

MINE SAFETY APPLIANCES CO

Form 10-K

February 22, 2012

[Table of Contents](#)

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011

Commission File No. 1-15579

MINE SAFETY APPLIANCES COMPANY

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Pennsylvania

25-0668780

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(State or other jurisdiction of

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

incorporation or organization)

1000 Cranberry Woods Drive

Cranberry Township, Pennsylvania
(Address of principal executive offices)

16066-5207
(Zip code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (724) 776-8600

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

(Title of each class)
Common Stock, no par value

(Name of each exchange on which registered)
New York Stock Exchange

Indicate by check mark whether 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 and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

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

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K (§ 229.405 of this chapter) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in the definitive proxy statement incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

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

Large accelerated filer
Non-accelerated filer

Accelerated filer
Smaller reporting company

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

As of February 14, 2012, there were outstanding 36,692,852 shares of common stock, no par value, not including 1,160,201 shares held by the Mine Safety Appliances Company Stock Compensation Trust. The aggregate market value of voting stock held by non-affiliates as of June 30, 2011 was approximately \$1.1 billion.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

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Portions of the Proxy Statement for the May 8, 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders are incorporated by reference into Part III.

Table of Contents

Table of Contents

| Item No. | | Page |
|-----------------|---|-------------|
| Part I | | |
| 1. | <u>Business</u> | 4 |
| 1A. | <u>Risk Factors</u> | 9 |
| 1B. | <u>Unresolved Staff Comments</u> | 13 |
| 2. | <u>Properties</u> | 13 |
| 3. | <u>Legal Proceedings</u> | 14 |
| 4. | <u>Mine Safety Disclosures</u> | 17 |
| | <u>Executive Officers of the Registrant</u> | 17 |
| Part II | | |
| 5. | <u>Market for the Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities</u> | 19 |
| 6. | <u>Selected Financial Data</u> | 21 |
| 7. | <u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u> | 21 |
| 7A. | <u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u> | 36 |
| 8. | <u>Financial Statements and Supplementary Data</u> | 37 |
| 9. | <u>Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure</u> | 68 |
| 9A. | <u>Controls and Procedures</u> | 68 |
| 9B. | <u>Other Information</u> | 68 |
| Part III | | |
| 10. | <u>Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance</u> | 69 |
| 11. | <u>Executive Compensation</u> | 69 |
| 12. | <u>Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters</u> | 69 |
| 13. | <u>Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence</u> | 69 |
| 14. | <u>Principal Accountant Fees and Services</u> | 69 |
| Part IV | | |
| 15. | <u>Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules</u> | 70 |
| | <u>Signatures</u> | 74 |

Table of Contents

Forward-Looking Statements

This report may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements relate to future events or our future financial performance and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results, levels of activity, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. These risks and other factors include, but are not limited to, those listed in this report under Risk Factors, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, and elsewhere in this report. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by words such as may, will, should, expects, intends, plans, anticipates, believes, estimates, predicts, potential or other comparable words. Actual results, performance or achievements may differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot guarantee future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements. We are under no duty to update publicly any of the forward-looking statements after the date of this report, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Table of Contents

PART I

Item 1. Business

Overview Mine Safety Appliances Company was incorporated in Pennsylvania in 1914. We are a global leader in the development, manufacture and supply of products that protect people's health and safety. Our safety products typically integrate any combination of electronics, mechanical systems and advanced materials to protect users against hazardous or life threatening situations. Our comprehensive line of safety products is used by workers around the world in the fire service, homeland security, oil and gas, construction and other industries, as well as the military. Our broad product offering includes self-contained breathing apparatus, or SCBAs, gas masks, gas detection instruments, head protection, respirators, thermal imaging cameras, fall protection and ballistic helmets. We also provide a broad offering of consumer and contractor safety products through retail channels.

We dedicate significant resources to research and development, which allows us to produce innovative safety products that are often first to market and exceed industry standards. Our global product development teams include cross-geographic and cross-functional members from various functional areas throughout the company, including research and development, marketing, sales, operations and quality management. Our engineers and technical associates work closely with the safety industry's leading standards-setting groups and trade associations, such as the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, or NIOSH, and the National Fire Protection Association, or NFPA, to develop industry product requirements and standards and to anticipate their impact on our product lines.

Segments We tailor our product offerings and distribution strategy to satisfy distinct customer preferences that vary across geographic regions. We believe that we best serve these customer preferences by organizing our business into three reportable geographic segments: North America, Europe and International. Segment information is presented in the note entitled "Segment Information" in Item 8 "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data."

Because our financial statements are stated in U.S. dollars, currency fluctuations may affect our results of operations and financial position and may affect the comparability of our results between financial periods.

Principal Products We manufacture and sell a comprehensive line of safety products to protect workers around the world in the fire service, homeland security, oil and gas, construction and other industries, as well as the military. We also provide a broad offering of consumer and contractor safety products through retail channels. Our products protect people against a wide variety of hazardous or life-threatening situations. The following is a brief description of each of our principal product categories:

Respiratory protection. Respiratory protection products are used to protect against the harmful effects of contamination caused by dust, gases, fumes, volatile chemicals, sprays, micro-organisms, fibers and other contaminants. We offer a broad and comprehensive line of respiratory protection products.

Self Contained Breathing Apparatus. SCBAs are used by first responders, petrochemical plant workers and anyone entering an environment deemed immediately dangerous to life and health. SCBAs are also used by first responders to protect against exposure to chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear, or CBRN, agents. Our FireHawk®M7 SCBA meets the latest performance requirements adopted by the NFPA. The FireHawk®M7 Air Mask was the first device of its kind to be certified by the Safety Equipment Institute, or SEI, as NFPA compliant for both its breathing apparatus and Personal Alert Safety System, or PASS. The PASS device is an SCBA component that sounds a loud, piercing alarm when a firefighter becomes disabled or lies motionless for 30 seconds.

Air-purifying respirators. Air-purifying respirators range from the simple, filtering types to powered full-facepiece versions for many hazardous applications, including:

full-face gas masks for industrial workers and first responders exposed to known and unknown concentrations of hazardous gases, chemicals, vapors and particulates;

Table of Contents

half-mask respirators for industrial workers, painters and construction workers exposed to known concentrations of gases, vapors and particulates;

powered-air purifying respirators for industrial, hazmat and remediation workers who have longer term exposures to hazards in their work environment; and

dust and pollen masks for maintenance workers, contractors and at-home consumers exposed to nuisance dusts, allergens and other particulates.

Escape respirators. Escape respirators are used by law enforcement personnel, government workers, chemical and pharmaceutical workers and anyone needing to escape from unknown concentrations of a chemical, biological or radiological release of toxic gases and vapors. Escape respirators give users respiratory protection to help them escape from threatening situations quickly and easily.

Portable and fixed gas detection instruments. Our portable and fixed gas detection instruments are used to detect the presence or absence of various gases in the air. These instruments can be either hand-held or permanently installed. Typical applications of these instruments include the detection of the lack of oxygen in confined spaces or the presence of combustible or toxic gases.

Single- and multi-gas hand-held detectors. Our single- and multi-gas detectors provide portable solutions for detecting the presence of oxygen, combustible gases and various toxic gases, including hydrogen sulfide, carbon monoxide, ammonia and chlorine, either singularly or up to six gases at once. Our hand-held portable instruments are used by chemical workers, oil and gas workers, utility workers entering confined spaces, or anywhere a user needs to continuously monitor the quality of the atmosphere they are working in and around. Our ALTAIR® 4X Multigas Detector with XCell® sensor technology provides faster response times and unsurpassed durability in a tough, easy to operate package.

Multi-point permanently installed gas detection systems. Our comprehensive line of fixed gas detection systems is used to monitor for combustible and toxic gases and oxygen deficiency in virtually any application where continuous monitoring is required. Our systems are used for gas detection in pulp and paper, refrigerant monitoring, petrochemical and general industrial applications. Our SafeSite® Multi-Threat Wireless Detection System, designed and developed for homeland security applications, detects and communicates the presence of toxic industrial chemicals and chemical warfare agents at large public events, in subways or at other facilities.

Flame detectors and open-path infrared gas detectors. Our flame and combustible gas detectors are used for plant-wide monitoring of toxic gases and for detecting the presence of flames. These systems use infrared optics to detect potentially hazardous conditions across distances as far as 120 meters, making them suitable for use in such places as offshore oil rigs, storage vessels, refineries, pipelines and ventilation ducts. First used in the oil and gas industry, our systems currently have broad applications in petrochemical facilities, the transportation industry and in pharmaceutical production.

Thermal imaging cameras. Our hand-held infrared thermal imaging cameras, or TICs, are used in the global fire service market. TICs detect sources of heat in order to locate downed firefighters and other people trapped inside burning or smoke-filled structures. TICs can also be used to identify hot spots. Our Evolution® 5000 series TICs are unmatched for ease of use and durability. Our Evolution® 5800 TIC, the newest addition to our 5000 series of TICs, offers state-of-the-art imagery in a high resolution format. Our Evolution® 5600 TIC provides high resolution and an extended high sensitivity operating range in a rugged, user-friendly and affordable design.

Head, eye, face and hearing protection. Head, eye, face and hearing protection is used in work environments where hazards present dangers such as dust, flying particles, metal fragments, chemicals, extreme glare, optical radiation and items dropped from above.

Industrial hard hats. Our broad line of hard hats include full-brim hats and traditional hard hats, available in custom colors and with custom logos. Hard hats are used by oil, gas and petrochemical workers, plant, steel and construction workers, and miners.

Table of Contents

Fire helmets. Our fire service products include leather, traditional, modern and specialty helmets designed to satisfy the preferences of firefighters across geographic regions. Our CairnsHELMET is the number one helmet in the North American fire service market based on 2011 sales. Similarly, our Gallet firefighting helmet has a number one market position in Europe based on 2011 sales.

Ballistic helmets and communication systems. The Advanced Combat Helmet, or ACH, is used by the military for ballistic head protection. The ACH was originally designed for the Special Forces of the U.S. military and has now been designated as the basis of issue by the U.S. Army. In recent years, military forces in Iraq and Afghanistan have trusted MSA's battle-tested ACH and related Modular Integrated Communication Headset, or MICH. MICH is a light weight and comfortable communication system that provides superior hearing protection as well as clear radio/intercom communications. Our commercial version of the ACH, the TC-2000 combat helmet, is used by law enforcement personnel and first responders.

Eye, face and hearing protection. Our broad line of hearing protection products, non-prescription protective eyewear and face shields is used by workers in a wide variety of industries.

Fall protection. Our broad line of fall protection equipment includes confined space equipment, harnesses, fall arrest equipment, lanyards and lifelines. Fall protection equipment is used by construction and plant workers and anyone working at height.

Customers Our customers generally fall into three categories: industrial and military end-users, distributors and retail consumers. In North America, we make nearly all of our non-military sales through our distributors. In our European and International segments, we make our sales through both indirect and direct sales channels. Our U.S. military customers, which are comprised of multiple U.S. government entities, including the Department of Defense, accounted for approximately 5% of our 2011 sales. The year-end backlog of orders under contracts with U.S. government agencies (primarily related to Advanced Combat Helmets) was \$21.1 million in 2011, \$56.0 million in 2010 and \$18.3 million in 2009.

Industrial and military end-users Examples of the primary industrial and military end-users of our core products are listed below:

| Products | Primary End-Users |
|---|--|
| Respiratory Protection | First Responders; General Industry Workers; Military Personnel |
| Gas Detection | Oil, Gas, Petrochemical and Chemical Workers; First Responders; Hazmat and Confined Space Workers |
| Head, Eye and Face and Hearing Protection | Construction Workers and Contractors; First Responders; General Industry Workers; Military Personnel |
| Fall Protection | Construction Workers and Contractors; Oil, Gas, Petrochemical and Chemical Workers; General Industry Workers |

Sales and Distribution Our sales and distribution team consists of distinct marketing, field sales and customer service organizations for our three geographic segments: North America, Europe and International. We believe our sales and distribution team, totaling over 400 dedicated associates, is the largest in our industry. In most geographic areas, our field sales organizations work jointly with select distributors to call on end-users and educate them about hazards, exposure limits, safety requirements and product applications, as well as the specific performance requirements of our products. In our International segment and Eastern Europe where distributors are not as well established, our sales associates often work with and sell directly to end-users. We believe that the development of relationships with end-users is critical to increasing the overall demand for our products.

The in-depth customer training and education provided by our sales associates to our customers are critical to ensure proper use of many of our products, such as SCBAs and gas detection instruments. As a result of our

Table of Contents

sales associates working closely with end-users, they gain valuable insight into customer preferences and needs. To better serve our customers and to ensure that our sales associates are among the most knowledgeable and professional in the industry, we place significant emphasis on training our sales associates with respect to product application, industry standards and regulations, sales skills and sales force automation.

We believe our sales and distribution strategy allows us to deliver a customer value proposition that differentiates our products and services from those of our competitors, resulting in increased customer loyalty and demand.

In areas where we use indirect selling, we promote, distribute and service our products to general industry through select authorized national, regional and local distributors. Some of our key distributors include Airgas, W.W. Grainger Inc., Fastenal and Hagemeyer. In North America, we distribute fire service products primarily through specially trained local and regional distributors who provide advanced training and service capabilities to volunteer and paid municipal fire departments. In our European and International segments, we primarily sell to and service the fire service market directly. Because of our broad and diverse product line and our desire to reach as many markets and market segments as possible, we have over 4,000 authorized distributor locations worldwide.

Our Safety Works, LLC joint venture provides a broad range of safety products and gloves to the North American do-it-yourself and independent contractor market through various channels, including distributors such as Orgill, hardware and equipment rental outlets such as United Rentals, and retail chains such as The Home Depot, TrueValue and Do-it Best.

Competition We believe the worldwide personal protection equipment market, including the sophisticated safety products market in which we compete, generates annual sales in excess of \$20 billion. The industry supplying this market is broad and highly fragmented with few participants offering a comprehensive line of safety products. Over the long-term, we believe global demand for safety products will be stable or growing because purchases of these products are non-discretionary since they protect workers in hazardous and life-threatening work environments and because their use is often mandated by government and industry regulations. Moreover, safety products industry revenues reflect the need to consistently replace many safety products that have limited life spans due to normal wear-and-tear or because they are one-time use products by design.

The safety products market is highly competitive, with participants ranging in size from small companies focusing on a single type of personal protection equipment to a few large multinational corporations that manufacture and supply many types of sophisticated safety products. Our main competitors vary by region and product. We believe that participants in this industry compete primarily on the basis of product characteristics (such as functional performance, agency approvals, design and style), price, brand name recognition and service.

We believe we compete favorably within each of our operating segments as a result of our high quality and cost-efficient product offerings and strong brand trust and recognition.

Research and Development To maintain our position at the forefront of safety equipment technology, we operate several sophisticated research and development facilities. We believe our dedication and commitment to innovation and research and development allow us to produce innovative safety products that are often first to market and exceed industry standards. In 2011, 2010 and 2009, on a global basis, we spent \$39.2 million, \$32.8 million and \$28.8 million, respectively, on research and development. Our primary engineering groups are located in the United States, Germany, China and, to a lesser extent, France. Our global product development teams include cross-geographic and cross-functional members from various areas throughout the company, including research and development, marketing, sales, operations and quality management. These teams are responsible for setting product line strategy based on their understanding of the markets and the technologies, opportunities and challenges they foresee in each product area. We believe our team-based, cross-geographic and cross-functional approach to new product development is a source of competitive advantage. Our approach to the new product development process allows us to tailor our product offerings and product line strategies to satisfy distinct customer preferences and industry regulations that vary across our three geographic segments.

Table of Contents

We believe another important aspect of our approach to new product development is that our engineers and technical associates work closely with the safety industry's leading standards-setting groups and trade associations, such as the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, or NIOSH, and the National Fire Protection Association, or NFPA, to develop industry product requirements and standards and anticipate their impact on our product lines. For example, nearly every consensus standard-setting body around the world that impacts our product lines has one of our key managers as a voting member. Key members of our management team understand the impact that these standard-setting organizations have on our new product development pipeline and devote time and attention to anticipating a new standard's impact on our sales and operating results. Because of our technological sophistication, commitment to and membership on global standard-setting bodies, resource dedication to research and development and unique approach to the new product development process, we believe we are well-positioned to anticipate and adapt to the needs of changing product standards and gain the approvals and certifications necessary to meet new government and multinational product regulations.

Patents and Intellectual Property We own significant intellectual property, including a number of domestic and foreign patents, patent applications and trademarks related to our products, processes and business. Although our intellectual property plays an important role in maintaining our competitive position in a number of markets that we serve, no single patent, or patent application, trademark or license is, in our opinion, of such value to us that our business would be materially affected by the expiration or termination thereof, other than the MSA trademark. Our patents expire at various times in the future not exceeding 20 years. Our general policy is to apply for patents on an ongoing basis in the United States and other countries, as appropriate, to perfect our patent development. In addition to our patents, we have also developed or acquired a substantial body of manufacturing know-how that we believe provides a significant competitive advantage over our competitors.

Raw Materials and Suppliers Many of the components of our products are formulated, machined, tooled or molded in-house from raw materials. For example, we rely on integrated manufacturing capabilities for breathing apparatus, gas masks, ballistic helmets, hard hats and circuit boards. The primary raw materials that we source from third parties include rubber, chemical filter media, eye and face protective lenses, air cylinders, certain metals, electronic components and ballistic resistant and non-ballistic fabrics. We purchase these materials both domestically and internationally, and we believe our supply sources are both well established and reliable. We have close vendor relationship programs with the majority of our key raw material suppliers. Although we generally do not have long-term supply contracts, we have not experienced any significant problems in obtaining adequate raw materials.

Associates At December 31, 2011, we had approximately 5,300 associates, approximately 3,200 of whom were employed by our European and International segments. None of our U.S. associates are subject to the provisions of a collective bargaining agreement. Some of our associates outside the United States are members of unions. We have not experienced a work stoppage in over 10 years and believe our relations with our associates are good.

Available Information Our internet address is www.MSAafety.com. We post the following filings on the Investor Relations page on our website as soon as reasonably practicable after they have been electronically filed with or furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission: our annual report on Form 10-K, our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, our current reports on Form 8-K and any amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. All such filings on our Investor Relations web page are available to be viewed on this page free of charge. Information contained on our website is not part of this annual report on Form 10-K or our other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The annual report on Form 10-K is also available in print to any shareholder who requests it. Such requests should be sent to The Chief Financial Officer, 1000 Cranberry Woods Drive, Cranberry Township, PA 16066.

Table of Contents

Item 1A. Risk Factors

Unfavorable economic and market conditions could materially and adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition.

We are subject to risks arising from adverse changes in global economic conditions. Although economic conditions improved in 2011, the global economy remains unstable and we expect economic conditions will continue to be challenging for the foreseeable future. Adverse changes in economic conditions could result in declines in revenue, profitability and cash flow due to reduced orders, payment delays, supply chain disruptions or other factors caused by the economic challenges faced by our customers and suppliers.

A reduction in the spending patterns of government agencies could materially and adversely affect our net sales, earnings and cash flow.

The demand for our products sold to the fire service market, the homeland security market and to U.S. government agencies, including the Department of Defense, is, in large part, driven by available government funding. Approximately 5% of our net sales for the year ended December 31, 2011 were made directly to U.S. military customers. Government budgets are set annually and we cannot assure you that government funding will be sustained at the same level in the future. A significant reduction in available government funding could materially and adversely affect our net sales, earnings and cash flow.

The markets in which we compete are highly competitive, and some of our competitors have greater financial and other resources than we do. The competitive pressures faced by us could materially and adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition.

The safety products market is highly competitive, with participants ranging in size from small companies focusing on single types of safety products, to large multinational corporations that manufacture and supply many types of safety products. Our main competitors vary by region and product. We believe that participants in this industry compete primarily on the basis of product characteristics (such as functional performance, agency approvals, design and style), price, brand name trust and recognition and customer service. Some of our competitors have greater financial and other resources than we do and our business could be adversely affected by competitors' new product innovations, technological advances made to competing products and pricing changes made by us in response to competition from existing or new competitors. We may not be able to compete successfully against current and future competitors and the competitive pressures faced by us could materially and adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition.

If we fail to introduce successful new products or extend our existing product lines, we may lose our market position and our financial performance may be materially and adversely affected.

In the safety products market, there are frequent introductions of new products and product line extensions. If we are unable to identify emerging consumer and technological trends, maintain and improve the competitiveness of our products and introduce new products, we may lose our market position, which could have a materially adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. Although we continue to invest significant resources in research and development and market research, continued product development and marketing efforts are subject to the risks inherent in the development of new products and product line extensions, including development delays, the failure of new products and product line extensions to achieve anticipated levels of market acceptance and the cost of failed product introductions.

Product liability claims and our inability to collect related insurance receivables could have a materially adverse effect on our business, operating results and financial condition.

We face an inherent business risk of exposure to product liability claims arising from the alleged failure of our products to prevent the types of personal injury or death against which they are designed to protect. Although

Table of Contents

we have not experienced any material uninsured losses due to product liability claims, it is possible that we could experience material losses in the future. In the event any of our products prove to be defective, we could be required to recall or redesign such products. In addition, we may voluntarily recall or redesign certain products that could potentially be harmful to end users. A successful claim brought against us in excess of available insurance coverage, or any claim or product recall that results in significant expense or adverse publicity against us, could have a materially adverse effect on our business, operating results and financial condition.

In the normal course of business, we make payments to settle product liability claims and for related legal fees and record receivables for the amounts covered by insurance. Various factors could affect the timing and amount of recovery of insurance receivables, including: the outcome of negotiations with insurers, legal proceedings with respect to product liability insurance coverage and the extent to which insurers may become insolvent in the future. Failure to recover amounts due from our insurance carriers could have a materially adverse effect on our business, operating results and financial condition.

A failure of our information systems could materially and adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition.

The proper functioning and security of our information systems is critical to the operation of our business. Our information systems may be vulnerable to damage or disruption from natural or man-made disasters, computer viruses, power losses, or other system or network failures. In addition, hackers and cybercriminals could attempt to gain unauthorized access to our information systems with the intent of harming our company or obtaining sensitive information such as intellectual property, trade secrets, financial and business development information, and customer and vendor related information. If our information systems or security fail, our business, results of operations and financial condition could be materially and adversely affected.

Our ability to market and sell our products is subject to existing regulations and standards. Changes in such regulations and standards or our failure to comply with them could materially and adversely affect our results of operations.

Most of our products are required to meet performance and test standards designed to protect the health and safety of people around the world. Our inability to comply with these standards may materially and adversely affect our results of operations. Changes in regulations could reduce the demand for our products or require us to reengineer our products, thereby creating opportunities for our competitors. Regulatory approvals for our products may be delayed or denied for a variety of reasons that are outside of our control. Additionally, market anticipation of significant new standards can cause customers to accelerate or delay buying decisions.

We have significant international operations and are subject to the risks of doing business in foreign countries.

