

ESTERLINE TECHNOLOGIES CORP
Form 10-K
December 24, 2008

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

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

For the fiscal year ended October 31, 2008

OR

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file number 1-6357

ESTERLINE TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation or organization)

13-2595091
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

500 108th Avenue NE

Bellevue, Washington
(Address of principal executive offices)

98004
(Zip code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code
Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

425/453-9400

Title of each class
Common Stock (\$.20 par value)
Preferred Stock Purchase Rights

**Name of each exchange
on which registered**
New York Stock Exchange
New York Stock Exchange

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Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes No

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of "accelerated filer and large accelerated filer" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company

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

As of December 19, 2008, 29,689,453 shares of the Registrant's common stock were outstanding. The aggregate market value of shares of common stock held by non-affiliates as of May 2, 2008 was \$1,651,288 (based upon the closing sales price of \$55.99 per share).

PART I

This Report includes a number of forward-looking statements that reflect the Company's current views with respect to future events and financial performance. Please refer to the section addressing forward-looking information on page 12 for further discussion. In this report, we, our, us, Company, and Esterline refer to Esterline Technologies Corporation and subsidiaries, unless otherwise noted or context otherwise indicates.

Item 1. Business

(a) General Development of Business.

Esterline, a Delaware corporation formed in 1967, is a leading specialized manufacturing company principally serving aerospace and defense customers. We design, manufacture and market highly engineered products and systems for application within the industries we serve.

Our strategy is to maintain a leadership position in niche markets for the development and manufacture of highly engineered products that are essential to our customers. We are concentrating our efforts to expand selectively our capabilities in these markets, to anticipate the global needs of our customers and to respond to such needs with comprehensive solutions. Our current business and strategic growth plan focuses on the continuous development of these products in three key technology segments—avionics and controls, sensors and systems, and advanced materials including thermally engineered components and specialized high-performance elastomers and other complex materials, principally for aerospace and defense markets. Our products are often mission-critical equipment, which have been designed into particular military and commercial platforms and in certain cases can only be replaced by products of other manufacturers following a formal certification process. As part of our implementation of this growth plan, we focus on, among other things, expansion of our capabilities as a more comprehensive supplier to our customers, which in fiscal 2007 included the acquisition of CMC Electronics (CMC). In addition, subsequent to October 31, 2008, we acquired NMC Group, Inc. and disposed of a non-core business operating as Muirhead Aerospace and Traxsys Input Products. On December 15, 2008, we acquired NMC Group, Inc. (NMC) for approximately \$90.0 million in cash. NMC designs and manufactures specialized light weight fasteners principally for commercial aviation applications. On December 21, 2008, we entered into Share Sale and Purchase Agreement to acquire Racal Acoustics Global Ltd. (Racal) for U.K. £115.0 million or \$172.0 million, subject to certain governmental approvals and customary closing conditions. Racal develops and manufactures high technology ruggedized personal communication equipment for the defense and avionics market segment. These acquisitions and divestiture are described in more detail in the Overview section of Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Continuing Operations contained in Item 7 of this report.

Our products have a long history in the aerospace and defense industry and are found on most military and commercial aircraft, helicopters, and land-based systems. For example, our products are used on the majority of active and in-production U.S. military aircraft and on every Boeing commercial aircraft platform manufactured in the past 65 years. In addition, our products are supplied to Airbus, all of the major regional and business jet manufacturers, and the major aircraft engine manufacturers. We differentiate ourselves through our engineering and manufacturing capabilities and our reputation for quality, on-time delivery, reliability, and innovation—all embodied in the Esterline Performance System, our way of approaching business that ensures all employees are focused on continuous improvement. We work closely with original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) on new, highly engineered product designs which often results in our products being designed into their platforms; this integration often results in sole-source positions for OEM production and aftermarket business. In fiscal 2008, we estimate that 35% of our sales to commercial and military aerospace customers were derived from aftermarket business. Our aftermarket sales, including retrofits, spare parts, and repair services, historically carry a higher gross

margin and have more stability than sales to OEMs. In many cases, aftermarket sales extend well beyond the OEM production period, supporting the platform during its entire life cycle.

Our sales are diversified across three broad markets: defense, commercial aerospace, and general industrial. For fiscal 2008, we estimate we derived approximately 40% of our sales from the defense market, 45% from the commercial aerospace market and 15% from the general industrial market.

(b) Financial Information About Industry Segments.

A summary of net sales to unaffiliated customers, operating earnings and identifiable assets attributable to our business segments for fiscal years 2008, 2007 and 2006 is reported in Note 15 to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2008, and appears in Item 8 of this report.

(c) Narrative Description of Business.

Avionics & Controls

Our Avionics & Controls business segment designs and manufactures high-technology electronics systems for military and commercial aircraft and land- and sea-based military vehicles, secure communications systems, specialized medical equipment, and other industrial applications.

We are a market leader in global positioning systems (GPS), head-up displays, enhanced vision systems, and electronic flight management systems that are used in a broad variety of control and display applications. For example, our high-performance GPS systems are installed on over 16,500 aircraft world-wide. In addition, we develop, manufacture and market sophisticated high reliability technology interface systems for commercial and military aircraft. These products include lighted push-button and rotary switches, keyboards, lighted indicators, panels and displays. Over the years, our products have been integrated into many existing aircraft designs, including every Boeing commercial aircraft platform currently in production. Our large installed base provides us with a significant spare parts and retrofit business. We are a Tier 1 supplier on the Boeing 787 program to design and manufacture all of the cockpit overhead panels and embedded software for these systems. We manufacture control sticks, grips and wheels, as well as specialized switching systems. In this area, we primarily serve commercial and military aviation, and airborne and ground-based military equipment manufacturing customers. For example, we are a leading manufacturer of pilot control grips for most types of military fighter jets and helicopters. Additionally, our software engineering center supports our customers' needs with such applications as primary flight displays, flight management systems, air data computers and engine control systems.

