

FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

This Annual Report on Form 10-K contains information about us, some of which includes “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements are statements other than historical information or statements about our current condition. You can identify forward-looking statements by the use of terms such as “believes”, “contemplates”, “expects”, “may”, “will”, “could”, “should”, “would”, or “anticipates”, other similar phrases, or the negatives of these terms.

We have based the forward-looking statements relating to our operations on our current expectations, estimates and projections about us and the markets we serve. We caution you that these statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve risks and uncertainties. These statements should be considered in conjunction with the discussion in Part I, the information set forth under Item 1A, “Risk Factors” and with the discussion of the business included in Part II, Item 7, “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.” We have based many of these forward-looking statements on assumptions about future events that may prove to be inaccurate. Accordingly, our actual outcomes and results may differ materially from what we have expressed or forecast in the forward-looking statements. Any differences could result from a variety of factors, including the following:

- The effect of changes in economic conditions in the markets in which we operate, including financial market conditions, fluctuations in raw material prices and the financial condition of our customers and suppliers;
- Economic, social and political instability, currency fluctuation and other risks of doing business outside of the United States;
- Competitive pressures, including the need for technology improvement, successful new product development and introduction and any inability to pass increased costs of raw materials to customers;
- Our ability to successfully integrate our pending acquisition and to realize synergies and opportunities for growth and innovation;
- Our ability to successfully value acquisition candidates;
- Our ongoing need to attract and retain highly qualified personnel and key management;
- A reduction in congressional appropriations that affect defense spending or the ability of the U.S. government to terminate our government contracts;
- The outcomes of legal proceedings, claims and contract disputes;
- Adverse effects on our business and results of operations, as a whole, as a result of increases in asbestos claims or the cost of defending and settling such claims;
- The outcome of restructuring and other cost savings initiatives;
- Adverse effects as a result of further increases in environmental remediation activities, costs and related claims;
- Investment performance of our pension plan assets and fluctuations in interest rates, which may affect the amount and timing of future pension plan contributions; and
- The effect of changes in tax, environmental and other laws and regulations in the United States and other countries in which we operate.