2020, we estimated remaining future payments of \$2.0 billion for the one-time U.S. repatriation tax accrued in fiscal 2018 (Toll Charge), after application of certain tax credits, which is payable in installments over the next six years. At December 27, 2020, other current liabilities included \$177 million, reflecting the installment paid in January 2021. We estimate the next installment due in January 2022 to be \$189 million. Additional information regarding our income taxes is provided in this Quarterly Report in "Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, Note 3. Income Taxes."

**Capital Return Program.** In fiscal 2018, we announced a stock repurchase program authorizing us to repurchase up to \$30 billion of our common stock. The stock repurchase program has no expiration date. In the first quarter of fiscal 2021, we resumed stock repurchases under the stock repurchase program, which we had suspended in the third quarter of fiscal 2020 in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, and we repurchased and retired 3 million shares of our common stock for \$444 million, before commissions. At December 27, 2020, \$4.2 billion remained authorized for repurchase under the stock repurchase program. Since December 27, 2020, we repurchased and retired 2 million shares of common stock for \$311 million. Our stock repurchase program is subject to periodic evaluations to determine when and if repurchases are in the best interests of our stockholders, and we may accelerate, suspend, delay or discontinue repurchases at any time.

In the first quarter of fiscal 2021, we paid cash dividends totaling \$739 million, or \$0.65 per share. On January 20, 2021, we announced a cash dividend of \$0.65 per share on our common stock, payable on March 25, 2021 to stockholders of record as of the close of business on March 4, 2021. We currently intend to continue to use cash dividends as a means of returning capital to stockholders, subject to capital availability, which may be impacted by COVID-19, and our view that cash dividends are in the best interests of our stockholders, among other factors.

**Acquisitions.** In January 2021, we announced that we entered into a definitive agreement to acquire NUVIA for approximately \$1.4 billion before working capital and other adjustments, a substantial portion of which will be paid in cash and the remaining amount of which relates to unvested NUVIA equity awards that will be assumed or replaced in connection with the acquisition and will be recognized as compensation expense over the related post-acquisition service vesting period. The acquisition has been approved by the requisite number of NUVIA's stockholders and is subject to receipt of regulatory approval in the United States and other customary closing conditions. We expect to use existing cash resources to fund the acquisition, which is expected to close in the second quarter of fiscal 2021.

**Additional Capital Requirements.** Expected working and other capital requirements are described in our 2020 Annual Report on Form 10-K in "Part II, Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations." At December 27, 2020, other than changes disclosed in the "Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements" and "Liquidity and Capital Resources" in this Quarterly Report, there have been no material changes to our expected working and other capital requirements or contractual obligations described in our 2020 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Further, regulatory authorities in certain jurisdictions have investigated our business practices and instituted proceedings against us and they or other regulatory authorities may do so in the future. Additionally, certain of our direct and indirect customers and licensees, have pursued, and others may in the future pursue, litigation, arbitration or other strategies against us related to our business. Unfavorable resolutions of one or more of these matters have had and could in the future have a material adverse effect on our business, revenues, results of operations, financial condition and cash flows. See "Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, Note 5. Commitments and Contingencies" and "Risk Factors" in this Quarterly Report.

We believe, based on our current business plan and the facts and factors known by us, our cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities, our expected cash flow generated from operations and our expected financing activities will satisfy our working and other capital requirements for at least the next 12 months and thereafter for the foreseeable future. See "Risk Factors" in this Quarterly Report, including the Risk Factor titled *"The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has had an adverse effect on our business and results of operations, and may continue to impact us in the future."*

#### **Recent Accounting Guidance**

Information regarding recent accounting guidance and the impact of such guidance on our condensed consolidated financial statements is provided in this Quarterly Report in "Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, Note 1. Basis of Presentation and Significant Accounting Policies Update."

#### **Risk Factors**

You should consider each of the following factors in evaluating our business and our prospects. However, the risks and uncertainties described below are not the only ones we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we currently consider immaterial may also negatively impact our business, results of operations, cash flows and financial condition, and require significant management time and attention. In that case, the trading price of our common stock could decline. In addition to the risks and uncertainties set forth in the Risk Factor below titled *"The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has had an adverse effect on our business and results of operations, and may continue to impact us in the future,"* many of the risks and uncertainties set forth in the other Risk Factors below are exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, government and business responses thereto and any further resulting decline in the global business and economic environment, and may be impacted by the extent and speed of the global economic recovery. You should also consider the other information set forth in this Quarterly Report in evaluating our business and our prospects, including but not limited to our financial statements and the related notes, and "Part I, Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations." References to "and," "or" and "and/or" should be read to include the others, as appropriate.

#### **RISKS RELATED TO THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC**

*The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has had an adverse effect on our business and results of operations, and may continue to impact us in the future.*

The rapid, global spread of COVID-19 and the fear it has created has resulted in significant economic uncertainty, significant declines in business and consumer confidence and global demand in the wireless industry (among others), a global economic slowdown, and has led to a global recession. Specifically, the decline in demand for smartphones and other consumer devices sold by our customers or licensees has resulted in decreased demand for our integrated circuit products (which are incorporated into such devices) and a decrease in the royalties we earn on the licensing of our intellectual property

(which is dependent upon the number of such devices sold that utilize our intellectual property). However, we currently do not expect a significant impact on our results of operations in the future.

Further, while to date we have not seen a significant impact on our manufacturing facilities or our supply chain, the ability of our suppliers to deliver on their commitments to us, or our ability to ship our products to our customers, may be negatively impacted by the pandemic and/or government responses thereto, such as travel bans and restrictions, quarantines, shelter-in-place and social distancing orders, declarations of states of emergency and shutdowns.

Although the spread of COVID-19 has caused us to modify our workforce practices, such as having the vast majority of our employees working from home, we have not experienced a significant negative impact to our business or results of operations. However, we could be negatively affected in the future if, among others, a significant number of our employees, or employees who perform critical functions, become ill and/or are quarantined as the result of exposure to COVID-19, or if government policies restrict the ability of those employees to perform their critical functions.

The COVID-19 pandemic could also impact our business, results of operations and financial condition through delayed, reduced or cancelled customer orders; the inability of our customers or licensees to purchase or pay for our products or technologies; the insolvency of key suppliers, customers or licensees; delays in reporting or payments from our customers or licensees; or failures by other counterparties. Additionally, state or federal governments may in the future increase corporate tax rates, increase employer payroll tax obligations and/or otherwise change tax laws to pay for stimulus and other actions that may be taken as a result of COVID-19.

The degree to which the COVID-19 pandemic impacts our future business, results of operations and financial condition will depend on future developments, which are uncertain, including but not limited to the duration, spread and severity of the pandemic, government responses and other actions to mitigate the spread of and to treat COVID-19, and when and to what extent normal business, economic and social activity and conditions resume. We are similarly unable to predict the extent to which the pandemic impacts our customers, licensees, suppliers and other partners and their financial conditions, but adverse effects on these parties could also adversely affect us. Finally, the COVID-19 pandemic makes it challenging for management to estimate the future performance of our business.

#### **RISKS RELATED TO INDUSTRY DYNAMICS AND COMPETITION**

***Our revenues depend on our customers' and licensees' sales of products and services based on CDMA, OFDMA and other communications technologies, including 5G, and customer demand for our products based on these technologies.***

We develop, patent and commercialize technology and products based on CDMA, OFDMA and other communications technologies, which are primarily wireless. We depend on our customers and licensees to develop devices and services based on these technologies with value-added features to drive consumer demand for new 3G/4G and 3G/4G/5G multimode devices, as well as 3G and 4G single-mode devices, and to establish the selling prices for such devices. Further, the timing of our shipment of our products is dependent on the timing of our customers' and licensees' deployments of new devices and services based on these technologies. Increasingly, we also depend on operators of wireless networks, our customers and licensees and other third parties to incorporate these technologies into new device types and into industries and applications beyond mobile, such as automotive and IoT, among others.

We have historically been successful during wireless technology transitions, including 3G, 4G and now 5G. Commercial deployments of 5G networks and devices have begun and will continue. However, the timing and scale of such deployments, in certain regions, have been and may in the future be delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

We believe it is critical that we remain a leader in 5G technology development, standardization, intellectual property creation and technology licensing, and that we develop, commercialize and be a leading supplier of 5G integrated circuit products, in order to sustain and grow our business long-term.

Our revenues and growth in revenues could be negatively impacted, our business may be harmed and our substantial investments in these technologies may not provide us an adequate return if: our customers' and licensees' revenues and sales of products, particularly premium-tier products, and services using these technologies, and average selling prices of such products, decline due to, for example, the maturity of smartphone penetration in developed regions and China; our intellectual property and technical leadership included in the continued 5G standardization effort is less than in 3G and 4G standards; we are unable to drive the adoption of our products into networks and devices, including devices beyond mobile; or consumers' rates of replacement of smartphones and other computing devices decline.

***Our industry is subject to intense competition in an environment of rapid technological change. Our success depends in part on our ability to adapt to such change and compete effectively; and such change and competition could result in decreased demand for our products and technologies or declining average selling prices for our products or those of our customers or licensees.***

Our products and technologies face significant competition. We expect competition to increase as our current competitors expand their product offerings, improve their products or reduce the prices of their products as part of a strategy to maintain existing business and customers or attract new business and customers, as new opportunities develop, and as new competitors enter the industry. Competition in wireless communications is affected by various factors that include, among others: OEM concentrations; vertical integration; competition in certain geographic regions; government intervention or support of national industries or competitors; the ability to maintain product differentiation as the result of evolving industry standards and speed of technological change (including the transition to smaller geometry process technologies and the demand for always on, always connected capabilities); and value-added features that drive selling prices and consumer demand for new 3G/4G and 3G/4G/5G multimode devices, as well as 3G and 4G single-mode devices.

We anticipate that additional competitors will introduce products as a result of growth opportunities in wireless communications, the trend toward global expansion by foreign and domestic competitors, and technological and public policy changes. Additionally, the semiconductor industry has experienced and may continue to experience consolidation, which could result in significant changes to the competitive landscape. For example, if any key supplier of technologies and intellectual property to the semiconductor industry was sold to one of our competitors, it could negatively affect our ability to procure or license such technologies and intellectual property in the future, which could have wide-ranging impacts on our business and operations.