Our proprietary products meet critical operational requirements and provide customers with significant technological advantages in such areas as night vision compatibility and active-matrix liquid-crystal displays (a technology enabling pilots to read display screens in a variety of light conditions as well as from extreme angles). Our products are incorporated in a wide variety of platforms ranging from military helicopters, fighters and transports, to commercial wide-body, regional and business jets. In fiscal 2008, some of our largest customers for these products included The Boeing Company, Sikorsky, Honeywell, Lockheed Martin, Rockwell Collins, BAE Systems, U.S. Department of Defense, and General Electric.

We are also a supplier in custom input integration with a full line of keyboard, switch and input technologies for specialized medical equipment, communications systems and comparable equipment for military applications. These products include custom keyboards, keypads, and input devices that

integrate cursor control devices, bar-code scanners, displays, video, and voice activation. We also produce instruments that are used for point-of-use and point-of-care in vitro diagnostics. We have developed a wide variety of technologies, including plastic and vinyl membranes that protect high-use switches and fully depressible buttons, and backlit elastomer switch coverings that are resistant to exposure from harsh chemicals. These technologies now serve as the foundation for a small but growing portion of our product line. In fiscal 2008, some of our largest customers for these products included General Electric, Philips, IDEXX Laboratories, Inc., Roche, Siemens, DRS, and Biosite.

Sensors & Systems

Our Sensors & Systems business segment produces high-precision temperature, pressure and speed sensors, electrical power switching, control and data communication devices, and other related systems principally for aerospace and defense customers. We are a market leader for these products in Europe with growing positions in the United States. For example, we are the sole-source supplier of temperature probes for use on all versions of the General Electric/Snecma CFM-56 jet engine. The CFM-56 has an installed base of nearly 19,000 engines, is standard equipment on new generation Boeing 737 aircraft and was selected as the engine for approximately 45% of all Airbus aircraft delivered to date. We are contracted to design and manufacture the 787's sensors for the environmental control system and the primary power distribution assembly for the new Airbus A400M military transport. Additionally, we have secured a Tier 1 position with Rolls Royce for the complete suite of sensors for the engine that will power the A400M. The principal customers for our products in this business segment are jet engine manufacturers and airframe manufacturers. In fiscal 2008, some of our largest customers for these products included SAFRAN, Flame, The Boeing Company, Dassault, Honeywell, Pratt & Whitney, Bombardier, and Eurocopter.

Advanced Materials

Our Advanced Materials business segment develops and manufactures high-performance elastomer products used in a wide range of commercial aerospace, space, and military applications, and combustible ordnance for military applications. We also develop and manufacture highly engineered thermal components for commercial aerospace and industrial applications.

Specialized High-Performance Applications. We specialize in the development of proprietary formulations for silicone rubber and other elastomer products. Our elastomer products are engineered to address specific customer requirements where superior performance in high temperature, high pressure, caustic, abrasive and other difficult environments is critical. These products include clamping devices, thermal fire barrier insulation products, sealing systems, tubing and coverings designed in custom-molded shapes. Some of the products include proprietary elastomers that are specifically designed for use on or near a jet engine. We are a leading U.S. supplier of high-performance elastomer products to the aerospace industry, with our primary customers for these products being jet and rocket engine manufacturers, commercial and military airframe manufacturers, as well as commercial airlines. In fiscal 2008, some of the largest customers for these products included The Boeing Company, Alliant Techsystems, KAPCO, Honeywell, Northrop Grumman, Lockheed Martin, and Pattonair. We also develop and manufacture high temperature lightweight insulation systems for aerospace and marine applications. Our commercial aerospace programs include the 737, A320, and A380 series aircraft and the V2500 and BR710 engines. Our insulation material is used on diesel engine manifolds for earthmover and agricultural applications. In addition, we specialize in the development of thermal protection for petrochemical fire protection systems and

nuclear insulation. We design and manufacture high temperature components for industrial and marine markets. Our manufacturing processes consist of cutting, pressing, welding stainless steel, Inconel and titanium fabrications. In fiscal 2008, some of the largest customers of these products included Rolls Royce, Airbus, and Spirit AeroSystems.

Other Defense Applications. We develop and manufacture combustible ordnance and electronic warfare countermeasure devices for military customers. We manufacture molded fiber cartridge cases, mortar increments, igniter tubes and other combustible ordnance components primarily for the U.S. Department of Defense. We are currently the sole supplier of combustible casings utilized by the U.S. Armed Forces. Sales are made either directly to the U.S. Department of Defense or through prime contractors, Alliant Techsystems and General Dynamics. These products include the combustible case for the U.S. Army's new generation 155mm Modular Artillery Charge System, the 120mm combustible case used with the main armament system on the U.S. Army and Marine Corps M1-A1/2 tanks, and the 60mm, 81mm and 120mm combustible mortar increments. We are currently the only U.S. supplier of radar countermeasure chaff and one of two suppliers to the U.S. Army of infrared decoy flares used by aircraft to help protect against radar and infrared guided missiles.

A summary of product lines contributing sales of 10% or more of total sales for fiscal years 2008, 2007 and 2006 is reported in Note 15 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2008, and appears in Item 8 of this report.

Marketing and Distribution

We believe that a key to continued success is our ability to meet customer requirements both domestically and internationally. We have and will continue to improve our world-wide sales and distribution channels in order to provide wider market coverage and to improve the effectiveness of our customers' supply chain. For example, our medical device assembly operation in Shanghai, China, serves our global medical customers. In addition, our service center in Singapore has improved our capabilities in Asia for our temperature sensor customers. Other enhancements include combining sales and marketing forces of our operating units where appropriate, cross-training our sales representatives on multiple product lines, and cross-stocking our spares and components.

In the technical and highly engineered product segments in which we compete, relationship selling is particularly appropriate in targeted marketing segments where customer and supplier design and engineering inputs need to be tightly integrated. Participation in industry trade shows is an effective method of meeting customers, introducing new products, and exchanging technical specifications. In addition to technical and industry conferences, our products are supported through direct internal international sales efforts, as well as through manufacturer representatives and selected distributors. As of October 31, 2008, 234 sales people, 277 representatives, and 170 distributors support our operations internationally.

Backlog

Backlog at October 31, 2008 was \$1.1 billion, compared with \$958.0 million at October 26, 2007. We estimate that approximately \$388.1 million of backlog is scheduled to be shipped after fiscal 2009.