We have business operations in over 40 foreign countries. In 2011, approximately half of our net sales were made by operations located outside the United States. Our international operations are subject to various political, economic and other risks and uncertainties, which could adversely affect our business. These risks include the following:

currency exchange rate fluctuations;

unexpected changes in regulatory requirements;

changes in trade policy or tariff regulations;

changes in tax laws and regulations;

intellectual property protection difficulties;

difficulty in collecting accounts receivable;

Table of Contents

complications in complying with a variety of foreign laws and regulations, some of which may conflict with U.S. laws;

trade protection measures and price controls;

trade sanctions and embargos;

nationalization and expropriation;

increased international instability or potential instability of foreign governments;

the need to take extra security precautions for our international operations; and

costs and difficulties in managing culturally and geographically diverse international operations.

Any one or more of these risks could have a negative impact on the success of our international operations and, thereby, materially and adversely affect our business as a whole.

Our future results are subject to availability of, and fluctuations in the costs of, purchased components and materials due to market demand, currency exchange risks, material shortages and other factors.

We depend on various components and materials to manufacture our products. Although we have not experienced any difficulty in obtaining components and materials, it is possible that any of our supplier relationships could be terminated. Any sustained interruption in our receipt of adequate supplies could have a materially adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition. We cannot assure you that we will be able to successfully manage price fluctuations due to market demand, currency risks or material shortages, or that future price fluctuations will not have a materially adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

If we lose any of our key personnel or are unable to attract, train and retain qualified personnel, our ability to manage our business and continue our growth would be negatively impacted.

Our success depends in large part on the continued contributions of our key management, engineering and sales and marketing personnel, many of whom are highly skilled and would be difficult to replace. Our success also depends on the abilities of new personnel to function effectively, both individually and as a group. If we are unable to attract, effectively integrate and retain management, engineering or sales and marketing personnel, then the execution of our growth strategy and our ability to react to changing market requirements may be impeded, and our business could suffer as a result. Competition for personnel is intense, and we cannot assure you that we will be successful in attracting and retaining qualified personnel. In addition, we do not currently maintain key person life insurance.

We are subject to various environmental laws and any violation of these laws could adversely affect our results of operations.

We are subject to federal, state and local laws, regulations and ordinances relating to the protection of the environment, including those governing discharges to air and water, handling and disposal practices for solid and hazardous wastes and the maintenance of a safe workplace. These laws impose penalties for noncompliance and liability for response costs and certain damages resulting from past and current spills, disposals, or other releases of hazardous materials. We could incur substantial costs as a result of noncompliance with or liability for cleanup pursuant to these environmental laws. Environmental laws have changed rapidly in recent years, and we may be subject to more stringent environmental laws in the future. If more stringent environmental laws are enacted, these future laws could have a materially adverse effect on our results of operations.

Table of Contents

Our inability to successfully identify, consummate and integrate future acquisitions, or to realize anticipated cost savings and other benefits could adversely affect our business.

One of our operating strategies is to selectively pursue acquisitions. Any future acquisitions will depend on our ability to identify suitable acquisition candidates and successfully consummate such acquisitions. Acquisitions involve a number of risks including:

failure of the acquired businesses to achieve the results we expect;

diversion of our management's attention from operational matters;

our inability to retain key personnel of the acquired businesses;

risks associated with unanticipated events or liabilities;

potential disruption of our existing business; and

customer dissatisfaction or performance problems at the acquired businesses.

If we are unable to integrate or successfully manage businesses that we have recently acquired or may acquire in the future, we may not realize anticipated cost savings, improved manufacturing efficiencies and increased revenue, which may result in materially adverse short- and long-term effects on our operating results, financial condition and liquidity. Even if we are able to integrate the operations of our acquired businesses into our operations, we may not realize the full benefits of the cost savings, revenue enhancements or other benefits that we may have expected at the time of acquisition. In addition, even if we achieve the expected benefits, we may not be able to achieve them within the anticipated time frame, and such benefits may be offset by costs incurred in integrating the acquired companies and increases in other expenses.

Because we derive a significant portion of our sales from the operations of our foreign subsidiaries, future currency exchange rate fluctuations may adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition, and may affect the comparability of our results between financial periods.

For the year ended December 31, 2011, the operations in our European and International segments accounted for approximately half of our net sales. The results of our foreign operations are reported in the local currency and then translated into U.S. dollars at the applicable exchange rates for inclusion in our consolidated financial statements. The exchange rates between some of these currencies and the U.S. dollar have fluctuated significantly in recent years, and may continue to do so in the future. In addition, because our financial statements are stated in U.S. dollars, such fluctuations may affect our results of operations and financial position, and may affect the comparability of our results between financial periods. We cannot assure you that we will be able to effectively manage our exchange rate risks or that any volatility in currency exchange rates will not have a materially adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

Our continued success depends on our ability to protect our intellectual property. If we are unable to protect our intellectual property, our business could be materially and adversely affected.

Our success depends, in part, on our ability to obtain and enforce patents, maintain trade secret protection and operate without infringing on the proprietary rights of third parties. We have been issued patents and have registered trademarks with respect to many of our products, but our competitors could independently develop similar or superior products or technologies, duplicate any of our designs, trademarks, processes or other intellectual property or design around any processes or designs on which we have or may obtain patents or trademark protection. In addition, it is possible that third parties may have, or will acquire, licenses for patents or trademarks that we may use or desire to use, so that we may need to acquire licenses to, or to contest the validity of, such patents or trademarks of third parties. Such licenses may not be made available to us on acceptable terms, if at all, and we may not prevail in contesting the validity of third party rights.

Table of Contents

We also protect trade secrets, know-how and other confidential information against unauthorized use by others or disclosure by persons who have access to them, such as our employees, through contractual arrangements. These agreements may not provide meaningful protection for our trade secrets, know-how or other proprietary information in the event of any unauthorized use, misappropriation or disclosure of such trade secrets, know-how or other proprietary information. If we are unable to maintain the proprietary nature of our technologies, our results of operations and financial condition could be materially and adversely affected.

If we fail to meet our debt service requirements or the restrictive covenants in our debt agreements or if interest rates increase, our results of operations and financial condition could be materially and adversely affected.

We have a substantial amount of debt upon which we are required to make scheduled interest and principal payments and we may incur additional debt in the future. A significant portion of our debt bears interest at variable rates that may increase in the future. Our debt agreements require us to comply with certain restrictive covenants. If we are unable to generate sufficient cash to service our debt or if interest rates increase, our results of operations and financial condition could be materially and adversely affected. Additionally, a failure to comply with the restrictive covenants contained in our debt agreements could result in a default, which if not waived by our lenders, could substantially increase borrowing costs and require accelerated repayment of our debt. We were in compliance with the restrictive covenants in our debt agreements as of December 31, 2011.

Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

None.

Item 2. Properties

Our principal executive offices are located at 1000 Cranberry Woods Drive, Cranberry Township, PA 16066 in a 212,000 square-foot building owned by us. We own or lease our primary facilities in the United States and in a number of other countries. We believe that all of our facilities, including the manufacturing facilities, are in good repair and in suitable condition for the purposes for which they are used.

Table of Contents

The following table sets forth a list of our primary facilities:

| Location | Function | Square Feet | Owned or Leased |
|----------------------------------|--|--------------------|------------------------|
| North America | | | |
| Murrysville, PA | Manufacturing | 295,000 | Owned |
| Cranberry Twp., PA | Office, Research and Development and Manufacturing | 212,000 | Owned |
| Jacksonville, NC | Manufacturing | 107,000 | Owned |
| Queretaro, Mexico | Office, Manufacturing and Distribution | 77,000 | Leased |
| Cranberry Twp., PA | Research and Development | 68,000 | Owned |
| Lake Forest, CA | Office, Research and Development and Manufacturing | 62,000 | Leased |
| Corona, CA | Manufacturing | 19,000 | Leased |
| Torreón, Mexico | Office | 15,000 | Leased |
| Newport, VT | Manufacturing | 12,000 | Leased |
| Bowling Green, KY | Office, Research and Development and Manufacturing | 7,000 | Leased |
| Lake Forest, CA | Office | 6,000 | Owned |
| Toronto, Canada | Distribution | 5,000 | Leased |
| Europe | | | |
| Berlin, Germany | Office, Research and Development, Manufacturing and Distribution | 340,000 | Leased |
| Chatillon sur Chalaronne, France | Office, Research and Development, Manufacturing and Distribution | 94,000 | Owned |
| Glasgow, Scotland | Office | 25,000 | Leased |
| Milan, Italy | Office and Distribution | 25,000 | Owned |
| Mohammedia, Morocco | Manufacturing | 24,000 | Owned |
| Galway, Ireland | Office and Manufacturing | 20,000 | Owned |
| Varnamo, Sweden | Office, Manufacturing and Distribution | 18,000 | Leased |
| Ballerup, Denmark | Office and Manufacturing | 10,000 | Leased |
| International | | | |
| Suzhou, China | Office, Research and Development, Manufacturing and Distribution | 193,000 | Owned |
| Johannesburg, South Africa | Office, Manufacturing and Distribution | 74,000 | Leased |
| Sydney, Australia | Office, Manufacturing and Distribution | 84,000 | Owned |
| Sao Paulo, Brazil | Office, Manufacturing and Distribution | 74,000 | Owned |
| Lima, Peru | Office and Distribution | 34,000 | Owned |
| Santiago, Chile | Office and Distribution | 32,000 | Leased |
| Rajarhat, India | Office and Distribution | 10,000 | Leased |
| Buenos Aires, Argentina | Office and Distribution | 9,000 | Owned |

Item 3. Legal Proceedings

We categorize the product liability losses that we experience into two main categories, single incident and cumulative trauma. Single incident product liability claims are discrete incidents that are typically known to us when they occur and involve observable injuries and, therefore, more quantifiable damages. Therefore, we maintain a reserve for single incident product liability claims based on expected settlement costs for pending claims and an estimate of costs for unreported claims derived from experience, sales volumes and other relevant information. Our reserve for single incident product liability claims was \$4.7 million and \$5.2 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Single incident product liability expense during the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 was \$1.5 million, \$0.2 million and \$0.5 million, respectively. We evaluate our single incident product liability exposures on an ongoing basis and make adjustments to the reserve as new information becomes available.

Table of Contents

Cumulative trauma product liability claims involve exposures to harmful substances (*e.g.*, silica, asbestos and coal dust) that occurred many years ago and may have developed over long periods of time into diseases such as silicosis, asbestosis or coal worker's pneumoconiosis. We are presently named as a defendant in 2,321 lawsuits in which plaintiffs allege to have contracted certain cumulative trauma diseases related to exposure to silica, asbestos, and/or coal dust. These lawsuits mainly involve respiratory protection products allegedly manufactured and sold by us. We are unable to estimate total damages sought in these lawsuits as they generally do not specify the injuries alleged or the amount of damages sought, and potentially involve multiple defendants.

Cumulative trauma product liability litigation is difficult to predict. In our experience, until late in a lawsuit, we cannot reasonably determine whether it is probable that any given cumulative trauma lawsuit will ultimately result in a liability. This uncertainty is caused by many factors, including the following: cumulative trauma complaints generally do not provide information sufficient to determine if a loss is probable; cumulative trauma litigation is inherently unpredictable and information is often insufficient to determine if a lawsuit will develop into an actively litigated case; and even when a case is actively litigated, it is often difficult to determine if the lawsuit will be dismissed or otherwise resolved until late in the lawsuit. Moreover, even once it is probable that such a lawsuit will result in a loss, it is difficult to reasonably estimate the amount of actual loss that will be incurred. These amounts are highly variable and turn on a case-by-case analysis of the relevant facts, which are often not learned until late in the lawsuit.

Because of these factors, we cannot reliably determine our potential liability for such claims until late in the lawsuit. We, therefore, do not record cumulative trauma product liability losses when a lawsuit is filed, but rather, when we learn sufficient information to determine that it is probable that we will incur a loss and the amount of loss can be reasonably estimated. We record expenses for defense costs associated with open cumulative trauma product liability lawsuits as incurred.

We cannot estimate any amount or range of possible losses related to resolving pending and future cumulative trauma product liability claims that we may face because of the factors described above. As new information about cumulative trauma product liability cases and future developments becomes available, we reassess our potential exposures.

A summary of cumulative trauma product liability claims activity follows:

| | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Open claims, January 1 | 1,900 | 2,480 | 2,550 |
| New claims | 479 | 260 | 220 |
| Settled and dismissed claims | (58) | (840) | (290) |
| Open claims, December 31 | 2,321 | 1,900 | 2,480 |

With some common contract exclusions, we maintain insurance for cumulative trauma product liability claims. We have purchased insurance policies from over 20 different insurance carriers that provide coverage for cumulative trauma product liability losses and related defense costs. In the normal course of business, we make payments to settle product liability claims and for related defense costs. We record receivables for the amounts that are covered by insurance. The available limits of these policies are many times our recorded insurance receivable balance.

Various factors could affect the timing and amount of recovery of our insurance receivables, including the outcome of negotiations with insurers, legal proceedings with respect to product liability insurance coverage and the extent to which insurers may become insolvent in the future.

Our insurance receivables at December 31, 2011 and 2010 totaled \$112.1 million and \$89.0 million, respectively, all of which is reported in other non-current assets.

Table of Contents

A summary of insurance receivable balances and activity related to cumulative trauma product liability losses follows:

| (In millions) | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Balance January 1 | \$ 89.0 | \$ 91.7 | \$ 60.6 |
| Additions | 35.6 | 30.9 | 33.1 |
| Collections and settlements | (12.5) | (33.6) | (2.0) |
| Balance December 31 | 112.1 | 89.0 | 91.7 |

Additions to insurance receivables in the above table represent insured cumulative trauma product liability losses and related defense costs. Uninsured cumulative trauma product liability losses during the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 were \$1.1 million, \$0.2 million and \$1.7 million, respectively.

Our aggregate cumulative trauma product liability losses and administrative and defense costs for the three years ended December 31, 2011, totaled approximately \$102.7 million, substantially all of which was insured.

We believe that the increase in the insurance receivable balance that we have experienced since 2005 is primarily due to disagreements among our insurance carriers, and consequently with us, as to when their individual obligations to pay us are triggered and the amount of each insurer's obligation, as compared to other insurers. We believe that our insurers do not contest that they have issued policies to us or that these policies cover cumulative trauma product liability claims. We believe that our ability to successfully resolve our insurance litigation with various insurance carriers during 2011 and 2010 demonstrates that we had strong legal positions concerning our rights to coverage.

We regularly evaluate the collectability of the insurance receivables and record the amounts that we conclude are probable of collection. Our conclusions are based on our analysis of the terms of the underlying insurance policies, our experience in successfully recovering cumulative trauma product liability claims from our insurers under other policies, the financial ability of our insurance carriers to pay the claims, our understanding and interpretation of the relevant facts and applicable law and the advice of legal counsel, who believe that our insurers are required to provide coverage based on the terms of the policies.

Although the outcome of cumulative trauma product liability matters cannot be predicted with certainty and unfavorable resolutions could materially affect our results of operations on a quarter-to-quarter basis, based on information currently available and the amounts of insurance coverage available to us, we believe that the disposition of cumulative trauma product liability lawsuits that are pending against us will not have a materially adverse effect on our future results of operations, financial condition, or liquidity.

We are currently involved in coverage litigation with The North River Insurance Company (North River). We have sued North River in the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania, alleging that North River breached one insurance policy by failing to pay amounts owed to us and that its refusal to pay constitutes bad faith. The case was assigned to the Court's mandatory Alternative Dispute Resolution program, in an attempt to resolve the dispute. The mediation was unsuccessful and the case will proceed to trial. We believe that North River's refusal to indemnify us under the policy for product liability losses and legal fees paid by us is wholly contrary to Pennsylvania law and we are vigorously pursuing the legal actions necessary to collect all amounts.

In April 2010, North River filed a complaint against us and two excess insurance carriers in the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania seeking a declaratory judgment concerning their responsibilities under three additional policies shared with Northbrook Insurance Company. We filed a motion to dismiss the declaratory judgment claim and a counter claim for breach of contract against North River and the two excess carriers. The court stayed the declaratory judgment claim and the breach of contract claim is now in discovery. We believe that Pennsylvania law supports our position that North River has insurance responsibilities to indemnify us against various product liability losses to the full limits of these policies.

Table of Contents

In May 2010, we resolved coverage litigation with Century Indemnity Company through a negotiated settlement. As part of this settlement, both parties dismissed all claims against one another under the previously-filed coverage litigation. The settlement did not have an impact on our operating results.

In July 2010, we resolved coverage litigation with Columbia Casualty Company on some of their policies through a negotiated settlement. As part of this settlement, both parties dismissed all claims against one another under the previously-filed coverage litigation. The settlement did not have an impact on our operating results.

In July 2010, we filed a complaint in the Superior Court of the State of Delaware seeking declaratory and other relief from the majority of our excess insurance carriers concerning the future rights and obligations of MSA and our excess insurance carriers under various insurance policies. The reason for this insurance coverage action is to secure a comprehensive resolution of our rights under the insurance policies issued by our insurers.

In December 2010, North River filed a motion to dismiss or stay the Delaware action asserting that the previously-discussed cases in the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania and the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania were capable of resolving the claims presented in the Superior Court of the State of Delaware action. In January 2011, the Superior Court of the State of Delaware granted North River's motion to stay the Delaware insurance coverage action, pending resolution of the ongoing actions in the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania and the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. We appealed the trial court's decision to stay this case and our appeal was denied. We continue to seek removal of the stay.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not applicable.

Executive Officers of the Registrant

The following sets forth the names and ages of our executive officers as of February 22, 2012, indicating all positions held during the past five years:

| Name | Age | Title |
|---------------------------------------|------------|--|
| William M. Lambert ^(a) | 53 | President and Chief Executive Officer since May 2008. |
| Joseph A. Bigler ^(b) | 62 | Vice President and President, MSA North America since May 2007. |
| Kerry M. Bove ^(c) | 53 | President, MSA International, Asia-Pacific Zone and Africa/Latin America Zone since November 2011. |
| Ronald N. Herring, Jr. ^(d) | 51 | President, MSA International, Western Europe Zone and Middle Eurasia Zone since November 2011. |
| Douglas K. McClaine | 54 | Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel. |
| Thomas Muschter ^(e) | 51 | Vice President, Global Product Leadership since November 2011. |
| Paul R. Uhler ^(f) | 53 | Vice President, Global Human Resources since May 2007. |
| Markus H. Weber ^(g) | 47 | Vice President and Chief Information Officer since April 2010. |
| Dennis L. Zeitler ^(h) | 63 | Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer since June 2007. |

(a) Prior to his present position, Mr. Lambert held the positions of President and Chief Operating Officer; Vice President and President, MSA North America; and Vice President and General Manager of the Safety Products Division.

(b) Prior to his present position, Mr. Bigler was Vice President, primarily responsible for North American Sales and Distribution.

Table of Contents

- (c) Prior to his present position, Mr. Bove held the positions of Vice President, Global Operational Excellence; and Vice President, primarily responsible for Global Manufacturing Operations and Materials Management.

- (d) Prior to his present position, Mr. Herring held the positions of Vice President, Global Product Leadership; and Vice President, primarily responsible for Global Marketing, Research and Engineering and Quality Assurance.

- (e) Prior to his present position, Mr. Muschter held the positions of Director, Research & Development, International; Director, Research & Development, Europe; and chemist.

- (f) Prior to his present position, Mr. Uhler was Vice President, primarily responsible for North American Human Resources and Corporate Communications.

- (g) Prior to joining MSA, Mr. Weber served as Chief Information Officer of Berlin-Chemie AG, an international research-based pharmaceutical company.

- (h) Prior to his present position, Mr. Zeitler was Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer.

Table of Contents**PART II****Item 5. Market for the Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities**

Our common stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol MSA. Stock price ranges and dividends declared were as follows:

| | Price Range of Our Common Stock | | Dividends |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------|-----------|
| | High | Low | |
| Year ended December 31, 2010 | | | |
| First Quarter | \$ 28.21 | \$ 22.79 | \$ 0.24 |
| Second Quarter | 30.93 | 24.67 | 0.25 |
| Third Quarter | 27.77 | 22.40 | 0.25 |
| Fourth Quarter | 32.62 | 26.28 | 0.25 |
| Year ended December 31, 2011 | | | |
| First Quarter | \$ 36.98 | \$ 29.69 | \$ 0.25 |
| Second Quarter | 40.91 | 32.85 | 0.26 |
| Third Quarter | 39.15 | 25.51 | 0.26 |
| Fourth Quarter | 35.74 | 24.50 | 0.26 |

On February 14, 2012, there were 452 registered holders of our shares of common stock.

Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

| Period | Total Number of Shares Purchased | Average Price Paid Per Share | Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs | Maximum Number of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs |
|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|---|
| October 1 - October 31, 2011 | | \$ | | 1,451,571 |
| November 1 - November 30, 2011 | | | | 1,382,743 |
| December 1 - December 31, 2011 | | | | 1,470,417 |

In November 2005, the Board of Directors authorized the purchase of up to \$100 million of common stock from time-to-time in private transactions and on the open market. The share purchase program has no expiration date. The maximum shares that may yet be purchased is calculated based on the dollars remaining under the program and the respective month-end closing share price.

We do not have any other share purchase programs.

Table of Contents

Comparison of Five-Year Cumulative Total Return

Set forth below are a line graph and table comparing the cumulative total returns (assuming reinvestment of dividends) for the five years ended December 31, 2011 of \$100 invested on December 31, 2006 in each of Mine Safety Appliances Company common stock, the Standard & Poor's 500 Composite Index and the Russell 2000 Index. Because our competitors are principally privately held concerns or subsidiaries or divisions of corporations engaged in multiple lines of business, we do not believe it feasible to construct a peer group comparison on an industry or line-of-business basis. The Russell 2000 Index, while including corporations both larger and smaller than MSA in terms of market capitalization, is composed of corporations with an average market capitalization similar to us.

COMPARISON OF 5 YEAR CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURN*

Among Mine Safety Appliance Company, the S&P 500 Index,
and the Russell 2000 Index

* \$100 invested on 12/13/06 in stock or index, including reinvestment of dividends. Fiscal year ending December 31. Copyright© 2012 S&P, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies Inc. All rights reserved.

| | Value at December 31 | | | | | |
|--------------|----------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
| MSA | \$ 100.00 | \$ 144.21 | \$ 68.26 | \$ 78.88 | \$ 96.19 | \$ 105.54 |
| S&P 500 | 100.00 | 105.49 | 66.46 | 84.05 | 96.71 | 98.75 |
| Russell 2000 | 100.00 | 98.43 | 65.18 | 82.89 | 105.14 | 100.75 |

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Table of Contents**Item 6. Selected Financial Data**

| (In thousands, except as noted) | 2011 | 2010 ^(a) | 2009 | 2008 | 2007 |
|--|--------------|---------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| Statement of Income Data: | | | | | |
| Net sales ^(b) | \$ 1,173,227 | \$ 976,631 | \$ 909,991 | \$ 1,134,282 | \$ 990,252 |
| Net income attributable to Mine Safety Appliances Company ^(c) | 69,852 | 38,104 | 43,295 | 70,422 | 67,588 |
| Earnings per Share Data: | | | | | |
| Basic per common share (in dollars) ^(d) | \$ 1.91 | \$ 1.06 | \$ 1.21 | \$ 1.98 | \$ 1.89 |
| Diluted per common share (in dollars) ^(d) | 1.87 | 1.05 | 1.21 | 1.96 | 1.86 |
| Dividends paid per common share (in dollars) | 1.03 | .99 | .96 | .94 | .84 |
| Weighted average common shares outstanding basic | 36,221 | 35,880 | 35,668 | 35,593 | 35,651 |
| Balance Sheet Data: | | | | | |
| Total assets | \$ 1,115,052 | \$ 1,197,188 | \$ 875,228 | \$ 875,810 | \$ 1,016,306 |
| Long-term debt ^(e) | 334,046 | 367,094 | 82,114 | 94,082 | 103,726 |
| Mine Safety Appliances Company shareholders' equity | 433,666 | 451,368 | 436,616 | 393,766 | 461,531 |

(a) Includes General Monitors from the date of acquisition on October 13, 2010.