We expect that our future success will depend on, among other factors, our ability to:

- differentiate our integrated circuit products with innovative technologies across multiple products and features (e.g., modem, radio frequency front-end (RFFE), including mmWave, graphics and other processors, camera and connectivity) and with smaller geometry process technologies that drive both performance and lower power consumption;
- develop and offer integrated circuit products at competitive cost and price points to effectively cover all geographic regions and all device tiers;
- continue to be a leader in mobile, and drive the adoption of our technologies and integrated circuit products, including RFFE, into the most popular device models and across a broad spectrum of devices in mobile, such as smartphones, tablets, laptops and other mobile computing devices;
- increase or accelerate adoption of our technologies and products in industry segments or applications outside of mobile, including automotive and IoT;
- maintain or accelerate demand for our integrated circuit products at the premium device tier, while also driving the adoption of our products into high, mid- and low-tier devices across all regions;
- remain a leader in 5G (and 4G) technology development, standardization, intellectual property creation and licensing, and develop, commercialize and remain a leading supplier of 5G (and 4G) integrated circuit products, including RFFE products;
- create standalone value and contribute to the success of our existing businesses through acquisitions, joint ventures and other transactions, and by developing customer, licensee, vendor, distributor and other channel relationships in new industry segments or applications and with disruptive technologies and products;
- identify potential acquisition targets that will grow or sustain our business or address strategic needs, reach agreement on terms acceptable to us, close the transactions and effectively integrate these new businesses, products and technologies;
- provide leading products and technologies to OEMs, high level operating systems (HLOS) providers, operators, cloud providers and other industry participants as competitors, new industry entrants and other factors continue to affect the industry landscape;
- be a preferred partner and sustain preferred relationships providing integrated circuit products that support multiple operating system and infrastructure platforms to industry participants that effectively commercialize new devices using these platforms; and

- continue to develop brand recognition to effectively compete against better known companies in computing and other consumer driven segments and to deepen our presence in significant emerging regions and China.

We compete with many different semiconductor companies, ranging from multinational companies with integrated research and development, manufacturing, sales and marketing organizations across a broad spectrum of product lines, to companies that are focused on a single application, industry segment or standard product, including those that produce products for mobile, automotive and IoT, among others. Most of these competitors compete with us with respect to some, but not all, of our businesses. Companies that design integrated circuits based on CDMA, OFDMA, Wi-Fi or their derivatives are generally competitors or potential competitors. Examples (some of which are strategic partners of ours in other areas) include Broadcom, HiSilicon, MediaTek, Nvidia, NXP Semiconductors, Qorvo, Samsung, Skyworks, Texas Instruments and UNISOC (formerly known as Spreadtrum Communications). Some of these current and potential competitors may have advantages over us that include, among others: motivation by our customers in certain circumstances to use our competitors' integrated circuit products, to utilize their own internally-developed integrated circuit products, or sell such products to others, or to utilize alternative technologies; lower cost structures or a willingness and ability to accept lower prices or lower margins for their products, particularly in China; foreign government support of other technologies, competitors or OEMs that sell devices that do not contain our integrated circuit products; better known brand names; ownership and control of manufacturing facilities and greater expertise in manufacturing processes; more extensive relationships with local distribution companies and OEMs in certain geographic regions (such as China); more experience in adjacent industry segments or applications beyond mobile (such as automotive and IoT); and a more established presence in certain regions.

In addition, certain of our largest integrated circuit customers have in the past utilized, currently utilize and may in the future utilize our competitors' integrated circuit products in some (or all) of their devices, rather than our products. Further, certain of those customers have developed, are developing or may develop their own integrated circuit products (effectively making them competitors), which they have in the past utilized, currently utilize and may in the future utilize in some (or all) of their devices, rather than our products. See also the Risk Factor titled "*Our business, particularly our semiconductor business, may suffer as a result of our customers vertically integrating (i.e., developing their own integrated circuit products).*" Further, political actions, including trade and/or national security protection policies, or other actions by governments, particularly the U.S. and Chinese governments, have in the past, currently are and could in the future limit or prevent us from transacting business with certain of our customers or suppliers, limit, prevent or discourage certain of our customers or suppliers from transacting business with us, or make it more expensive to do so. This could advantage our competitors by enabling them with increased sales, economies of scale, operating income and/or cash flows and/or enable critical technology transfer, allowing them to increase their investments in technology development, research and development and commercialization of products. See also the Risk Factor titled "*A significant portion of our business is concentrated in China, and the risks of such concentration are exacerbated by U.S./China trade and national security tensions.*" Further, certain of our competitors develop and sell multiple components (including integrated circuit products) for use in devices and sell those components together to OEMs. Our competitors' sales of multiple components put us (and our discrete integrated circuit products) at a competitive disadvantage. Certain of our competitors also develop and sell infrastructure equipment for wireless networks and can optimize their integrated circuit products to perform on such networks to a degree that we are not able to, which again puts us at a competitive disadvantage.

Competition in any or all product tiers may result in the loss of business or customers, which would negatively impact our business, revenues, results of operations, cash flows and financial condition. Such competition may also reduce average selling prices for our chipset products or the products of our customers and licensees. Certain of these dynamics are particularly pronounced in emerging regions and China where competitors may have lower cost structures or may have a willingness and ability to accept lower prices or lower margins on their products. Reductions in the average selling prices of our chipset products, without a corresponding increase in volumes, would negatively impact our revenues, and without corresponding decreases in average unit costs, would negatively impact our margins. In addition, reductions in the average selling prices of our licensees' products, unless offset by an increase in volumes, would generally decrease total royalties payable to us, negatively impacting our licensing revenues.

#### **RISKS RELATED TO OUR OPERATING BUSINESSES**

***We derive a significant portion of our revenues from a small number of customers and licensees, and particularly from their sale of premium tier devices. If revenues derived from these customers or licensees decrease or the timing of such revenues fluctuates, our business and results of operations could be negatively affected.***

We derive a significant portion of our revenues from a small number of customers and licensees, and particularly from their sale of premium tier devices, and we expect this trend to continue in the foreseeable future. Our industry is experiencing and may continue to experience concentration of device share among a few companies, particularly at the premium tier, contributing to this trend. Chinese OEMs continue to grow their device share in China and are increasing their device share in



regions outside of China, and we derive a significant portion of our revenues from a small number of these OEMs as well. See also “Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, Note 2. Composition of Certain Financial Statement Items - Concentrations.”

In addition, a number of our largest integrated circuit customers have developed, are developing or may develop their own integrated circuit products, or may choose our competitors’ integrated circuit products, which they have in the past utilized, currently utilize and may in the future utilize in some (or all) of their devices, rather than our products, which could significantly reduce the revenues we derive from these customers. See also the Risk Factor titled “*Our business, particularly our semiconductor business, may suffer as a result of our customers vertically integrating (i.e., developing their own integrated circuit products).*”

Further, political actions, including trade and/or national security protection policies, or other actions by governments, particularly the U.S. and Chinese governments, have in the past and could in the future limit or prevent us from transacting business with some of our largest customers, limit, prevent or discourage those customers from transacting business with us, or make it more expensive to do so, any of which could also significantly reduce the revenues we derive from these customers. See also the Risk Factor titled “*A significant portion of our business is concentrated in China, and the risks of such concentration are exacerbated by U.S./China trade and national security tensions.*”

In addition, we spend a significant amount of engineering and development time, funds and resources in understanding our key customers’ feedback and/or specifications and attempt to incorporate such input into our product launches and technologies. These efforts may not require or result in purchase commitments from such customers or we may have lower purchases from such customers than expected, and consequently, we may not achieve the anticipated revenues from these efforts, or these efforts may result in non-recoverable costs.

The loss of any one of our significant customers, a reduction in the purchases of our products by such customers or the cancellation of significant purchases by any of these customers, whether due to the use of their own integrated circuit products or our competitors’ integrated circuit products, government restrictions, the COVID-19 pandemic or otherwise, would reduce our revenues and could harm our ability to achieve or sustain expected results of operations, and a delay of significant purchases, even if only temporary, would reduce our revenues in the period of the delay. Any such reduction in revenues would also impact our cash resources available for other purposes, such as research and development.

Further, the concentration of device share among a few companies, and the corresponding purchasing power of these companies, may result in lower prices for our products which, if not accompanied by a sufficient increase in the volume of purchases of our products, could have an adverse effect on our revenues and margins. In addition, the timing and size of purchases by our significant customers may be impacted by the timing of such customers’ new or next generation product introductions, over which we have no control, and the timing and success of such introductions may cause our revenues and results of operations to fluctuate.

Apple purchases our MDM (or thin modem) products, which do not include our integrated application processor technology, and which have lower revenue and margin contributions than our combined modem and application processor products. Further, to the extent Apple takes device share from our customers who purchase our integrated modem and application processor products, our revenues and margins may be negatively impacted.

Our industry has also experienced, and we expect it will continue to experience, slowing growth in the premium-tier device segment due to, among other factors, lengthening replacement cycles in developed regions, where premium-tier smartphones are common; increasing consumer demand in emerging regions where premium-tier smartphones are less common and replacement cycles are on average longer than in developed regions and are continuing to lengthen; and a maturing premium-tier smartphone industry in which demand is increasingly driven by new product launches and innovation cycles.

A reduction in sales of premium-tier devices, a reduction in sales of our premium-tier integrated circuit products (which have a higher revenue and margin contribution than our lower-tier integrated circuit products), or a shift in share away from OEMs that utilize our premium-tier products, would reduce our revenues and margins and may harm our ability to achieve or sustain expected financial results. Any such reduction in revenues would also impact our cash resources available for other purposes, such as research and development.

Although we have more than 300 licensees, we derive a significant portion of our licensing revenues from a limited number of licensees, which includes a number of Chinese OEMs. In the event that one or more of our significant licensees fail to meet their reporting and payment obligations, or we are unable to renew or modify one or more of their license agreements under similar terms as their existing agreements, our revenues, results of operations and cash flows would be adversely impacted. Moreover, the future growth and success of our core licensing business will depend in part on the ability

of our licensees to develop, introduce and deliver high-volume products that achieve and sustain customer acceptance. We do not have control over the product development, sales efforts or pricing of products by our licensees, and our licensees might not be successful. Reductions in sales of our licensees' products, or reductions in the average selling prices of wireless devices sold by our licensees without a sufficient increase in the volumes of such devices sold, would generally have an adverse effect on our licensing revenues. Such adverse impact may be mitigated by our per unit royalty caps that apply to certain categories of our licensees' complete wireless devices, namely smartphones, tablets, laptops and smartwatches.

***Our business, particularly our semiconductor business, may suffer as a result of our customers vertically integrating (i.e., developing their own integrated circuit products).***

Certain of our largest integrated circuit customers (for example, Samsung) develop their own integrated circuit products, which they have in the past utilized, and currently utilize, in certain of their devices and may in the future utilize in some (or all) of their devices, rather than our products (and they have and may continue to sell their integrated circuit products to third parties, discretely or together with certain of their other products, in competition with us).

Apple has utilized modem products of one of our competitors in some of its devices rather than our products, and solely utilized one of our competitors' products in several of its prior device launches. In April 2019, we entered into a new multi-year chipset supply agreement with Apple and began shipping modems under this agreement in the third quarter of fiscal 2020. In December 2019, Apple acquired Intel's modem assets and is developing its own modem products using these assets. Accordingly, Apple is expected to use its own modem products, rather than our products, in some (or all) of its future devices.

Similarly, we derive a significant portion of our revenues from Chinese OEMs. Certain of our customers in China have developed, and others may in the future develop, their own integrated circuit products and use such integrated circuit products in their devices rather than our integrated circuit products, including due to pressure from or policies of the Chinese government (whose *Made in China 2025* campaign targets 70% semiconductor self-sufficiency by 2025), concerns over losing access to our integrated circuit products as a result of actual, threatened or potential U.S. or Chinese government actions or policies, including trade protection or national security policies, or other reasons.