Backlog is subject to cancellation until delivered, and therefore, we cannot assure that our backlog will be converted into revenue in any particular period or at all. Backlog does not include the total

contract value of cost-plus reimbursable contracts, which are funded as we incur the costs. Except for the released portion, backlog also does not include fixed-price multi-year contracts.

Competition

Our products and services are affected by varying degrees of competition. We compete with other companies in most markets we serve, many of which have far greater sales volumes and financial resources. Some of our competitors are also our customers on certain programs. The principal competitive factors in the commercial markets in which we participate are product performance, on-time delivery service and price. Part of product performance requires expenditures in research and development that lead to product improvement. The market for many of our products may be affected by rapid and significant technological changes and new product introductions. Our principal competitors include Eaton, ECE, EMS, Gables Engineering, GE Aerospace, Honeywell, Otto Controls, Rockwell Collins, Thales, Ultra Electronics, Telephonics, and Universal Avionics Systems Corporation in our Avionics & Controls segment; Ametek, Meggitt, Deutsch, Tyco, MPC Products, ECE and Goodrich in our Sensors & Systems segment; and Kmass, ULVA, Doncasters, Hitemp, Meggitt (including Dunlop Standard Aerospace Group), Chemring, JPR Hutchinson and Parker in our Advanced Materials segment.

Research and Development

Our product development and design programs utilize an extensive base of professional engineers, technicians and support personnel, supplemented by outside engineering and consulting firms when needed. In fiscal 2008, approximately \$86.8 million was expended for research, development and engineering, compared with \$66.9 million in fiscal 2007 and \$49.1 million in fiscal 2006. We believe continued product development is key to our long-term growth, and consequently, we consistently invest in research and development. Examples include research and development projects relating to a ground fault interrupter for aircraft applications, insulation material for various rocket and missile programs, high temperature, low observable material for military applications, and kinematic countermeasure flares for military applications. Our more recent aerospace program wins have resulted in increased company-funded research and development. These programs included the A400M power distribution assembly, TP400 engine sensors, 787 overhead control panel and 787 environmental control system programs. As a result of the acquisition of CMC in fiscal 2007, we are funding the development of the integrated avionics system for the T-6B. In addition, we actively participate in customer-funded research and development programs, including applications on the new MMA aircraft, joint strike fighter, UH-60M Blackhawk, VH-71 Presidential Helicopter and Russian Regional Jet.

Foreign Operations

Our principal foreign operations consist of manufacturing facilities located in France, Germany, Canada, the United Kingdom, Mexico, and China, and include sales and service operations located in Singapore and China. For further information regarding foreign operations, see Note 15 to the Consolidated Financial Statements under Item 8 of this report.

U.S. Government Contracts and Subcontracts

As a contractor and subcontractor to the U.S. government (primarily the U.S. Department of Defense), we are subject to various laws and regulations that are more restrictive than those applicable to private sector contractors.

Approximately 10% of our sales were made directly to the U.S. government in fiscal 2008. In addition, we estimate that our subcontracting activities to contractors for the U.S. government accounted for approximately 16% of sales during fiscal 2008. Therefore, we estimate that approximately 26% of our sales during the fiscal year were subject to U.S. government contracting regulations. Such contracts may be subject to termination, reduction or modification in the event of changes in government requirements, reductions in federal spending, and other factors.

Historically, our U.S. government contracts and subcontracts have been predominately fixed-price contracts. Generally, fixed-price contracts offer higher margins than cost-plus contracts in return for accepting the risk that increased or unexpected costs may reduce anticipated profits or cause us to sustain losses on the contracts. The accuracy and appropriateness of certain costs and expenses used to substantiate our direct and indirect costs for the U.S. government under both cost-plus and fixed-price contracts are subject to extensive regulation and audit by the Defense Contract Audit Agency, an arm of the U.S. Department of Defense. The contracts and subcontracts to which we are a party are also subject to profit and cost controls and standard provisions for termination at the convenience of the U.S. government. Upon termination, other than for our default, we will normally be entitled to reimbursement for allowable costs and to an allowance for profit. To date, none of our significant fixed-price contracts have been terminated.

Patents and Licenses

Although we hold a number of patents and licenses, we do not believe that our operations are dependent on our patents and licenses. In general, we rely on technical superiority, continual product improvement, exclusive product features, superior lead-time, on-time delivery performance, quality and customer relationships to maintain competitive advantage.

Seasonality

The timing of our revenues is impacted by the purchasing patterns of our customers and as a result we do not generate revenues evenly throughout the year. Moreover, our first fiscal quarter, November through January, includes significant holiday vacation periods in both Europe and North America. This leads to decreased order and shipment activity; consequently, first quarter results are typically weaker than other quarters and not necessarily indicative of our performance in subsequent quarters.

Sources and Availability of Raw Materials and Components

Due to our diversification, the sources and availability of certain raw materials and components are not as critical as they would be for manufacturers of a single product line. However, certain components, supplies and raw materials for our operations are purchased from single sources. In such instances, we strive to develop alternative sources and design modifications to minimize the effect of business interruptions.

Environmental Matters

We are subject to federal, state, local and foreign laws, regulations and ordinances that (i) govern activities or operations that may have adverse environmental effects, such as discharges to air and water, as well as handling and disposal practices for solid and hazardous waste, and (ii) impose liability for the costs of cleaning up, and certain damages resulting from, sites or past spills, disposals or other releases of hazardous substances.

At various times we have been identified as a potentially responsible party pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), and analogous state environmental laws, for the cleanup of contamination resulting from past disposals of hazardous wastes at certain sites to which we, among others, sent wastes in the past. CERCLA requires potentially responsible persons to pay for cleanup of sites from which there has been a release or threatened release of hazardous substances. Courts have interpreted CERCLA to impose strict, joint and several liability on all persons liable for cleanup costs. As a practical matter, however, at sites where there are multiple potentially responsible persons, the costs of cleanup typically are allocated among the parties according to a volumetric or other standard.

We have accrued liabilities for environmental remediation costs expected to be incurred by our operating facilities. Environmental exposures are provided for at the time they are known to exist or are considered reasonably probable and estimable. No provision has been recorded for environmental remediation costs that could result from changes in laws or other circumstances we have not currently contemplated.