(b) For discussion of changes between 2011, 2010 and 2009 see Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations. The decrease in sales from 2008 to 2009 was primarily due to the effects of the economic recession, lower military sales and unfavorable currency translation effects. The increase in sales from 2007 to 2008 was primarily due to strong military sales and favorable currency translation effects.

(c) For discussion of changes between 2011, 2010 and 2009 see Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Conditions and Results of Operations. The decrease in net income for 2008 to 2009 was primarily related to lower sales. The increase in net income from 2007 to 2008 was primarily related to higher sales, partially offset by lower gains on sales of property. Net income for 2007 included after tax gains of \$7.7 million on property sales.

(d) See Note 6 to the Financial Statements for the basis of calculating earnings per share.

(e) The increase in long-term debt in 2010 related to the acquisition of General Monitors on October 13, 2010.

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

The following discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with the historical financial statements and other financial information included elsewhere in this annual report on Form 10-K. This discussion may contain forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. The forward-looking statements are not historical facts, but rather are based on current expectations, estimates, assumptions and projections about our industry, business and future financial results. Our actual results could differ materially from the results contemplated by these forward-looking statements due to a number of factors, including those discussed in the sections of this annual report entitled Forward-Looking Statements and Risk Factors.

Table of Contents

BUSINESS OVERVIEW

We are a global leader in the development, manufacture and supply of products that protect people's health and safety. Our safety products typically integrate any combination of electronics, mechanical systems and advanced materials to protect users against hazardous or life threatening situations. Our comprehensive lines of safety products are used by workers around the world in the fire service, oil, gas, and petrochemical, mining, construction and other industries, as well as the military and homeland security. We are committed to providing our customers with service unmatched in the safety industry and, in the process, enhancing our ability to provide a growing line of safety solutions for customers in key global markets.

We tailor our product offerings and distribution strategy to satisfy distinct customer preferences that vary across geographic regions. We believe that we best serve these customer preferences by organizing our business into three reportable geographic segments: North America, Europe and International. Each segment includes a number of operating companies. In 2011, 48%, 24% and 28% of our net sales were made by our North American, European and International segments, respectively.

North America. Our largest manufacturing and research and development facilities are located in the United States. We serve our North American markets with sales and distribution functions in the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

Europe. Our European segment includes companies in most Western European countries and a number of Eastern European and Middle Eastern locations. Our largest European companies, based in Germany and France, develop, manufacture and sell a wide variety of products. Operations in other European countries focus primarily on sales and distribution in their respective home country markets. While some of these companies may perform limited production, most of their sales are of products that are manufactured in our plants in Germany, France, the U.S. and China, or are purchased from third party vendors.

International. Our International segment includes companies in South America, Africa and the Asia Pacific region, some of which are in developing regions of the world. Principal International segment manufacturing operations are located in Australia, Brazil, China and South Africa. These companies manufacture products that are sold primarily in each company's home country and regional markets. The other companies in the International segment focus primarily on sales and distribution in their respective home country markets. While some of these companies may perform limited production, most of their sales are of products that are manufactured in our plants in China, Germany, France and the U.S., or are purchased from third party vendors.

ACQUISITIONS

In October 2010, we strengthened our presence in oil, gas and petrochemical markets by acquiring General Monitors, Inc. (GMI) of Lake Forest, California and its affiliated companies, General Monitors Ireland Limited (GMI) and General Monitors Transnational, LLC (GMT), collectively referred to as General Monitors. General Monitors is a leading innovator and developer of advanced flame and gas detection systems that are used in a broad range of oil and gas exploration and refining applications and in diverse industrial plant settings. In addition to providing us with greater access to the global oil and gas market, we believe the acquisition significantly enhances our long-term corporate strategy in fixed gas detection by providing us with world-class research and development talent and an industry leading product line.

Table of Contents**RESULTS OF OPERATIONS****Year Ended December 31, 2011 Compared to Year Ended December 31, 2010**

Net sales. Net sales for the year ended December 31, 2011 were \$1,173.2 million, an increase of \$196.6 million, or 20%, from \$976.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2010.

| (Dollars in millions) | 2011 | 2010 | Dollar Increase | Percent Increase |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|-----------------|------------------|
| North America | \$ 561.1 | \$ 464.0 | \$ 97.1 | 21% |
| Europe | 286.8 | 251.1 | 35.7 | 14 |
| International | 325.3 | 261.5 | 63.8 | 24 |

Net sales by the North American segment were \$561.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, an increase of \$97.1 million, or 21%, compared to \$464.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. North American sales for the year ended December 31, 2011 included \$60.4 million of General Monitors sales compared to \$12.1 million in the year ended December 31, 2010. During the year ended December 31, 2011, we saw growing demand in oil and gas and other core industrial markets, resulting in higher shipments of instruments (excluding General Monitors), head protection and fall protection, up \$11.8 million, \$6.0 million and \$5.2 million, respectively. Sales of the Advanced Combat Helmet (ACH) were \$27.2 million higher in the current year, as we continued to ship on the current contract.

Net sales of our European segment were \$286.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, an increase of \$35.7 million, or 14%, from \$251.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. Net sales in the European segment included \$25.8 million of General Monitor sales for the year ended December 31, 2011, compared to \$4.2 million in the year ended December 31, 2010. Excluding General monitors, local currency sales in Europe decreased \$1.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. The decrease occurred primarily in Western Europe where local currency sales were down \$8.6 million reflecting lower shipments of gas masks, fire helmets and ballistic helmets, partially offset by higher shipments of SCBAs and instruments. Lower local currency sales in Western Europe were partially offset by a \$7.6 million increase in sales in Eastern Europe and the Middle East due to higher shipments of SCBAs, instruments and ballistic helmets to the fire service, industrial and military markets. Favorable translation effects of stronger European currencies, particularly the euro, increased current year European segment sales, when stated in U.S. dollars, by approximately \$15.1 million.

Net sales of our International segment were \$325.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, an increase of \$63.8 million, or 24%, compared to \$261.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. Local currency sales in the International segment increased \$49.1 million during the year ended December 31, 2011. The increase in sales was due to strong demand in the mining, fire service and core industrial markets. The sales increase was most notably related to increased shipments of SCBA s, head eye and face protection and gas detection products, which increased by \$9.3 million, \$13.4 million and \$8.9 million, respectively. Sales growth was fueled mainly by market growth in Latin America and China. Currency translation effects increased International segment sales, when stated in U.S. dollars, by \$14.7 million, reflecting a strengthening of the Australian dollar, South African rand and Brazilian real.

Cost of products sold. Cost of products sold was \$703.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, an increase of \$96.5 million, or 16%, from \$606.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The increase was driven by higher sales. Cost of products sold as a percentage of sales was 59.9% in the year ended December 31, 2011 compared to 62.1% in 2010. Lower cost of products sold as a percentage of sales in the current year was due to control over manufacturing cost and the addition of General Monitors.

Cost of products sold and operating expenses include net periodic pension benefit costs and credits. Pension credits, combined with pension costs, resulted in net pension credits for the year ended December 31, 2011 of \$5.0 million, of which credits of \$4.0 million, \$0.2 million and \$0.8 million were included in cost

Table of Contents

of products sold, selling, general and administrative expenses and research and development expenses, respectively. Pension credits, combined with pension costs, resulted in net pension credits for the year ended December 31, 2010 of \$7.3 million, of which credits of \$5.3 million, \$1.0 million and \$1.0 million were included in cost of products sold, selling, general and administrative expenses and research and development expenses, respectively. Future net pension credits can be volatile depending on the future performance of plan assets, changes in actuarial assumptions regarding such factors as the selection of discount rates and rates of return on plan assets, changes in the amortization levels of actuarial gains and losses, plan amendments affecting benefit pay-out levels, and profile changes in the participant populations being valued. Changes in any of these factors could cause net pension credits to change. To the extent net pension credits decline in the future, our net income would be adversely affected.

Gross profit. Gross profit for the year ended December 31, 2011 was \$470.2 million, an increase of \$100.1 million, or 27%, from \$370.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The ratio of gross profit to sales was 40.1% in 2011 compared to 37.9% in 2010. The higher gross profit ratio in 2011 was primarily related to improved pricing, control over manufacturing costs, and the addition of General Monitors.

Selling, general and administrative expenses. Selling, general and administrative expenses for the year ended December 31, 2011 were \$306.4 million, an increase of \$43.5 million, or 17%, from \$262.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. Selling, general and administrative expenses were 26.1% of sales in 2011 compared to 26.9% of sales in 2010. North American segment selling general and administrative expenses were up \$25.0 million, including an increase of \$14.4 million at General Monitors. The remainder of the increase in North American segment selling, general and administrative expenses was primarily related to legal fees associated with our insurance receivable, higher insurance expense due to increased coverage limits and higher selling expenses to support sales growth. Local currency selling, general and administrative expenses in the European segment were up \$1.3 million, reflecting \$2.6 million of additional General Monitors selling, general and administrative expenses, partially offset by a \$1.3 million decrease at other European companies. Local currency selling, general and administrative expenses in the International segment increased \$11.6 million, primarily to support the increased sales volume. Currency exchange effects increased European and International segment administrative expenses for the year ended December 31, 2011, when stated in U.S. dollars, by \$8.2 million, primarily related to the strengthening of the euro, Australian dollar, South African rand and Brazilian Real.

Research and development expenses. Research and development expenses were \$39.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, an increase of \$6.4 million, or 20%, from \$32.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The increase includes \$3.3 million of additional General Monitors research and development expense. The remainder of the increase reflects our ongoing focus on developing innovative new products.

Restructuring and other charges. For the year ended December 31, 2011, we recorded charges of \$8.6 million (\$5.7 million after tax). European segment charges of \$5.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, related primarily to staff reductions in Germany, France and Spain and the transfer of certain production activities to China. North American segment charges for the year ended December 31, 2011 of \$1.7 million included costs associated with the relocation of certain administrative and production activities. International segment charges for the year ended December 31, 2011 of \$1.1 million were related primarily to severance costs associated with the relocation of our Wuxi, China operations to Suzhou, China.

For the year ended December 31, 2010, we recorded charges of \$14.1 million (\$9.6 million after tax). North American segment charges of \$3.8 million included stay bonuses and other costs associated with the transfer of certain production and administrative activities. European segment charges of \$8.8 million related primarily to a focused voluntary retirement incentive program in Germany and severance costs associated with staff reductions. International segment charges of \$1.5 million were primarily for severance costs related to staff reductions in South Africa and China.

Table of Contents

Interest expense. Interest expense for the year ended December 31, 2011 was \$14.1 million, an increase of \$5.4 million, or 62%, from \$8.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The increase was primarily due to higher borrowings associated with the acquisition of General Monitors in October 2010.

Income tax provision. Our effective tax rate for the year ended December 31, 2011 was 33.2% compared to 31.9% for the year ended December 31, 2010. The higher effective tax rate for the year was primarily related to a lower domestic activities production deduction and research and development tax credit as a percentage of pretax income, partially offset by the recognition of deferred tax assets on net operating loss carryforwards in Asia.

Net income attributable to Mine Safety Appliances Company. Net income for the year ended December 31, 2011 was \$69.9 million, an increase of \$31.8 million, or 83%, from net income for the year ended December 31, 2010 of \$38.1 million. Basic earnings per share of common stock was \$1.91 in 2011 compared to \$1.06 in 2010, an increase of 85 cents per share, or 80%.

North American segment net income for the year ended December 31, 2011 was \$57.9 million, an improvement of \$13.3 million, or 30%, from \$44.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. North American segment net income includes \$9.5 million of General Monitors net income for the year ended December 31, 2011 compared to \$0.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The remainder of the increase in North American segment net income was primarily related to improved sales and gross profits, partially offset by the previously discussed increase in selling general and administrative expenses and research and development expense.

European segment net income for the year ended December 31, 2011 was \$7.3 million, an improvement of \$12.7 million, from a net loss of \$5.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The improvement in European segment net income includes \$6.6 million of General Monitors net income. The remainder of the improvement in European segment results for the current year was primarily due to lower operating costs and restructuring expenses.

International segment net income for the year ended December 31, 2011 was \$27.2 million, an increase of \$11.4 million, or 72%, from \$15.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. Higher net income was primarily related to improved sales and gross profits, partially offset by higher selling expenses. Currency translation effects increased the 2011 International segment net income, when stated in U.S. dollars, by approximately \$1.0 million, primarily due the strengthening of the Australian dollar, South African rand and Brazilian Real.

Reconciling items for the year ended December 31, 2011 reported a net loss of \$22.5 million, an increase of \$5.6 million, or 33%, from a net loss of \$16.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The higher loss reported in reconciling items in the current year was primarily related to higher interest expense associated with the acquisition of General Monitors and higher currency exchange losses.

Year Ended December 31, 2010 Compared to Year Ended December 31, 2009

Net sales. Net sales for the year ended December 31, 2010 were \$976.6 million, an increase of \$66.6 million, or 7%, from \$910.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2009.

| (Dollars in millions) | 2010 | 2009 | Dollar Increase (Decrease) | Percent Increase (Decrease) |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| North America | \$ 464.0 | \$ 434.6 | \$ 29.4 | 7% |
| Europe | 251.1 | 257.9 | (6.8) | (3) |
| International | 261.5 | 217.5 | 44.0 | 20 |

Table of Contents

Net sales by the North American segment were \$464.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, an increase of \$29.4 million, or 7%, compared to \$434.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. During the year ended December 31, 2010, we saw growing demand in oil and gas and other core industrial markets, resulting in higher shipments of instruments, head protection and respirators, up \$32.0 million, \$13.0 million and \$5.8 million, respectively. Higher instrument sales in 2010 included \$12.1 million in General Monitors product sales following the mid-October acquisition. These increases were partially offset by lower sales of SCBAs and gas masks, down \$14.6 million and \$6.0 million, respectively, on continued weakness in the fire service, law enforcement and homeland security markets. Sales of the Advanced Combat Helmets (ACHs) were \$3.4 million lower in 2010, as we transitioned to a new contract.

Net sales of our European segment were \$251.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, a decrease of \$6.8 million, or 3%, from \$257.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. Local currency sales in Europe increased \$1.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The increase occurred primarily in Western Europe where sales were up \$5.9 million, on higher instrument sales to oil and gas and industrial markets. Higher instrument sales in 2010 included \$4.2 million in General Monitors product sales. This increase was partially offset by a \$4.1 million decrease in sales in Eastern Europe and the Middle East in 2010, reflecting lower shipments of fire helmets and SCBAs due to weakness in the fire service market. Unfavorable translation effects of weaker European currencies, particularly the euro, in the current year decreased European segment sales, when stated in U.S. dollars, by approximately \$8.7 million.

Net sales of our International segment were \$261.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, an increase of \$44.0 million, or 20%, compared to \$217.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. Local currency sales in the International segment increased \$23.6 million during the year ended December 31, 2010 on higher sales of head, eye and face protection, instruments and other products, primarily in Latin American mining markets. Currency translation effects increased International segment sales, when stated in U.S. dollars, by \$20.4 million, reflecting a strengthening of the Australian dollar, South African rand and Brazilian real.

Cost of products sold. Cost of products sold was \$606.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, an increase of \$33.2 million, or 6%, from \$573.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. Cost of products sold in 2010 includes \$2.5 million in incremental purchase accounting charges related to the fair value of General Monitors inventory at the acquisition date.

Cost of products sold and operating expenses include net periodic pension benefit costs and credits. Pension credits, combined with pension costs, resulted in net pension credits for the year ended December 31, 2010 of \$7.3 million, of which credits of \$5.3 million, \$1.0 million and \$1.0 million were included in cost of products sold, selling, general and administrative expenses and research and development expenses, respectively. Pension credits, combined with pension costs, resulted in net pension credits for the year ended December 31, 2009 of \$9.1 million, of which credits of \$5.7 million, \$1.7 million and \$1.7 million were included in cost of products sold, selling, general and administrative expenses and research and development expenses, respectively.

Gross profit. Gross profit for the year ended December 31, 2010 was \$370.1 million, an increase of \$33.4 million, or 10%, from \$336.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. The ratio of gross profit to sales was 37.9% in 2010 compared to 37.0% in 2009. The higher gross profit ratio in 2010 was primarily related to sales mix, the favorable effect of cost control initiatives and higher production volumes.

Selling, general and administrative expenses. Selling, general and administrative expenses for the year ended December 31, 2010 were \$262.9 million, an increase of \$32.0 million, or 14%, from \$230.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. Selling, general and administrative expenses were 26.9% of sales in 2010 compared to 25.4% of sales in 2009. Selling, general and administrative expenses in 2010 included \$6.5 million of transaction and integration expenses related to the General Monitors acquisition. North American segment selling general and administrative expenses were up \$13.2 million. The increase included General Monitors selling, general and administrative expenses of \$3.9 million following the acquisition. The remainder of the increase in North American segment selling, general and administrative expenses was primarily related to higher

Table of Contents

selling expenses on the higher sales volumes. Local currency selling, general and administrative expenses in the European segment were up \$2.7 million. The increase includes General Monitors selling, general and administrative expenses of \$0.6 million. The remainder of the increase in European segment selling general and administrative expenses related to higher sales in Western Europe. Local currency selling, general and administrative expenses in the International segment increased \$7.1 million, primarily to support the increased sales volume. Currency exchange effects increased European and International segment administrative expenses for the year ended December 31, 2010, when stated in U.S. dollars, by \$2.5 million, primarily related to the strengthening of the Australian dollar, South African rand and Brazilian real, partially offset by the weakening of the euro.

Research and development expenses. Research and development expenses were \$32.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, an increase of \$4.0 million, or 14%, from \$28.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. The increase includes \$0.7 million of General Monitors research and development expense. The remainder of the increase occurred in North America and Europe and reflects our ongoing focus on developing innovative new products.

Restructuring and other charges. For the year ended December 31, 2010, we recorded charges of \$14.1 million (\$9.6 million after tax). North American segment charges of \$3.8 million included stay bonuses and other costs associated with our initiative to reduce operating costs by moving certain production and administrative activities. European segment charges of \$8.8 million related primarily to a focused voluntary retirement incentive program in Germany and severance costs associated with staff reductions. International segment charges of \$1.5 million were primarily for severance costs related to staff reductions in South Africa and China.

For the year ended December 31, 2009, we recorded charges of \$11.4 million (\$7.5 million after tax). North American segment charges of \$9.6 million were related primarily to a focused voluntary retirement incentive program and severance and other costs related to the transfer of certain production activities to lower cost facilities. European and International segment charges of \$0.8 million and \$1.0 million, respectively, were primarily severance costs related to staff reductions in Germany, Brazil, Australia and South Africa.

Interest expense. Interest expense for the year ended December 31, 2010 was \$8.7 million, an increase of \$1.6 million, or 23%, from \$7.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. The increase was related to the higher borrowings associated with the acquisition of General Monitors.

Income tax provision. Our effective tax rate for the year ended December 31, 2010 was 31.9% compared to 33.7% for the year ended December 31, 2009. The lower effective tax rate in 2010 was primarily related to an increased domestic production deduction in the U.S.

Net income attributable to Mine Safety Appliances Company. Net income for the year ended December 31, 2010 was \$38.1 million, a decrease of \$5.2 million, or 12%, from net income for the year ended December 31, 2009 of \$43.3 million. Basic earnings per share of common stock was \$1.06 in 2010, compared to \$1.21 in 2009.

North American segment net income for the year ended December 31, 2010 was \$44.6 million, an increase of \$0.8 million, or 2%, from \$43.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. The small increase in net income reflects improved sales, substantially offset by higher selling, general and administrative expenses required to support sales growth.

The European segment reported a net loss for the year ended December 31, 2010 of \$5.4 million, a decrease of \$9.9 million, compared to net income of \$4.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. The decrease in European segment results for the current year was primarily due to lower sales and the previously discussed increase in restructuring expenses. Currency translation effects reduced the 2010 European segment net loss, when stated in U.S. dollars, by approximately \$1.1 million.

Table of Contents

International segment net income for the year ended December 31, 2010 was \$15.8 million, an increase of \$9.1 million, or 136%, from \$6.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. Higher net income was primarily related to improved sales and gross profits, partially offset by higher selling expenses.

Reconciling items for the year ended December 31, 2010 reported a net loss of \$16.9 million, an increase of \$5.2 million, or 44%, compared to a net loss of \$11.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. The higher loss in 2010 was primarily due to expenses related to the acquisition of General Monitors and incremental interest expense.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Our main source of liquidity is operating cash flows, supplemented by borrowings to fund working capital requirements and significant transactions. Our principal liquidity requirements are for working capital, capital expenditures, principal and interest payments on debt and acquisitions. Approximately half of our long-term debt is at fixed interest rates with manageable repayment schedules through 2021. The remainder of our long-term debt is at variable rates on an unsecured revolving credit facility that is due in 2016. Substantially all of our borrowings originate in the U.S., which has limited our exposure to non-U.S. credit markets and to currency exchange rate fluctuations.

In November 2011, we amended the unsecured senior revolving credit facility that we entered into in 2010 to increase the facility from \$250.0 million to \$300.0 million and extend the term of the facility until November 2016. The amended credit agreement provides for borrowings up to \$300.0 million and is subject to certain commitment fees. Loans made under the senior revolving credit facility bear interest at a variable rate. Loan proceeds may be used for general corporate purposes, including working capital, permitted acquisitions, capital expenditures and repayment of existing indebtedness. The credit agreement also provides for an uncommitted incremental facility that permits us, subject to certain conditions, to request an increase in the senior credit facility of up to \$50.0 million. At December 31, 2011, \$130.0 million of the \$300.0 million senior revolving credit facility was unused.

During 2010, we issued \$100.0 million in unsecured 4.00% Series A Senior Notes. These notes mature in October 2021 and are payable in five annual installments of \$20.0 million, commencing in October 2017. Interest is payable quarterly.

Incremental borrowing in 2010 and 2011 was primarily related to our acquisition of General Monitors in October 2010.

During 2011, we reduced borrowings on the senior revolving credit facility by \$25.0 million. We plan to continue to reduce our borrowings on this facility over the next several years.