If some or all of our largest customers and/or the largest smartphone OEMs utilize their own integrated circuit/modem products in some (or all) of their devices rather than our products, our business, revenues, results of operations, cash flows and financial position could be materially adversely impacted. See also the Risk Factor titled *"We derive a significant portion of our revenues from a small number of customers and licensees, and particularly from their sale of premium tier devices. If revenues derived from these customers or licensees decrease or the timing of such revenues fluctuates, our business and results of operations could be negatively affected."*

***A significant portion of our business is concentrated in China, and the risks of such concentration are exacerbated by U.S./China trade and national security tensions.***

We derive a significant portion of our revenues from Chinese OEMs, and from non-Chinese OEMs that utilize our integrated circuit products in their devices and sell those devices into China, which has the largest number of smartphone users in the world. We also source certain critical integrated circuit products from suppliers in China.

Due to various factors, including pressure, encouragement or incentives from, or policies of, the Chinese government (including its *Made in China 2025* campaign), concerns over losing access to our integrated circuit products as a result of actual, threatened or potential U.S. or Chinese government actions or policies, including trade protection or national security policies, or other reasons, some of our Chinese integrated circuit customers have developed, and others may in the future develop, their own integrated circuit products and use such integrated circuit products in their devices, or use our competitors' integrated circuit products in their devices, rather than our products.

Political actions, including trade protection and national security policies of the U.S. and Chinese governments, such as tariffs, bans or placing companies on restricted entity lists, have in the past, currently are and could in the future limit or prevent us from transacting business with certain of our Chinese customers or suppliers, limit, prevent or discourage certain of our Chinese customers or suppliers from transacting business with us, or make it more expensive to do so. Given our revenue concentration in China, if, due to actual, threatened or potential U.S. or Chinese government actions or policies, we were further limited in, or prohibited from, selling our integrated circuit products to Chinese OEMs; if our non-Chinese OEM customers were limited in, or prohibited from, selling devices into China that incorporate our integrated circuit products; if Chinese OEMs develop and use their own integrated circuit products or use our competitors' integrated circuit products in some (or all) of their devices rather than our integrated circuit products; if Chinese tariffs on our integrated circuit products or on devices which incorporate our integrated circuit products made purchasing such products or devices more expensive to Chinese OEMs or Chinese consumers; or if our Chinese licensees delay or cease making payments of license fees they owe

us, our business, revenues, results of operations, cash flows and financial position could be materially harmed. Similarly, if, due to U.S. or Chinese government actions or policies, we were limited in or prohibited from obtaining critical integrated circuit products from our suppliers in China, our business, revenues, results of operations, cash flows and financial position could be materially harmed.

Finally, government policies in China that regulate the amount and timing of funds that may flow out of the country have impacted and may continue to impact the timing of our receipt of, and/or ability to receive, payments from our customers and licensees in China, which may negatively impact our cash flows.

#### **RISKS SPECIFIC TO OUR LICENSING BUSINESS**

***Efforts by some OEMs to avoid paying fair and reasonable royalties for the use of our intellectual property may require the investment of substantial management time and financial resources and may result in legal decisions or actions by governments, courts, regulators or agencies, Standards Development Organizations (SDOs) or other industry organizations that harm our business.***

From time to time, companies initiate various strategies to attempt to negotiate, renegotiate, reduce and/or eliminate their need to pay royalties to us for the use of our intellectual property. These strategies have included: (i) litigation, often alleging infringement of patents held by such companies, patent misuse, patent exhaustion, patent invalidity or unenforceability of our patents or licenses, alleging that we do not license our patents on fair, reasonable and nondiscriminatory (FRAND) terms, or alleging some form of unfair competition or competition law violation; (ii) taking positions contrary to our understanding (and/or the plain language) of their contracts with us; (iii) appeals to governmental authorities; (iv) collective action, including working with wireless operators, standards bodies, other like-minded companies and organizations, on both formal and informal bases, to adopt intellectual property policies and practices that could have the effect of limiting returns on intellectual property innovations; (v) lobbying governmental regulators and elected officials for the purpose of seeking the reduction of royalty rates or the base on which royalties are calculated, seeking to impose some form of compulsory licensing or weakening a patent holder's ability to enforce its rights or obtain a fair return for such rights; and (vi) attempts by licensees to shift their royalty obligation to their suppliers in order to lower the wholesale (i.e., licensee's) selling price on which the royalty is calculated.

In addition, certain licensees have disputed, underreported, underpaid, not reported or not paid royalties owed to us under their license agreements or reported to us in a manner that is not in compliance with their contractual obligations, and certain companies have yet to enter into or have delayed entering into or renewing license agreements with us for their use of our intellectual property, and they or others may engage in such behavior in the future. The fact that one or more licensees dispute, underreport, underpay, do not report or do not pay royalties owed to us may encourage other licensees to take similar actions or not renew their existing license agreements, and may encourage other licensees or unlicensed companies to delay entering into, or to not enter into, new license agreements. Further, to the extent such licensees and companies increase their device share, the negative impact of their underreporting, underpayment, non-payment or non-reporting on our business, revenues, results of operations, cash flows and financial condition will be exacerbated.

We have been in the past and are currently subject to various litigation and governmental investigations and proceedings. Certain of these matters are described more fully in this Quarterly Report in "Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, Note 5. Commitments and Contingencies." We may become subject to other litigation or governmental investigations or proceedings in the future. Additionally, certain of our direct and indirect customers and licensees have pursued, and others may in the future pursue, litigation or arbitration against us related to our business. Unfavorable resolutions of one or more of these matters have had and could in the future have a material adverse effect on our business, revenues, results of operations, cash flows and financial condition. See also the Risk Factors below titled "Our business may suffer as a result of adverse rulings in government investigations or proceedings" and "Changes in our patent licensing practices, whether due to governmental investigations or private legal proceedings challenging those practices, or otherwise, could adversely impact our business and results of operations."

In addition, in connection with our participation in SDOs, we, like other patent owners, generally have made contractual commitments to such organizations to license those of our patents that would necessarily be infringed by standard-compliant products as set forth in those commitments. Some manufacturers and users of standard-compliant products advance interpretations of these commitments that are adverse to our licensing business, including interpretations that would limit the amount of royalties that we could collect on the licensing of our standard-essential patent portfolio.

Further, some third parties have proposed significant changes to existing intellectual property policies for implementation by SDOs and other industry organizations with the goal of significantly devaluing standard-essential patents. For example, some have put forth proposals which would require a maximum aggregate intellectual property royalty rate for the use of all standard-essential patents owned by all of the member companies to be applied to the selling price of any

product implementing the relevant standard. They have further proposed that such maximum aggregate royalty rate be apportioned to each member company with standard-essential patents based upon the number of standard-essential patents held by such company. Others have proposed that injunctions should not be an available remedy for infringement of standard-essential patents and have made proposals that could severely limit damage awards and other remedies by courts for patent infringement (e.g., by severely limiting the base upon which the royalty rate may be applied). A number of these strategies are purportedly based on interpretations of the policies of certain SDOs concerning the licensing of patents that are or may be essential to industry standards and on our (or other companies') alleged failure to abide by these policies.

Some SDOs, courts and governmental agencies have adopted, and may in the future adopt, some or all of these interpretations or proposals in a manner adverse to our interests, including in litigation to which we may not be a party. Further, SDOs in certain countries may attempt to modify widely accepted standards and claim the resulting standard as their own.

We expect that such proposals, interpretations and strategies will continue in the future, and if successful, our business model would be harmed, either by limiting or eliminating our ability to collect royalties (or by reducing the royalties we can collect) on all or a portion of our standard-essential patent portfolio, limiting our return on investment with respect to new technologies, limiting our ability to seek injunctions against infringers of our standard-essential patents, constraining our ability to make licensing commitments when submitting our technologies for inclusion in future standards (which could make our technologies less likely to be included in such standards) or forcing us to work outside of SDOs or other industry groups to promote our new technologies, and our revenues, results of operations and cash flows could be negatively impacted. In addition, the legal and other costs associated with asserting or defending our positions have been and continue to be significant. We expect that such challenges, regardless of their merits, will continue into the foreseeable future and will require the investment of substantial management time and financial resources.

***Changes in our patent licensing practices, whether due to governmental investigations or private legal proceedings challenging those practices, or otherwise, could adversely impact our business and results of operations.***

As described in the Risk Factor *"Our business may suffer as a result of adverse rulings in government investigations or proceedings"* below, we have been in the past and are currently subject to various governmental investigations and proceedings, as well as private legal proceedings, challenging our patent licensing and chipset sales practices. Certain of these matters are described more fully in this Quarterly Report in "Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, Note 5. Commitments and Contingencies." We believe that one intent of certain of these investigations and legal proceedings has been to reduce the amount of royalties that licensees are required to pay to us for their use of our intellectual property. We may become subject to other litigation or governmental investigations or proceedings in the future.

If we were required to reduce the royalty rates in our patent license agreements, our revenues, earnings and cash flows would be negatively impacted absent a sufficient increase in the volume of sales of devices upon which royalties are paid. Similarly, if we were required to reduce the base on which our royalties are calculated, our revenues, results of operations and cash flows would be negatively impacted unless there was a sufficient increase in the volume of sales of devices upon which royalties are paid or we were able to increase our royalty rates to offset the decrease in revenues resulting from such lower royalty base (assuming the absolute royalty dollars were below any relevant royalty caps).

If we were required to grant patent licenses to chipset manufacturers (which could lead to implementing a more complex, multi-level licensing structure in which we license certain portions of our patent portfolio to chipset manufacturers and other portions to OEMs), we would incur additional transaction costs, which may be significant, and we could incur delays in recognizing revenues until license negotiations were completed. In addition, our licensing revenues and earnings would be negatively impacted if we were not able to obtain, in the aggregate, equivalent revenues under such a multi-level licensing structure.

If we were required to sell chipsets to OEMs that do not have a license to our patents, our licensing program could be negatively impacted by patent exhaustion claims raised by such unlicensed OEMs (i.e., claims that our sale of chipsets to such OEMs forecloses us from asserting any patents substantially embodied by the chipsets against such OEMs). Such sales would provide OEMs with a defense in the event we asserted our patents against them to obtain licensing revenue for those patents. This could have a material adverse effect on our licensing program and our results of operations, cash flows and financial condition.

To the extent that we were required to implement any of these new licensing and/or business practices, including by modifying or renegotiating our existing license agreements or pursuing other commercial arrangements, we would incur additional transaction costs, which may be significant, we could incur delays in recognizing revenues until license negotiations were completed, and our business, revenues, results of operations, cash flows and financial condition could be harmed. The impact of any such changes to our licensing practices could vary widely and by jurisdiction, depending on the

specific outcomes and the geographic scope of such outcomes. In addition, if we were required to make modifications to our licensing practices in one jurisdiction, licensees or governmental agencies in other jurisdictions may attempt to obtain similar outcomes for themselves or for such other jurisdictions, as applicable.

***The continued and future success of our licensing programs requires us to continue to evolve our patent portfolio and to renew or renegotiate license agreements that are expiring or to cover additional future patents.***

We own a very strong portfolio of issued and pending patents related to 3G, 4G, 5G and other technologies. It is critical that we continue to evolve our patent portfolio, particularly in 5G. If we do not maintain a strong portfolio that is applicable to current and future standards, products and services, our future licensing revenues could be negatively impacted.