Employees

We had 9,699 employees at October 31, 2008, of which 5,042 were based in the United States, 3,009 in Europe, 1,148 in Canada, 381 in Mexico and 119 in Asia. Approximately 17% of the U.S.-based employees were represented by a labor union. Our European operations are subject to national trade union agreements and to local regulations governing employment.

(d) Financial Information About Foreign and Domestic Operations and Export Sales.

See risk factor below entitled "Political and economic changes in foreign countries and markets, including foreign currency fluctuations, may have a material adverse impact on our operating results" under Item 1A of this report and Note 15 to the Consolidated Financial Statements under Item 8 of this report.

(e) Available Information of the Registrant.

You can access financial and other information on our website, www.esterline.com. We make available through our website, free of charge, copies of our annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), as soon as reasonably practicable after filing such material electronically or otherwise furnishing it to the Securities and Exchange Commission. Our Corporate Governance Guidelines and charters for our board committees are available on our website, www.esterline.com/governance/default.stm and our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, which includes a code of ethics applicable to our accounting and financial employees, including our Chief

Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, is available on our website at

www.esterline.com/governance/ethics.stm. Each of these documents is also available in print (at no charge) to any shareholder upon request. Our website and the information contained therein or connected thereto are not incorporated by reference into this Form 10-K.

Executive Officers of the Registrant

The names and ages of all executive officers of the Company and the positions and offices held by such persons as of December 22, 2008 are as follows:

Name	Position with the Company	Age
Robert W. Cremin	Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer	68
Robert D. George	Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Secretary and Treasurer	52
Marcia J. M. Greenberg	Vice President, Human Resources	56
Frank E. Houston	Group Vice President	57
Larry A. Kring	Group Vice President	68
Stephen R. Larson	Vice President, Strategy & Technology	64
Richard B. Lawrence	Group Vice President	61

Mr. Cremin has been Chairman since January 2001. In addition, he has served as Chief Executive Officer and President since January 1999 and September 1997, respectively. Mr. Cremin has an M.B.A. from the Harvard Business School and a B.S. degree in Metallurgical Engineering from Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn. He has been a director of the Company since 1998.

Mr. George has been Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Secretary and Treasurer since July 1999. Mr. George has an M.B.A. from the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University and a B.A. degree in Economics from Drew University.

Ms. Greenberg has been Vice President, Human Resources since March 1993. Ms. Greenberg has a J.D. degree from Northwestern University School of Law and a B.A. degree in Political Science from Portland State University.

Mr. Houston has been Group Vice President since March 2005. Previously, he was President of Korry Electronics Co., part of Esterline's Avionics & Controls segment, since October 2002. Mr. Houston has an M.B.A. from the University of Washington and a B.A. degree in Political Science from Seattle Pacific University.

Mr. Kring will retire from the Company effective December 31, 2008, as Group Vice President. Previously, he was Senior Group Vice President from February 2005 to March 2008 and Group Vice President from August 1993 to February 2005. Mr. Kring has an M.B.A. from California State University at Northridge and a B.S. degree in Aeronautical Engineering from Purdue University.

Mr. Larson has been Vice President, Strategy & Technology since January 2000. Mr. Larson has an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago and a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering from Northwestern University.

Mr. Lawrence has been Group Vice President since January 2007. From September 2002 to January 2007, he was President of Advanced Input Systems, part of Esterline's Avionics & Controls segment. Mr. Lawrence has an M.B.A. from the University of Pittsburgh and a B.S. degree in Business Administration from Pennsylvania State University.

Forward-Looking Statements

This annual report on Form 10-K includes forward-looking statements. These statements may be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as anticipate, believe, continue, could, estimate, expect, intend, may, plan, potential, predict, should or will or the negative thereof or other variations thereon or comparable terminology. In particular, statements about our expectations, beliefs, plans, objectives, assumptions or future events or performance contained in this report under the headings Risks Relating to Our Business, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Continuing Operations and Business are forward-looking statements.

We have based these forward-looking statements on our current expectations, assumptions, estimates and projections. While we believe these expectations, assumptions, estimates and projections are reasonable, such forward-looking statements are only predictions and involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond our control. These and other important factors, including those discussed in this report under the headings Risks Relating to Our Business and Our Industry, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Continuing Operations and Business may cause our actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. Some of the key factors that could cause actual results to differ from our expectations are:

- A significant downturn in the aerospace industry;
- A significant reduction in defense spending;
- A decrease in demand for our products as a result of competition, technological innovation or otherwise;
- Our inability to integrate acquired operations or complete acquisitions; and
- Loss of a significant customer or defense program.

Given these risks and uncertainties, you are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements included or incorporated by reference into this report are made only as of the date hereof. We do not undertake and specifically decline any obligation to update any such statements or to publicly announce the results of any revisions to any such statements to reflect future events or developments.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

Risks Relating to Our Business and Our Industry

The current capital and credit market conditions may adversely affect our access to capital, cost of capital and business operations.

Recently, the general economic and capital market conditions in the United States and other parts of the world have deteriorated significantly and have adversely affected access to capital and increased the cost of capital. If these conditions continue or become worse, our future cost of debt and equity capital and access to capital markets could be adversely affected. Any inability to obtain adequate financing from debt and equity sources could force us to self-fund strategic initiatives or even forgo some opportunities, potentially harming our financial position, results of operations and liquidity.

Economic conditions may impair our customers' business and markets, which could adversely affect our business operations.

As a result of the current economic downturn and macro-economic challenges currently affecting the economy of the United States and other parts of the world, the businesses of some of our customers may not generate sufficient

revenues. Customers may choose to delay or postpone purchases from us until the economy and their businesses strengthen. Decisions by current or future customers to forego or defer purchases and/or our customers' inability to pay us for our products may adversely affect our earnings and cash flow.

Implementing our acquisition strategy involves risks, and our failure to successfully implement this strategy could have a material adverse effect on our business.