Cash and cash equivalents increased \$0.2 million during the year ended December 31, 2011, compared to a decrease of \$2.2 million during 2010.

Operating activities. Operating activities provided cash of \$85.3 million in 2011, compared to providing cash of \$31.6 million in 2010. Significantly higher cash provided by operations in 2011 was primarily related to higher net income. Trade receivables were \$192.6 million at December 31, 2011, a decrease of \$6.0 million, compared to \$198.6 million at December 31, 2010. LIFO inventories were \$141.5 million at December 31, 2011, a decrease of \$9.1 million, compared to \$150.6 million at December 31, 2010. The \$6.0 million decrease in trade receivables reflects a \$0.4 million increase in local currency balances and a \$6.4 million decrease due to currency translation effects. The \$9.1 million decrease in inventories reflects a \$1.2 million decrease in local currency inventories and a \$7.9 million decrease due to currency translation effects.

Cash provided by operations in 2010 decreased \$89.2 million compared to 2009. The decrease was primarily related to changes in working capital and an increase in other noncurrent assets that was mainly related to an increase in insurance receivables. During the height of the recession in 2009, planned reductions in working capital provided cash of \$66.6 million.

Table of Contents

Investing activities. Investing activities used cash of \$11.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, compared to using \$281.6 million in 2010. Higher cash provided from asset disposals in 2011 related primarily to the sale of our former headquarters building in O'Hara Township, Pennsylvania. The higher use of cash for investing activities in 2010 was related to the acquisition of General Monitors.

Cash used for investing activities increased \$260.8 million in 2010 compared to 2009. The higher use of cash for investing activities in 2010 was related to the acquisition of General Monitors.

Financing activities. Financing activities used cash of \$71.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, compared to providing cash of \$246.6 million in 2010. During 2011, we paid down \$34.9 million of debt. During 2010, we made net borrowings of \$278.8 million, primarily to finance the acquisition of General Monitors. We made dividend payments of \$37.7 million during 2011, compared to \$35.9 million during 2010. Dividends paid on our common stock during 2011 (our 95th consecutive year of dividend payment) were \$1.03 per share. Dividends paid on our common stock in 2010 and 2009 were \$0.99 and \$0.96 per share, respectively.

Financing activities provided cash of \$246.6 million in 2010 compared to using cash of \$91.9 million in 2009. The change was related to borrowings made to finance the acquisition of General Monitors in 2010. Net cash proceeds from borrowings were \$278.8 million in 2010 compared to net payments on debt of \$57.1 million in 2009.

CUMULATIVE TRANSLATION ADJUSTMENTS

The year-end position of the U.S. dollar relative to international currencies resulted in a translation loss of \$14.7 million being charged to the cumulative translation adjustments attributable to Mine Safety Appliances Company shareholders' equity account for the year ended December 31, 2011, compared to gains of \$1.6 million in 2010 and \$17.7 million in 2009. The translation loss in 2011 was primarily related to the weakening of the euro and South African rand. The translation gain in 2010 was primarily due to the strengthening of the South African rand, the Australian dollar and the Brazilian real, partially offset by the weakening of the euro. The translation gain in 2009 reflects the strengthening of the euro, Brazilian real, Australian dollar and South African rand.

COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

We are obligated to make future payments under various contracts, including debt and lease agreements. Our significant cash obligations as of December 31, 2011 were as follows:

| (In millions) | Total | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | Thereafter |
|------------------|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------|------------|
| Long-term debt* | \$ 342.0 | \$ 8.0 | \$ 6.7 | \$ 6.7 | \$ 6.7 | \$ 176.7 | \$ 137.2 |
| Operating leases | 29.0 | 9.6 | 7.9 | 5.6 | 2.8 | 2.0 | 1.1 |
| Totals | 371.0 | 17.6 | 14.6 | 12.3 | 9.5 | 178.7 | 138.3 |

* *Future interest payments are not included in the table.*

The significant obligations table does not include obligations to taxing authorities due to uncertainty surrounding the ultimate settlement of amounts and timing of these obligations.

We expect to meet our 2012 through 2015 debt service obligations through cash provided by operations. Approximately \$170.0 million of debt payable in 2016 relates to our unsecured senior revolving credit facility. We expect to generate sufficient operating cash flow to make payments against this amount each year. To the extent that a balance remains when the facility matures in 2016, we expect to refinance the remaining balance through new borrowing facilities.

We expect to make net contributions of \$4.1 million to our pension plans in 2012.

Table of Contents

We have purchase commitments for materials, supplies, services and property, plant and equipment as part of our ordinary conduct of business.

We categorize the product liability losses that we experience into two main categories, single incident and cumulative trauma. Single incident product liability claims are discrete incidents that are typically known to us when they occur and involve observable injuries and, therefore, more quantifiable damages. Therefore, we maintain a reserve for single incident product liability claims based on expected settlement costs for pending claims and an estimate of costs for unreported claims derived from experience, sales volumes and other relevant information. Our reserve for single incident product liability claims was \$4.7 million and \$5.2 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Single incident product liability expense during the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 was \$1.5 million, \$0.2 million and \$0.5 million, respectively. We evaluate our single incident product liability exposures on an ongoing basis and make adjustments to the reserve as new information becomes available.

Cumulative trauma product liability claims involve exposures to harmful substances (*e.g.*, silica, asbestos and coal dust) that occurred many years ago and may have developed over long periods of time into diseases such as silicosis, asbestosis or coal worker's pneumoconiosis. We are presently named as a defendant in 2,321 lawsuits in which plaintiffs allege to have contracted certain cumulative trauma diseases related to exposure to silica, asbestos, and/or coal dust. These lawsuits mainly involve respiratory protection products allegedly manufactured and sold by us. We are unable to estimate total damages sought in these lawsuits as they generally do not specify the injuries alleged or the amount of damages sought, and potentially involve multiple defendants.

Cumulative trauma product liability litigation is difficult to predict. In our experience, until late in a lawsuit, we cannot reasonably determine whether it is probable that any given cumulative trauma lawsuit will ultimately result in a liability. This uncertainty is caused by many factors, including the following: cumulative trauma complaints generally do not provide information sufficient to determine if a loss is probable; cumulative trauma litigation is inherently unpredictable and information is often insufficient to determine if a lawsuit will develop into an actively litigated case; and even when a case is actively litigated, it is often difficult to determine if the lawsuit will be dismissed or otherwise resolved until late in the lawsuit. Moreover, even once it is probable that such a lawsuit will result in a loss, it is difficult to reasonably estimate the amount of actual loss that will be incurred. These amounts are highly variable and turn on a case-by-case analysis of the relevant facts, which are often not learned until late in the lawsuit.

Because of these factors, we cannot reliably determine our potential liability for such claims until late in the lawsuit. We, therefore, do not record cumulative trauma product liability losses when a lawsuit is filed, but rather, when we learn sufficient information to determine that it is probable that we will incur a loss and the amount of loss can be reasonably estimated. We record expenses for defense costs associated with open cumulative trauma product liability lawsuits as incurred.

We cannot estimate any amount or range of possible losses related to resolving pending and future cumulative trauma product liability claims that we may face because of the factors described above. As new information about cumulative trauma product liability cases and future developments becomes available, we reassess our potential exposures.

A summary of cumulative trauma product liability claims activity follows:

| | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Open claims, January 1 | 1,900 | 2,480 | 2,550 |
| New claims | 479 | 260 | 220 |
| Settled and dismissed claims | (58) | (840) | (290) |
| Open claims, December 31 | 2,321 | 1,900 | 2,480 |

Table of Contents

With some common contract exclusions, we maintain insurance for cumulative trauma product liability claims. We have purchased insurance policies from over 20 different insurance carriers that provide coverage for cumulative trauma product liability losses and related defense costs. In the normal course of business, we make payments to settle product liability claims and for related defense costs. We record receivables for the amounts that are covered by insurance. The available limits of these policies are many times our recorded insurance receivable balance.

Various factors could affect the timing and amount of recovery of our insurance receivables, including the outcome of negotiations with insurers, legal proceedings with respect to product liability insurance coverage and the extent to which insurers may become insolvent in the future.

Our insurance receivables at December 31, 2011 and 2010 totaled \$112.1 million and \$89.0 million, respectively, all of which is reported in other non-current assets.

A summary of insurance receivable balances and activity related to cumulative trauma product liability losses follows:

| (In millions) | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Balance January 1 | \$ 89.0 | \$ 91.7 | \$ 60.6 |
| Additions | 35.6 | 30.9 | 33.1 |
| Collections and settlements | (12.5) | (33.6) | (2.0) |
| Balance December 31 | 112.1 | 89.0 | 91.7 |

Additions to insurance receivables in the above table represent insured cumulative trauma product liability losses and related defense costs. Uninsured cumulative trauma product liability losses during the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 were \$1.1 million, \$0.2 million and \$1.7 million, respectively.

Our aggregate cumulative trauma product liability losses and administrative and defense costs for the three years ended December 31, 2011, totaled approximately \$102.7 million, substantially all of which was insured.

We believe that the increase in the insurance receivable balance that we have experienced since 2005 is primarily due to disagreements among our insurance carriers, and consequently with us, as to when their individual obligations to pay us are triggered and the amount of each insurer's obligation, as compared to other insurers. We believe that our insurers do not contest that they have issued policies to us or that these policies cover cumulative trauma product liability claims. We believe that our ability to successfully resolve our insurance litigation with various insurance carriers during 2011 and 2010 demonstrates that we had strong legal positions concerning our rights to coverage.

We regularly evaluate the collectability of the insurance receivables and record the amounts that we conclude are probable of collection. Our conclusions are based on our analysis of the terms of the underlying insurance policies, our experience in successfully recovering cumulative trauma product liability claims from our insurers under other policies, the financial ability of our insurance carriers to pay the claims, our understanding and interpretation of the relevant facts and applicable law and the advice of legal counsel, who believe that our insurers are required to provide coverage based on the terms of the policies.

Although the outcome of cumulative trauma product liability matters cannot be predicted with certainty and unfavorable resolutions could materially affect our results of operations on a quarter-to-quarter basis, based on information currently available and the amounts of insurance coverage available to us, we believe that the disposition of cumulative trauma product liability lawsuits that are pending against us will not have a materially adverse effect on our future results of operations, financial condition, or liquidity.

Table of Contents

We are currently involved in coverage litigation with The North River Insurance Company (North River). We have sued North River in the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania, alleging that North River breached one insurance policy by failing to pay amounts owed to us and that its refusal to pay constitutes bad faith. The case was assigned to the Court's mandatory Alternative Dispute Resolution program, in an attempt to resolve the dispute. The mediation was unsuccessful and the case will proceed to trial. We believe that North River's refusal to indemnify us under the policy for product liability losses and legal fees paid by us is wholly contrary to Pennsylvania law and we are vigorously pursuing the legal actions necessary to collect all amounts.

In April 2010, North River filed a complaint against us and two excess insurance carriers in the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania seeking a declaratory judgment concerning their responsibilities under three additional policies shared with Northbrook Insurance Company. We filed a motion to dismiss the declaratory judgment claim and a counter claim for breach of contract against North River and the two excess carriers. The court stayed the declaratory judgment claim and the breach of contract claim is now in discovery. We believe that Pennsylvania law supports our position that North River has insurance responsibilities to indemnify us against various product liability losses to the full limits of these policies.

In May 2010, we resolved coverage litigation with Century Indemnity Company through a negotiated settlement. As part of this settlement, both parties dismissed all claims against one another under the previously-filed coverage litigation. The settlement did not have an impact on our operating results.

In July 2010, we resolved coverage litigation with Columbia Casualty Company on some of their policies through a negotiated settlement. As part of this settlement, both parties dismissed all claims against one another under the previously-filed coverage litigation. The settlement did not have an impact on our operating results.

In July 2010, we filed a complaint in the Superior Court of the State of Delaware seeking declaratory and other relief from the majority of our excess insurance carriers concerning the future rights and obligations of MSA and our excess insurance carriers under various insurance policies. The reason for this insurance coverage action is to secure a comprehensive resolution of our rights under the insurance policies issued by our insurers.

In December 2010, North River filed a motion to dismiss or stay the Delaware action asserting that the previously-discussed cases in the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania and the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania were capable of resolving the claims presented in the Superior Court of the State of Delaware action. In January 2011, the Superior Court of the State of Delaware granted North River's motion to stay the Delaware insurance coverage action, pending resolution of the ongoing actions in the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania and the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. We appealed the trial court's decision to stay this case and our appeal was denied. We continue to seek removal of the stay.

In addition to the insurance receivables reported in our balance sheet, the primary effect of the delays in reimbursement from our insurance companies has been the incremental interest expense associated with the net cash outlays and legal expenses related to insurance litigation. Legal fees and incremental interest expense associated with the delays in collection of insurance receivables averaged approximately 7% of cumulative net income during the three years ended December 31, 2011.

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATES

We prepare our consolidated financial statements in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses and the related disclosures. We evaluate these estimates and judgments on an on-going basis based on historical experience and various assumptions that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances. However, different amounts could be reported if we had used different assumptions and in light of different facts and circumstances. Actual amounts could differ from the estimates and judgments reflected in our financial statements.

Table of Contents

We believe that the following are the more critical judgments and estimates used in the preparation of our financial statements.

Accounting for contingencies. We accrue for contingencies when we believe that it is probable that a liability or loss has been incurred and the amount can be reasonably estimated. Contingencies relate to uncertainties that require our judgment both in assessing whether or not a liability or loss has been incurred and in estimating the amount of the probable loss. Significant contingencies affecting our financial statements include pending or threatened litigation, including product liability claims and product warranties.

Product liability. We face an inherent business risk of exposure to product liability claims arising from the alleged failure of our products to prevent the types of personal injury or death against which they are designed to protect. We categorize the product liability losses that we experience into two main categories, single incident and cumulative trauma. Single incident product liability claims are discrete incidents that are typically known to us when they occur and involve observable injuries and, therefore, more quantifiable damages. We maintain a reserve for single incident product liability claims, based on expected settlement costs for pending claims and an estimate of costs for unreported claims derived from experience, sales volumes and other relevant information. We evaluate our single incident product liability exposures on an ongoing basis and make adjustments to the reserve as new information becomes available.

Cumulative trauma product liability claims involve exposures to harmful substances that occurred many years ago and may have developed over long periods of time into diseases such as silicosis, asbestosis, or coal worker's pneumoconiosis. In our experience, until late in a lawsuit, we cannot reasonably determine whether it is probable that any given cumulative trauma lawsuit will ultimately result in a liability. This uncertainty is caused by many factors, including the following: cumulative trauma complaints generally do not provide information sufficient to determine if a loss is probable; cumulative trauma litigation is inherently unpredictable and information is often insufficient to determine if a lawsuit will develop into an actively litigated case; and even when a case is actively litigated, it is often difficult to determine if the lawsuit will be dismissed or otherwise resolved until late in the lawsuit. Moreover, even once it is probable that such a lawsuit will result in a loss, it is difficult to reasonably estimate the amount of actual loss that will be incurred. These amounts are highly variable and turn on a case-by-case analysis of the relevant facts, which are often not learned until late in the lawsuit. We, therefore, do not record cumulative trauma product liability losses when a lawsuit is filed, but rather, when we learn sufficient information to determine that it is probable that we will incur a loss and the amount of loss can be reasonably estimated.

We cannot estimate any amount or range of possible losses related to resolving pending and future cumulative trauma product liability claims that we may face because of the factors described above. As new information about cumulative trauma product liability claims and future developments becomes available, we reassess our potential exposures.

We record expenses for defense costs associated with open product liability lawsuits as incurred.

With some common contract exclusions, we maintain insurance for single incident and cumulative trauma product liability claims and related defense costs. In the normal course of business, we make payments to settle product liability claims and for related defense costs. We record receivables for the amounts that are covered by insurance.

Due to uncertainty as to the ultimate outcome of pending and threatened claims, as well as the incidence of future claims, it is possible that future results could be materially affected by changes in our assumptions and estimates related to product liability matters, including our estimates of amounts receivable from insurance carriers. Our product liability expense averaged less than 1% of net sales during the three years ended December 31, 2011.

Product warranties. We accrue for the estimated probable cost of product warranties at the time that sales are recognized. Our estimates are principally based on historical experience. We also accrue for our estimates of

Table of Contents

the probable costs of corrective action when significant product quality issues are identified. These estimates are principally based on our assumptions regarding the cost of corrective action and the probable number of units to be repaired or replaced. Our product warranty obligation is affected by product failure rates, material usage and service delivery costs incurred in correcting a product failure. Due to the uncertainty and potential volatility of these factors, it is possible that future results could be materially affected by changes in our assumptions or the effectiveness of our strategies related to these matters. Our product warranty expense averaged approximately 1% of net sales during the three years ended December 31, 2011.

Income taxes. We recognize deferred tax assets and liabilities using enacted tax rates for the effect of temporary differences between the book and tax basis of recorded assets and liabilities. We record valuation allowances to reduce deferred tax assets to the amounts that we estimate are probable to be realized. When assessing the need for valuation allowances, we consider projected future taxable income and prudent and feasible tax planning strategies. Should a change in circumstances lead to a change in our judgments about the realizability of deferred tax assets in future years, we adjust the related valuation allowances in the period that the change in circumstances occurs. We had valuation allowances of \$2.8 million and \$4.3 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

We record an estimated income tax liability based on our best judgment of the amounts likely to be paid in the various tax jurisdictions in which we operate. We record tax benefits related to uncertain tax positions taken or expected to be taken on a tax return when such benefits meet a more likely than not threshold. We recognize interest related to unrecognized tax benefits in interest expense and penalties in operating expenses. The tax liabilities ultimately paid are dependent on a number of factors, including the resolution of tax audits, and may differ from the amounts recorded. Tax liabilities are adjusted through income when it becomes probable that the actual liability differs from the amount recorded.

Pensions and other postretirement benefits. We sponsor certain pension and other postretirement benefit plans. Accounting for the net periodic benefit costs and credits for these plans requires us to estimate the cost of benefits to be provided well into the future and to attribute these costs over the expected work life of the employees participating in these plans. These estimates require our judgment about discount rates used to determine these obligations, expected returns on plan assets, rates of future compensation increases, rates of increase in future health care costs, participant withdrawal and mortality rates and participant retirement ages. Differences between our estimates and actual results may significantly affect the cost of our obligations under these plans and could cause net periodic benefit costs and credits to change materially from year-to-year. The discount rate assumptions used in determining projected benefit obligations are based on published long-term bond indices or a company-specific yield curve model.

Goodwill. In the third quarter of each year, or more frequently if indicators of impairment exist or if a decision is made to sell a business, we evaluate goodwill for impairment. A significant amount of judgment is involved in determining if an indicator of impairment has occurred. Such indicators may include a decline in expected cash flows, a significant adverse change in the business climate, unanticipated competition, or slower growth rates, among others.

The evaluation of impairment involves comparing the current fair value of each reporting unit to its carrying value, including goodwill. We use a discounted cash flow model (DCF model) to estimate the current fair value of each reporting unit when testing for impairment, as we believe forecasted cash flows are the best indicator of such fair value. A number of significant assumptions and estimates are involved in the application of the DCF model, including sales volumes and prices, costs to produce, tax rates, capital spending, discount rates, and working capital changes. Cash flow forecasts are generally based on approved business unit operating plans for the early years and historical relationships in later years. The betas used in calculating the individual reporting units' weighted average cost of capital (WACC) rate are estimated for each reporting unit based on peer data.

In the event the estimated fair value of a reporting unit per the DCF model is less than the carrying value, additional analysis would be required. The additional analysis would compare the carrying amount of the

Table of Contents

reporting unit's goodwill with the implied fair value of that goodwill, which may involve the use of valuation experts. The implied fair value of goodwill is the excess of the fair value of the reporting unit over the fair value amounts assigned to all of the assets and liabilities of that unit as if the reporting unit had been acquired in a business combination and the fair value of the reporting unit represented the purchase price. If the carrying value of goodwill exceeds its implied fair value, an impairment loss equal to such excess would be recognized, which could significantly and adversely impact reported results of operations and shareholders' equity.

RECENTLY ADOPTED AND RECENTLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

In October 2009, the FASB issued ASU No. 2009-14, Certain Revenue Arrangements That Include Software Elements. This ASU changed the accounting model for revenue arrangements that include both tangible products and software elements that are essential to the functionality. The new guidance includes factors to help companies determine what software elements are considered essential to the functionality. The amendments will subject software-enabled products to other revenue guidance and disclosure requirements, such as guidance surrounding revenue arrangements with multiple-deliverables. The adoption of this ASU on January 1, 2011 did not have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

In April 2010, the FASB issued ASU No. 2010-17, Revenue Recognition - Milestone Method. This ASU allows entities to make a policy election to use the milestone method of revenue recognition and provides guidance on defining a milestone and the criteria that should be met for applying the milestone method. The scope of this ASU is limited to the transactions involving milestones relating to research and development deliverables. The guidance includes enhanced disclosure requirements about each arrangement, individual milestones and related contingent consideration, substantive milestones and factors considered in that determination. The adoption of this ASU on January 1, 2011 did not have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

In May 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-04, Fair Value Measurement - Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRS. This ASU updated measurement guidance to improve the comparability of fair value measurements between U.S. GAAP and International Financial Reporting Standards and enhanced disclosure requirements. The most significant change in disclosures is an expansion of information related to fair value measurements categorized within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy. The ASU will be effective beginning in 2012. The adoption of this ASU will not have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

In June 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-05, Comprehensive Income - Presentation of Comprehensive Income. This ASU requires net income and comprehensive income to be presented in either a single continuous statement or in two separate, but consecutive, statements. The ASU eliminates the option of presenting other comprehensive income in the statement of shareholders' equity. The ASU will be effective beginning in 2012. The adoption of this ASU will not have a material effect on our results of operations or financial position, but will change the format of the presentation of comprehensive income.

In September 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-08, Intangibles-Goodwill and Other-Testing Goodwill for Impairment. This ASU reduces the complexity of performing an annual goodwill impairment test by permitting companies to perform an assessment of qualitative factors to determine whether additional goodwill impairment testing is necessary. The ASU will be effective beginning in 2012. The adoption of this ASU will not have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

In December 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-11, Balance Sheet- Disclosures about Offsetting Assets and Liabilities. This ASU requires enhanced disclosures about financial instruments and derivative instruments that are offset in accordance with ASC 210-20-45 or ASC 815-10-45 or subject to an enforceable master netting arrangement or similar agreement. This ASU will facilitate comparison between those entities reporting on the basis of U.S. GAAP and those entities reporting on the basis of IFRS, while allowing financial statement users to understand the effect of offsetting and related arrangements. The ASU will be effective beginning in 2013. The adoption of this ASU will not have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk**

Market risk represents the risk of adverse changes in the value of a financial instrument caused by changes in currency exchange rates, interest rates and equity prices. We are exposed to market risks related to currency exchange rates and interest rates.