Further, the licenses granted to and from us under a number of our license agreements include only patents that are either filed or issued prior to a certain date. As a result, there are agreements with some licensees where later patents are not licensed by or to us. Additionally, our patent license agreements in effect that constitute a significant portion of our licensing revenues are effective for a specified term. In order to license or to obtain a license to such later patents or after the expiration of the specified term, and to receive royalties after the expiration date of the specified term, we will need to extend or modify such license agreements or enter into new license agreements with such licensees more frequently than we have done historically. We might not be able to extend or modify license agreements, or enter into new license agreements, in the future without negatively affecting the material terms and conditions of our license agreements with such licensees, and such modifications or new agreements may negatively impact our revenues. In some circumstances, we may extend, modify or enter into new license agreements as a result of arbitration or litigation, and terms imposed by arbitrators or courts may be less favorable to us than existing terms and may impact the financial or other terms of license agreements not subject to the litigation or arbitration. If there is a delay in extending, modifying or entering into a new license agreement with a licensee, there would be a delay in our ability to recognize revenues related to that licensee's product sales. Further, if we are unable to reach agreement on such modifications or new agreements, it could result in patent infringement litigation with such companies.

## **RISKS RELATED TO REGULATORY AND LEGAL CHALLENGES**

***Our business may suffer as a result of adverse rulings in government investigations or proceedings.***

We have been in the past and are currently subject to various governmental investigations and proceedings. Certain of these matters are described more fully in this Quarterly Report in "Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, Note 5. Commitments and Contingencies." Key allegations or findings in those matters include, among others, that we violate FRAND licensing commitments by refusing to grant licenses to chipset manufacturers; that our royalty rates are too high; that the base on which our royalties are calculated should be something less than the wholesale (i.e., licensee's) selling price of the applicable device (minus certain permitted deductions); that we unlawfully require customers to execute a patent license before we sell them cellular modem chipsets; that we have entered into exclusive agreements with chipset customers that foreclose competition; that we leverage our position in baseband chipsets in the RFFE space; and that we violate antitrust laws, engage in anticompetitive conduct and unfair methods of competition. We may become subject to other litigation or governmental investigations or proceedings in the future.

Unfavorable resolutions of one or more of these matters have had and could in the future have a material adverse effect on our business, revenues, results of operations, cash flows and financial condition. Depending on the matter, various remedies that could result from an unfavorable resolution include, among others, the loss of our ability to enforce one or more of our patents; injunctions; monetary damages or fines or other orders to pay money; the issuance of orders to cease certain conduct or modify our business practices, such as requiring us to reduce our royalty rates, reduce the base on which our royalties are calculated, grant patent licenses to chipset manufacturers, sell chipsets to unlicensed OEMs or modify or renegotiate some or all of our existing license agreements; and determinations that some or all of our license agreements are invalid or unenforceable. If some or all of our license agreements are declared invalid or unenforceable and/or we are required to renegotiate these license agreements, we may not receive, or may not be able to recognize, some or any licensing or royalty revenues under the impacted license agreements unless and until we enter into new license agreements; and even licensees whose license agreements are not impacted may demand to renegotiate their agreements or invoke the dispute resolution provision in their agreements, and we may not be able to recognize some or any licensing or royalty revenues under such agreements. The renegotiation of license agreements could result in terms which are less favorable to us than existing terms, or lead to arbitration or litigation to resolve the licensing terms, which could also be less favorable to us than existing terms, and each of which could take months or possibly years. Licensees may underreport, underpay, not report or not pay royalties owed to us pending the conclusion of such negotiations, arbitration or litigation. In addition, we may be sued for alleged overpayments of past royalties paid to us, including private antitrust actions seeking treble damages under U.S. antitrust laws. The occurrence of any of the above could have a material adverse effect on our business, revenues, results

of operations, cash flows and financial condition, and our stock price could decline, possibly significantly, in which case we may have to significantly cut costs and other uses of cash, including in research and development, significantly impairing our ability to maintain product and technology leadership and invest in next generation technologies such as 5G. Further, depending on the breadth and severity of the circumstances above, we may have to reduce, suspend or eliminate our capital return programs, and our ability to timely pay our indebtedness may be impacted. In addition, a governmental body in a particular country or region may successfully assert and impose remedies with effects that extend beyond the borders of that country or region.

These challenges have required, and we expect that they will continue to require, the investment of significant management time and attention and have resulted, and we expect that they will continue to result, in significant legal costs until the respective matters are resolved.

#### **RISKS RELATED TO SUPPLY AND MANUFACTURING**

***We depend on a limited number of third-party suppliers for the procurement, manufacture and testing of our products manufactured in a fabless production model. If we fail to execute supply strategies that provide supply assurance, technology leadership and reasonable margins, our business and results of operations may be harmed. We are also subject to order and shipment uncertainties that could negatively impact our results of operations.***

We primarily utilize a fabless production model, which means that we do not own or operate foundries for the production of silicon wafers from which our integrated circuits are made. Other than the facilities we own that manufacture certain of our RFFE modules and RF filter products, we rely on third-party suppliers to perform the manufacturing and assembly, and most of the testing, of our integrated circuits. Our suppliers are also responsible for the procurement of most of the raw materials used in the production of our integrated circuits. There are a limited number of such third-party suppliers, and even fewer who are capable of manufacturing at the leading process technology nodes. We employ both turnkey and two-stage manufacturing models to purchase our integrated circuits. Under the turnkey model, our foundry suppliers are responsible for delivering fully assembled and tested integrated circuits. Under the two-stage manufacturing model, we purchase die in singular or wafer form from semiconductor manufacturing foundries and contract with separate third-party suppliers for manufacturing services such as wafer bump, probe, assembly and the majority of our final test requirements. The semiconductor manufacturing foundries that supply our products are primarily located in Asia, as are our primary warehouses where we store finished goods for fulfillment of customer orders.

The following could have an adverse effect on our ability to meet customer demand and negatively impact our revenues, business operations, profitability and cash flows:

- a reduction, interruption, delay or limitation in our product supply sources;
- a failure by our suppliers to procure raw materials or allocate adequate raw materials for our products;
- an inability to procure or utilize raw materials, components or products from our suppliers due to government prohibitions or restrictions on transactions with certain countries and/or companies, and alternative suppliers, raw material sources or raw materials are not available or not available in acceptable time frames or upon acceptable terms;
- a failure by our suppliers to allocate adequate manufacturing or test capacity for our products;
- our suppliers' inability to react to shifts in product demand or an increase in raw material or component prices;
- our suppliers' inability to develop or maintain, or a delay in developing or building out manufacturing capacity for leading process technologies, including transitions to smaller geometry process technologies;
- the loss of a supplier or the inability of a supplier to meet performance, quality or yield specifications or delivery schedules;
- additional expense or production delays as a result of qualifying a new supplier and commencing volume production or testing in the event of a loss of, or a decision to add or change, a supplier;
- natural disasters or geopolitical conflicts impacting our suppliers;
- health crises, including epidemics or pandemics, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, and government and business responses thereto, which impact our suppliers, including as a result of quarantines or closure; and
- trade or national security protection policies, particularly U.S. or Chinese government policies, that limit or prevent us from transacting business with suppliers of critical integrated circuit products, or that limit or prevent such

suppliers from transacting business with us or from procuring materials, machinery or technology necessary to manufacture goods for us.

While we have established alternate suppliers for certain technologies, there are a limited number of such suppliers, and even fewer who are capable of operating at the leading process technology nodes or who are willing to operate at older process technology nodes. We rely on sole- or limited-source suppliers for certain products, which may exacerbate the risks identified above, and subject us to other significant risks, including: poor product performance and reduced control over delivery schedules, manufacturing capability and yields, quality assurance, quantity and costs. To the extent we have established alternate suppliers, these suppliers may require significant amounts of time and levels of support to bring such technologies to production, both of which may increase for complex or leading process technologies. As a result, we may invest a significant amount of effort and resources and incur higher costs to support and maintain such alternate suppliers. Further, the elimination or limitation of a foundry supplier's ability to manufacture components or products for us due to trade or national security protection policies could increase our vulnerability to sole- or limited-source arrangements and limit or prevent us from procuring critical components or products from those suppliers. Future consolidation of foundry suppliers could also increase our vulnerability to sole- or limited-source arrangements and reduce our suppliers' willingness to negotiate pricing, which could negatively impact our ability to achieve cost reductions, increase our manufacturing costs and limit the amount of capacity available to us. Our arrangements with our suppliers may obligate us to incur costs to manufacture and test our products that do not decrease at the same rate as decreases in pricing to our customers. Our ability, and that of our suppliers, to develop or maintain leading process technologies, including transitions to smaller geometry process technologies (which adds risk to manufacturing yields and reliability), and to effectively compete with the manufacturing processes and performance of our competitors, could impact our ability to introduce new products and meet customer demand, could increase our costs (possibly decreasing our margins) and could subject us to the risk of excess inventories. Any of the above could negatively impact our business, results of operations and cash flows.

Although we have long-term contracts with our suppliers, most of these contracts do not provide for long-term capacity commitments. To the extent we do not have firm commitments from our suppliers over a specific time period or for any specific quantity, our suppliers may allocate, and in the past have allocated, capacity to the production and testing of products for their other customers while reducing or limiting capacity to manufacture or test our products, and such capacity may be limited based on our suppliers' ability and willingness to invest in the capital required to manufacture in the leading process technologies. Accordingly, capacity for our products may not be available when we need it or at reasonable prices. To the extent we do obtain long-term capacity commitments, we may incur additional costs related to those commitments or make non-refundable payments for capacity commitments that are not used.

Our suppliers or potential alternate suppliers may manufacture CDMA- or OFDMA-based integrated circuits, for themselves or for other companies, that compete with our products. Such suppliers have in the past and could again elect to allocate raw materials and manufacturing capacity to their own products or products of our competitors and reduce or limit the production of our products.

In addition, we may not receive reasonable pricing, manufacturing or delivery terms from our suppliers. We cannot guarantee that the actions of our suppliers will not cause disruptions in our operations that could harm our ability to meet our delivery obligations to our customers or increase our cost of sales. To the extent we are unable to obtain adequate supply, we may be obligated to make payment to our customers for such shortfalls.

Additionally, we place orders with our suppliers using our and our customers' forecasts of demand for our products, which are based on a number of assumptions and estimates. As we move to smaller geometry process technologies, the manufacturing lead-time increases. As a result, the orders we place with our suppliers are generally only partially covered by commitments from our customers. If we, or our customers, overestimate demand, or if demand is impacted by factors outside of our or our customers' control, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, that is not under a binding commitment from our customers, we may experience increased excess or obsolete inventory, which would negatively impact our results of operations.

***There are numerous risks associated with the operation and control of our manufacturing facilities, including a higher portion of fixed costs relative to a fabless model, environmental compliance and liability, impacts related to climate change, exposure to natural disasters, timely supply of equipment and materials, and various manufacturing issues.***

We own and operate various facilities that manufacture certain of our RFFE modules and RF filter products. Manufacturing facilities are characterized by a higher portion of fixed costs relative to a fabless model. We may be faced with a decline in the utilization rates of our manufacturing facilities due to decreases in demand for our products, including in less favorable industry environments, or due to our failure to win and/or retain designs with OEMs. During such periods, our

manufacturing facilities could operate at lower capacity levels, while the fixed costs associated with such facilities would continue to be incurred, resulting in lower gross profit.