One of our key strategies is to grow our business by selectively pursuing acquisitions. Since 1996 we have completed over 30 acquisitions, and we are continuing to actively pursue additional acquisition opportunities, some of which may be material to our business and financial performance. Although we have been successful with this strategy in the past, we may not be able to grow our business in the future through acquisitions for a number of reasons, including:

Acquisition financing not being available on acceptable terms or at all;
Encountering difficulties identifying and executing acquisitions;

Increased competition for targets, which may increase acquisition costs;
Consolidation in our industry reducing the number of acquisition targets; and
Competition laws and regulations preventing us from making certain acquisitions.

In addition, there are potential risks associated with growing our business through acquisitions, including the failure to successfully integrate and realize the expected benefits of an acquisition. For example, with any past or future acquisition, there is the possibility that:

The business culture of the acquired business may not match well with our culture;
Technological and product synergies, economies of scale and cost reductions may not occur as expected;
Management may be distracted from overseeing existing operations by the need to integrate acquired businesses;
We may acquire or assume unexpected liabilities;
Unforeseen difficulties may arise in integrating operations and systems;
We may fail to retain and assimilate employees of the acquired business;
We may experience problems in retaining customers and integrating customer bases; and
Problems may arise in entering new markets in which we may have little or no experience.

Failure to continue implementing our acquisition strategy, including successfully integrating acquired businesses, could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our future financial results could be adversely impacted by asset impairment charges.

Under Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142, *Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets* (Statement No. 142), we are required to test both acquired goodwill and other indefinite-lived intangible assets for impairment on an annual basis based upon a fair value approach, rather than amortizing them over time. We have chosen to perform our annual impairment reviews of goodwill and other indefinite-lived intangible assets during the fourth quarter of each fiscal year. We also are required to test goodwill for impairment between annual tests if events occur or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce our enterprise fair value below its book value. These events or circumstances could include a significant change in the business climate, including a significant sustained decline in an entity's market value, legal factors, operating performance indicators, competition, sale or disposition of a significant portion of the business, or other factors. If the fair market value is less than the book value of goodwill, we could be required to record an impairment charge. The valuation of reporting units requires judgment in estimating future cash flows, discount rates and estimated product life cycles. In making these judgments, we evaluate the financial health of the business, including such factors as industry performance, changes in technology and operating cash flows. As we have grown through acquisitions, we have accumulated \$576.9 million of goodwill, and have \$50.1 million of indefinite-lived intangible assets, out of total assets of \$1.9 billion at October 31, 2008. As a result, the amount of any annual or interim impairment could be significant and could have a material adverse effect on our reported financial results for the period in which the charge is taken. We performed our impairment review for fiscal 2008 as of August 1, 2008, and our Step One analysis indicates that no impairment of goodwill and other indefinite-lived assets exist at any of our reporting units. Our CMC reporting unit's margin in passing the Step One analysis was not as large as our other reporting units. CMC's operating performance has been impacted by the effect of the weakening U.S. dollar relative to the Canadian dollar for most of the period we have owned the business. In addition, operating results have been impacted by higher than expected costs related to certain long-term development contracts, including

the T-6B. During the fourth quarter of fiscal 2008, the U.S. dollar has strengthened against the Canadian dollar and if this relationship continues, CMC's results of operations will be favorably impacted. We expect that the T-6B development will be successful and that CMC's operations will continue to improve due to recent contract wins, operational productivity improvements and a continued stronger U.S. dollar relative to the Canadian dollar. It is possible, however, that as a result of events or circumstances, we could conclude at a later date that goodwill of \$203.3 million at CMC may be considered impaired. We also may be required to record an earnings charge or incur unanticipated expense if, due to a change in strategy or other reason, we determine the value of other assets has been impaired. These other assets include net deferred income tax assets of \$9.4 million, trade names of \$22.6 million and intangible assets of \$72.1 million.

We account for the impairment of long-lived assets to be held and used in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards No. 144, *Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-lived Assets* (Statement No. 144). Statement No. 144 requires that a long-lived asset to be disposed of be reported at the lower of its carrying amount or fair value less cost to sell. An asset (other than goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets) is considered impaired when estimated future cash flows are less than the carrying amount of the asset. In the event the carrying amount of such asset is not deemed recoverable, the asset is adjusted to its estimated fair value. Fair value is generally determined based upon estimated discounted future cash flows. As we have grown through acquisitions, we have accumulated \$240.4 million of definite-lived intangible assets. As a result, the amount of any annual or interim impairment could be significant and could have a material adverse effect on our reported financial results for the period in which the charge is taken.

The amount of debt we have outstanding, as well as any debt we may incur in the future, could have an adverse effect on our operational and financial flexibility.

As of October 31, 2008, we had \$401.8 million of debt outstanding, of which \$388.2 million is long-term debt. Our primary U.S. dollar credit facility as of October 31, 2008, totaled \$200.0 million and is made available through a group of banks. In fiscal 2006, we borrowed U.K. £57.0 million under our credit facility, of which U.K. £21.7 million or \$34.9 million was outstanding at October 31, 2008. Up to \$50.0 million in letters of credit may be drawn in U.K. pounds or euros in addition to U.S. dollars. The credit agreement is secured by substantially all of the Company's assets and interest is based on standard inter-bank offering rates. In addition, we have unsecured foreign currency credit facilities that have been extended by foreign banks for up to \$27.7 million. Available credit under the above credit facilities was \$212.6 million at October 31, 2008, when reduced by outstanding foreign bank borrowings of \$5.2 million and letters of credit of \$9.9 million.

The indentures governing our outstanding \$175.0 million 7.75% senior subordinated notes and \$175.0 million 6.625% senior notes and other debt agreements limit, but do not prohibit, us from incurring additional debt in the future. Our level of debt could have significant consequences to our business, including the following:

Depending on interest rates and debt maturities, a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations could be dedicated to paying principal and interest on our debt, thereby reducing funds available for our acquisition strategy, capital expenditures or other purposes;

A significant amount of debt could make us more vulnerable to changes in economic conditions or increases in prevailing interest rates;

Our ability to obtain additional financing for acquisitions, capital expenditures or for other purposes could be impaired;

The increase in the amount of debt we have outstanding increases the risk of non-compliance with some of the covenants in our debt agreements which require us to maintain specified financial ratios; and

We may be more leveraged than some of our competitors, which may result in a competitive disadvantage.