Currency exchange rates. We are subject to the effects of fluctuations in currency exchange rates on various transactions and on the translation of the reported financial position and operating results of our non-U.S. companies from local currencies to U.S. dollars. A hypothetical 10% strengthening or weakening of the U.S. dollar would increase or decrease our reported sales and net income for the year ended December 31, 2011 by approximately \$61.2 million and \$3.4 million, respectively.

When appropriate, we may attempt to limit our transactional exposure to changes in currency exchange rates through contracts or other actions intended to reduce existing exposures by creating offsetting currency exposures. At December 31, 2011, we had open foreign currency forward contracts with a U.S. dollar notional value of \$0.7 million. A hypothetical 10% increase in December 31, 2011 forward exchange rates would result in a \$0.1 million increase in the fair value of these contracts.

Interest rates. We are exposed to changes in interest rates primarily as a result of borrowing and investing activities used to maintain liquidity and fund business operations. Because of the relatively short maturities of temporary investments and the variable rate nature of our revolving credit facility and industrial development debt, these financial instruments are reported at carrying values which approximate fair values.

We have \$168.0 million of fixed rate debt which matures at various dates through 2021. The incremental increase in the fair value of fixed rate long-term debt resulting from a hypothetical 10% decrease in interest rates would be approximately \$3.2 million. However, our sensitivity to interest rate declines and the corresponding increase in the fair value of our debt portfolio would unfavorably affect earnings and cash flows only to the extent that we elected to repurchase or retire all or a portion of our fixed rate debt portfolio at prices above carrying values.

Actuarial assumptions. The most significant actuarial assumptions affecting our net periodic pension credit and pension obligations are discount rates, expected returns on plan assets and plan asset valuations. Discount rates and plan asset valuations are point-in-time measures. Expected returns on plan assets are based on our historical returns by asset class. The following table summarizes the impact of changes in significant actuarial assumptions on our December 31, 2011 actuarial valuations.

| (In thousands) | Impact of Changes in Actuarial Assumptions | | | | | |
|--|--|----------|---------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|----------|
| | Change in Discount Rate | | Change in Expected Return | | Change in Market Value of Assets | |
| | +1% | -1% | +1% | -1% | +5% | -5% |
| (Increase) decrease in net periodic pension credit | \$ (3,964) | \$ 4,782 | \$ (3,920) | \$ 3,920 | \$ (734) | \$ 734 |
| (Decrease) increase in projected benefit obligations | (47,971) | 55,077 | | | | |
| Increase (decrease) in funded status | 47,971 | (55,077) | | | 17,898 | (17,898) |

Table of Contents

Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

Management's Reports

Management's Report on Responsibility for Financial Reporting

Management of Mine Safety Appliances Company (the Company) is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements included in this annual report. The financial statements were prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and include amounts that are based on the best estimates and judgments of management. The other financial information contained in this annual report is consistent with the financial statements.

Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. The Company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

The Company's internal control over financial reporting includes policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect transactions and dispositions of assets; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and the directors of the Company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of the Company's assets that could have a material effect on our financial statements.

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

Management assessed the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011. In making this assessment, management used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) in *Internal Control-Integrated Framework*. Based on our assessment and those criteria, management has concluded that the Company maintained effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011.

The effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011 has been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report, which is included herein.

/s/ WILLIAM M. LAMBERT
William M. Lambert

Chief Executive Officer

/s/ DENNIS L. ZEITLER
Dennis L. Zeitler

Senior Vice President and Treasurer

Chief Financial Officer

February 22, 2011

Table of Contents

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Shareholders and Board of Directors of Mine Safety Appliances Company:

In our opinion, the consolidated balance sheets and related consolidated statements of income, cash flows and changes in retained earnings and other comprehensive income present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Mine Safety Appliances Company and its subsidiaries (the Company) at December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2011 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. In addition, in our opinion, the financial statement schedule listed in the appearing in Item 15. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules presents fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein when read in conjunction with the related consolidated financial statements. Also in our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011, based on criteria established in Internal Control Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). The Company's management is responsible for these financial statements and financial statement schedule, for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting appearing under Item 8. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements, on the financial statement schedule, and on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our integrated audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement and whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audits of the financial statements included examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audits also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinions.

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

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

/s/PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

February 22, 2012

Table of Contents

MINE SAFETY APPLIANCES COMPANY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME

| (In thousands, except per share amounts) | Year ended December 31 | | |
|---|------------------------|------------|------------|
| | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 |
| Net sales | \$ 1,173,227 | \$ 976,631 | \$ 909,991 |
| Other income | 5,381 | 6,037 | 5,860 |
| | 1,178,608 | 982,668 | 915,851 |
| Costs and expenses | | | |
| Cost of products sold | 702,991 | 606,532 | 573,266 |
| Selling, general and administrative | 306,367 | 262,940 | 230,894 |
| Research and development | 39,245 | 32,784 | 28,781 |
| Restructuring and other charges | 8,559 | 14,121 | 11,378 |
| Interest expense | 14,117 | 8,707 | 7,080 |
| Currency exchange losses (gains) | 2,511 | 235 | (888) |
| | 1,073,790 | 925,319 | 850,511 |
| Income before income taxes | 104,818 | 57,349 | 65,340 |
| Provision for income taxes | 34,773 | 18,290 | 22,003 |
| Net income | 70,045 | 39,059 | 43,337 |
| Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests | (193) | (955) | (42) |
| Net income attributable to Mine Safety Appliances Company | 69,852 | 38,104 | 43,295 |
| Earnings per share attributable to Mine Safety Appliances Company common shareholders | | | |
| Basic | \$ 1.91 | \$ 1.06 | \$ 1.21 |
| Diluted | \$ 1.87 | \$ 1.05 | \$ 1.21 |

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**MINE SAFETY APPLIANCES COMPANY****CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET**

| (In thousands, except share amounts) | | December 31 | |
|--------------------------------------|--|-------------|-----------|
| | | 2011 | 2010 |
| Assets | | | |
| Current Assets | Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 59,938 | \$ 59,760 |
| | Trade receivables, less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$7,043 and \$9,391 | 192,627 | 198,551 |
| | Inventories | 141,475 | 150,581 |
| | Deferred tax assets | 21,744 | 25,714 |
| | Income taxes receivable | 13,769 | 12,936 |
| | Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 29,296 | 29,847 |
| | Total current assets | 458,849 | 477,389 |
| Property | Land | 5,142 | 5,699 |
| | Buildings | 104,575 | 112,144 |
| | Machinery and equipment | 333,846 | 339,329 |
| | Construction in progress | 13,472 | 15,905 |
| | Total | 457,035 | 473,077 |
| | Less accumulated depreciation | (311,272) | (316,288) |
| | Net property | 145,763 | 156,789 |
| Other Assets | Prepaid pension cost | 58,075 | 121,631 |
| | Deferred tax assets | 12,065 | 8,285 |
| | Goodwill | 259,084 | 263,089 |
| | Other noncurrent assets | 181,216 | 170,005 |
| | Total assets | 1,115,052 | 1,197,188 |
| Liabilities | | | |
| Current Liabilities | Notes payable and current portion of long-term debt | \$ 8,263 | \$ 10,163 |
| | Accounts payable | 50,208 | 58,460 |
| | Employees compensation | 38,400 | 36,845 |
| | Insurance and product liability | 15,738 | 18,401 |
| | Taxes on income | 3,051 | 1,253 |
| | Other current liabilities | 56,110 | 56,619 |
| | Total current liabilities | 171,770 | 181,741 |
| Long-Term Debt | | 334,046 | 367,094 |
| Other Liabilities | Pensions and other employee benefits | 124,310 | 126,479 |
| | Deferred tax liabilities | 30,458 | 49,177 |
| | Other noncurrent liabilities | 15,057 | 16,647 |
| | Total liabilities | 675,641 | 741,138 |
| Commitments and Contingencies | | | |
| Shareholders Equity | | | |
| | Mine Safety Appliances Company shareholders equity: | | |

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| | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Preferred stock, 4 1/2% cumulative, \$50 par value (callable at \$52.50) | 3,569 | 3,569 |
| Common stock, no par value (shares outstanding: 2011 36,692,590 and 2010 36,519,726) | 97,276 | 88,629 |
| Stock compensation trust | (6,070) | (7,103) |
| Treasury shares, at cost | (266,231) | (265,606) |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (103,184) | (44,316) |
| Retained earnings | 708,306 | 676,195 |
| | | |
| Total Mine Safety Appliances Company shareholders' equity | 433,666 | 451,368 |
| Noncontrolling interests | 5,745 | 4,682 |
| | | |
| Total shareholders' equity | 439,411 | 456,050 |
| | | |
| Total liabilities and shareholders' equity | 1,115,052 | 1,197,188 |

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**MINE SAFETY APPLIANCES COMPANY****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

| (In thousands) | Year ended December 31 | | |
|--|------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 |
| Operating Activities | | | |
| Net income | \$ 70,045 | \$ 39,059 | \$ 43,337 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 32,866 | 29,192 | 27,362 |
| Pensions | (4,967) | (6,391) | (2,655) |
| Net gain from investing activities disposal of assets | (2,840) | (3,703) | (3,498) |
| Stock-based compensation | 7,732 | 7,335 | 5,860 |
| Deferred income tax provision (benefit) | 8,800 | 7,162 | (3,376) |
| Other noncurrent assets and liabilities | (24,130) | (32,493) | (11,185) |
| Currency exchange losses (gains) | 2,511 | 235 | (888) |
| Other, net | (1,823) | (3,125) | (674) |
| Operating cash flow before changes in working capital | 88,194 | 37,271 | 54,283 |
| Trade receivables | (217) | (10,191) | 33,050 |
| Inventories | (1,230) | (10,744) | 47,105 |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | (1,030) | 7,683 | (11,171) |
| Income taxes receivable, prepaid expenses and other current assets | (459) | 7,587 | (2,421) |
| (Increase) decrease in working capital | (2,936) | (5,665) | 66,563 |
| Cash Flow From Operating Activities | 85,258 | 31,606 | 120,846 |
| Investing Activities | | | |
| Capital expenditures | (30,390) | (25,024) | (25,737) |
| Disposal of assets | 18,687 | 5,699 | 5,084 |
| Acquisitions, net of cash, acquired and other investing | | (262,250) | (123) |
| Cash Flow From Investing Activities | (11,703) | (281,575) | (20,776) |
| Financing Activities | | | |
| Proceeds from (payments on) short-term debt, net | 137 | (6,169) | (45,085) |
| Proceeds from long-term debt | 164,000 | 325,000 | |
| Payments on long-term debt | (199,000) | (40,000) | (12,000) |
| Cash dividends paid | (37,741) | (35,928) | (34,524) |
| Company stock purchases | (624) | (7,572) | (206) |
| Exercise of stock options | 1,316 | 7,809 | 255 |
| Excess tax benefit (provision) related to stock plans | 632 | 3,462 | (386) |
| Cash Flow From Financing Activities | (71,280) | 246,602 | (91,946) |
| Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents | (2,097) | 1,144 | 2,965 |
| Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | 178 | (2,223) | 11,089 |
| Beginning cash and cash equivalents | 59,760 | 61,983 | 50,894 |
| Ending cash and cash equivalents | 59,938 | 59,760 | 61,983 |

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Supplemental cash flow information:

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Interest payments | \$ 13,969 | \$ 8,379 | \$ 7,304 |
| Income tax payments | 21,739 | 25,383 | 8,404 |

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

MINE SAFETY APPLIANCES COMPANY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN RETAINED EARNINGS AND
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

| (In thousands) | Retained Earnings | Accumulated Other Comprehensive (Loss) Income | Comprehensive Income (Loss) |
|--|----------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Balances January 1, 2009 | \$ 665,248 | \$ (74,412) | |
| Net income | 43,337 | | \$ 43,337 |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | | 19,042 | 19,042 |
| Pension and post-retirement plan adjustments, net of tax of \$6,533 | | 10,895 | 10,895 |
| Comprehensive income | | | 73,274 |
| Income attributable to noncontrolling interests | (42) | (1,381) | (1,423) |
| Comprehensive income attributable to Mine Safety Appliances Company | | | 71,851 |
| Common dividends | (34,482) | | |
| Preferred dividends | (42) | | |
| Balances December 31, 2009 | 674,019 | (45,856) | |
| Net income | 39,059 | | \$ 39,059 |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | | 2,511 | 2,511 |
| Pension and post-retirement plan adjustments, net of tax of \$205 | | (28) | (28) |
| Comprehensive income | | | 41,542 |
| Income attributable to noncontrolling interests | (955) | (943) | (1,898) |
| Comprehensive income attributable to Mine Safety Appliances Company | | | 39,644 |
| Common dividends | (35,886) | | |
| Preferred dividends | (42) | | |
| Balances December 31, 2010 | 676,195 | (44,316) | |
| Net income | 70,045 | | \$ 70,045 |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | | (15,980) | (15,980) |
| Pension and post-retirement plan adjustments, net of tax of \$28,636 | | (44,218) | (44,218) |
| Comprehensive income | | | 9,847 |
| (Income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interests | (193) | 1,330 | 1,137 |
| Comprehensive income attributable to Mine Safety Appliances Company | | | 10,984 |
| Common dividends | (37,699) | | |
| Preferred dividends | (42) | | |
| Balances December 31, 2011 | 708,306 | (103,184) | |

Components of accumulated other comprehensive loss are as follows:

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| (In thousands) | 2011 | December 31 2010 | 2009 |
|--|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Cumulative translation adjustments | \$ 829 | \$ 15,479 | \$ 13,911 |
| Pension and post-retirement plan adjustments | (104,013) | (59,795) | (59,767) |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (103,184) | (44,316) | (45,856) |

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

MINE SAFETY APPLIANCES COMPANY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 1 Significant Accounting Policies

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

Principles of Consolidation The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the company and all subsidiaries. Intercompany accounts and transactions are eliminated. Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform with the current year presentation.

Noncontrolling Interests Noncontrolling interests reflect noncontrolling shareholders' original investments in certain consolidated subsidiaries and their proportionate share of the income and accumulated other comprehensive income of those subsidiaries.

Currency Translation The functional currency of all significant non-U.S. subsidiaries is the local currency. Assets and liabilities of these operations are translated at year-end exchange rates. Income statement accounts are translated using the average exchange rates for the reporting period. Translation adjustments for these companies are reported as a component of shareholders' equity and are not included in income. Foreign currency transaction gains and losses are included in net income for the reporting period.

Cash Equivalents Cash equivalents include temporary deposits with financial institutions and highly liquid investments with original maturities of 90 days or less.

Inventories Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market. Most U.S. inventories are valued on the last-in, first-out (LIFO) cost method. Other inventories are valued on the average cost method or at standard costs which approximate actual costs.

Property and Depreciation Property is recorded at cost. Depreciation is computed using straight-line and accelerated methods over the estimated useful lives of the assets, generally as follows: buildings 20 to 40 years and machinery and equipment 3 to 10 years. Expenditures for significant renewals and improvements are capitalized. Ordinary repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred. Gains or losses on property dispositions are included in income and the cost and related depreciation are removed from the accounts. Depreciation expense for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 was \$27.1 million, \$25.5 million and \$25.0 million respectively.

Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets Goodwill is not amortized, but is subject to impairment write-down tests. We test the goodwill of each of our reporting units for impairment at least annually. The annual goodwill impairment tests are performed as of September 30 each year. For this purpose, we consider our operating segments to be our reporting units. Fair value is estimated using discounted cash flow methodologies. There has been no impairment of our goodwill as of December 31, 2011. Intangible assets are amortized on a straight-line basis over their useful lives.

Revenue Recognition Revenue from the sale of products is recognized when title, ownership and the risk of loss have transferred to the customer, which generally occurs either when product is shipped to the customer or, in the case of most U.S. distributor customers, when product is delivered to the customer's delivery site. We establish our shipping terms according to local practice and market characteristics. We do not ship product unless

Table of Contents

we have an order or other documentation authorizing shipment to our customers. We make appropriate provisions for uncollectible accounts receivable and product returns, both of which have historically been insignificant in relation to our net sales. Certain distributor customers receive price rebates based on their level of purchases and other performance criteria that are documented in established distributor programs. These rebates are accrued as a reduction of net sales as they are earned by the customer.

Shipping and Handling Shipping and handling expenses for products sold to customers are charged to cost of products sold as incurred. Amounts billed to customers for shipping and handling are included in net sales.

Product Warranties Estimated expenses related to product warranties and additional service actions are charged to cost of products sold in the period in which the related revenue is recognized or when significant product quality issues are identified.

Research and Development Research and development costs are expensed as incurred.

Income Taxes Deferred income taxes are provided for temporary differences between financial and tax reporting. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates in effect for the year in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. If it is more likely than not that some portion or all of a deferred tax asset will not be realized, a valuation allowance is recognized. We record tax benefits related to uncertain tax positions taken or expected to be taken on a tax return when such benefits meet a more likely than not threshold. We recognize interest related to unrecognized tax benefits in interest expense and penalties in operating expenses. No provision is made for possible U.S. taxes on the undistributed earnings of foreign subsidiaries that are considered to be reinvested indefinitely.

Stock-Based Compensation We account for stock-based compensation in accordance with the FASB guidance on share-based payment, which requires that we recognize compensation expense for employee and non-employee director stock-based compensation based on the grant date fair value. Except for retirement-eligible participants, for whom there is no requisite service period, this expense is recognized ratably over the requisite service periods following the date of grant. For retirement-eligible participants, this expense is recognized at the grant date.

Derivative Instruments We may use derivative instruments to minimize the effects of changes in currency exchange rates and to achieve a targeted mix of fixed and floating interest rates on outstanding debt. We do not enter into derivative transactions for speculative purposes and do not hold derivative instruments for trading purposes. Changes in the fair value of derivative instruments designated as fair value hedges are recorded in the balance sheet as adjustments to the underlying hedged asset or liability. Changes in the fair value of derivative instruments that do not qualify for hedge accounting treatment are recognized in the income statement in the current period.

Note 2 Restructuring and Other Charges

During the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, we recorded charges of \$8.6 million, \$14.1 million and \$11.4 million, respectively. These charges were primarily related to reorganization activities.

For the year ended December 31, 2011, European segment charges of \$5.8 million related primarily to staff reductions in Germany, France and Spain and the transfer of certain production activities to China. North American segment charges for the year ended December 31, 2011 of \$1.7 million included costs associated with the relocation of certain administrative and production activities. International segment charges for the year ended December 31, 2011 of \$1.1 million were primarily related to severance costs associated with the relocation of our Wuxi, China operations to Suzhou, China.

Table of Contents

For the year ended December 31, 2010, European segment charges of \$8.8 million related primarily to a focused voluntary retirement incentive program in Germany and severance costs associated with staff reductions. North American segment charges for the year ended December 31, 2010 of \$3.8 million included stay bonuses and other costs associated with the transfer of certain production and administrative activities. International segment charges for the year ended December 31, 2010 of \$1.5 million were primarily related to severance costs associated with staff reductions in South Africa and China.

For the year ended December 31, 2009, North American segment charges of \$9.6 million related primarily to a focused voluntary retirement incentive program and costs associated with the transfer certain production activities to lower cost factories. European and International segment charges for the year ended December 31, 2009 of \$0.8 million and \$1.0 million, respectively, were primarily for severance costs related to staff reductions in Germany, Brazil, Australia and South Africa.

Note 3 Inventories

| (In thousands) | December 31 | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| | 2011 | 2010 |
| Finished products | \$ 65,687 | \$ 71,743 |
| Work in process | 17,000 | 16,494 |
| Raw materials and supplies | 58,788 | 62,344 |
| Total inventories | 141,475 | 150,581 |
| Excess of FIFO costs over LIFO costs | 47,368 | 45,820 |
| Total FIFO inventories | 188,843 | 196,401 |

Inventories stated on the LIFO basis represent 18% and 22% of total inventories at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Reductions in certain inventory quantities during the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 resulted in liquidations of LIFO inventories carried at lower costs prevailing in prior years. The effect of LIFO liquidations during 2011 reduced cost of sales by \$0.5 million and increased net income by \$0.3 million. The effect of LIFO liquidations during 2010 was not significant.

Note 4 Capital Stock

Common stock, no par value 180,000,000 shares authorized.

Second cumulative preferred voting stock, \$10 par value 1,000,000 shares authorized; none issued.

4 1/2% cumulative preferred nonvoting stock, \$50 par value 100,000 shares authorized; 71,373 shares issued and 52,878 shares (\$1.8 million) held in treasury. There were no treasury share purchases during the three years ended December 31, 2011.

Table of Contents

Common stock activity is summarized as follows:

| (Dollars in thousands) | Issued | Shares Stock Compensation Trust | Treasury | Common Stock | Dollars Stock Compensation Trust | Treasury Cost |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--|---------------------|-----------------|---|------------------|
| Balances January 1, 2009 | 62,081,391 | (2,378,462) | (23,916,639) | \$ 69,607 | \$ (12,416) | \$ (256,077) |
| Restricted stock awards | | 178,692 | | (934) | 934 | |
| Restricted stock expense | | | | 3,128 | | |
| Restricted stock forfeitures | | | (8,369) | (101) | | |
| Stock options exercised | | 25,566 | | 122 | 133 | |
| Stock option expense | | | | 2,620 | | |
| Stock option forfeitures | | | | (155) | | |
| Performance stock expense | | | | 375 | | |
| Performance stock forfeitures | | | | (7) | | |
| Tax provision related to stock plans | | | | (386) | | |
| Treasury shares purchased | | | (9,661) | | | (206) |
| Balances December 31, 2009 | 62,081,391 | (2,174,204) | (23,934,669) | 74,269 | (11,349) | (256,283) |
| Restricted stock awards | | 162,925 | | (850) | 850 | |
| Restricted stock expense | | | | 4,103 | | |
| Restricted stock forfeitures | | | (1,092) | (40) | | |
| Stock options exercised | | 650,565 | | 4,413 | 3,396 | |
| Stock option expense | | | | 2,748 | | |
| Performance stock expense | | | | 524 | | |
| Tax benefit related to stock plans | | | | 3,462 | | |
| Treasury shares purchased | | | (265,190) | | | (7,572) |
| Balances December 31, 2010 | 62,081,391 | (1,360,714) | (24,200,951) | 88,629 | (7,103) | (263,855) |
| Restricted stock awards | | 103,815 | | (542) | 542 | |
| Restricted stock expense | | | | 4,376 | | |
| Restricted stock forfeitures | | | (7,469) | (6) | | |
| Stock options exercised | | 94,115 | | 825 | 491 | |
| Stock option expense | | | | 2,343 | | |
| Performance stock expense | | | | 1,019 | | |
| Tax benefit related to stock plans | | | | 632 | | |
| Treasury shares purchased | | | (17,597) | | | (624) |
| Balances December 31, 2011 | 62,081,391 | (1,162,784) | (24,226,017) | 97,276 | (6,070) | (264,479) |

The Mine Safety Appliances Company Stock Compensation Trust was established to provide shares for certain benefit plans, including the management and non-employee directors equity incentive plans. Shares held by the Stock Compensation Trust, and the corresponding cost of those shares, are reported as a reduction of common shares issued. Differences between the cost of the shares held by the Stock Compensation Trust and the market value of shares released for stock-related benefits are reflected in common stock issued.

Table of Contents**Note 5 Segment Information**

We are organized into five geographic operating segments based on management responsibilities. The operating segments have been aggregated (based on economic similarities, the nature of their products, end-user markets and methods of distribution) into three reportable segments: North America, Europe and International. Reportable segment information is presented in the following table:

| (In thousands) | North America | Europe | International | Reconciling Items | Consolidated Totals |
|---|------------------|------------|---------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 2011 | | | | | |
| Sales to external customers | \$ 561,140 | \$ 286,753 | \$ 325,334 | \$ | \$ 1,173,227 |
| Intercompany sales | 100,094 | 116,471 | 18,305 | (234,870) | |
| Net income attributable to Mine Safety Appliances Company | 57,914 | 7,331 | 27,152 | (22,545) | 69,852 |
| Total assets | 742,707 | 340,305 | 194,127 | (162,087) | 1,115,052 |
| Interest income | 78 | 192 | 1,267 | 324 | 1,861 |
| Interest expense | 29 | 253 | 138 | 13,697 | 14,117 |
| Noncash items: | | | | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 22,036 | 6,239 | 4,591 | | 32,866 |
| Pension income (expense) | 10,800 | (5,638) | (195) | | 4,967 |
| Income tax provision | 34,327 | 3,994 | 6,442 | (9,990) | 34,773 |
| Capital expenditures | 20,035 | 4,384 | 5,971 | | 30,390 |
| Long-lived assets | 127,361 | 29,981 | 35,540 | | 192,882 |
| 2010 | | | | | |
| Sales to external customers | 464,012 | 251,107 | 261,512 | | 976,631 |
| Intercompany sales | 84,905 | 92,526 | 16,410 | (193,841) | |
| Net income attributable to Mine Safety Appliances Company | 44,560 | (5,371) | 15,835 | (16,920) | 38,104 |
| Total assets | 810,345 | 336,095 | 205,837 | (155,089) | 1,197,188 |
| Interest income | 329 | 110 | 1,212 | 328 | 1,979 |
| Interest expense | 51 | 160 | 100 | 8,396 | 8,707 |
| Noncash items: | | | | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 18,918 | 6,116 | 4,158 | | 29,192 |
| Pension income (expense) | 13,451 | (6,590) | (470) | | 6,391 |
| Income tax provision | 22,032 | 769 | 5,720 | (10,231) | 18,290 |
| Capital expenditures | 16,806 | 4,667 | 3,551 | | 25,024 |
| Long-lived assets | 142,241 | 33,199 | 35,229 | | 210,669 |
| 2009 | | | | | |
| Sales to external customers | 434,575 | 257,860 | 217,556 | | 909,991 |
| Intercompany sales | 61,351 | 86,632 | 13,892 | (161,875) | |
| Net income attributable to Mine Safety Appliances Company | 43,780 | 4,483 | 6,717 | (11,685) | 43,295 |
| Total assets | 523,708 | 284,429 | 183,742 | (116,651) | 875,228 |
| Interest income | 123 | 239 | 759 | 368 | 1,489 |
| Interest expense | 37 | 167 | 143 | 6,733 | 7,080 |
| Noncash items: | | | | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 17,369 | 6,178 | 3,815 | | 27,362 |
| Pension income (expense) | 8,329 | (5,508) | (166) | | 2,655 |
| Income tax provision | 24,314 | 2,714 | 2,070 | (7,095) | 22,003 |
| Capital expenditures | 14,742 | 5,640 | 5,355 | | 25,737 |
| Long-lived assets | 95,291 | 28,447 | 34,380 | | 158,118 |

Reconciling items consist primarily of intercompany eliminations and items reported at the corporate level.

In 2011, we changed our segment reporting to include corporate overhead and interest expense in reconciling items. Previously, these expenses were reported in the North American, European and International

Table of Contents

segments. Comparative 2010 and 2009 amounts have been revised to conform with the current year presentation. The effect of the revisions for the year ended December 31, 2010 improved North American, European and International segment results by \$10.0 million, \$2.2 million and \$1.9 million, respectively, and reduced the results reported in Reconciling Items by corresponding amounts. The effect of the revisions for the year ended December 31, 2009 improved North American, European and International segment results by \$8.8 million, \$2.1 million and \$1.6 million, respectively, and reduced the results reported in Reconciling Items by corresponding amounts.

Geographic information on sales to external customers, based on country of origin:

| (In thousands) | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 |
|----------------|------------|------------|------------|
| United States | \$ 538,257 | \$ 447,029 | \$ 422,349 |
| Germany | 75,536 | 77,858 | 79,553 |
| Other | 559,434 | 451,744 | 408,089 |
| Total | 1,173,227 | 976,631 | 909,991 |

Geographic information on long-lived assets, based on country of origin:

| (In thousands) | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 |
|----------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| United States | \$ 124,035 | \$ 139,161 | \$ 92,312 |
| Germany | 9,425 | 10,570 | 13,110 |
| Other | 59,422 | 60,938 | 52,696 |
| Total | 192,882 | 210,669 | 158,118 |

Note 6 Earnings per Share

Basic earnings per share is computed by dividing net income, after the deduction of preferred stock dividends and undistributed earnings allocated to participating securities, by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings per share assumes the issuance of common stock for all potentially dilutive share equivalents outstanding not classified as participating securities. Participating securities are defined as unvested stock-based payment awards that contain nonforfeitable rights to dividends.

| (In thousands, except per share amounts) | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Net income attributable to Mine Safety Appliances Company | \$ 69,852 | \$ 38,104 | \$ 43,295 |
| Preferred stock dividends | (42) | (42) | (42) |
| Income available to common equity | 69,810 | 38,062 | 43,253 |
| Dividends and undistributed earnings allocated to participating securities | (755) | (365) | (327) |
| Income available to common shareholders | 69,055 | 37,697 | 42,926 |
| Basic earnings per common share | \$ 1.91 | \$ 1.06 | \$ 1.21 |
| Diluted earnings per common share | \$ 1.87 | \$ 1.05 | \$ 1.21 |
| Basic shares outstanding | 36,221 | 35,880 | 35,668 |
| Stock options and other stock compensation | 610 | 542 | 211 |
| Diluted shares outstanding | 36,831 | 36,422 | 35,879 |

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Antidilutive stock options | 894 | 760 | 749 |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|

Table of Contents**Note 7 Income Taxes**

| (In thousands) | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Components of income before income taxes | | | |
| U.S. income | \$ 58,817 | \$ 38,398 | \$ 33,393 |
| Non-U.S. income | 46,001 | 18,951 | 31,947 |
| Income before income taxes | 104,818 | 57,349 | 65,340 |
| Provision for income taxes | | | |
| Current | | | |
| Federal | \$ 6,829 | \$ 9,498 | \$ 12,935 |
| State | 872 | 149 | 1,398 |
| Non-U.S. | 18,272 | 1,481 | 11,046 |
| Total current provision | 25,973 | 11,128 | 25,379 |
| Deferred | | | |
| Federal | 10,853 | 3,862 | 313 |
| State | 772 | 194 | (1,438) |
| Non-U.S. | (2,825) | 3,106 | (2,251) |
| Total deferred provision (benefit). | 8,800 | 7,162 | (3,376) |
| Provision for income taxes | 34,773 | 18,290 | 22,003 |

Reconciliation of the U.S. federal income tax rates to our effective tax rate:

| | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| U.S. federal income tax rate | 35.0% | 35.0% | 35.0% |
| State income taxes U.S. | 1.0 | 0.4 | 1.4 |
| Taxes on non-U.S. income | (2.1) | (0.8) | (0.4) |
| Research and development credits | (1.3) | (2.3) | (1.2) |
| Manufacturing deduction | (0.3) | (1.9) | (0.8) |
| Valuation allowances | 0.1 | 2.0 | 0.4 |
| Statutory rate changes | | | (0.9) |
| Other | 0.8 | (0.5) | 0.2 |
| Effective income tax rate | 33.2% | 31.9% | 33.7% |

Table of Contents

Components of deferred tax assets and liabilities:

| (In thousands) | December 31 | |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| | 2011 | 2010 |
| Deferred tax assets | | |
| Postretirement benefits | \$ 13,561 | \$ 16,369 |
| Inventory reserves | 3,773 | 2,830 |
| Vacation allowances | 1,319 | 1,535 |
| Net operating losses and tax credit carryforwards | 9,436 | 10,209 |
| Post employment benefits | 2,400 | 3,085 |
| Foreign tax credit carryforwards (expiring between 2012 and 2020) | 3,463 | 3,535 |
| Stock options | 7,815 | 6,446 |
| Liability insurance | 4,116 | 3,759 |
| Basis of capital assets | 1,102 | 1,970 |
| Warranties | 2,903 | 2,775 |
| Reserve for doubtful accounts | 1,581 | 2,226 |
| Deferred revenue | 217 | 1,240 |
| Other | 3,788 | 2,219 |
| Total deferred tax assets | 55,474 | 58,198 |
| Valuation allowances | (2,777) | (4,323) |
| Net deferred tax assets | 52,697 | 53,875 |
| Deferred tax liabilities | | |
| Property, plant and equipment | (13,565) | (22,697) |
| Pension | (18,609) | (44,897) |
| Intangibles | (16,209) | (1,527) |
| Other | (973) | |
| Total deferred tax liabilities | (49,356) | (69,121) |
| Net deferred taxes | 3,341 | (15,246) |

At December 31, 2011, we had net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$31.0 million, the majority of which are in non-U.S. tax jurisdictions. Net operating loss carryforwards of \$0.1 million will expire in 2013 and the remainder may be carried forward indefinitely.

No deferred U.S. income taxes have been provided on undistributed earnings of non-U.S. subsidiaries, which amounted to \$229.0 million as of December 31, 2011. These earnings are considered to be reinvested for an indefinite period of time. It is not practicable to determine the deferred tax liability on these undistributed earnings.

A reconciliation of the change in the tax liability for unrecognized tax benefits for the years ended December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010 is as follows:

| (In thousands) | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|-----------|----------|
| Beginning balance | \$ 11,827 | \$ 9,126 |
| Additions for tax positions related to the current year | 1,268 | 3,183 |
| Adjustments for tax positions related to prior years | (9) | 39 |
| Statute expiration | (259) | (247) |
| Settlements | | (274) |

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| | | |
|----------------|--------|--------|
| Ending balance | 12,827 | 11,827 |
|----------------|--------|--------|

The total amount of unrecognized tax benefits, if recognized, would reduce our future effective tax rate. We have recognized tax benefits associated with these liabilities in the amount of \$11.4 million and \$10.5 million at December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, respectively.

Table of Contents

We recognize interest related to unrecognized tax benefits in interest expense and penalties in operating expenses. Our liability for accrued interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions was \$0.8 million at December 31, 2010. During 2011, we accrued additional interest related to uncertain tax positions of \$0.1 million. Our liability for accrued interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions was \$0.9 million at December 31, 2011.

We file a U.S. federal income tax return along with various state and foreign income tax returns. Examinations of our federal returns have been completed through 2006, and the 2007 tax year was closed by statute. Various state and foreign income tax returns may be subject to tax audits after 2005.

Note 8 Stock Plans

The 2008 Management Equity Incentive Plan provides for various forms of stock-based compensation for eligible key employees through May 2018. Management stock-based compensation includes stock options, restricted stock and performance stock units. The 2008 Non-Employee Directors Equity Incentive Plan provides for grants of stock options and restricted stock to non-employee directors through May 2018. Stock options are granted at market value option prices and expire after ten years. Stock options are exercisable beginning three years after the grant date. Restricted stock is granted without payment to the company and generally vests three years after the grant date. Unvested stock options, restricted stock and performance stock units are forfeited if the grantee's employment with the company terminates for any reason other than retirement, death or disability. Certain restricted stock for management retention vests in three equal tranches four, five and six years after the grant date. Unvested restricted stock for management retention is forfeited if the grantee's employment with the company terminates for any reason other than death or disability. Restricted stock and performance stock units are valued at the market value of the stock on the grant date. The final number of shares to be issued for performance stock units may range from zero to 200% of the target award based on achieving targeted performance conditions over a three year performance period. We issue Stock Compensation Trust shares or new shares for stock option exercises and grants of restricted stock and performance stock. As of December 31, 2011, there were 355,002 and 236,489 shares, respectively, reserved for future grants under the management and non-employee directors equity incentive plans.

Stock-based compensation expense was as follows:

| (In thousands) | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 |
|---|----------|----------|----------|
| Restricted stock | \$ 4,370 | \$ 4,063 | \$ 3,027 |
| Stock options | 2,343 | 2,748 | 2,465 |
| Performance stock | 1,019 | 524 | 368 |
| Total compensation expense before income taxes | 7,732 | 7,335 | 5,860 |
| Income tax benefit | 2,825 | 2,653 | 2,084 |
| Total compensation expense, net of income tax benefit | 4,907 | 4,682 | 3,776 |

We did not capitalize any stock-based compensation expense in 2011, 2010, or 2009.

Stock option expense is based on the fair value of stock option grants estimated on the grant dates using the Black-Scholes option pricing model and the following weighted average assumptions for options granted in 2011, 2010 and 2009.

| | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Fair value per option | \$ 9.94 | \$ 7.21 | \$ 5.80 |
| Risk-free interest rate | 2.6% | 3.0% | 2.2% |
| Expected dividend yield | 3.6% | 3.9% | 3.0% |
| Expected volatility | 40% | 40% | 42% |
| Expected life (years) | 6.1 | 6.1 | 6.1 |

Table of Contents

The risk-free interest rate is based on the U.S. Treasury Constant Maturity rates as of the grant date converted into an implied spot rate yield curve. Expected dividend yield is based on the most recent annualized dividend divided by the one year average closing share price. Expected volatility is based on the ten year historical volatility using daily stock prices. Expected life is based on historical stock option exercise data.

A summary of option activity follows:

| | Shares | Weighted Average Exercise Price | Exercisable at Year-end |
|-------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Outstanding January 1, 2009 | 1,706,439 | \$ 26.65 | 1,229,907 |
| Granted | 438,110 | 18.17 | |
| Exercised | (25,566) | 10.00 | |
| Forfeited | (33,908) | 30.16 | |
| Outstanding December 31, 2009 | 2,085,075 | 25.01 | 1,323,549 |
| Granted | 323,978 | 25.06 | |
| Exercised | (650,565) | 12.00 | |
| Expired | (9,485) | 46.73 | |
| Outstanding December 31, 2010 | 1,749,003 | 29.74 | 791,759 |
| Granted | 166,247 | 34.09 | |
| Exercised | (94,115) | 13.99 | |
| Expired | (2,495) | 44.08 | |
| Outstanding December 31, 2011 | 1,818,640 | 30.94 | 907,598 |

For various exercise price ranges, characteristics of outstanding and exercisable stock options at December 31, 2011 were as follows:

| Range of Exercise Prices | Stock Options Outstanding | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| | Shares | Exercise Price | Weighted-Average Remaining Life |
| \$10.65 \$21.71 | 486,670 | \$ 17.23 | 6.4 Years |
| \$24.63 \$37.33 | 604,371 | 27.58 | 7.3 |
| \$40.08 \$50.25 | 727,599 | 42.89 | 4.2 |
| \$10.65 \$50.25 | 1,818,640 | 30.94 | 5.8 |

| Range of Exercise Prices | Stock Options Exercisable | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| | Shares | Exercise Price | Weighted-Average Remaining Life |
| \$10.65 \$13.57 | 65,853 | \$ 11.11 | 1.1 Years |
| \$25.07 \$28.06 | 114,146 | 25.27 | 2.2 |
| \$40.08 \$50.25 | 727,599 | 42.89 | 4.2 |
| \$10.65 \$50.25 | 907,598 | 38.37 | 3.7 |

Cash received from the exercise of stock options was \$1.3 million, \$7.8 million and \$0.3 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The tax benefit we realized from these exercises was \$0.7 million, \$4.3 million and \$0.1 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

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The aggregate intrinsic value of stock options exercisable at December 31, 2011 was zero because a significant number of the options were out-of-the money. The aggregate intrinsic value of all stock options outstanding at December 31, 2011 was \$4.0 million.

Table of Contents

A summary of restricted stock activity follows:

| | Shares | Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value |
|-------------------------------|----------|--|
| Unvested at January 1, 2009 | 189,062 | \$ 42.56 |
| Granted | 197,464 | 18.25 |
| Vested | (39,319) | 40.57 |
| Forfeited | (9,001) | 27.64 |
| Unvested at December 31, 2009 | 338,206 | 28.99 |
| Granted | 185,216 | 25.38 |
| Vested | (46,125) | 39.88 |
| Forfeited | (3,660) | 23.93 |
| Unvested at December 31, 2010 | 473,637 | 26.56 |
| Granted | 125,603 | 33.61 |
| Vested | (76,505) | 44.39 |
| Forfeited | (10,481) | 24.87 |
| Unvested at December 31, 2011 | 512,254 | 25.66 |

A summary of performance stock unit activity follows:

| | Shares | Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value |
|-------------------------------|----------|--|
| Granted | 64,780 | \$ 17.83 |
| Forfeited | (2,806) | 17.83 |
| Unvested at December 31, 2009 | 61,974 | 17.83 |
| Granted | 41,984 | 24.63 |
| Performance adjustments | (18,329) | 20.75 |
| Unvested at December 31, 2010 | 85,629 | 20.53 |
| Granted | 48,820 | 33.09 |
| Performance adjustments | (7,506) | 21.14 |
| Forfeited | (1,500) | 30.53 |
| Unvested at December 31, 2011 | 125,443 | 25.27 |

During the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, the total intrinsic value of stock options exercised (the difference between the market price on the date of exercise and the option price paid to exercise the option) was \$1.8 million, \$10.9 million and \$0.4 million, respectively. The fair values of restricted stock vested during the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009 were \$3.4 million, \$1.2 million and \$0.7 million, respectively.

On December 31, 2011, there was \$6.3 million of unrecognized stock-based compensation expense. The weighted average period over which this expense is expected to be recognized was approximately one year.

Table of Contents**Note 9 Long-Term Debt**

| (In thousands) | December 31 | |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| | 2011 | 2010 |
| Industrial development debt issues payable through 2022, 0.30% | \$ 4,000 | \$ 4,000 |
| Senior Notes payable through 2012, 8.39% | 8,046 | 16,160 |
| Senior Notes payable through 2021, 5.41% | 60,000 | 60,000 |
| Senior Notes payable through 2021, 4.00% | 100,000 | 100,000 |
| Senior revolving credit facility maturing in 2016 | 170,000 | 195,000 |
| Note payable through 2011, net of unamortized discount of \$66 | | 1,934 |
| Total | 342,046 | 377,094 |
| Amounts due within one year | 8,000 | 10,000 |
| Long-term debt | 334,046 | 367,094 |

In November 2011, we amended our unsecured senior revolving credit facility to increase the facility from \$250.0 million to \$300.0 million and extend the term of the facility until November 2016. The senior revolving credit facility provides for borrowings up to \$300.0 million and is subject to certain commitment fees. Loans made under the senior revolving credit facility bear interest at a variable rate. Loan proceeds may be used for general corporate purposes, including working capital, permitted acquisitions, capital expenditures and repayment of existing indebtedness. The credit agreement also provides for an uncommitted incremental facility that permits us, subject to certain conditions, to request an increase in the senior credit facility of up to \$50.0 million. At December 31, 2011, \$130.0 million of the \$300.0 million senior revolving credit facility was unused.

In October 2010, we issued \$100.0 million in 4.00% Series A Senior Notes. The Series A Senior Notes will mature on October 13, 2021 and are payable in five annual installments of \$20.0 million, commencing October 13, 2017. Interest is payable quarterly. The Series A Senior Notes are unsecured.

Approximate maturities of these obligations over the next five years are \$8.0 million in 2012, \$6.7 million in 2013, \$6.7 million in 2014, \$6.7 million in 2015, \$176.7 million in 2016, and \$137.2 million thereafter. Some debt agreements require us to maintain certain financial ratios and minimum net worth and contain restrictions on the total amount of debt. We were in compliance with our debt covenants at December 31, 2011.

Note 10 Goodwill and Intangible Assets

Changes in goodwill during the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 were as follows:

| (In thousands) | 2011 | 2010 |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Net balance at January 1 | \$ 263,089 | \$ 84,727 |
| Acquisitions | | 179,900 |
| Disposals | (1,800) | |
| Currency translation | (2,205) | (1,538) |
| Net balance at December 31 | 259,084 | 263,089 |

At December 31, 2011, goodwill of \$198.3 million, \$57.3 million and \$3.5 million related to the North American, European and International reporting units, respectively.

Table of Contents

Changes in intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization, during the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 were as follows:

| (In thousands) | 2011 | 2010 |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Net balance at January 1 | \$ 53,880 | \$ 13,543 |
| Amortization expense | (5,728) | (3,698) |
| Acquisitions | | 43,956 |
| Disposals | (518) | |
| Currency translation | (515) | 79 |
| Net balance at December 31 | 47,119 | 53,880 |

Intangible assets include patents and technology, license agreements, copyrights, trade names and distribution agreements. These items are reported in other noncurrent assets. At December 31, 2011, intangible assets totaled \$47.1 million, net of accumulated amortization of \$19.8 million. Intangible asset amortization expense over the next five years is expected to be approximately \$4.3 million in 2012, \$4.2 million in 2013, \$4.2 million in 2014, \$4.2 million in 2015 and \$4.0 million in 2016.

During 2011, we sold certain assets related to our ballistic vest business. This transaction resulted in disposals of goodwill and intangible assets of \$1.8 million and \$0.5 million, respectively. The impact of this transaction and the operating results of the ballistic vest business were not material to net income or earnings per share for all periods presented and are not expected to be significant to future results.

Note 11 Pensions and Other Postretirement Benefits

We maintain various defined benefit and defined contribution plans covering the majority of our employees. Our principal U.S. plan is funded in compliance with the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA). It is our general policy to fund current costs for the international plans, except in Germany and Mexico, where it is common practice and permissible under tax laws to accrue book reserves.

We provide health care benefits and limited life insurance for certain retired employees who are covered by our principal U.S. defined benefit pension plan until they become Medicare-eligible.

Table of Contents

Information pertaining to defined benefit pension plans and other postretirement benefits plans is provided in the following table:

| (In thousands) | Pension Benefits | | Other Benefits | |
|--|------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------|
| | 2011 | 2010 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Change in Benefit Obligations | | | | |
| Benefit obligations at January 1 | \$ 349,755 | \$ 330,757 | \$ 32,734 | \$ 30,014 |
| Service cost | 8,674 | 7,702 | 785 | 763 |
| Interest cost | 19,531 | 18,615 | 1,501 | 1,729 |
| Participant contributions | 153 | 137 | | |
| Actuarial losses (gains) | 37,973 | 14,441 | (2,281) | 2,011 |
| Benefits paid | (18,931) | (17,249) | (2,314) | (1,783) |
| Curtailments | (54) | (1,057) | | |
| Termination benefits | | 926 | | |
| Currency translation | (2,832) | (4,517) | | |
| Benefit obligations at December 31 | 394,269 | 349,755 | 30,425 | 32,734 |
| Change in Plan Assets | | | | |
| Fair value of plan assets at January 1 | 377,607 | 342,874 | | |
| Actual return on plan assets | (4,428) | 48,001 | | |
| Employer contributions | 4,259 | 3,501 | 2,314 | 1,783 |
| Participant contributions | 153 | 137 | 245 | 234 |
| Transfers | | | | |
| Benefits paid | (16,308) | (14,659) | (2,559) | (2,017) |
| Reimbursement of German benefits | (2,622) | (2,589) | | |
| Currency translation | (694) | 342 | | |
| Fair value of plan assets at December 31 | 357,967 | 377,607 | | |
| Funded Status | | | | |
| Funded status at December 31 | (36,302) | 27,851 | (30,425) | (32,734) |
| Unrecognized transition losses | 24 | 42 | | |
| Unrecognized prior service cost | 808 | 923 | (3,072) | (3,527) |
| Unrecognized net actuarial losses | 158,425 | 82,903 | 12,212 | 15,202 |
| Net amount recognized | 122,955 | 111,719 | (21,285) | (21,059) |
| Amounts Recognized in the Balance Sheet | | | | |
| Noncurrent assets | 58,075 | 121,631 | | |
| Current liabilities | (4,722) | (4,779) | (2,096) | (2,538) |
| Noncurrent liabilities | (89,655) | (89,001) | (28,329) | (30,196) |
| Net amount recognized | (36,302) | 27,851 | (30,425) | (32,734) |
| Amounts Recognized in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income | | | | |
| Net actuarial losses | 158,425 | 82,903 | 12,212 | 15,202 |
| Prior service cost (credit) | 808 | 923 | (3,072) | (3,527) |
| Unrecognized net initial obligation | 24 | 42 | | |
| Total (before tax effects) | 159,257 | 83,868 | 9,140 | 11,675 |
| Accumulated Benefit Obligations for all Defined Benefit Plans | 347,636 | 332,544 | | |

Table of Contents

| (In thousands) | Pension Benefits | | | Other Benefits | | |
|---|------------------|----------|----------|----------------|--------|--------|
| | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 |
| Components of Net Periodic Benefit (Credit) Cost | | | | | | |
| Service cost | \$ 8,674 | \$ 7,702 | \$ 7,229 | \$ 785 | \$ 763 | \$ 719 |
| Interest cost | 19,531 | 18,615 | 18,477 | 1,501 | 1,730 | 1,836 |
| Expected return on plan assets | (34,125) | (34,565) | (35,273) | | | |
| Amortization of transition amounts | 4 | 4 | 6 | | | |
| Amortization of prior service cost | 104 | 103 | 153 | 710 | 840 | 1,001 |
| Recognized net actuarial losses (gains) | 793 | 537 | 245 | (455) | (555) | (401) |
| Curtailement loss | 52 | 287 | 97 | | | |
| Termination benefits | | 926 | 6,411 | | | 250 |
| Net periodic benefit (credit) cost | (4,967) | (6,391) | (2,655) | 2,541 | 2,778 | 3,405 |

Amounts included in accumulated other comprehensive income expected to be recognized in 2012 net periodic benefit costs.

| (In thousands) | Pension Benefits | Other Benefits |
|---|------------------|----------------|
| Loss recognition | \$ 7,020 | \$ 720 |
| Prior service cost (credit) recognition | 102 | (455) |
| Transition obligation recognition | 2 | |

| | Pension Benefits | | Other Benefits | |
|--|------------------|------|----------------|------|
| | 2011 | 2010 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Assumptions used to determine benefit obligations | | | | |
| Discount rate | 5.0% | 5.6% | 4.8% | 5.3% |
| Rate of compensation increase | 3.9% | 3.7% | | |
| Assumptions used to determine net periodic benefit cost | | | | |
| Discount rate | 5.6% | 5.8% | 5.3% | 6.0% |
| Expected return on plan assets | 8.3% | 8.3% | | |
| Rate of compensation increases | 3.7% | 3.8% | | |

Discount rates were determined using various corporate bond indexes as indicators of interest rate levels and movements and by matching our projected benefit obligation payment stream to current yields on high quality bonds.

The expected return on assets for the 2011 net periodic pension cost was determined by multiplying the expected returns of each asset class (based on historical returns) by the expected percentage of the total portfolio invested in that asset class. A total return was determined by summing the expected returns over all asset classes.

| | Pension Plan Assets at December 31 | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|------|
| | 2011 | 2010 |
| Equity securities | 60% | 73% |
| Fixed income securities | 29 | 15 |
| Pooled investment funds | 6 | 5 |
| Insurance contracts | 3 | 3 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 2 | 4 |
| Total | 100% | 100% |

Table of Contents

The overall objective of our pension investment strategy is to earn a rate of return over time to satisfy the benefit obligations of the pension plans and to maintain sufficient liquidity to pay benefits and meet other cash requirements of our pension funds. Investment policies for our primary U.S. pension plan are determined by the plan's Investment Committee and set forth in the plan's investment policy. Asset managers are granted discretion for determining sector mix, selecting securities and timing transactions, subject to the guidelines of the investment policy. An aggressive, flexible management of the portfolio is permitted and encouraged, with shifts of emphasis among equities, fixed income securities and cash equivalents at the discretion of each manager. No target asset allocations are set forth in the investment policy. For our non-U.S. pension plans, our investment objective is generally met through the use of pooled investment funds and insurance contracts.

The following table summarizes our pension plan assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis by fair value hierarchy level:

| | December 31, 2011 | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|------------------------|
| | Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1) | Significant Observable Inputs (Level 2) | Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3) | Total Fair Value |
| (In thousands) | | | | |
| Equity securities | \$ 216,198 | \$ | \$ | \$ 216,198 |
| Fixed income securities | 34,636 | 68,087 | | 102,723 |
| Pooled investment funds | | 19,765 | | 19,765 |
| Insurance contracts | | | 11,562 | 11,562 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 7,719 | | | 7,719 |
| Total | 258,553 | 87,852 | 11,562 | 357,967 |

| | December 31, 2010 | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|------------------------|
| | Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1) | Significant Observable Inputs (Level 2) | Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3) | Total Fair Value |
| (In thousands) | | | | |
| Equity securities | \$ 274,918 | \$ | \$ | \$ 274,918 |
| Fixed income securities | 9,218 | 49,401 | | 58,619 |
| Pooled investment funds | | 19,338 | | 19,338 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 14,007 | | | 14,007 |
| Insurance contracts | | | 10,725 | 10,725 |
| Total | 298,143 | 68,739 | 10,725 | 377,607 |

Equity securities consist primarily of publicly traded U.S. and non-U.S. common stocks. Equities are valued at closing prices reported on the listing stock exchange.

Fixed income consists primarily of U.S. government and agency bonds and U.S. corporate bonds. Fixed income securities are valued at closing prices reported in active markets or based on yields currently available on comparable securities of issuers with similar credit ratings. When quoted prices are not available for identical or similar bonds, the bond is valued under a discounted cash flow approach that maximizes observable inputs, such as current yields of similar instruments, and may include adjustments, for certain risks that may not be observable, such as credit and liquidity risks.

Pooled investment funds consist of mutual and collective investment funds that invest primarily in publicly traded non-U.S. equity and fixed income securities. Pooled investment funds are valued at net asset values calculated by the fund

Table of Contents

manager based on fair value of the underlying securities. The underlying securities are generally valued at closing prices reported in active markets, quoted prices of similar securities, or discounted cash flows approach that maximizes observable inputs such as current value measurement at the reporting date.

Insurance contracts are valued in accordance with the terms of the applicable collective pension contract.

Cash equivalents consist primarily of money market and similar temporary investment funds. Cash equivalents are valued at closing prices reported in active markets.

The preceding methods may produce fair value measurements that are not indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Although we believe the valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

The following table presents a reconciliation of Level 3 assets:

| (In thousands) | Insurance Contracts |
|---|------------------------|
| Balance January 1, 2010 | \$ 9,878 |
| Net realized and unrealized losses included in earnings | (406) |
| Net purchases, issuances and settlements | 1,253 |
| Balance December 31, 2010 | 10,725 |
| Net realized and unrealized losses included in earnings | (325) |
| Net purchases, issuances and settlements | 1,162 |
| Balance December 31, 2011 | 11,562 |

We expect to make net contributions of \$4.1 million to our pension plans in 2012.

For measurement purposes, a 9.0% increase in the costs of covered health care benefits was assumed for the year 2011, decreasing by 0.5% for each successive year to 4.5% in 2018 and thereafter. A one-percentage-point change in assumed health care cost trend rates would have increased or decreased the other postretirement benefit obligations and current year plan expense by approximately \$1.8 million and \$1.9 million, respectively.

Expense for defined contribution pension plans was \$5.7 million in 2011, \$5.2 million in 2010 and \$3.1 million in 2009.

Estimated pension benefits to be paid under our defined benefit pension plans during the next five years are \$18.9 million in 2012, \$19.5 million in 2013, \$19.3 million in 2014, \$20.1 million in 2015, \$22.4 million in 2016, and are expected to aggregate \$117.4 million for the five years thereafter. Estimated other postretirement benefits to be paid during the next five years are \$2.1 million in 2012, \$2.2 million in 2013, \$2.1 million in 2014, \$2.2 million in 2015, \$2.3 million in 2016 and are expected to aggregate \$12.6 million for the five years thereafter.

Note 12 Other Income

| (In thousands) | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Interest income | \$ 1,861 | \$ 1,979 | \$ 1,489 |
| Gain on asset dispositions, net | 3,328 | 5,135 | 4,919 |
| Other, net | 192 | (1,077) | (548) |
| Total | 5,381 | 6,037 | 5,860 |

Table of Contents**Note 13 Leases**

We lease office space, manufacturing and warehouse facilities, automobiles and other equipment under operating lease arrangements. Rent expense was \$12.2 million in 2011, \$12.8 million in 2010 and \$12.6 million in 2009. Minimum rent commitments under noncancelable leases are \$9.6 million in 2012, \$7.9 million in 2013, \$5.6 million in 2014, \$2.8 million in 2015, \$2.0 million in 2016 and \$1.1 million thereafter.

Note 14 Short-Term Debt

Short-term borrowings with banks, which excludes the current portion of long-term debt, was \$0.2 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010. The average month-end balance of total short-term borrowings during 2011 was \$0.3 million. The maximum month-end balance of \$0.6 million occurred at August 31, 2011. The weighted average interest rates on short-term borrowings at December 31, 2011 and 2010 were 12% and 7%, respectively.

Note 15 Derivative Financial Instruments

As part of our currency exchange rate risk management strategy, we enter into certain derivative foreign currency forward contracts that do not meet the GAAP criteria for hedge accounting, but which have the impact of partially offsetting certain foreign currency exposures. We account for these forward contracts on a full mark-to-market basis and report the related gains or losses in currency exchange losses (gains) in the consolidated statement of income. At December 31, 2011, the notional amount of open forward contracts was \$0.7 million and the unrealized loss on these contracts was immaterial. All open forward contracts will mature during the first quarter of 2012.

The following table presents the balance sheet location and fair value of assets and liabilities associated with derivative financial instruments.

| (In thousands) | December 31 2011 | December 31 2010 |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments | | |
| Foreign exchange contracts: | | |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | \$ | \$ 4 |
| Other current liabilities | 50 | |

The following table presents the income statement location and impact of derivative financial instruments:

| (In thousands) | Income Statement Location | Loss Recognized in Income Year ended December 31 | |
|---|------------------------------|---|--------|
| | | 2011 | 2010 |
| Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments | | | |
| Foreign exchange contracts | Currency exchange | \$ 1,282 | \$ 274 |
| | losses (gains) | | |

Note 16 Acquisitions

On October 13, 2010, we acquired General Monitors, Inc. (GMI) and its affiliated companies, General Monitors Ireland Limited (GMIL) and General Monitors Transnational, LLC (GMT), collectively referred to as General Monitors, for \$278.2 million. There is no contingent consideration. At the same time, we entered into an escrow agreement with the sellers, pursuant to which approximately \$38.0 million of the purchase price was placed into escrow. The escrow agreement expires two years after the closing date. GMI, GMIL and GMT are our wholly-owned subsidiaries as of the acquisition date.

Table of Contents

Approximately \$264.0 million of the acquisition price was funded through the issuance of \$100.0 million in 4.00% Series A Senior Notes and borrowings on our unsecured senior revolving credit facility. Borrowings made under the unsecured senior revolving credit facility bear interest at a variable annual rate. The Senior notes, which are unsecured, will mature on October 13, 2021 and are payable in five annual installments of \$20.0 million, commencing on October 13, 2017. Interest is payable quarterly.

General Monitors is a leading innovator and developer of advanced flame and gas detection systems that are used in a broad range of oil and gas exploration and refining applications and in diverse industrial plant settings. In addition to providing us with greater access to the global oil and gas market, we believe that the acquisition significantly enhances our long-term corporate strategy in fixed gas detection by providing us with world-class research and development talent and an industry-leading product line.

The following table summarizes the fair values of the General Monitors assets acquired and liabilities assumed at the date of acquisition:

| (In millions) | October 13, 2010 |
|---|---------------------|
| Current assets (including cash of \$18.6 million) | \$ 46.8 |
| Property | 14.0 |
| Trade name | 6.0 |
| Acquired technology | 11.0 |
| Customer-related intangibles | 27.0 |
| Goodwill | 179.9 |
| Other noncurrent assets | 3.5 |
| | |
| Total assets acquired | 288.2 |
| Total liabilities assumed | 10.0 |
| | |
| Net assets acquired | 278.2 |

Assets acquired and liabilities assumed in connection with the acquisition have been recorded at their fair values. Fair values were determined by management based, in part, on an independent valuation performed by a third party valuation specialist. Identifiable intangible assets with finite lives are subject to amortization over their estimated useful lives. The identifiable intangible assets acquired in the General Monitors transaction are being amortized over an estimated weighted-average amortization period of 16 years. Estimated future amortization expense related to these identifiable intangible assets is approximately \$3.3 million in each of the next five years.

Goodwill is calculated as the excess of the purchase price over the fair value of net assets acquired and represents the future economic benefits arising from other assets acquired that could not be individually identified and separately recognized. Among the factors that contributed to a purchase price in excess of the fair value of the net tangible and intangible assets acquired were the acquisition of an assembled workforce, the expected synergies and other benefits that we believe will result from combining the operations of General Monitors with our operations and the going concern element of General Monitors existing business. Goodwill related to the General Monitors acquisition has been recorded in our reportable segments as follows: \$136.7 million in North American segment and \$43.2 million in the European segment. North American segment goodwill is tax deductible. The step up to fair value of acquired inventory as part of the purchase price allocation totaled \$4.8 million.

Our results for the year ended December 31, 2010 included transaction and integration costs of \$6.5 million (\$4.0 million after tax). These costs are reported in selling, general and administrative expenses.

The operating results of General Monitors have been included in our consolidated financial statements since the acquisition date. Our results for the year ended December 31, 2011 include General Monitors sales and net

Table of Contents

income of \$86.2 million and \$16.1 million, respectively. General Monitors net income for the year ended December 31, 2011 includes a one-time increase in cost of sales of \$2.3 million (\$1.5 million after tax) related to the fair value step-up of inventories acquired from General Monitors and sold during 2011. Our results for the year ended December 31, 2010 include General Monitors sales and net income of \$16.3 million and \$0.2 million, respectively. General Monitors net income for the year ended December 31, 2010 includes a one-time increase in cost of sales of \$2.5 million (\$1.5 million after tax) related to the fair value step-up of inventories acquired from General Monitors and sold during 2010.

The following unaudited pro forma information presents our combined results as if the acquisition had occurred at the beginning of 2009. The unaudited pro forma financial information was prepared to give effect to events that are directly attributable to the acquisition, factually supportable and expected to have a continuing impact on the combined company's results. There were no transactions between us and GMI, GMIL or GMT prior to the acquisition that were required to be eliminated. Transactions between GMI, GMIL and GMT during the periods presented have been eliminated in the unaudited pro forma financial information. Pro forma adjustments have been made to reflect the incremental impact on earnings of interest costs on the borrowings that we made to acquire the General Monitors companies, amortization expense related to acquired intangible assets and income tax expense, net of benefits associated with the previously-discussed adjustments. Pro forma adjustments were also made to the 2010 information to remove the effects of one-time transaction and integration costs. The unaudited pro forma financial information does not reflect any cost savings, operating synergies or revenue enhancements that the combined company may achieve as a result of the acquisitions or the costs to integrate the operations or the costs necessary to achieve cost savings, operating synergies or revenue enhancements.

Pro forma financial information (Unaudited)

| (In millions, except per share amounts) | Year ended December 31 | | |
|---|------------------------|----------|--------|
| | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 |
| Net sales | \$ 1,173 | \$ 1,032 | \$ 989 |
| Net income | 71 | 50 | 51 |
| Basic earnings per share | 1.95 | 1.39 | 1.44 |
| Diluted earnings per share | 1.92 | 1.37 | 1.43 |

The unaudited pro forma financial information is presented for information purposes only and is not intended to represent or be indicative of the combined results of operations or financial position that we would have reported had the acquisitions been completed as of the date and for the periods presented, and should not be taken as representative of our consolidated results of operations or financial condition following the acquisitions. In addition, the unaudited pro forma financial information is not intended to project the future financial position or results of operations of the combined company.

The unaudited proforma financial information was prepared using the acquisition method of accounting under existing GAAP.

Note 17 Fair Value Measurements

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value hierarchy consists of three broad levels, which gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are:

Level 1 Observable inputs that reflect unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets.

Table of Contents

Level 2 Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3 Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

The valuation methodologies we used to measure financial assets and liabilities were limited to the pension plan assets described in Note 11 and the derivative financial instruments described in Note 15. See Note 11 for the fair value hierarchy classification of pension plan assets. We estimate the fair value of the derivative financial instruments, consisting of foreign currency forward contracts, based upon valuation models with inputs that generally can be verified by observable market conditions and do not involve significant management judgment. Accordingly, the fair values of the derivative financial instruments are classified within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

Note 18 Fair Value of Financial Instruments

With the exception of fixed rate long-term debt, we believe that the reported carrying amounts of our financial assets and liabilities approximate their fair values. At December 31, 2011, the reported carrying amount of our fixed rate long-term debt (including the current portion) was \$168.0 million and the fair value was \$177.2 million. The fair value of our long-term debt was determined using cash flow valuation models to estimate the market value of similar transactions as of December 31, 2011.

Note 19 Contingencies

We categorize the product liability losses that we experience into two main categories, single incident and cumulative trauma. Single incident product liability claims are discrete incidents that are typically known to us when they occur and involve observable injuries and, therefore, more quantifiable damages. Therefore, we maintain a reserve for single incident product liability claims based on expected settlement costs for pending claims and an estimate of costs for unreported claims derived from experience, sales volumes and other relevant information. Our reserve for single incident product liability claims was \$4.7 million and \$5.2 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Single incident product liability expense during the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 was \$1.5 million, \$0.2 million and \$0.5 million, respectively. We evaluate our single incident product liability exposures on an ongoing basis and make adjustments to the reserve as new information becomes available.

Cumulative trauma product liability claims involve exposures to harmful substances (*e.g.*, silica, asbestos and coal dust) that occurred many years ago and may have developed over long periods of time into diseases such as silicosis, asbestosis or coal worker's pneumoconiosis. We are presently named as a defendant in 2,321 lawsuits in which plaintiffs allege to have contracted certain cumulative trauma diseases related to exposure to silica, asbestos, and/or coal dust. These lawsuits mainly involve respiratory protection products allegedly manufactured and sold by us. We are unable to estimate total damages sought in these lawsuits as they generally do not specify the injuries alleged or the amount of damages sought, and potentially involve multiple defendants.

Cumulative trauma product liability litigation is difficult to predict. In our experience, until late in a lawsuit, we cannot reasonably determine whether it is probable that any given cumulative trauma lawsuit will ultimately result in a liability. This uncertainty is caused by many factors, including the following: cumulative trauma complaints generally do not provide information sufficient to determine if a loss is probable; cumulative trauma litigation is inherently unpredictable and information is often insufficient to determine if a lawsuit will develop into an actively litigated case; and even when a case is actively litigated, it is often difficult to determine if the lawsuit will be dismissed or otherwise resolved until late in the lawsuit. Moreover, even once it is probable that such a lawsuit will result in a loss, it is difficult to reasonably estimate the amount of actual loss that will be incurred. These amounts are highly variable and turn on a case-by-case analysis of the relevant facts, which are often not learned until late in the lawsuit.

Table of Contents

Because of these factors, we cannot reliably determine our potential liability for such claims until late in the lawsuit. We, therefore, do not record cumulative trauma product liability losses when a lawsuit is filed, but rather, when we learn sufficient information to determine that it is probable that we will incur a loss and the amount of loss can be reasonably estimated. We record expenses for defense costs associated with open cumulative trauma product liability lawsuits as incurred.

We cannot estimate any amount or range of possible losses related to resolving pending and future cumulative trauma product liability claims that we may face because of the factors described above. As new information about cumulative trauma product liability cases and future developments becomes available, we reassess our potential exposures.

A summary of cumulative trauma product liability claims activity follows:

| | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Open claims, January 1 | 1,900 | 2,480 | 2,550 |
| New claims | 479 | 260 | 220 |
| Settled and dismissed claims | (58) | (840) | (290) |
| Open claims, December 31 | 2,321 | 1,900 | 2,480 |

With some common contract exclusions, we maintain insurance for cumulative trauma product liability claims. We have purchased insurance policies from over 20 different insurance carriers that provide coverage for cumulative trauma product liability losses and related defense costs. In the normal course of business, we make payments to settle product liability claims and for related defense costs. We record receivables for the amounts that are covered by insurance. The available limits of these policies are many times our recorded insurance receivable balance.

Various factors could affect the timing and amount of recovery of our insurance receivables, including the outcome of negotiations with insurers, legal proceedings with respect to product liability insurance coverage and the extent to which insurers may become insolvent in the future.

Our insurance receivables at December 31, 2011 and 2010 totaled \$112.1 million and \$89.0 million, respectively, all of which is reported in other non-current assets.

A summary of insurance receivable balances and activity related to cumulative trauma product liability losses follows:

| (In millions) | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Balance January 1 | \$ 89.0 | \$ 91.7 | \$ 60.6 |
| Additions | 35.6 | 30.9 | 33.1 |
| Collections and settlements | (12.5) | (33.6) | (2.0) |
| Balance December 31 | 112.1 | 89.0 | 91.7 |

Additions to insurance receivables in the above table represent insured cumulative trauma product liability losses and related defense costs. Uninsured cumulative trauma product liability losses during the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 were \$1.1 million, \$0.2 million and \$1.7 million, respectively.

Our aggregate cumulative trauma product liability losses and administrative and defense costs for the three years ended December 31, 2011, totaled approximately \$102.7 million, substantially all of which was insured.

We believe that the increase in the insurance receivable balance that we have experienced since 2005 is primarily due to disagreements among our insurance carriers, and consequently with us, as to when their individual obligations to pay us are triggered and the amount of each insurer's obligation, as compared to other

Table of Contents

insurers. We believe that our insurers do not contest that they have issued policies to us or that these policies cover cumulative trauma product liability claims. We believe that our ability to successfully resolve our insurance litigation with various insurance carriers during 2011 and 2010 demonstrates that we had strong legal positions concerning our rights to coverage.

We regularly evaluate the collectability of the insurance receivables and record the amounts that we conclude are probable of collection. Our conclusions are based on our analysis of the terms of the underlying insurance policies, our experience in successfully recovering cumulative trauma product liability claims from our insurers under other policies, the financial ability of our insurance carriers to pay the claims, our understanding and interpretation of the relevant facts and applicable law and the advice of legal counsel, who believe that our insurers are required to provide coverage based on the terms of the policies.

Although the outcome of cumulative trauma product liability matters cannot be predicted with certainty and unfavorable resolutions could materially affect our results of operations on a quarter-to-quarter basis, based on information currently available and the amounts of insurance coverage available to us, we believe that the disposition of cumulative trauma product liability lawsuits that are pending against us will not have a materially adverse effect on our future results of operations, financial condition, or liquidity.

We are currently involved in coverage litigation with The North River Insurance Company (North River). We have sued North River in the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania, alleging that North River breached one insurance policy by failing to pay amounts owed to us and that its refusal to pay constitutes bad faith. The case was assigned to the Court's mandatory Alternative Dispute Resolution program, in an attempt to resolve the dispute. The mediation was unsuccessful and the case will proceed to trial. We believe that North River's refusal to indemnify us under the policy for product liability losses and legal fees paid by us is wholly contrary to Pennsylvania law and we are vigorously pursuing the legal actions necessary to collect all amounts.

In April 2010, North River filed a complaint against us and two excess insurance carriers in the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania seeking a declaratory judgment concerning their responsibilities under three additional policies shared with Northbrook Insurance Company. We filed a motion to dismiss the declaratory judgment claim and a counter claim for breach of contract against North River and the two excess carriers. The court stayed the declaratory judgment claim and the breach of contract claim is now in discovery. We believe that Pennsylvania law supports our position that North River has insurance responsibilities to indemnify us against various product liability losses to the full limits of these policies.

In May 2010, we resolved coverage litigation with Century Indemnity Company through a negotiated settlement. As part of this settlement, both parties dismissed all claims against one another under the previously-filed coverage litigation. The settlement did not have an impact on our operating results.

In July 2010, we resolved coverage litigation with Columbia Casualty Company on some of their policies through a negotiated settlement. As part of this settlement, both parties dismissed all claims against one another under the previously-filed coverage litigation. The settlement did not have an impact on our operating results.

In July 2010, we filed a complaint in the Superior Court of the State of Delaware seeking declaratory and other relief from the majority of our excess insurance carriers concerning the future rights and obligations of MSA and our excess insurance carriers under various insurance policies. The reason for this insurance coverage action is to secure a comprehensive resolution of our rights under the insurance policies issued by our insurers.

In December 2010, North River filed a motion to dismiss or stay the Delaware action asserting that the previously-discussed cases in the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania and the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania were capable of resolving the claims presented in the Superior Court of the State of Delaware action. In January 2011, the Superior Court of the State of Delaware

Table of Contents

granted North River's motion to stay the Delaware insurance coverage action, pending resolution of the ongoing actions in the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania and the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. We appealed the trial court's decision to stay this case and our appeal was denied. We continue to seek removal of the stay.

Note 20 Recently Adopted and Recently Issued Accounting Standards

In October 2009, the FASB issued ASU No. 2009-14, Certain Revenue Arrangements That Include Software Elements. This ASU changed the accounting model for revenue arrangements that include both tangible products and software elements that are essential to the functionality. The new guidance includes factors to help companies determine what software elements are considered essential to the functionality. The amendments will subject software-enabled products to other revenue guidance and disclosure requirements, such as guidance surrounding revenue arrangements with multiple-deliverables. The adoption of this ASU on January 1, 2011 did not have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

In April 2010, the FASB issued ASU No. 2010-17, Revenue Recognition Milestone Method. This ASU allows entities to make a policy election to use the milestone method of revenue recognition and provides guidance on defining a milestone and the criteria that should be met for applying the milestone method. The scope of this ASU is limited to the transactions involving milestones relating to research and development deliverables. The guidance includes enhanced disclosure requirements about each arrangement, individual milestones and related contingent consideration, substantive milestones and factors considered in that determination. The adoption of this ASU on January 1, 2011 did not have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

In May 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-04, Fair Value Measurement Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRS. This ASU updated measurement guidance to improve the comparability of fair value measurements between U.S. GAAP and International Financial Reporting Standards and enhanced disclosure requirements. The most significant change in disclosures is an expansion of information related to fair value measurements categorized within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy. The ASU will be effective beginning in 2012. The adoption of this ASU will not have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

In June 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-05, Comprehensive Income Presentation of Comprehensive Income. This ASU requires net income and comprehensive income to be presented in either a single continuous statement or in two separate, but consecutive, statements. The ASU eliminates the option of presenting other comprehensive income in the statement of shareholders' equity. The ASU will be effective beginning in 2012. The adoption of this ASU will not have a material effect on our results of operations or financial position, but will change the format of the presentation of comprehensive income.

In September 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-08, Intangibles-Goodwill and Other-Testing Goodwill for Impairment. This ASU reduces the complexity of performing an annual goodwill impairment test by permitting companies to perform an assessment of qualitative factors to determine whether additional goodwill impairment testing is necessary. The ASU will be effective beginning in 2012. The adoption of this ASU will not have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

In December 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-11, Balance Sheet- Disclosures about Offsetting Assets and Liabilities. This ASU requires enhanced disclosures about financial instruments and derivative instruments that are offset in accordance with ASC 210-20-45 or ASC 815-10-45 or subject to an enforceable master netting arrangement or similar agreement. This ASU will facilitate comparison between those entities reporting on the basis of U.S. GAAP and those entities reporting on the basis of IFRS, while allowing financial statement users to understand the effect of offsetting and related arrangements. The ASU will be effective beginning in 2013. The adoption of this ASU will not have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**Note 21 Quarterly Financial Information (Unaudited)**

| (In thousands, except earnings per share) | 2011 | | | | Year |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| | Quarters | | | | |
| | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | |
| Net sales | \$ 276,499 | \$ 294,733 | \$ 298,241 | \$ 303,754 | \$ 1,173,227 |
| Gross profit | 110,397 | 119,009 | 120,888 | 119,942 | 470,236 |
| Net income attributable to Mine Safety Appliances Company | 13,309 | 19,592 | 19,972 | 16,979 | 69,852 |
| Earnings per share attributable to Mine Safety Appliances Company shareholders: | | | | | |
| Basic | .36 | .53 | .54 | .46 | 1.91 |
| Diluted | .36 | .53 | .54 | .46 | 1.87 |

| (In thousands, except earnings per share) | 2010 | | | | Year |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | Quarters | | | | |
| | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | |
| Net sales | \$ 212,434 | \$ 237,173 | \$ 242,019 | \$ 285,005 | \$ 976,631 |
| Gross profit | 82,453 | 90,226 | 90,679 | 106,741 | 370,099 |
| Net income attributable to Mine Safety Appliances Company | 4,906 | 11,827 | 9,603 | 11,768 | 38,104 |
| Earnings per share attributable to Mine Safety Appliances Company shareholders: | | | | | |
| Basic | .14 | .33 | .27 | .33 | 1.06 |
| Diluted | .14 | .32 | .26 | .32 | 1.05 |

Table of Contents

Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure

None.

Item 9A. Controls and Procedures

(a) *Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures.* Based on their evaluation as of the end of the period covered by this Form 10-K, the Company's principal executive officer and principal financial officer have concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act")) are effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is (i) recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in Securities and Exchange Commission rules and forms and (ii) accumulated and communicated to our management, including the principal executive officer and principle financial officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

(b) *Changes in internal control.* There were no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the Company's most recent fiscal quarter that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

See Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.

Item 9B. Other Information

None.

Table of Contents**PART III****Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance****Item 11. Executive Compensation****Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters****Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence****Item 14. Principal Accountant Fees and Services**

With respect to this Part III, incorporated by reference herein pursuant to Rule 12b-23 are (1) Election of Directors, (2) Executive Compensation, (3) Other Information Concerning the Board of Directors, (4) Stock Ownership, and (5) Selection of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm, appearing in the Proxy Statement filed pursuant to Regulation 14A in connection with the registrant's Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on May 8, 2012. The information appearing in such Proxy Statement under the caption "Audit Committee Report" and the other information appearing in such Proxy Statement and not specifically incorporated by reference herein is not incorporated herein. As to Item 10 above, also see the information reported in Part I of this Form 10-K, under the caption "Executive Officers of the Registrant," which is incorporated herein by reference. As to Item 10 above, the Company has adopted a Code of Ethics applicable to its principal executive officer, principal financial officer and principal accounting officer and other Company officials. The text of the Code of Ethics is available on the Company's website at www.MSAsafety.com. Any amendment to, or waiver of, a required provision of the Code of Ethics that applies to the Company's principal executive, financial or accounting officer will also be posted on the Company's Internet site at that address.

As to Item 12 above, the following table sets forth information as of December 31, 2011 concerning common stock issuable under the Company's equity compensation plans.

| Plan Category | Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights (a) | Weighted average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights (b) | Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a)) (c) |
|--|--|--|--|
| Equity compensation plans approved by security holders | 1,818,640 | \$ 30.94 | 591,491* |
| Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders | None | | None |
| Total | 1,818,640 | \$ 30.94 | 591,491 |

* Includes 355,002 shares available for issuance under the 2008 Management Equity Incentive Plan and 236,489 shares available for issuance under the 2008 Non-Employee Directors' Equity Incentive Plan.

Table of Contents**PART IV****Item 15. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules**

(a) 1. Financial Statements and Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm (see Part II, Item 8 of this Form 10-K).

The following information is filed as part of this Form 10-K.

| | Page |
|---|-------------|
| <u>Management's Report on Responsibility for Financial Reporting and Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting</u> | 37 |
| <u>Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u> | 38 |
| <u>Consolidated Statement of Income three years ended December 31, 2011</u> | 39 |
| <u>Consolidated Balance Sheet December 31, 2011 and 2010</u> | 40 |
| <u>Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows three years ended December 31, 2011</u> | 41 |
| <u>Consolidated Statement of Changes in Retained Earnings and Other Comprehensive Income three years ended December 31, 2011</u> | 42 |
| <u>Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements</u> | 43 |

(a) 2. The following additional financial information for the three years ended December 31, 2011 is filed with the report and should be read in conjunction with the above financial statements:

Schedule II Valuation and Qualifying Accounts

All other schedules are omitted because they are not applicable, not material or the required information is shown in the consolidated financial statements and consolidated notes to the financial statements listed above.

(a) 3. Exhibits

- 3(i) Restated Articles of Incorporation as amended and restated May 23, 1986 and as further amended through May 2007, filed as Exhibit 3.1 to Form 8-K on May 15, 2007, is incorporated herein by reference.
- 3(ii) By-laws of the registrant, as amended to February 28, 2008, filed as Exhibit 3.1 to Form 8-K on March 5, 2008, is incorporated herein by reference.
- 10(a)* 2008 Management Equity Incentive Plan, as amended and restated through February 25, 2011, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to Form 10-Q on July 28, 2011, is incorporated herein by reference.
- 10(b)* Retirement Plan for Directors, as amended effective April 1, 2001, filed as Exhibit 10(a) to Form 10-Q on May 10, 2006, is incorporated herein by reference.
- 10(c)* Supplemental Pension Plan as amended and restated effective January 1, 2005, filed as Exhibit 10.3 to Form 10-Q on April 30, 2009, is incorporated herein by reference.
- 10(d)* 2008 Non-Employee Directors' Equity Incentive Plan, filed as Exhibit 10.2 to Form 10-Q on July 28, 2008, is incorporated herein by reference.
- 10(e)* Executive Insurance Program as Amended and Restated as of January 1, 2006, filed as Exhibit 10(a) to Form 10-Q on August 7, 2007, is incorporated herein by reference.
- 10(f)* Annual Incentive Bonus Plan as of May 5, 1998, filed as Exhibit 10(g) to Form 10-Q on August 12, 2003, is incorporated herein by reference.
- 10(g)* Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan, effective January 1, 2008, filed as Exhibit 10.2 to Form 10-Q on April 30, 2009, is incorporated herein by reference.

Table of Contents

- 10(h)* Form of Change-in-Control Severance Agreement between the registrant and its executive officers, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to Form 10-Q on April 30, 2009, is incorporated herein by reference.
- 10(i) Trust Agreement, effective June 1, 1996, as amended through May 15, 2010, between the registrant and PNC Bank, N.A. re the Mine Safety Appliances Company Stock Compensation Trust filed as Exhibit 10.1 to Form 10-Q on July 28, 2010, is incorporated herein by reference.
- 10(j)* 2005 Supplemental Savings Plan, effective January 1, 2005, filed as Exhibit 10.4 to Form 10-Q on April 30, 2009, is incorporated herein by reference.
- 10(k)* CEO Annual Incentive Award Plan filed as Appendix A to the registrant's definitive proxy statement dated March 29, 2005, is incorporated herein by reference.
- 10(l) Asset Purchase Agreement, dated as of September 7, 2010, by and among (i) General Monitors, Inc.; (ii) Robert DePalma, Darin Brame, George Purvis, Joseph A. Sperske, as trustee for the 1995 Edwards QSST Trust I, Joseph A. Sperske, as trustee for the 1995 Edwards QSST Trust II, Joseph A. Sperske, as trustee for the 1995 Edwards QSST Trust III, Joseph A. Sperske, as trustee for the Joseph A. Sperske Revocable Trust, and Phillip A. Robbbaro and Michelle Robbbaro, as trustees for the Robbbaro Family Trust; (iii) Joseph A. Sperske, as agent for the seller parties; (iv) Mine Safety Appliances Company; and (v) Fifty Acquisition Corp., filed as Exhibit 10.1 to Form 8-K on September 13, 2010, is incorporated herein by reference.
- 10(m) Equity Purchase Agreement, dated as of September 7, 2010, by and among (i) Cecil Lenihan; David Woods; Denis Connolly; Joseph A. Sperske, as Trustee of the Shelley Trust; Joseph A. Sperske, as Trustee of the Stasia Trust; Joseph A. Sperske, as Trustee of the Shannon Trust; Darin Brame; George Purvis; Joseph A. Sperske, as Trustee of the Joseph A. Sperske Revocable Trust; and Phillip A. Robbbaro and Michelle Robbbaro, as Trustees of the Robbbaro Family Trust; (ii) Joseph A. Sperske, as agent for the sellers; and (iii) Mine Safety Appliances Company, filed as Exhibit 10.2 to Form 8-K on September 13, 2010, is incorporated herein by reference.
- 10(n) Share Purchase Agreement, dated as of September 7, 2010, by and among (i) Raybeam Limited, Joseph A. Sperske, as Trustee of the 1995 Edwards QSST Trust I, Joseph A. Sperske, as trustee for the 1995 Edwards QSST Trust II, Joseph A. Sperske, as trustee for the 1995 Edwards QSST Trust III, Denis Connolly and Cecil Lenihan; (ii) Joseph A. Sperske, as agent for the sellers; (iii) Mine Safety Appliances Company; and (iv) Mine Safety Fifty Ireland Limited, filed as Exhibit 10.3 to Form 8-K on September 13, 2010, is incorporated herein by reference.
- 10(o) Amendment No. 1 dated October 13, 2010 to Asset Purchase Agreement, dated as of September 7, 2010, by and among (i) General Monitors, Inc.; (ii) Robert DePalma, Darin Brame, George Purvis, Joseph A. Sperske, as trustee for the 1995 Edwards QSST Trust I, Joseph A. Sperske, as trustee for the 1995 Edwards QSST Trust II, Joseph A. Sperske, as trustee for the 1995 Edwards QSST Trust III, Joseph A. Sperske, as trustee for the Joseph A. Sperske Revocable Trust, and Phillip A. Robbbaro and Michelle Robbbaro, as trustees for the Robbbaro Family Trust; (iii) Joseph A. Sperske, as agent for the seller parties; (iv) Mine Safety Appliances Company; and (v) Fifty Acquisition Corp., filed as Exhibit 10.1 to Form 8-K on October 19, 2010, is incorporated herein by reference.
- 10(p) Amendment No. 1 dated October 13, 2010 to Equity Purchase Agreement, dated as of September 7, 2010, by and among (i) Cecil Lenihan; David Woods; Denis Connolly; Joseph A. Sperske, as Trustee of the Shelley Trust; Joseph A. Sperske, as Trustee of the Stasia Trust; Joseph A. Sperske, as Trustee of the Shannon Trust; Darin Brame; George Purvis; Joseph A. Sperske, as Trustee of the Joseph A. Sperske Revocable Trust; and Phillip A. Robbbaro and Michelle Robbbaro, as Trustees of the Robbbaro Family Trust; (ii) Joseph A. Sperske, as agent for the sellers; and (iii) Mine Safety Appliances Company, filed as Exhibit 10.2 to Form 8-K on October 19, 2010, is incorporated herein by reference.

Table of Contents

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 10(q) | Credit Agreement dated October 13, 2010 by and among Mine Safety Appliances Company, each of the guarantors party thereto, each of the lenders party thereto, PNC Bank, National Association, as administrative agent for the lenders, and J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, N.A., as syndication agent for the Lenders, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to Form 8-K on October 19, 2010, is incorporated herein by reference. |
| 10(r) | Guaranty and Suretyship Agreement dated October 13, 2010 from General Monitors Transnational, LLC in favor of PNC Bank, National Association, and the other lenders party to the Credit Agreement, filed as Exhibit 10.2 to Form 8-K on October 19, 2010, is incorporated herein by reference. |
| 10(s) | Guaranty and Suretyship Agreement dated October 13, 2010 from Fifty Acquisition Corp. in favor of PNC Bank, National Association, and the other lenders party to the Credit Agreement, filed as Exhibit 10.3 to Form 8-K on October 19, 2010, is incorporated herein by reference. |
| 10(t) | Note Purchase Agreement and Private Shelf Agreement dated October 13, 2010 by and among Mine Safety Appliances Company, Prudential Investment Management, Inc. and the Series A Purchasers thereto, filed as Exhibit 10.4 to Form 8-K on October 19, 2010, is incorporated herein by reference. |
| 10(u) | Guaranty Agreement dated as of October 13, 2010 made by General Monitors Transnational, LLC in favor of the Note Purchasers, filed as Exhibit 10.5 to Form 8-K on October 19, 2010, is incorporated herein by reference. |
| 10(v) | Guaranty Agreement dated as of October 13, 2010 made by Fifty Acquisition Corp. in favor of the Note Purchasers, filed as Exhibit 10.6 to Form 8-K on October 19, 2010, is incorporated herein by reference. |
| 10(w) | First Amendment to Credit Agreement dated November 16, 2011 by and among Mine Safety Appliances Company, each of the guarantors party thereto, each of the lenders party thereto, PNC Bank, National Association, as administrative agent for the lenders, and J. P. Morgan Chase Bank N.A., as syndication agent for the Lenders, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to Form 8-K on November 21, 2011, is incorporated herein by reference. |
| 10(x) | Guaranty and Suretyship Agreement effective November 18, 2011 from MSA International, Inc. in favor of PNC Bank, National Association, and other lenders party to the Credit Agreement, filed as Exhibit 10.2 to Form 8-K on November 21, 2011, is incorporated herein by reference. |
| 21 | Affiliates of the registrant is filed herewith. |
| 23 | Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent registered public accounting firm is filed herewith. |
| 31.1 | Certification of W. M. Lambert pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) is filed herewith. |
| 31.2 | Certification of D. L. Zeitler pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) is filed herewith. |
| 32 | Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C.(S)1350 is filed herewith. |
| 101.INS** | XBRL Instance Document |
| 101.SCH** | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document |
| 101.CAL** | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document |
| 101.DEF** | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document |
| 101.LAB** | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document |
| 101.PRE** | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document |

* *The exhibits marked by an asterisk are management contracts or compensatory plans or arrangements.*

Table of Contents

***In accordance with Regulation S-T, the XBRL-related information in Exhibit 101 to this Annual Report on Form 10-K shall be deemed to be furnished and not filed.*

The registrant agrees to furnish to the Commission upon request copies of all instruments with respect to long-term debt referred to in Note 9 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements filed as part of Item 8 of this annual report which have not been previously filed or are not filed herewith.

Table of Contents**SIGNATURES**

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

MINE SAFETY APPLIANCES COMPANY

February 22, 2012
(Date)

By

/s/ WILLIAM M. LAMBERT
William M. Lambert

President and

Chief Executive Officer

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

| Signature | Title | Date |
|---|---|-------------------|
| /s/ JOHN T. RYAN III John T. Ryan III | Director, Chairman of the Board | February 22, 2012 |
| /s/ WILLIAM M. LAMBERT William M. Lambert | Director; President and Chief Executive Officer | February 22, 2012 |
| /s/ DENNIS L. ZEITLER Dennis L. Zeitler | Senior Vice President Finance; Principal Financial and Accounting Officer | February 22, 2012 |
| /s/ ROBERT A. BRUGGEWORTH Robert A. Bruggeworth | Director | February 22, 2012 |
| /s/ JAMES A. CEDERNA James A. Cederna | Director | February 22, 2012 |
| /s/ THOMAS B. HOTOPP Thomas B. Hotopp | Director | February 22, 2012 |
| /s/ DIANE M. PEARSE Diane M. Pearse | Director | February 22, 2012 |
| /s/ L. EDWARD SHAW, JR. L. Edward Shaw, Jr. | Director | February 22, 2012 |

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/s/ JOHN C. UNKOVIC

Director

February 22, 2012

John C. Unkovic

/s/ THOMAS H. WITMER

Director

February 22, 2012

Thomas H. Witmer

Table of Contents**SCHEDULE II****MINE SAFETY APPLIANCES COMPANY AND AFFILIATES****VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS****THREE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011**

| | 2011 | 2010 <i>(In thousands)</i> | 2009 |
|---|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Allowance for doubtful accounts: | | | |
| Balance at beginning of year | \$ 9,391 | \$ 6,866 | \$ 6,050 |
| Additions | | | |
| Charged to costs and expenses | 1,148 | 3,294 | 2,602 |
| Deductions | | | |
| Deductions from reserves (1) | 3,496 | 769 | 1,786 |
| Balance at end of year | 7,043 | 9,391 | 6,866 |
| Income tax valuation allowance: | | | |
| Balance at beginning of year | \$ 4,323 | \$ 3,174 | \$ 2,973 |
| Additions | | | |
| Charged to costs and expenses | | 1,149 | 201 |
| Deductions | | | |
| Deductions from reserves | 1,546 | | |
| Balance at end of year | 2,777 | 4,323 | 3,174 |

(1) Bad debts written off, net of recoveries.