We are subject to many environmental, health and safety laws and regulations in each jurisdiction in which we operate our manufacturing facilities, which govern, among other things, emissions of pollutants into the air; wastewater discharges; the use, storage, generation, handling and disposal of hazardous substances and other waste; the investigation and remediation of soil and ground water contamination; and the health and safety of our employees. Certain environmental laws impose strict, and in certain circumstances joint and several, liability on current or previous owners or operators of real property, or parties who arranged for hazardous substances to be sent to disposal or treatment facilities, for the cost of investigation, removal or remediation of hazardous substances. As a result, we may incur clean-up costs in connection with any such removal or remediation efforts, as well as other third-party claims in connection with contaminated sites. In addition, we could be held liable for consequences arising out of human exposure to hazardous substances or other environmental damage. If we, or companies or facilities we acquire or have acquired, in the past failed or in the future fail to comply with any such laws and regulations, then we could incur liabilities, fines or prohibitions on the sale of products we manufacture, and our operations could be suspended. Such laws and regulations could also restrict our ability to modify or expand our facilities, could require us to acquire costly equipment, or could require other significant expenditures. We are also required to obtain and maintain environmental permits from governmental authorities for certain of our operations. While we have policies and procedures designed to ensure compliance with applicable laws, regulations and permits, we cannot make assurances that we, or our employees, contractors or agents, will at all times be in compliance with such laws, regulations and permits, or our related policies and procedures.

Climate change concerns and the potential resulting environmental impact may result in new environmental, health and safety laws and regulations that may affect us, our suppliers and our customers. Such laws or regulations could cause us to incur additional direct costs for compliance, as well as increased indirect costs resulting from our customers, suppliers or both incurring additional compliance costs that are passed on to us. These costs may adversely impact our results of operations and financial condition. In addition, climate change may pose physical risks to our manufacturing facilities or our suppliers' facilities, including increased extreme weather events that could result in supply delays or disruptions.

We have manufacturing facilities in Asia and Europe. If tsunamis, flooding, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions or other natural disasters, effects of climate change or geopolitical conflicts, were to damage, destroy or disrupt our manufacturing facilities, it could disrupt our operations, delay production and shipments of inventory and result in costly repairs, replacements or other costs. In addition, natural disasters, effects of climate change or geopolitical conflicts may result in disruptions in transportation, distribution channels and supply chains, and significant increases in the prices of raw materials. Further, health crises, including epidemics or pandemics, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, and government and business responses thereto, could affect our manufacturing facilities, including by resulting in quarantines and/or closures, which would result in disruptions to and potential closures of our manufacturing operations.

Our manufacturing operations depend on securing raw materials and other supplies in adequate quality and quantity in a timely manner from multiple suppliers, and in some cases, we rely on a limited number of suppliers, including in some cases sole suppliers, particularly in Asia. There may be cases where supplies of raw materials and other products are interrupted by disaster, accident or some other event at a supplier; supply is suspended due to quality or other issues; there is a shortage of supply due to a rapid increase in demand; and/or we or our suppliers are prohibited from utilizing certain raw materials, or products or components that incorporate such raw materials, due to government restrictions related to the countries from which such raw materials originate, and acceptable alternative suppliers, raw materials or raw materials sources are not available or not available in acceptable time frames or upon acceptable terms, among others, which could impact production and prevent us from supplying our products to our customers. If the supply-demand balance is disrupted, it may considerably increase costs of manufacturing due to increased prices we pay for raw materials. From time to time, suppliers may extend lead times, limit amounts supplied to us or increase prices due to capacity constraints or other factors. Additionally, supply and costs of raw materials may be negatively impacted by trade and/or national security protection policies, such as tariffs, or actions by governments that limit or prevent us from transacting business with certain countries or companies or that limit or prevent certain companies from transacting business with us, or trade tensions, particularly with countries in Asia. Further, it may be difficult or impossible to substitute one piece of equipment for another or replace one type of material with another. A failure by our suppliers to deliver our requirements could result in disruptions to our manufacturing operations.

Our manufacturing processes are highly complex, require advanced and costly equipment and must be continuously modified to improve yields and performance. Difficulties in the production process can reduce yields or interrupt production, and as a result, we may not be able to deliver our products or do so in a timely, cost-effective or competitive manner. Further, to remain competitive and meet customer demand, we may be required to improve our facilities and process technologies and



carry out extensive research and development, each of which may require investment of significant amounts of capital and may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, cash flows and financial condition.

Finally, we typically begin manufacturing our products using our or our customers' forecasts of demand for our products, which are based on a number of assumptions and estimates and are generally not covered by purchase commitments. As a result, we incur inventory and manufacturing costs in advance of anticipated sales, which sales ultimately may not materialize or may be lower than expected. If we or our customers overestimate demand, or if demand is impacted by factors outside of our or our customers' control such as the COVID-19 pandemic or trade or national security protection policies, that is not under a binding commitment from our customers, we may experience higher inventory carrying and operating costs and/or increased excess or obsolete inventory, which would negatively impact our results of operations.

#### **RISKS RELATED TO NEW AND ADJACENT INITIATIVES**

***Our growth depends in part on our ability to extend our technologies and products into new and expanded product areas, and adjacent industry segments or applications beyond mobile. Our research, development and other investments in these new and expanded product areas, industry segments or applications, and related technologies and products, as well as in our existing technologies and products, and new technologies, may not generate operating income or contribute to future results of operations that meet our expectations.***

While we continue to invest significant resources toward advancements primarily in support of 4G- and 5G-based technologies, we also invest in new and expanded product areas, and adjacent industry segments or applications, by utilizing our existing technical and business expertise and through acquisitions.

In particular, our future growth depends in part on new and expanded product areas, such as RFFE, and adjacent industry segments or applications beyond mobile, such as automotive and IoT; our ability to develop leading and cost-effective technologies and products for new and expanded product areas, adjacent industry segments or applications; and third parties incorporating our technologies and products into devices used in these product areas, industry segments or applications. Accordingly, we intend to continue to make substantial investments in these new and expanded product areas and adjacent industry segments or applications, and in developing new products and technologies for these product areas, industry segments or applications. Our growth also depends significantly on our ability to develop and patent 5G technologies, and to develop and commercialize products using 5G technologies.

However, our research, development and other investments in these new and expanded product areas and adjacent industry segments or applications, and corresponding technologies and products, as well as in our existing, technologies and products and new technologies, such as 5G, use of licensed, shared and unlicensed spectrum and convergence of cellular and Wi-Fi, may not succeed because, among other reasons: we may not be issued patents on the technologies we develop; the technologies we develop may not be incorporated into relevant standards; new and expanded product areas, adjacent industry segments or applications, and consumer demand therein, may not develop or grow as anticipated; our strategies or the strategies of our customers, licensees or partners may not be successful; alternate technologies may be better or may reduce the advantages we anticipate from our investments; competitors' technologies or products may be more cost effective, have more capabilities or fewer limitations or are brought to market faster than our new technologies or products; we may not be able to develop, or our competitors may have more established and/or stronger, customer, vendor, distributor or other channel relationships; and competitors may have longer operating histories in industry segments or applications that are new to us. We may also underestimate the costs of or overestimate the future revenues or margins that could result from these investments, and these investments may not, or may take many years to, generate material returns.

Further, the automotive industry is subject to long design-in time frames, long product life cycles and a high degree of regulatory and safety requirements, necessitating suppliers to the industry to comply with stringent qualification processes, very low defect rates and high reliability standards, all of which results in significant barriers to entry and increased costs.

If our new technologies and products are not successful, or are not successful in the time frames we anticipate, we may incur significant costs and asset impairments, our business and revenues may not grow or grow as anticipated, our revenues and margins may be negatively impacted, our stock price may decline and our reputation may be harmed.

***We may engage in strategic acquisitions and other transactions or make investments, or be unable to consummate planned strategic acquisitions, which could adversely affect our results of operations or fail to enhance stockholder value.***

We engage in strategic acquisitions and other transactions, including joint ventures, and make investments, which we believe are important to the future of our business, with the goal of maximizing stockholder value. From time to time, we acquire businesses and other assets, including patents, technology and other intangible assets, enter into joint ventures or other strategic transactions and purchase minority equity interests in or make loans to companies, including those that may be private and early-stage. Our strategic activities are generally focused on opening or expanding opportunities for our products

and technologies and supporting the design and introduction of new products (or enhancing existing products) for mobile, and for new industry segments or applications beyond mobile. Many of our strategic activities entail a high degree of risk and require the use of significant amounts of capital, and investments may not become liquid for several years after the date of the investment, if at all. Our strategic activities may not generate financial returns or result in increased adoption or continued use of our technologies or products. We may underestimate the costs or overestimate the benefits, including product, revenue, cost and other synergies and growth opportunities that we expect to realize, and we may not achieve those benefits. In some cases, we may be required to consolidate or record our share of the earnings or losses of companies in which we have acquired ownership interests. In addition, we have in the past and may record impairment charges in the future related to our strategic activities. Any losses or impairment charges that we incur related to strategic activities will have a negative impact on our results of operations and financial condition, and we may continue to incur new or additional losses related to strategic assets or investments that we have not fully impaired or exited.

Achieving the anticipated benefits of business acquisitions, including joint ventures and other strategic investments in which we have management and operational control, depends in part upon our ability to integrate the businesses in an efficient and effective manner and achieve anticipated synergies, and we may not be successful in these efforts. Such integration is complex and time consuming and involves significant challenges, including, among others: retaining key employees; successfully integrating new employees, facilities, technology, products, processes, operations (including supply and manufacturing operations), sales and distribution channels, business models and business systems; retaining customers and suppliers of the businesses; consolidating research and development operations; minimizing the diversion of management's attention from ongoing business matters; consolidating corporate and administrative infrastructures; and managing the increased scale, complexity and globalization of our business, operations and employee base. We may not derive any commercial value from associated technologies or products or from future technologies or products based on these technologies, and we may be subject to liabilities that are not covered by indemnification protection that we may obtain, and we may become subject to litigation. Additionally, we may not be successful in entering or expanding into new sales or distribution channels, business or operational models, geographic regions, industry segments or applications served by or adjacent to the associated businesses or in addressing potential new opportunities that may arise out of our strategic acquisitions.

If we do not achieve the anticipated benefits of business acquisitions or other strategic activities, our business and results of operations may be adversely affected, and we may not enhance stockholder value by engaging in these transactions.

Many of our acquisitions and other strategic investments require approval by the United States and foreign government agencies. Certain agencies in the past have, and may in the future, deny the transaction or fail to approve in a timely manner, resulting in us not realizing the anticipated benefits of the proposed transaction. Future acquisitions or other strategic investments may be more difficult, complex or expensive to the extent that our reputation for our ability to consummate acquisitions has been harmed. Further, if U.S./China relations remain strained, our ability to consummate any transaction that would require approval from the relevant regulatory agency(ies) in China may be severely impacted.