The loss of a significant customer or defense program could have a material adverse effect on our operating results.

Some of our operations are dependent on a relatively small number of customers and defense programs, which change from time to time. Significant customers in fiscal 2008 included the U.S. Department of Defense, The Boeing Company, General Dynamics, Flame, Rolls Royce, Honeywell, Lockheed Martin and G.E. Aerospace. There can be no assurance that our current significant customers will continue to buy our products at current levels. The loss of a significant customer or the cancellation of orders related to a sole-source defense program could have a material adverse effect on our operating results if we were unable to replace the related sales.

Our operating results are subject to fluctuations that may cause our revenues to decline.

Our business is susceptible to seasonality and economic cycles, and as a result, our operating results have fluctuated widely in the past and are likely to continue to do so. Our revenue tends to fluctuate based on a number of factors, including domestic and foreign economic conditions and developments affecting the specific industries and customers we serve. For example, it is possible that the current recession could result in a downturn in commercial aviation and defense. It is also possible that in the future our operating results in a particular quarter or quarters will not meet the expectations of securities analysts or investors, causing the market price of our common stock, senior subordinated notes or senior notes to decline. We believe that quarter-to-quarter comparisons of our operating results are not a good indication of our future performance and should not be relied upon to predict our future performance.

Political and economic changes in foreign countries and markets, including foreign currency fluctuations, may have a material effect on our operating results.

Foreign sales were approximately 54% of our total sales in fiscal 2008, and we have manufacturing facilities in a number of foreign countries. A substantial portion of our Avionics & Controls operations are based in Canada and a substantial portion of our Sensors & Systems operations are based in the U.K. and France. We also have manufacturing operations in Mexico and China. Doing business in foreign countries is subject to numerous risks, including political and economic instability, restrictive trade policies of foreign governments, economic conditions in local markets, health concerns, inconsistent product regulation or unexpected changes in regulatory and other legal requirements by foreign agencies or governments, the imposition of product tariffs and the burdens of complying with a wide variety of international and U.S. export laws and differing regulatory requirements. To the extent that foreign sales are transacted in a foreign currency, we are subject to the risk of losses due to foreign currency fluctuations. In addition, we have substantial assets denominated in foreign currencies, primarily the Canadian dollar, U.K. pound and euro, that are not offset by liabilities denominated in those foreign currencies. These net foreign currency investments are subject to material changes in the event of fluctuations in foreign currencies against the U.S. dollar.

Among other things, we are subject to the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, or FCPA, which generally prohibits U.S. companies and their intermediaries from bribing foreign officials for the purpose of obtaining or keeping business or otherwise obtaining favorable treatment. In particular, we may be held liable for actions taken by our strategic or local partners even though our partners are not subject to the FCPA. Any determination that we have violated the FCPA could result in sanctions that could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

A downturn in the aircraft market could adversely affect our business.

The aerospace industry is cyclical in nature and affected by periodic downturns that are beyond our control. The principal markets for manufacturers of commercial aircraft are the commercial and regional airlines, which are adversely affected by a number of factors, including the current recession, fuel and labor costs, intense price competition, outbreak of infectious disease and terrorist attacks, as well as economic cycles, all of which can be unpredictable and are outside our control. Commercial aircraft production may increase or decrease in response to changes in customer demand caused by the current recession and the perceived safety and ease of airline travel.

The military aircraft industry is dependent upon the level of equipment expenditures by the armed forces of countries throughout the world, and especially those of the United States. Although the war on terror has increased the level of equipment expenditures by the U.S. armed forces, this level of spending may not be sustainable in light of government spending priorities by the U.S. In addition, in the past this industry has been adversely affected by a number of factors, including the reduction in military spending since the end of the Cold War. Decreases in military spending could depress demand for military aircraft.

Any decrease in demand for new aircraft or use of existing aircraft will likely result in a decrease in demand of our products and services, and correspondingly, our revenues, thereby adversely affecting our business, financial condition and results of operations.

We may not be able to compete effectively.

Our products and services are affected by varying degrees of competition. We compete with other companies and divisions and units of larger companies in most markets we serve, many of which have greater sales volumes or financial, technological or marketing resources than we do. Our principal competitors include: Eaton, ECE, EMS, Gables Engineering, GE Aerospace, Honeywell, Otto Controls, Rockwell Collins, Thales, Ultra Electronics, Telephonics, and Universal Avionics Systems Corporation in our Avionics & Controls segment; Ametek, Meggitt, Deutsch, Tyco, MPC Products, ECE and Goodrich in our Sensors & Systems segment; and Kmass, ULVA, Doncasters, Hitemp, Meggitt (including Dunlop Standard Aerospace Group), Chemring and Parker in our Advanced Materials segment. The principal competitive factors in the commercial markets in which we participate are product performance, service and price. Maintaining product performance requires expenditures in research and development that lead to product improvement and new product introduction. Companies with more substantial financial resources may have a better ability to make such expenditures. We cannot assure that we will be able to continue to successfully compete in our markets, which could adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our backlog is subject to modification or termination, which may reduce our sales in future periods.

We currently have a backlog of orders based on our contracts with customers. Under many of our contracts, our customers may unilaterally modify or terminate their orders at any time. In addition, the maximum contract value specified under a government contract awarded to us is not necessarily indicative of the sales that we will realize under that contract. For example, we are a sole-source prime contractor for many different military programs with the U.S. Department of Defense. We depend heavily on the government contracts underlying these programs. Over its lifetime, a program may be implemented by the award of many different individual contracts and subcontracts. The funding of government programs is subject to congressional appropriation.

Changes in defense procurement models may make it more difficult for us to successfully bid on projects as a prime contractor and limit sole-source opportunities available to us.

In recent years, the trend in combat system design and development appears to be evolving towards the technological integration of various battlefield components, including combat vehicles, command and control network communications, advanced technology artillery systems and robotics. If the U.S. military procurement approach continues to require this kind of overall battlefield combat system integration, we expect to be subject to increased competition from aerospace and defense companies who have significantly greater resources than we do. This trend could create a role for a prime contractor with broader capabilities that would be responsible for integrating various battlefield component systems and potentially eliminating or reducing the role of sole-source providers or prime contractors of component weapon systems.

If we were unable to protect our intellectual property rights adequately, the value of our products could be diminished.

Our success is dependent in part on obtaining, maintaining and enforcing our proprietary rights and our ability to avoid infringing on the proprietary rights of others. While we take precautionary steps to protect our technological advantages and intellectual property and rely in part on patent, trademark, trade secret and copyright laws, we cannot assure that the precautionary steps we have taken will completely protect our intellectual property rights. Because patent applications in the United States are maintained in secrecy until either the patent application is published or a patent is issued, we may not be aware of third-party patents, patent applications and other intellectual property relevant to our products that may block our use of our intellectual property or may be used in third-party products that compete with our products and processes. In the event a competitor successfully challenges our products, processes, patents or licenses or claims that we have infringed upon their intellectual property, we could incur substantial litigation costs defending against such claims, be required to pay royalties, license fees or other damages or be barred from using the intellectual property at issue, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results and financial condition.

In addition to our patent rights, we also rely on unpatented technology, trade secrets and confidential information. Others may independently develop substantially equivalent information and techniques or otherwise gain access to or disclose our technology. We may not be able to protect our rights in unpatented technology, trade secrets and confidential information effectively. We require each of our employees and consultants to execute a confidentiality agreement at the commencement of an employment or consulting relationship with us. However, these agreements may not provide

effective protection of our information or, in the event of unauthorized use or disclosure, they may not provide adequate remedies.

We may lose money or generate less than expected profits on our fixed-price contracts.

Our customers set demanding specifications for product performance, reliability and cost. Some of our government contracts and subcontracts provide for a predetermined, fixed price for the products we make regardless of the costs we incur. Therefore, we must absorb cost overruns, notwithstanding the difficulty of estimating all of the costs we will incur in performing these contracts and in projecting the ultimate level of sales that we may achieve. Our failure to anticipate technical problems, estimate costs accurately, integrate technical processes effectively or control costs during performance of a fixed-price contract may reduce the profitability of a fixed-price contract or cause a loss. While we believe that we have recorded adequate provisions in our financial statements for losses on our fixed-price contracts as required under GAAP, we cannot assure that our contract loss provisions will be adequate to cover all actual future losses. Therefore, we may incur losses on fixed-price contracts that we had expected to be profitable, or such contracts may be less profitable than expected.

We depend on the continued contributions of our executive officers and other key management, each of whom would be difficult to replace.

Our future success depends to a significant degree upon the continued contributions of our senior management and our ability to attract and retain other highly qualified management personnel. We face competition for management from other companies and organizations. Therefore, we may not be able to retain our existing management personnel or fill new management positions or vacancies created by expansion or turnover at our existing compensation levels. Although we have entered into change of control agreements with some members of senior management, we do not have employment contracts with our key executives, nor have we purchased key-person insurance on the lives of any of our key officers or management personnel to reduce the impact to our company that the loss of any of them would cause. Specifically, the loss of any of our executive officers would disrupt our operations and divert the time and attention of our remaining officers. Additionally, failure to attract and retain highly qualified management personnel would damage our business prospects.

The market for our products may be affected by our ability to adapt to technological change.

The rapid change of technology is a key feature of all of the markets in which our businesses operate. To succeed in the future, we will need to design, develop, manufacture, assemble, test, market, and support new products and enhancements to our existing products in a timely and cost-effective manner. Historically, our technology has been developed through internal research and development expenditures, as well as customer-sponsored research and development programs. There is no guarantee that we will continue to maintain, or benefit from, comparable levels of research and development in the future. In addition, our competitors may develop technologies and products that are more effective than those we develop or that render our technology and products obsolete or noncompetitive. Furthermore, our products could become unmarketable if new industry standards emerge. We cannot assure that our existing products will not require significant modifications in the future to remain competitive or that new products we introduce will be accepted by our customers, nor can we assure that we will successfully identify new opportunities and continue to have the needed financial resources to develop new products in a timely or cost-effective manner.

Our business is subject to government contracting regulations, and our failure to comply with such laws and regulations could harm our operating results and prospects.

We estimate that approximately 26% of our sales in fiscal 2008 were attributable to contracts in which we were either the prime contractor to, or a subcontractor to a prime contractor to, the U.S. government. As a contractor and subcontractor to the U.S. government, we must comply with laws and regulations relating to the formation, administration and performance of federal government contracts that affect how we do business with our clients and may impose added costs on our business. For example, these regulations and laws include provisions that contracts we have been awarded are subject to:

Protest or challenge by unsuccessful bidders; and

Unilateral termination, reduction or modification in the event of changes in government requirements.

The accuracy and appropriateness of certain costs and expenses used to substantiate our direct and indirect costs for the U.S. government under both cost-plus and fixed-price contracts are subject to extensive regulation and audit by the Defense Contract Audit Agency, an arm of the U.S. Department of Defense. Responding to governmental audits, inquiries or investigations may involve significant expense and divert management attention. Our failure to comply with these or other laws and regulations could result in contract termination, suspension or debarment from contracting with the federal government, civil fines and damages, and criminal prosecution and penalties, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our operating results.

A significant portion of our business depends on U.S. government contracts, which contracts are often subject to competitive bidding, and a failure to compete effectively or accurately anticipate the success of future projects could adversely affect our business.

We obtain many of our U.S. government contracts through a competitive bidding process that subjects us to risks associated with:

The frequent need to bid on programs in advance of the completion of their design, which may result in unforeseen technological difficulties and/or cost overruns;

The substantial time and effort, including design, development and marketing activities, required to prepare bids and proposals for contracts that may not be awarded to us; and

The design complexity and rapid rate of technological advancement of defense-related products.

In addition, in order to win the award of developmental programs, we must be able to align our research and development and product offerings with the government's changing concepts of national defense and defense systems. The government's termination of, or failure to fully fund, one or more of the contracts for our programs would have a negative impact on our operating results and financial condition. Furthermore, we serve as a subcontractor on several military programs that, in large part, involve the same risks as prime contracts.