#### **RISKS RELATED TO CYBERSECURITY OR MISAPPROPRIATION OF OUR CRITICAL INFORMATION**

***Our business and operations could suffer in the event of security breaches of our information technology systems, or other misappropriation of our technology, intellectual property or other proprietary or confidential information.***

Third parties regularly attempt to gain unauthorized access to our information technology systems, and many such attempts are increasingly more sophisticated. The perception that the COVID-19 pandemic has made companies' information technology systems more vulnerable has increased the already significant volume of such attempts. These attempts, which might be related to industrial, corporate or other espionage, criminal hackers or state-sponsored intrusions, include trying to covertly introduce malware to our computers and networks, including those in our manufacturing operations, and impersonating authorized users, among others. We may also be subject to ransom-style cyber-attacks, which could impact our information technology systems and cause widespread disruption to our business, including our manufacturing operations, and expose our confidential or proprietary information. In addition, third parties that we may rely on to store and/or process our confidential information may also be subject to similar threats. Such threats could result in the misappropriation, theft, misuse, disclosure, loss or destruction of the technology, intellectual property, or the proprietary, confidential or personal information, of us or our employees, customers, licensees, suppliers or other third parties, as well as damage to or disruptions in our information technology systems. These threats are constantly evolving, increasing the difficulty of successfully defending against them or implementing adequate preventative measures. We seek to detect and investigate all security incidents and to prevent their recurrence, but attempts to gain unauthorized access to our information technology systems or other attacks have in the past, in certain instances and to certain degrees, been successful (but have not caused significant harm), and may in the future be successful, and in some cases, we might be unaware of an incident or its magnitude and effects.

In addition, employees and former employees, in particular former employees who become employees of our competitors, customers, licensees or other third parties, including state actors, have in the past and may in the future misappropriate, use, publish or provide to our competitors, customers, licensees or other third parties, including state actors, our technology, intellectual property or other proprietary or confidential information. This risk is exacerbated as competitors for talent, particularly engineering talent, increasingly attempt to hire our employees. See also the Risk Factor titled *"We may not be able to attract and retain qualified employees."* Similarly, we provide access to certain of our technology, intellectual property and other proprietary or confidential information to our direct and indirect customers and licensees and certain of our consultants, who have in the past and may in the future wrongfully use such technology, intellectual property or information, or wrongfully disclose such technology, intellectual property or information to third parties, including our competitors or state actors. We also provide access to certain of our technology, intellectual property and other proprietary or confidential information to certain of our joint venture partners, including those affiliated with state actors and including in foreign jurisdictions where ownership restrictions may require us to take a minority ownership interest in the joint venture. Such joint venture partners may wrongfully use such technology, intellectual property or information, or wrongfully disclose such technology, intellectual property or information to third parties, including our competitors or state actors.

The misappropriation, theft, misuse, disclosure, loss or destruction of the technology, intellectual property, or the proprietary, confidential or personal information, of us or our employees, customers, licensees, suppliers or other third parties, could harm our competitive position, reduce the value of our investment in research and development and other strategic initiatives, cause us to lose business, damage our reputation, subject us to legal or regulatory proceedings, cause us to incur other loss or liability and otherwise adversely affect our business. We expect to continue to devote significant resources to the security of our information technology systems, and our technology, intellectual property and proprietary and confidential information.

Further, China has implemented, and other countries or regions may implement, cybersecurity laws that require our overall information technology security environment to meet certain standards and/or be certified. Such laws may be complex, ambiguous and subject to interpretation, which may create uncertainty regarding compliance. As a result, our efforts to comply with such laws may be expensive and may fail, which could adversely affect our business, results of operations and cash flows.

#### **RISKS RELATED TO INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

***The enforcement and protection of our intellectual property may be expensive, could fail to prevent misappropriation or unauthorized use of our intellectual property, could result in the loss of our ability to enforce one or more patents, and could be adversely affected by changes in patent laws, by laws in certain foreign jurisdictions that may not effectively protect our intellectual property and by ineffective enforcement of laws in such jurisdictions.***

We rely primarily on patent, copyright, trademark and trade secret laws, as well as nondisclosure and confidentiality agreements, international treaties and other methods, to protect our intellectual property, including our patent portfolio. Policing unauthorized use of our products, technologies and intellectual property is difficult and time consuming. The steps we have taken have not always prevented, and we cannot be certain the steps we will take in the future will prevent, the misappropriation or unauthorized use of our products, technologies or intellectual property, particularly in foreign countries where the laws may not protect our rights as fully or as readily as U.S. laws or where the enforcement of such laws may be lacking or ineffective. See also the Risk Factor titled *"Our business and operations could suffer in the event of security breaches of our information technology systems, or other misappropriation of our technology, intellectual property or other proprietary or confidential information."*

Some industry participants who have a vested interest in devaluing patents in general, or standard-essential patents in particular, have mounted attacks on certain patent systems, increasing the likelihood of changes to established patent laws. In the United States, there is continued discussion regarding potential patent law changes and current and potential future litigation regarding patents, the outcomes of which could be detrimental to our licensing business. The laws in certain foreign countries in which our products are or may be manufactured or sold, including certain countries in Asia, may not protect our intellectual property rights to the same extent as the laws in the United States. We cannot predict with certainty the long-term effects of any potential changes. In addition, we cannot be certain that the laws and policies of any country or the practices of any standards bodies, foreign or domestic, with respect to intellectual property enforcement or licensing or the adoption of standards, will not be changed in the future in a way detrimental to our licensing program or to the sale or use of our products or technologies.

We have had and may in the future have difficulty in certain circumstances in protecting or enforcing our intellectual property and contracts, including collecting royalties for use of our patent portfolio due to, among others: refusal by certain licensees to report and pay all or a portion of the royalties they owe to us; policies or political actions of governments,

including trade protection and national security policies; challenges to our licensing practices under competition laws; adoption of mandatory licensing provisions by foreign jurisdictions; failure of foreign courts to recognize and enforce judgments of contract breach and damages issued by courts in the United States; and challenges before competition agencies to our licensing business and the pricing and integration of additional features and functionality into our chipset products. See also the Risk Factors titled *“Efforts by some OEMs to avoid paying fair and reasonable royalties for the use of our intellectual property may require the investment of substantial management time and financial resources and may result in legal decisions or actions by governments, courts, regulators or agencies, Standards Development Organizations (SDOs) or other industry organizations that harm our business”* and *“Our business may suffer as a result of adverse rulings in government investigations or proceedings.”*

We have engaged in litigation and arbitration in the past and may need to further litigate or arbitrate in the future to enforce our contract and intellectual property rights, protect our trade secrets or determine the validity and scope of proprietary rights of others. As a result of any such litigation or arbitration, we could lose our ability to enforce one or more patents, portions of our license agreements could be determined to be invalid or unenforceable (which may in turn result in other licensees either not complying with their existing license agreements or initiating litigation or arbitration), license terms (including but not limited to royalty rates for the use of our intellectual property) could be imposed that are less favorable to us than existing terms, and we could incur substantial costs. Any action we take to enforce our contract or intellectual property rights could be costly and could absorb significant management time and attention, which, in turn, could negatively impact our results of operations and cash flows. Further, even a positive resolution to our enforcement efforts may take time to conclude, which may reduce our revenues and cash resources available for other purposes, such as research and development, in the periods prior to conclusion.

Additionally, although our license agreements provide us with the right to audit the books and records of licensees, audits can be expensive, time consuming, incomplete and subject to dispute. Further, certain licensees may not comply with the obligation to provide full access to their books and records. To the extent we do not aggressively enforce our rights under our license agreements, licensees may not comply with their existing license agreements, and to the extent we do not aggressively pursue unlicensed companies to enter into license agreements with us for their use of our intellectual property, other unlicensed companies may not enter into license agreements. Similarly, we provide access to certain of our intellectual property and proprietary and confidential business information to our direct and indirect customers and licensees, who have in the past and may in the future wrongfully use such intellectual property and information or wrongfully disclose such intellectual property and information to third parties, including our competitors. See also the Risk Factor titled *“Efforts by some OEMs to avoid paying fair and reasonable royalties for the use of our intellectual property may require the investment of substantial management time and financial resources and may result in legal decisions or actions by governments, courts, regulators or agencies, Standards Development Organizations (SDOs) or other industry organizations that harm our business.”*

***Claims by other companies that we infringe their intellectual property could adversely affect our business.***

From time to time, companies have asserted, and may again assert, patent, copyright and other intellectual property claims against our products or products using our technologies or other technologies used in our industry. These claims have resulted and may again result in our involvement in litigation. We may not prevail in such litigation given, among other factors, the complex technical issues and inherent uncertainties in intellectual property litigation. If any of our products were found to infringe another company’s intellectual property, we could be subject to an injunction or be required to redesign our products, or to license such intellectual property or pay damages or other compensation to such other company (any of which could be costly). If we are unable to redesign our products, license such intellectual property used in our products or otherwise distribute our products (e.g., through a licensed supplier), we could be prohibited from making and selling our products. Similarly, our suppliers could be found to infringe another company’s intellectual property, and such suppliers could then be enjoined from providing products or services to us.

In any potential dispute involving us and another company’s patents or other intellectual property, our chipset foundries, semiconductor assembly and test providers and customers could also become the targets of litigation. We are contingently liable under certain product sales, services, license and other agreements to indemnify certain customers, chipset foundries and semiconductor assembly and test service providers against certain types of liability and damages arising from qualifying claims of patent infringement by products sold by us, or by intellectual property provided by us to our chipset foundries and semiconductor assembly and test service providers. Reimbursements under indemnification arrangements could have an adverse effect on our results of operations and cash flows. Furthermore, any such litigation could severely disrupt the supply of our products and the businesses of our chipset customers and their customers, which in turn could harm our relationships with them and could result in a decline in our chipset sales or a reduction in our licensees’ sales, causing a corresponding decline in our chipset or licensing revenues. Any claims, regardless of their merit, could be time consuming to address, result

in costly litigation, divert the efforts of our technical and management personnel or cause product release or shipment delays, any of which could have an adverse effect on our results of operations and cash flows.

We may continue to be involved in litigation and may have to appear in front of administrative bodies (such as the United States International Trade Commission) to defend against patent assertions against our products by companies, some of whom are attempting to gain competitive advantage or leverage in licensing negotiations. We may not be successful in such proceedings, and if we are not, the range of possible outcomes is very broad and may include, for example, monetary damages or fines or other orders to pay money, royalty payments, injunctions on the sale of certain of our integrated circuit products (or on the sale of our customers' devices using such products) or the issuance of orders to cease certain conduct or modify our business practices. Further, a governmental body in a particular country or region may assert, and may be successful in imposing, remedies with effects that extend beyond the borders of that country or region. In addition, a negative outcome in any such proceeding could severely disrupt the business of our chipset customers and their wireless operator customers, which in turn could harm our relationships with them and could result in a decline in our chipset sales or a reduction in our licensees' sales to wireless operators, causing corresponding declines in our chipset or licensing revenues.

Certain legal matters, which may include certain claims by other companies that we infringe their intellectual property, are described more fully in this Quarterly Report in "Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, Note 5. Commitments and Contingencies."