Overall, we rely on key contracts with U.S. government entities for a significant portion of our sales and business. A substantial reduction in these contracts would materially adversely affect our operating results and financial position.

The airline industry is heavily regulated and if we fail to comply with applicable requirements, our results of operations could suffer.

Governmental agencies throughout the world, including the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration, or the FAA, prescribe standards and qualification requirements for aircraft components, including virtually all commercial airline and general aviation products, as well as regulations regarding the repair and overhaul of aircraft engines. Specific regulations vary from country to country, although compliance with FAA requirements generally satisfies regulatory requirements in other countries. We include, with the replacement parts that we sell to our customers, documentation certifying that each part complies with applicable regulatory requirements and meets applicable standards of airworthiness established by the FAA or the equivalent regulatory agencies in other countries. In order to sell our products, we and the products we manufacture must also be certified by our individual OEM customers. If any of the material authorizations or approvals qualifying us to supply our products is revoked or suspended, then the sale of the subject product would be prohibited by law, which would have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

From time to time, the FAA or equivalent regulatory agencies in other countries propose new regulations or changes to existing regulations, which are usually more stringent than existing regulations. If these proposed regulations are adopted and enacted, we may incur significant additional costs to achieve compliance, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Future asbestos claims could harm our business.

We are subject to potential liabilities relating to certain products we manufactured containing asbestos. To date, our insurance has covered claims against us relating to those products. Commencing November 1, 2003, insurance coverage for asbestos claims has been unavailable. However, we continue to have some insurance coverage for exposure to asbestos contained in our products prior to that date.

We continue to manufacture for one customer a product that contains asbestos. We have an agreement with the customer for indemnification for certain losses we may incur as a result of asbestos claims relating to that product, but we cannot assure that this indemnification agreement will fully protect us from losses arising from asbestos claims.

To the extent we are not insured or indemnified for losses from asbestos claims relating to our products, asbestos claims could adversely affect our operating results and our financial condition.

Environmental laws and regulations may subject us to significant liability.

Our business and our facilities are subject to a number of federal, state, local and foreign laws, regulations and ordinances governing, among other things, the use, manufacture, storage, handling and disposal of hazardous materials and certain waste products. Among these environmental laws are rules by which a current or previous owner or operator of land may be liable for the costs of investigation, removal or remediation of hazardous materials at such property. In addition, these laws typically impose liability regardless of whether the owner or operator knew of, or was responsible for, the presence of any hazardous materials. Persons who arrange for the disposal or treatment of hazardous materials may be liable for the costs of investigation, removal or remediation of such

substances at the disposal or treatment site, regardless of whether the affected site is owned or operated by them.

Because we own and operate a number of facilities that use, manufacture, store, handle or arrange for the disposal of various hazardous materials, we may incur costs for investigation, removal and remediation, as well as capital costs, associated with compliance with environmental laws. At the time of the acquisition of Wallop Defence Systems Limited, we and the seller agreed that some environmental remedial activities may need to be carried out and these activities are currently on-going. Under the terms of the Stock Purchase Agreement, a portion of the costs of any environmental remedial activities will be reimbursed by the seller if the cost is incurred within five years of the consummation of the acquisition. Additionally, at the time of our asset acquisition of the Electronic Warfare Passive Expendables Division of BAE Systems North America, certain environmental remedial activities were required under a Part B Permit issued to the infrared decoy flare facility by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality under the Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The Part B Permit was transferred to our subsidiary, Armtec, along with the remedial obligations. Under the terms of the asset purchase agreement, BAE Systems agreed to perform and pay for these remedial obligations at the infrared decoy flare facility up to a maximum amount of \$25.0 million. Although environmental costs have not been material in the past, we cannot assure that these matters, or any similar liabilities that arise in the future, will not exceed our resources, nor can we completely eliminate the risk of accidental contamination or injury from these materials.

We may be required to defend lawsuits or pay damages in connection with the alleged or actual harm caused by our products.

We face an inherent business risk of exposure to product liability claims in the event that the use of our products is alleged to have resulted in harm to others or to property. For example, our operations expose us to potential liabilities for personal injury or death as a result of the failure of an aircraft component that has been designed, manufactured or serviced by us. We may incur significant liability if product liability lawsuits against us are successful. While we believe our current general liability and product liability insurance is adequate to protect us from future product liability claims, we cannot assure that coverage will be adequate to cover all claims that may arise. Additionally, we may not be able to maintain insurance coverage in the future at an acceptable cost. Any liability not covered by insurance or for which third-party indemnification is not available could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Item 2. Properties

The following table summarizes our properties that are greater than 100,000 square feet or related to a principal operation, including identification of the business segment, as of October 31, 2008:

Location	Type of Facility	Business Segment	Approximate	Owned
			Square	or
			<u>Footage</u>	<u>Leased</u>
Brea, CA	Office, Plant & Warehouse	Advanced Materials	429,000	Owned
Québec, Canada	Office & Plant	Avionics & Controls	269,000	Owned
Seattle, WA	Office & Plant	Avionics & Controls	200,000	Leased
Stillington, U.K.	Office & Plant	Advanced Materials	186,000	Owned
East Camden, AR	Office & Plant	Advanced Materials	175,000	Leased
Coachella, CA	Office & Plant	Advanced Materials	115,000	Owned
Buena Park, CA	Office & Plant	Sensors & Systems	110,000	Owned*
Bourges, France	Office & Plant	Sensors & Systems	109,000	Leased
Farnborough, U.K.	Office & Plant	Sensors & Systems	108,000	Leased
Milan, TN	Office & Plant	Advanced Materials	100,000	Leased
Sylmar, CA	Office & Plant	Avionics & Controls	96,000	Leased
Ontario, Canada	Office & Plant	Avionics & Controls	94,000	Leased
Coeur d Alene, ID	Office & Plant	Avionics & Controls	94,000	Leased
Valencia, CA	Office & Plant	Advanced Materials	88,000	Owned
Hampshire, U.K.	Office & Plant	Advanced Materials	82,000	Owned
Gloucester, U.K.	Office & Plant	Advanced Materials	59,000	Leased
Everett, WA	Land	Avionics & Controls	14 acres & nbs	