***Our use of open source software may harm our business.***

Certain of our software and our suppliers' software may contain or may be derived from "open source" software, and we have seen, and believe that we will continue to see, an increase in customers requesting that we develop products, including software associated with our integrated circuit products, that incorporate open source software elements and operate in an open source environment, which, under certain open source licenses, may offer accessibility to a portion of our products' source code and may expose our related intellectual property to adverse licensing conditions. Licensing of such software may impose certain obligations on us if we were to distribute derivative works of that software. For example, these obligations may require us to make source code for the derivative works available to our customers in a manner that allows them to make such source code available to their customers or license such derivative works under a particular type of license that is different than what we customarily use to license our software. Furthermore, in the course of product development, we may make contributions to third-party open source projects that could obligate our intellectual property to adverse licensing conditions. For example, to encourage the growth of a software ecosystem that is interoperable with our products, we may need to contribute certain implementations under the open source licensing terms that govern such projects, which may adversely impact our associated intellectual property. Developing open source products, while adequately protecting the intellectual property upon which our licensing program depends, may prove burdensome and time-consuming under certain circumstances, thereby placing us at a competitive disadvantage, and we may not adequately protect our intellectual property. Also, our use and our customers' use of open source software may subject our products and our customers' products to governmental and third-party scrutiny and delays in product certification, which could cause customers to view our products as less desirable than our competitors' products. While we believe we have taken appropriate steps and employ adequate controls to protect our intellectual property, our contributions to and use of open source software presents risks that could have an adverse effect on these and on our business.

**RISKS RELATED TO HUMAN CAPITAL MANAGEMENT**

***We may not be able to attract and retain qualified employees.***

Our future success depends upon the continued service of our executive officers and other key management and technical personnel, and on our ability to continue to identify, attract, retain and motivate them. Implementing our business strategy requires specialized engineering and other talent, as our revenues are highly dependent on technological and product innovations. The market for employees in our industry is extremely competitive, and competitors for talent, particularly engineering talent, increasingly attempt to hire, and to varying degrees have been successful in hiring, our employees, including by establishing local offices near our headquarters in San Diego, California. A number of such competitors for talent are significantly larger than us and are able to offer compensation in excess of what we are able to offer. Further, existing immigration laws make it more difficult for us to recruit and retain highly skilled foreign national graduates of universities in the United States, making the pool of available talent even smaller. If we are unable to attract and retain qualified employees, our business may be harmed.

**RISKS RELATED TO PRODUCT DEFECTS OR SECURITY VULNERABILITIES**

***Failures in our products, or in the products of our customers or licensees, including those resulting from security vulnerabilities, defects or errors, could harm our business.***

Our products (including related software) are complex and may contain defects, errors or security vulnerabilities, or experience failures or unsatisfactory performance, due to any number of issues, including issues in materials, design, fabrication, packaging and/or use within a system. Further, because of the complexity of our products, defects or errors might only be detected when the products are in use. Development of products in new domains of technology, such as the transition to 5G, and the migration to integrated circuit technologies with smaller geometric feature sizes, increases complexity and adds risk to manufacturing yields and reliability, and increases the likelihood of product defects or errors. Risks associated with product defects, errors or security vulnerabilities are exacerbated by the fact that our customers typically integrate our products into consumer and other devices.

The use of devices containing our products to interact with untrusted systems or otherwise access untrusted content creates a risk of exposing the system hardware and software in those devices to malicious attacks. Security vulnerabilities in our products could expose our customers or end users to hackers or other unscrupulous third parties who develop and deploy viruses, worms and other malicious software programs that could attack our products or those of our customers. While we continue to focus on this issue and take measures to safeguard our products from cybersecurity threats, device capabilities continue to evolve, enabling more elaborate functionality and applications, and increasing the risk of security failures.

Our products may be responsible for critical functions in our customers' products and networks. Failure of our products to perform to specifications, or other product defects, errors or security vulnerabilities, could lead to substantial damage to the products we sell to our customers, the devices into which our products are integrated and to the end users of such devices. Such defects, errors or security vulnerabilities could give rise to significant costs, including costs related to developing solutions, recalling products, repairing or replacing defective products, writing down defective inventory, or the indemnification clauses in our agreements, and could result in the loss of sales and divert the attention of our engineering personnel from our product development efforts. In addition, defects, errors or security vulnerabilities in our products could result in failure to achieve market acceptance, a loss of design wins, a shifting of business to our competitors, and litigation or regulatory action against us, and could harm our reputation, our relationships with customers and partners and our ability to attract new customers, as well as the perceptions of our brand. Other potential adverse impacts of product defects, errors or security vulnerabilities include shipment delays, write-offs of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets, and losses on unfavorable purchase commitments. In addition, defects, errors or security vulnerabilities in the products of our customers or licensees could cause a delay or decrease in demand for the products into which our products are integrated, and thus for our products.

In addition, the occurrence of defects may give rise to product liability claims, particularly if defects in our products or the products into which they are integrated result in personal injury or death, and could result in significant costs, expenses and losses. If a product liability claim is brought against us, the cost of defending the claim could be significant, and could divert the efforts of our technical and management personnel and harm our business, even if we are successful. We may be named in product liability claims even if there is no evidence that our products caused the damage in question, and even though we may have indemnity from our customers, and such claims could result in significant costs and expenses. Further, our business liability insurance may be inadequate, or future coverage may be unavailable on acceptable terms, which could adversely impact our financial results. The above is exacerbated by the fact that our products may be used, and perform critical functions, in various high-risk applications such as automobiles, including autonomous driver assistance programs; cameras and artificial intelligence, including home and enterprise security; home automation, including smoke and noxious gas detectors; medical condition monitoring; location and asset tracking and management, including wearables for child safety and elderly health; robotics, including public safety drones and autonomous municipality vehicles; and extended reality (XR) for treatment of phobias or PTSD, early detection of disorders or special needs, among others.

Accordingly, defects, errors or security vulnerabilities in our products could have an adverse impact on us, on our customers and the end users of our customers' products. If any of these risks materialize, there could be a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

#### **GENERAL RISK FACTORS**

***We operate in the highly cyclical semiconductor industry, which is subject to significant downturns. We are also susceptible to declines in global, regional and local economic conditions generally. Our stock price and financial results are subject to substantial quarterly and annual fluctuations due to these dynamics, among others.***

The semiconductor industry is highly cyclical, volatile, subject to downturns and characterized by constant and rapid technological change, price erosion, evolving technical standards, frequent new product introductions, short product life cycles and fluctuations in product supply and demand. Periods of downturns have been characterized by diminished demand for end-user products, high inventory levels, excess or obsolete inventory adjustments, underutilization of manufacturing capacity, changes in revenue mix and erosion of average selling prices. We expect our business to continue to be subject to

such cyclical downturns. Consequently, our revenues may decline, and our results of operations and financial condition may be adversely impacted.

A decline in global, regional or local economic conditions or a slow-down in economic growth, particularly in geographic regions with high concentrations of wireless voice and data users or high concentrations of our customers or licensees, could have adverse, wide-ranging effects on our business and financial results, including a decrease in demand for our products and technologies; a decrease in demand for the products and services of our customers or licensees; the inability of our suppliers to deliver on their supply commitments to us, our inability to supply our products to our customers and/or the inability of our customers or licensees to supply their products to end users; the insolvency of key suppliers, customers or licensees; delays in reporting or payments from our customers or licensees; failures by counterparties; and/or negative effects on wireless device inventories. In addition, our customers' and licensees' ability to purchase or pay for our products and intellectual property and network operators' ability to upgrade their wireless networks could be adversely affected, potentially leading to a reduction, cancellation or delay of orders for our products.

Our stock price and financial results have fluctuated in the past and are likely to fluctuate in the future. Factors that may have a significant impact on the market price of our stock and our financial results include those identified above and throughout this Risk Factors section; volatility of the stock market in general and technology and semiconductor companies in particular; announcements concerning us, our suppliers, our competitors or our customers or licensees; and variations between our actual financial results or guidance and expectations of securities analysts or investors, among others. In the past, securities class action litigation has been brought against companies following periods of volatility in the market price of their securities, among other reasons. We are and may in the future be the target of securities litigation. Securities litigation could result in substantial uninsured costs and divert management's attention and our resources. Certain legal matters, including certain securities litigation brought against us, are described more fully in this Quarterly Report in "Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, Note 5. Commitments and Contingencies."

***Our business may suffer due to the impact of, or our failure to comply with, the various existing, new or amended laws, regulations, policies or standards to which we are subject.***

Our business and products, and those of our customers and licensees, are subject to various laws, rules and regulations globally as well as government policies and the specifications of international, national and regional communications standards bodies (collectively, Regulations). Compliance with, or changes in the interpretation of, existing Regulations, changes in the oversight of our activities by governments or standards bodies, or rulings in court, regulatory, administrative or other proceedings relating to such Regulations, including, among others, Regulations affecting patent licensing practices; antitrust, competition and competitive business practices; the flow of funds out of certain countries (e.g., China); cybersecurity; import and export regulations such as the U.S. Export Administration Regulations administered by the U.S. Department of Commerce; protection of intellectual property; trade and trade protection including tariffs; foreign policy and national security; environmental protection, health and safety; supply chain, responsible sourcing, including the use of conflict minerals, and human rights; spectrum availability and license issuance; adoption of standards; taxation; privacy and data protection; labor, employment and human capital; corporate governance; public disclosure; or business conduct, could have an adverse effect on our business and results of operations. See also the Risk Factors titled *"Our business may suffer as a result of adverse rulings in government investigations or proceedings," "Changes in our patent licensing practices, whether due to governmental investigations or private legal proceedings challenging those practices, or otherwise, could adversely impact our business and results of operations," "A significant portion of our business is concentrated in China, and the risks of such concentration are exacerbated by U.S./China trade and national security tensions," "There are numerous risks associated with the operation and control of our manufacturing facilities, including a higher portion of fixed costs relative to a fabless model, environmental compliance and liability, issues related to climate change, exposure to natural disasters, timely supply of equipment and materials, and various manufacturing issues," and "Tax liabilities could adversely affect our results of operations."*

Regulations are complex and changing (which may create uncertainty regarding compliance), are subject to varying interpretations, and their application in practice may evolve over time. As a result, our efforts to comply with Regulations may fail, particularly if there is ambiguity as to how they should be applied in practice. Failure to comply with any Regulation may adversely affect our business, results of operations and cash flows. New Regulations or evolving interpretations thereof, may cause us to incur higher costs as we revise current practices, policies or procedures and may divert management time and attention to compliance activities.

***There are risks associated with our debt.***

Our outstanding debt and any additional debt we incur may have negative consequences on our business, including, among others: requiring us to use cash to pay the principal of and interest on our debt, thereby reducing the amount of cash

available for other purposes; limiting our ability to obtain additional financing for working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions, stock repurchases, dividends, general corporate or other purposes; and limiting our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business, industries or the market. Our ability to make payments of principal and interest on our indebtedness depends upon our future performance, which is subject to economic and political conditions, industry cycles and financial, business and other factors, many of which are beyond our control. If we are unable to generate sufficient cash flow from operations to service our debt, we may be required to, among other things: refinance or restructure all or a portion of our debt; reduce or delay planned capital or operating expenditures; reduce, suspend or eliminate our dividend payments and/or our stock repurchase program; or sell selected assets. Such measures might not be sufficient to enable us to service our debt. In addition, any such refinancing, restructuring or sale of assets might not be available on economically favorable terms or at all, and if prevailing interest rates at the time of any such refinancing or restructuring are higher than our current rates, interest expense related to such refinancing or restructuring would increase. Further, if there are adverse changes in the ratings assigned to our debt securities by credit rating agencies, our borrowing costs, our ability to access debt in the future and the terms of such debt could be adversely affected.

***Tax liabilities could adversely affect our results of operations.***

We are subject to income taxes in the United States and numerous foreign jurisdictions. Significant judgment is required in determining our provision for income taxes. We regularly are subject to examination of our tax returns and reports by taxing authorities in the United States federal jurisdiction and various state and foreign jurisdictions, most notably in countries where we earn a routine return and the tax authorities believe substantial value-add activities are performed, as well as countries where we own intellectual property. Although we believe that our tax estimates are reasonable, the final determination of tax audits and any related legal proceedings could materially differ from amounts reflected in our income tax provisions and accruals. In such case, our income tax provision, results of operations and cash flows in the period or periods in which that determination is made could be negatively affected.

Tax rules may change in a manner that adversely affects our future reported results of operations or the way we conduct our business. In response to the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act and to better align our profits with our activities, we implemented certain restructuring in fiscal 2018 and 2019. After our restructuring, most of our income is taxable in the United States with a significant portion qualifying for preferential treatment as FDII (foreign-derived intangible income). Beginning in fiscal 2027, the effective tax rate for FDII increases from 13% to 16%. Further, if U.S. tax rates increase or the FDII deduction is eliminated or reduced, our provision for income taxes, results of operations and cash flows would be adversely affected. Also, if our customers move manufacturing operations to the United States, our FDII deduction may be reduced.

We have tax incentives in Singapore that require we meet specified employment and other criteria. Although our profit in Singapore has declined as a result of our 2018 restructuring, failure to meet these incentive requirements near the end of March 2021 and March 2022 could result in a retroactive Singapore tax increase for 2017 and 2018.

Further changes in the tax laws of foreign jurisdictions could arise as a result of the base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS) project that was undertaken by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). The OECD, which represents a coalition of member countries, recommended changes to numerous long-standing tax principles related to transfer pricing and continues to develop new proposals including allocating greater taxing rights to countries where customers are located and establishing a minimum tax on global income. These changes, as adopted by countries, may increase tax uncertainty and may adversely affect our provision for income taxes, results of operations and cash flows. Partially to address BEPS, we moved certain intellectual property from Singapore to the United States as part of our 2018 and 2019 restructuring.

**ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK**

Financial market risks related to interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates and equity prices are described in our 2020 Annual Report on Form 10-K. At December 27, 2020, the recorded value of our marketable equity securities was \$425 million, which primarily consisted of holdings in certain Chinese companies that we are required to divest by November 11, 2021 as a result of recent regulations in the U.S., which regulations may in the future affect the price and/or volatility of such investments. At December 27, 2020, there have been no other material changes to the financial market risks described at September 27, 2020. We do not currently anticipate any other near-term changes in the nature of our financial market risk exposures or in management's objectives and strategies with respect to managing such exposures.

**ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

***Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures.*** Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, we conducted an evaluation of our



disclosure controls and procedures, as such terms are defined under Rule 13a-15(e) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Based on this evaluation, our principal executive officer and our principal financial officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the end of the period covered by this Quarterly Report.

**Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting.** There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting in the first quarter of fiscal 2021 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

## PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

### ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Information regarding certain legal proceedings is provided in this Quarterly Report in “Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, Note 5. Commitments and Contingencies.” We are also engaged in numerous other legal actions arising in the ordinary course of our business and, while there can be no assurance, we believe that the ultimate outcome of these other legal actions will not have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition or cash flows.

### ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

We have provided updated Risk Factors in the section labeled “Risk Factors” in “Part I, Item 2, Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.” We do not believe those updates have materially changed the type or magnitude of the risks we face in comparison to the disclosure provided in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K.

### ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS

Our purchases of equity securities in the first quarter of fiscal 2021 were:

	Total Number of Shares Purchased (In thousands)	Average Price Paid Per Share (1)	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs (In thousands)	Approximate Dollar Value of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs (2) (In millions)
September 28, 2020 to October 25, 2020	3	\$ 124.99	3	\$ 4,613
October 26, 2020 to November 22, 2020	827	123.83	827	4,511
November 23, 2020 to December 27, 2020	2,275	149.82	2,275	4,170
Total	3,105		3,105	

(1) Average Price Paid Per Share excludes cash paid for commissions.

(2) On July 26, 2018, we announced a repurchase program authorizing us to repurchase up to \$30 billion of our common stock. At December 27, 2020, \$4.2 billion remained authorized for repurchase. The stock repurchase program has no expiration date. Since December 27, 2020, we repurchased and retired 2 million shares of common stock for \$311 million. Shares withheld to satisfy statutory tax withholding requirements related to the vesting of share-based awards are not issued or considered stock repurchases under our stock repurchase program and, therefore, are excluded from the table above.

### ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES

Not applicable.

### ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable.

### ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION

Not applicable.

# ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

Exhibit Number	Exhibit Description	Form	Date of First Filing	Exhibit Number	Filed Herewith
2.1	<a href="#">Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of January 12, 2021, among Qualcomm Technologies, Inc., Nile Acquisition Corporation and NuVia, Inc. (1)</a>	8-K	1/13/2021	2.1	
3.1	<a href="#">Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation.</a>	8-K	4/20/2018	3.1	
3.2	<a href="#">Amended and Restated Bylaws.</a>	8-K	7/17/2018	3.1	
4.1	<a href="#">Indenture, dated May 20, 2015, between the Company and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee.</a>	8-K	5/21/2015	4.1	
4.2	<a href="#">Officers' Certificate, dated May 20, 2015, for the Floating Rate Notes due 2018, the Floating Rate Notes due 2020, the 1.400% Notes due 2018, the 2.250% Notes due 2020, the 3.000% Notes due 2022, the 3.450% Notes due 2025, the 4.650% Notes due 2035 and the 4.800% Notes due 2045.</a>	8-K	5/21/2015	4.2	
4.3	<a href="#">Form of 3.000% Notes due 2022.</a>	8-K	5/21/2015	4.7	
4.4	<a href="#">Form of 3.450% Notes due 2025.</a>	8-K	5/21/2015	4.8	
4.5	<a href="#">Form of 4.650% Notes due 2035.</a>	8-K	5/21/2015	4.9	
4.6	<a href="#">Form of 4.800% Notes due 2045.</a>	8-K	5/21/2015	4.10	
4.7	<a href="#">Officers' Certificate, dated May 26, 2017, for the Floating Rate Notes due 2019, the Floating Rate Notes due 2020, the Floating Rate Notes due 2023, the 1.850% Notes due 2019, the 2.100% Notes due 2020, the 2.600% Notes due 2023, the 2.900% Notes due 2024, the 3.250% Notes due 2027 and the 4.300% Notes due 2047.</a>	8-K	5/31/2017	4.2	
4.8	<a href="#">Form of Floating Rate Notes due 2023.</a>	8-K	5/31/2017	4.5	
4.9	<a href="#">Form of 2.600% Notes due 2023.</a>	8-K	5/31/2017	4.8	
4.10	<a href="#">Form of 2.900% Notes due 2024.</a>	8-K	5/31/2017	4.9	
4.11	<a href="#">Form of 3.250% Notes due 2027.</a>	8-K	5/31/2017	4.10	
4.12	<a href="#">Form of 4.300% Notes due 2047.</a>	8-K	5/31/2017	4.11	
4.13	<a href="#">Officers' Certificate, dated May 8, 2020, for the 2.150% Notes due 2030 and the 3.250% Notes due 2050.</a>	8-K	5/11/2020	4.2	
4.14	<a href="#">Form of 2.150% Notes due 2030.</a>	8-K	5/11/2020	4.3	
4.15	<a href="#">Form of 3.250% Notes due 2050.</a>	8-K	5/11/2020	4.4	
4.16	<a href="#">Officers' Certificate, dated August 14, 2020, for the 1.300% Notes due 2028 and the 1.650% Notes due 2032.</a>	8-K	8/18/2020	4.2	
4.17	<a href="#">Form of 1.300% Rule 144A Global Notes due 2028.</a>	8-K	8/18/2020	4.3	
4.18	<a href="#">Form of 1.300% Regulation S Global Notes due 2028.</a>	8-K	8/18/2020	4.4	
4.19	<a href="#">Form of 1.650% Rule 144A Global Notes due 2032.</a>	8-K	8/18/2020	4.5	
4.20	<a href="#">Form of 1.650% Regulation S Global Notes due 2032.</a>	8-K	8/18/2020	4.6	
4.21	<a href="#">Registration Rights Agreement, dated as of August 14, 2020.</a>	8-K	8/18/2020	4.7	

Exhibit Number	Exhibit Description	Form	Date of First Filing	Exhibit Number	Filed Herewith
4.23	<a href="#">Officers' Certificate, dated January 6, 2021, for the 1.300% Notes due 2028 and the 1.650% Notes due 2032.</a>				X
4.24	<a href="#">Form of 1.300% Notes due 2028.</a>				X
4.25	<a href="#">Form of 1.650% Notes due 2032.</a>				X
10.5	<a href="#">Credit Agreement among QUALCOMM Incorporated, the lenders party thereto, the letter of credit issuers party thereto and Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent, swing line lender and a letter of credit issuer, dated as of December 8, 2020.</a>	8-K	12/10/2020	10.1	
10.16	<a href="#">Qualcomm Incorporated Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation Plan, as amended and restated effective January 1, 2021. (2)</a>				X
10.19	<a href="#">Form of 2021 Annual Cash Incentive Plan Performance Unit Agreement. (2)</a>				X
10.20	<a href="#">Form of Qualcomm Incorporated 2016 Long-Term Incentive Plan Executive Restricted Stock Unit Grant Notice and Executive Restricted Stock Unit Agreement (2020 Form). (2)</a>				X
31.1	<a href="#">Certification pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 for Steve Mollenkopf.</a>				X
31.2	<a href="#">Certification pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 for Akash Palkhiwala.</a>				X
32.1	<a href="#">Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, for Steve Mollenkopf.</a>				X
32.2	<a href="#">Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, for Akash Palkhiwala.</a>				X
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document - the instance document does not appear in the Interactive Data File because its XBRL tags are embedded within the Inline XBRL document.				X
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema.				X
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase.				X
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Labels Linkbase.				X
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase.				X
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase.				X
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted as Inline XBRL and contained in Exhibit 101).				

(1) We shall furnish supplementally a copy of any omitted schedule to the Commission upon request.

(2) Indicates management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement required to be identified pursuant to Item 15(a).

## SIGNATURES

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

Dated: February 3, 2021

QUALCOMM Incorporated

/s/ Akash Palkhiwala

Akash Palkhiwala

Executive Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer