

SILICOM LTD  
Form 20-F  
March 23, 2009

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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

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**FORM 20-F**

REGISTRATION STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OR (g) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Or

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008

Or

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

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

Date of event requiring this shell company report.....

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

Commission File number: 000-23288

**SILICOM LTD.**

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter and as translated into English)

**ISRAEL**  
(Jurisdiction of incorporation  
or organization)

8 Hanagar Street,  
Kfar Sava 44000, Israel  
(Address of principal executive offices)

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

None	None
Title of each class	Name of each exchange on which registered

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

**Ordinary Shares, NIS 0.01 nominal value per share**  
**(Title of Class)**

**Securities for which there is a reporting obligation pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Act:**

**None**  
**(Title of Class)**

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Indicate the number of outstanding shares of each of the issuer's classes of capital or common stock as of the close of the period covered by the annual report:

6,694,063

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

Yes  No

If this report is an annual or transition report, indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes  No

Note: Checking the box above will not relieve any registrant required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 from their obligations under those Sections.

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

Yes  No

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

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Indicate by check mark which basis of accounting the registrant has used to prepare the financial statements included in this filing:

US GAAP

International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by  
the International Accounting Standards Board

Other

If  Other has been checked in response to the previous question, indicate by check mark which financial statement item the registrant has elected to follow.

Item 17  Item 18

If this is an annual report, indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

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Yes  No

This annual report on Form 20-F includes certain "forward-looking" statements within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. The use of the words "projects," "expects," "may," "plans" or "intends", or words of similar import, identifies a statement as "forward-looking." There can be no assurance, however, that actual results will not differ materially from our expectations or projections. Factors that could cause actual results to differ from our expectations or projections include the risks and uncertainties relating to our business described in this report at Item 3 titled "Risk Factors."

As used herein or any in any document incorporated by reference hereto, the "Company", "Silicom Ltd.", "Silicom", "Registrant", "we", "us", or "our" refers to Silicom Ltd. and its subsidiary.

We have prepared our consolidated financial statements in United States dollars and in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. All references herein to "dollars" or "\$" are to United States dollars, and all references to "Shekels" or "NIS" are to New Israeli Shekels.

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## Item **IDENTITY OF DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND ADVISERS**

1.

Not Applicable.

## Item **OFFER STATISTICS AND EXPECTED TIMETABLE**

2.

Not Applicable.

## Item **KEY INFORMATION**

3.

### Selected Financial Data

The selected data presented below under the captions "Consolidated Statements of Operations Data" and "Consolidated Balance Sheets Data" for and as of the end of each of the years in the five-year period ended December 31, 2008, are derived from our audited consolidated financial statements. The consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2007 and 2008, and for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2008, and the report thereon, are included elsewhere in this annual report. The selected data set forth below should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto, which are set forth in Item 18 - "Financial Statements" and the other financial information appearing elsewhere in this annual report.

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#### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS DATA:

	Year Ended December 31 In US\$ Thousands				
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Sales	\$ 4,559	\$ 10,876	\$ 16,118	\$ 26,784	\$ 25,554

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	Year Ended December 31 In US\$ Thousands				
Cost of sales	2,999	6,507	9,827	16,094	15,405
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>1,560</b>	<b>4,369</b>	<b>6,291</b>	<b>10,690</b>	<b>10,149</b>
Research and development costs, gross	1,596	1,561	1,820	2,208	3,048
<b>(Less) grant participation</b>	<b>(145)</b>	<b>(98)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
Research and development costs, net	1,451	1,463	1,820	2,208	3,048
<b>Selling and marketing expenses</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>903</b>	<b>1,105</b>	<b>1,537</b>	<b>2,093</b>
General and administrative expenses	614	695	980	1,189	1,427
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	<b>2,783</b>	<b>3,061</b>	<b>3,905</b>	<b>4,934</b>	<b>6,568</b>
Operating income (loss)	(1,223)	1,308	2,386	5,756	3,581
<b>Financial income (expenses), net</b>	<b>(17)</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>956</b>	<b>1,188</b>
Income (loss) before taxes on income	(1,240)	1,322	2,553	6,712	4,769
<b>Income tax expenses (benefit)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(46)</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>124</b>
<b>Net income (loss)<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>(1,240)</b>	<b>1,322</b>	<b>2,599</b>	<b>6,280</b>	<b>4,645</b>
<b><u>Income (loss) per share</u></b>					
Basic income (loss) per ordinary share	\$ (0.30)	\$ 0.31	\$ 0.51	\$ 1.03	\$ 0.69
Diluted income (loss) per ordinary share	\$ (0.30)	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.49	\$ 1.00	\$ 0.69
Weighted average number of ordinary shares used to compute basic income (loss) per share (in thousands)	4,190	4,256	5,138	6,122	6,685
Weighted average number of ordinary shares used to compute diluted income (loss) per share (in thousands)	4,190	4,364	5,341	6,309	6,780

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<sup>(1)</sup> Net income is after deduction of taxes on income, which have been reduced by virtue of tax benefits to which the Company is entitled in its capacity as an Approved Enterprise under Israeli law. As such, the Company was required to pay taxes in a reduced effective rate. The Company selected the 2004 tax year and the 2006 tax year as its Year of Election, from which the period of benefits under the Investment Law are to commence. See Note 15C to the Financial Statements and Item 10 Additional Information Taxation.

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AS OF DECEMBER 31,  
IN US\$ THOUSANDS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>Consolidated Balance Sheets Data:</b>					
Total assets	\$ 5,525	\$ 9,045	\$ 17,853	\$ 45,642	\$ 51,974
Total current liabilities	\$ 1,530	\$ 3,342	\$ 3,452	\$ 4,712	\$ 4,735
Long-term liability	\$ 957	\$ 1,031	\$ 1,220	\$ 1,596	\$ 1,905
Shareholders' equity	\$ 3,038	\$ 4,672	\$ 13,181	\$ 39,334	\$ 45,334
Capital stock	\$ 14	\$ 14	\$ 16	\$ 20	\$ 20
Number of ordinary shares issued <sup>(1)</sup>	4,213,550	4,351,050	5,213,600	6,585,847	6,709,034

<sup>(1)</sup> Including 14,971 held by our subsidiary.

The table below sets forth the high and low NIS to U.S. Dollar exchange rates for each period, as published by the Bank of Israel:

	HIGH	LOW
February 2009	4.191	4.012
January 2009	4.065	3.783
December 2008	3.990	3.677
November 2008	4.022	3.752
October 2008	3.879	3.465
September 2008	3.635	3.396

The table below sets forth, for the five more recent full financial years, the average NIS to U.S. Dollar exchange rates for each period, calculated by using the average of the exchange rates on the last day of each month for each period, as published by the Bank of Israel:

2008	3.568
2007	4.085
2006	4.442
2005	4.503
2004	4.483

The NIS to U.S. Dollar exchange rate on February 27, 2009, as published by the Bank of Israel, was NIS 4.162.

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## Risk Factors

This annual report and statements that we may make from time to time may contain forward-looking information. There can be no assurance that actual results will not differ materially from our expectations, statements or projections. Factors that could cause actual results to differ from our expectations, statements or projections include the risks and uncertainties relating to our business described below.

### *We depend on one line of products for most of our revenues.*

Our current business is based almost in its entirety on our Multi-Port Gigabit-Ethernet Server Adapter product line and the majority of our revenue is generated from such product line. We expect that in the foreseeable future we will continue to be dependent on this line of products for most of our revenue due the nature of our business. We also sell legacy products, however, the volume of sales of legacy products and the revenues generated from such sales is very low and is diminishing. Although we sold legacy products throughout 2007, 2008 and in the first months of 2009, we believe that the contribution of such products to our revenues in the foreseeable future will be negligible. We cannot assure you that revenue generated from our Multi-Port Gigabit-Ethernet Server Adapters will reach or exceed historical levels in any future period. A decrease in the price of, or demand for, any of these products, or a significant increase in our costs of manufacturing them could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

### *Increased demand for products with characteristics similar to our products may cause manufacturers to integrate such characteristics into server motherboards, eliminating the need for our add-on products.*

Our main products are add-on adapters that are added to existing servers in order to improve their functionality. If demand for such improved functionality increases significantly, server manufacturers may begin incorporating such functionality as a part of the basic design of their servers, thereby eliminating the need to achieve such functionality through add-on adapters. In the past we suffered from a similar trend with respect to our legacy products. We cannot assure you that a similar trend will not occur in connection with our add-on adapters. Such a trend would have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

### *Significant growth in markets demanding functionality similar to the functionality offered by our products may increase the market share of appliances that already have such functionality in-built, eliminating the need for our add-on products.*

Our main products are add-on adapters that are added to existing servers in order to improve their functionality. If the demand for functionality similar to the functionality of our add-on adapters continues to grow significantly, the market share of special purpose appliances that already have such functionality in-built may increase, consequently reducing the market share of solutions based on servers with add-on adapters. A reduction in the market share of solutions based on servers with add-on adapters, could, in turn, reduce the demand for our add-on adapters. We cannot assure you that such a trend will not occur. Such a trend would have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

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### *We may experience difficulty in developing solutions for appliances with proprietary interfaces which may be used by some of our potential customers.*

The market for networking appliances includes appliances that make use of proprietary interfaces. These appliances are offered to our potential customers in addition to the customary server-based appliances which use standard interfaces. Our potential customers may decide to use appliances with proprietary interfaces instead of the customary server-based appliances for which several manufacturers may provide add-on cards. There could be no assurance that we would be able to develop non-standard add-on cards for appliances with proprietary interfaces or, if we are successful in developing such cards, that manufacturers of the proprietary interfaces or the customers electing to use these interfaces will make use of our cards in such non-standard environments.

### *Our Multi-Port Gigabit-Ethernet Server Networking Adapters including our Bypass Adapters which are sold mainly to OEMs, are characterized by long sales cycles.*

We sell our Multi-Port Gigabit-Ethernet Server Networking Adapters (including our Bypass Adapters) mainly to original equipment manufacturers, or OEMs. The decision making process of our OEM customers includes several time consuming processes, resulting from the critical importance of our products in their systems. They need to define the required configuration of their server system/appliance, derive the need and type of adapters, evaluate adapters, intensively test and qualify adapters and then (or in parallel) negotiate the terms for a purchase. It may therefore take 12 months or more from the time we first contact a prospective customer before such customer implements our cards in its system constituting what is known as a Design Win. Additionally, once a Design Win is secured, our sales of these products typically involve significant capital investment decisions by prospective end customers, as well as a significant amount of time to educate such end customers as

to the benefits of systems and appliances that include our products. As a result, before purchasing systems and appliances which include our products (and consequently facilitating sales of our products), companies spend a substantial amount of time performing internal reviews and obtaining capital expenditure approvals, consequently lengthening the period of time required for a Design Win to mature into consistent sales. These long sales cycles make it difficult to predict when and to what extent discussions with potential customers will materialize into sales and could cause our revenue and operating results to fluctuate widely from period to period. In addition, our allocation of significant resources to potential sales opportunities that do not materialize into sales could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

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***The short lead time of customer orders combined with the long lead time of our suppliers when ordering certain components for our products could result in either a surplus or lack of sufficient supplies, and impact negatively on our finances.***

While we are generally required to fill orders for our products within one or two weeks following the receipt of a firm purchase order, we must place orders of certain components for our products between sixteen and twenty weeks prior to delivery. As a result, we must have a significant amount of components in our inventory to be able to meet our best forecasts of projected purchase orders as opposed to on the basis of firm purchase orders. In the event that firm purchase orders are significantly lower than such forecasts, a significant part of our inventory will not be used and we may be unable to adjust costs in a timely manner to compensate for revenue shortfalls and in the event that firm purchase orders exceed such forecasts, we will not be able to fill such purchase orders which may lead to the loss of business from a customer.

***Our visibility of future sales is severely limited due to the short lead time of customer orders.***

As a result of the short lead time for firm purchase orders, we are unable to accurately forecast future revenues from product sales. As a result, even dramatic fluctuation in revenue (whether increase or decrease) might not be detected until the very end of a financial quarter, which may not enable us to monitor costs in a timely manner to compensate for such fluctuation.

***The loss or ineffectiveness of our original equipment manufacturers or a reduction of purchase orders or sales efforts by such original equipment manufacturers may have a material adverse effect on our operations and financial results.***

Our sales and marketing strategy is to develop and maintain strategic relationships with leading OEMs in the servers industry and server-based systems industry, which integrate our products into their systems. These OEMs are not within our control, are not obligated to purchase our products, and may select other products that may compete with our lines of products. A reduction in their sales efforts or discontinuance of sales of our products by our OEMs could lead to reduced sales and could materially adversely affect our operating results. Use of OEMs also entails the risk that they will build up inventories in anticipation of a growth in sales. If such growth does not occur as anticipated, such OEMs may substantially decrease the amount of products ordered in subsequent quarters or discontinue product orders. The termination or loss of one of our key OEMs or several OEMs at approximately the same time, without being able to compensate this loss with sales to other OEM customers might have a material adverse effect.

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***Our OEM customers may replace the appliances they currently use with appliances that do not require our cards or incorporate cards other than ours.***

Many of the OEMs that use appliances which include our cards do so for a few years, and then consider migration to newer generations of appliances. We cannot guarantee that our cards will be needed or selected for such new appliances or compatible with them. A decision by a current OEM customer or customers to select a new appliance without including our cards in such new appliance may have a significant adverse effect on our results of operations.

***The loss of a significant customer may have a material adverse effect on us.***

We depend on a small amount of customers for our products, our top three customers accounted for 44% of our revenues in 2008. We expect that a small number of customers will continue to account for a significant portion of our revenues for the foreseeable future. Loss or cancellation of business from, significant changes in deliveries to, or decreases in the prices of services sold to, one or more of our key customers has, in the past, significantly reduced our revenues for a reporting period and could, in the future, harm our margins, financial condition and business.

***The markets for our products change rapidly and demand for new products is difficult to predict.***

The markets for our products are characterized by rapidly changing technology and evolving industry standards. For example, the migration to 10Gbps solutions, the European Union's directive regarding Restriction Of Hazardous Substances (ROHS) which requires products to be ROHS compliant, the Chinese ROHS directive and the migration from the PCI-X server bus to the PCI-Express (PCI-E) server bus, causes our OEMs to demand such new products and technologies. In the event that our OEMs decide to begin using such new technologies, we may not be able to develop products for the new technologies in a timely manner. Our OEMs may also select competing products despite our ability to develop products incorporating new technologies. Furthermore, the migration to 10Gbps, while presenting an opportunity for more cards and solutions to be sold, may also result in a decrease in the need for Multi-Port cards as throughput performance may be achieved via a single port of 10Gbps. Consequently, we may suffer from reduced sales to such OEMs and accumulate unusable inventory which can be used only with older technologies. We intend to continue investing in product and technology development. Although we have recorded growing sales of our newest lines of products (to which the majority of our revenues are attributable), there can be no assurance that we will continue to be successful in the marketing of our current products and in developing, manufacturing and marketing enhanced and new products in a timely manner.

***We may experience difficulty in developing new, commercially successful products at acceptable release times.***

We conduct extensive research, development and engineering activities. Our efforts emphasize the development of new products, cost reduction of current products, and the enhancement of existing products, generally in response to rapidly changing customer preferences, technologies and industry standards. Although throughout 2004-2007 we recorded growing sales of our latest lines of products, Multi-Port Gigabit-Ethernet Server Networking Adapters and Bypass Adapters and in 2008 we recorded sales of approximately \$25.5 million, we cannot guarantee the continued success of these products, that they will be widely accepted by the marketplace or that any of our development efforts will result in commercially successful products, that such products will be released in a timely manner or that we will be able to respond effectively to technological changes or new product announcements by others.

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***Loss of our sources for certain key components could harm our operations.***

Although we generally use standard parts and components for our products, certain key components used in our products are currently available from only one source, and others are available from a limited number of sources. We believe that we maintain a sufficient inventory of these components to protect against delays in deliveries. However, we cannot guarantee that we will not experience delays in the supply of critical components in the future or that we will have a sufficient inventory of critical components at such time to produce products at full capacity. Additionally, a key component in many of our cards is manufactured by Intel, one of our competitors. While we have not encountered difficulties in purchasing such components from Intel's distributors, we cannot guarantee that we will continue to be able to purchase such components without delays or at reasonable prices. In the event that we are not able to purchase key components of our products from our limited sources, or are able to purchase these key components only under unreasonable terms, we may need to redesign certain products. We cannot guarantee that we will have adequate resources for such a redesign or that such a redesign will be successful. Such inability to obtain alternative resources or to successfully redesign our products could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

***Inability to receive information from our key component manufacturers could affect our ability to develop new products required by our OEMs and by the industry in which we operate.***

Our products are based on networking controllers which are manufactured by either Broadcom or Intel. In order to design our products we need to receive information that enables us to design products with the use of such controllers. There can be no assurance that we will continue to receive all the information required for designing products with the use of new controllers continuously released by both Intel and Broadcom. Intel is our competitor and Broadcom may also compete with our products. Such competition may also affect their decisions regarding the sharing of information with us. The inability to obtain such information may adversely affect our ability to develop new products required by our OEMs and by the industry in which we operate.

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***We may need to invest significantly in research and development and business development in order to diversify our product offering and enter new markets.***



Most of our revenues are generated from the sale of our add-on server adapters. The technology industry in which we operate is characterized by rapid technological change, frequent new product introductions, changes in customer requirements and evolving industry standards. While these changes could lead to a reduction in the demand for our existing products, they could also create an opportunity for us to expand our product offering to our existing customers and to new customers. Accordingly, our future success may depend on our ability to diversify our product offering and enter new markets, which could involve numerous risks, including:

Substantial research and development and business development expenditures, which could divert funds from other corporate uses and/or have a significant negative effect on our short-term results;

Diversion of management's attention from our core business; and

Entering markets in which we have little or no experience.

There can be no assurance that we will be able to successfully complete the development and market introduction of new products and no assurance that we will be able to successfully enter new markets. This could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

***We may make acquisitions or pursue mergers that could disrupt our business and harm our financial condition.***

As part of our business strategy, we may invest in or acquire other businesses, technologies or assets, or we may enter into joint ventures or other strategic relationships with third parties.

We may assume liabilities, incur amortization expenses related to intangible assets or realize large and immediate write-offs in connection with future acquisitions. In addition, the future valuation of these acquisitions may decrease from the market price paid by us, which may result in the writing-off, or impairment, of the relevant assets. In addition, our operation of any acquired or merged businesses, technologies or assets could involve numerous risks, including:

Post-merger integration problems resulting from the combination of any acquired operations with our own operations or from the combination of two or more operations into a new merged entity;

Diversion of management's attention from our core business;

Substantial expenditures, which could divert funds from other corporate uses;

Entering markets in which we have little or no experience; and

Loss of key employees of the acquired operations.

We cannot be certain that any future acquisition or merger will be successful. If the operation of the business of any future acquisition or merger disrupts our operations, our business may suffer. In addition, even if we successfully integrate the acquired business with our own, we may not receive the intended benefits of the acquisition.

***The market for our products is highly competitive and some of our competitors may be better positioned than we are.***

The market for our products is highly competitive. We face competition from numerous companies, some of which are more established, benefit from greater market recognition and have greater financial, production and marketing resources than we do. For example, in the server networking industry for which we have developed our Multi-Port Gigabit-Ethernet Server Networking cards, our main competitor is Intel. We cannot guarantee that our present or contemplated products will continue to be distinguishable from those of our competitors or that the marketplace will find our products preferable to those of our competitors. Furthermore, there can be no assurance that competitive pressures will not result in price reductions that could materially adversely affect our business and financial condition and the results of our operations.

***We may not be able to prevent others from claiming that we have infringed their proprietary rights.***

We cannot guarantee that one or more parties will not assert infringement claims against us. The cost of responding to claims could be significant, regardless of whether the claims have merit. Significant and protracted litigation may be necessary to determine the scope of the proprietary rights of others or to defend against claims of infringement, regardless of whether the claims have merit. Although we believe that all our products use only our intellectual property, or intellectual property which is properly licensed to us, in the event that any infringement claim is brought against us and infringement is proven, we could be required to discontinue the use of the relevant technology, to cease the manufacture, use and sale of infringing products, to incur significant litigation damages, costs and expenses, to develop non-infringing technology or to obtain licenses to the alleged infringing technology and to pay royalties to use such licenses. There can be no assurance that we would be able to develop any such alternative technologies or obtain any such licenses on terms commercially acceptable to us. Although in the past we have resolved a claim of infringement through a license agreement, the terms of which did not have a material effect on our business, any infringement claim or other litigation against us could seriously harm our business, operating results and financial condition. While there are no lawsuits or other claims currently pending against us regarding the infringement of patents or intellectual property rights of others, we have been a party to such claims in the past and may be party to such claims in the future.

***We are dependent on key personnel.***

Our success has been, and will be, dependent to a large degree on our ability to retain the services of key personnel and to attract additional qualified personnel in the future. Competition for such personnel is intense. There can be no assurance that we will be able to attract, assimilate or retain key personnel in the future and our failure to do so would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

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***Exchange rate fluctuations and international risks could increase the cost of our operations.***

Substantially all of our international sales are denominated in U.S. dollars and may be subject to government controls and other risks, including, in some cases, export licenses, federal restrictions on export, currency fluctuations, political instability, trade restrictions, and changes in tariffs and freight rates. In 2008, due to the devaluation of the U.S. dollar against the NIS, our dollar costs in Israel increased. Our dollar costs in Israel will increase further to the extent that inflation in Israel exceeds the devaluation of the NIS against the dollar, if the timing of such devaluation lags behind inflation in Israel or if the dollar devalues against the NIS.

***If we are characterized as a passive foreign investment company for U.S. federal income tax purposes, our U.S. shareholders may suffer adverse tax consequences.***

We will be a passive foreign investment company, or PFIC, if 75% or more of our gross income in a taxable year, including our pro-rata share of the gross income of any company, U.S. or foreign, in which we are considered to own, directly or indirectly, 25% or more of the shares by value, is passive income. Alternatively, we will be considered to be a PFIC if at least 50% of our assets in a taxable year, averaged over the year and ordinarily determined based on fair market value and including our pro-rata share of the assets of any company in which we are considered to own, directly or indirectly, 25% or more of the shares by value, are held for the production of, or produce, passive income. If we were to be a PFIC, and a U.S. Holder does not make an election to treat us as a qualified electing fund, or QEF, or a mark-to-market election, excess distributions to a U.S. Holder, and any gain recognized by a U.S. Holder on a disposition of our ordinary shares, would be taxed in an unfavorable way. Among other consequences, our dividends, to the extent that they constituted excess distributions, would be taxed at the regular rates applicable to ordinary income, rather than the 15% maximum rate applicable to certain dividends received by an individual from a qualified foreign corporation, and certain interest charges may apply. In addition, gains on the sale of our shares would be treated in the same way as excess distributions. The tests for determining PFIC status are applied annually and it is difficult to make accurate predictions of future income and assets, which are relevant to the determination of PFIC status. In addition, under the applicable statutory and regulatory provisions, it is unclear whether we would be permitted to use a gross loss from sales (sales less cost of goods sold) to offset our passive income in the calculation of gross income. As a result of our substantial cash position, if the value of our shares declines, there is a substantial risk that we will be classified as a PFIC under the asset test described above. There can be no assurance that we will not be classified as a PFIC by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service. In light of the uncertainties described above, no assurance can be given that we will not be a PFIC in any year. A U.S. Holder who makes a QEF election is taxed currently on such holder's proportionate share of our earnings. If the IRS determines that we are a PFIC for a year with respect to which we have determined that we were not a PFIC, however, it might be too late for a U.S. Holder to make a timely QEF election, unless the U.S. Holder qualifies under the applicable Treasury regulations to make a retroactive (late) election. U.S. Holders who hold ordinary shares during a period when we are a PFIC will be subject to the foregoing rules, even if we cease to be a PFIC, subject to exceptions for U.S. Holders who made a timely QEF or mark-to-market election, or certain other elections. We do not currently intend to prepare or provide the information that would enable you to make a Qualified Election Fund election. Accordingly, our shareholders are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding the application of PFIC rules.

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***The tax benefits available to us under Israeli law require us to meet several conditions and applying plan administration rules, and may be terminated or reduced in the future, which would increase our taxes.***

Our production facilities have been granted Approved Enterprise status and since and as such, we are entitled to certain tax benefits. To be eligible for these tax benefits, we must meet conditions and applying plan administration rules. If we fail to meet these conditions in the future, the tax benefits would be canceled and we could be required to refund any tax benefits we might already have received. These tax benefits may not be continued in the future at their current levels, or at any level. In recent years, the Israeli government has reduced the benefits available and has indicated that it may further reduce or eliminate some of these benefits in the future. The termination or reduction of these benefits may increase our income tax expense in the future. To the best of our knowledge, to date we have met the conditions for benefits under our Approved Enterprise program in all material respects. There can be no assurance, however, that we will continue to meet such conditions in the future. See Item 10 Additional Information Taxation Law for the Encouragement of Capital Investments, 1959 for more information about our Approved Enterprise status.

***The trading volume of our shares has been low in the past and may be low in the future, resulting in lower than expected market prices for our shares.***

Our shares have been traded at low volumes in the past and may be traded at low volumes in the future for reasons related or unrelated to our performance. This low trading volume may result in lower than expected market prices for our ordinary shares and our shareholders may not be able to resell their shares for more than they paid for them.

***Israeli courts might not enforce judgments rendered outside of Israel.***

We are incorporated in Israel. All of our executive officers and all of our directors are non-residents of the United States, and a substantial portion of our assets and the assets of these persons are located outside the United States. Therefore, it may be difficult to enforce a judgment obtained in the United States against us or any such persons. It may also be difficult to enforce civil liabilities under U.S. federal securities laws in original actions instituted in Israel. However, subject to certain time limitations, Israeli courts may enforce U.S. final executory judgments for liquidated amounts in civil matters obtained after due trial before a court of competent jurisdiction (according to the rules of private international law currently prevailing in Israel) which enforces similar Israeli judgments, provided that the requisite procedural and legal requirements are adhered to. If a foreign judgment is enforced by an Israeli court, it generally will be payable in NIS, which can then be converted into foreign currency at the rate of exchange of such foreign currency on the date of payment. Pending collection, the amount of the judgment of an Israeli court stated in NIS (without any linkage to a foreign currency) ordinarily will be linked to the Israeli consumer price index plus interest at the annual statutory rate prevailing at such time. Judgment creditors bear the risk of unfavorable exchange rates.

***The political environment and hostilities in Israel could harm our business.***

Since the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, a state of hostility has existed between Israel and the Arab countries in the region. This state of hostility has varied in degree and intensity over time. There has also been conflict and unrest between Israel, the Palestinian Authority and certain terrorist groups operating within the Palestinian Authority and Lebanon. A significant increase in violence began in September 2000 and has continued with varying levels of severity through 2008, the most severe of which was Israel's war with the Hizbullah militant group in July and August of 2006. While the armed confrontation in 2006 and previous hostilities did not have a material adverse impact on our business, we cannot guarantee that hostilities will not be renewed and have such an effect in the future. The political and security situation in Israel may result in parties with whom we have contracts claiming that they are not obligated to perform their commitments under those agreements pursuant to force majeure provisions. Any hostilities involving Israel or the interruption or curtailment of trade between Israel and its present trading partners could adversely affect our operations and could make it more difficult for us to raise capital. Since many of our facilities are located in Israel, we could experience serious disruptions if acts associated with this conflict result in any serious damage to our facilities. Our business interruption insurance may not adequately compensate us for losses that may occur and any losses or damages incurred by us could have a material adverse effect on our business. Any future armed conflicts or political instability in the region would likely negatively affect business conditions and harm our results of operations.

***Many of our employees in Israel are required to perform military reserve duty.***

All non-exempt male adult permanent residents of Israel under the age of 40 are obligated to perform military reserve duty and may be called to active duty under emergency circumstances. In recent years, there have been significant call-ups of military reservists, and it is possible that

there will be additional call-ups in the future. While we have operated effectively despite these conditions in the past, we cannot assess what impact these conditions may have in the future, particularly if emergency circumstances arise. Our operations could be disrupted by the absence for a significant period of one or more of our executive officers or key employees or a significant number of our other employees due to military service. Any disruption in our operations would harm our business.

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***We are affected by volatility in the securities markets.***

The securities markets in general have experienced volatility which has particularly affected the securities of many high-technology companies and particularly those in the fields of communications, software and internet, including companies that have a significant presence in Israel. This volatility has often been unrelated to the operating performance of these companies and may cause difficulties in raising additional financing required to effectively operate and grow their businesses. Such difficulties and the volatility of the securities markets in general may affect our financial results.

***We are affected by worldwide downturns in industries based on technology.***

The volatility in the securities markets discussed above and its effect on high-technology companies may have a ripple effect on our performance. In the downturn which the markets experienced beginning in 2001, technology companies dealing in communications and computers were severely affected and some were forced to cease operations. We felt the effects of this downturn in 2001 through 2003. Currently we are affected by the downturn in the economic markets which began in 2008, posing a risk to industries based on technology as well as the overall economy. We can give no assurance that our results will not be affected on a going forward basis by the current downturn and by any future downturns.

***General economic conditions may adversely affect the Company's results.***

Current uncertainty in global economic conditions, including the recent disruption in financial and credit markets, pose a risk to the overall economy that could impact demand for our and our customers' products, as well as our ability to manage commercial relationships with our customers, suppliers and creditors. If the current situation continues or worsens, our business could be negatively impacted, including such areas as reduced demand for our products and services, or supplier or customer disruptions, which could reduce our revenues or our ability to collect our accounts receivable and have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

***We may experience a further decline in our share price and there is no guarantee that our share price will rise at all***

Our share price has taken a fall during the current uncertainty in global economic conditions and we expect it to continue to be affected by such uncertainty to the extent that it continues. We cannot assure you that our share price will recover in the coming fiscal year.

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***Our investment portfolio may be impaired by disruptions in the financial and credit markets.***

Our investment portfolio currently consists of corporate debt securities and securities of US government agencies, which the Company classified at December 31, 2008 as held-to-maturity. As of December 31, 2008, we hold approximately \$25 million in corporate debt securities and securities of US government agencies.

Due to recent significant disruptions in the financial and credit markets, corporate debt securities in our portfolio are subject to a possible increased risk of default due to bankruptcy, lack of liquidity, operational failure or other factors affecting the issuers of those securities. In addition, securities in our portfolio are subject to other risks, such as credit, liquidity, market and interest rate risks, which may be exacerbated by the recent market disruptions. We may be required to adjust the carrying value of our investment securities due to a default, lack of liquidity or other event, if the event constitutes an impairment which is considered to be other-than-temporary. As of December 31, 2008, we were not required to adjust the carrying value of our investment securities since there were no other-than-temporary impairments.

This loss would be recorded in our consolidated statement of operations which could materially adversely impact our consolidated results of operations and financial condition.

**Item 4. INFORMATION ON THE COMPANY.**

## History and Development of the Company

Our legal and commercial name is Silicom Ltd. We were incorporated under the laws of Israel in 1987, and we operate under Israeli law and legislation. Our registered and principal executive offices are located in Israel at 8 Hanagar Street, Kfar Sava, Israel 44000, and our telephone number is 011-972-9-764-4555. Our website is <http://www.silicom.co.il>. We do not intend for any information contained on our internet website to be considered part of this annual report.

We are currently engaged in the design, manufacture, marketing and support of connectivity solutions for a broad range of servers and server based systems. Our first products were integrated circuits for information technology (or IT) manufacturers. In the early 1990s, we began focusing our strategy on designing, manufacturing, marketing and supporting a range of connectivity solutions for mobile and personal computers, or PC, users. In subsequent years we developed several broadband internet related products.

In 2002, we leveraged our expertise and know-how in networking and operating systems to develop a line of high-end Multi-Port server networking cards, which in the past had contributed to our sales growth and which we expect to continue being the principal driver of our sales growth in the coming years. In November and December of 2003 we secured our first Design Wins for these new products. Since that time we have identified the server-based network appliances market and specifically the server-based security appliances and WAN (Wide Area Network) optimization appliances within such market as demonstrating a strong demand for our products. We have added to our product lines networking products which include special functionalities called Bypass Adapters for the server based appliances and have received significant orders for both our Bypass Adapters and our non-Bypass adapters. We secured additional Design Wins throughout 2004-2008. Several of these Design Wins were from leading companies engaged in a number of industries.

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On December 20, 2005, we obtained the approval of the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, or TASE, for the listing of our shares on TASE. Trading of our shares on TASE commenced on December 27, 2005. Our shares are included in the Tel-Tech index. Our shares have been listed on the NASDAQ Global Market (previously known as the NASDAQ National Market) under the ticker symbol SILC (previously SILCF) since February 11, 2008. Prior thereto, our shares were listed on the NASDAQ Capital Market (previously known as the NASDAQ Small-Cap). See Item 9. The Offer and Listing -Markets and Share Price History .

In January 2006, we completed an offering and sale of 10,000 units in Israel, composed of 800,000 of our ordinary shares and 400,000 warrants, pursuant to a prospectus filed with the Israeli Securities Authority and TASE. Each warrant sold in the offering was exercisable into one of our ordinary shares until January 31, 2008 at an exercise price in NIS equivalent to \$8.64 calculated on the date of exercise of such warrant. The sale of units resulted in net proceeds of approximately \$5.6 million. As of January 31, 2008 (i.e. the expiration date of the warrants), 399,934 warrants were exercised, resulting in additional proceeds of approximately \$3.5 million in the aggregate. The offering and sale of the units pursuant to the January 2006 prospectus was made only in Israel and was not intended for the public in the United States or any other country. All purchasers of securities pursuant to the January 2006 prospectus were deemed to have stated that they are not U.S. Persons as defined in Regulation S under the Securities Act of 1933, or the Securities Act, that they did not purchase securities for the benefit of any U.S. Person and that they were not present in the United States at the time the request for purchase of the securities was submitted. A similar statement was required from anyone requesting to exercise warrants purchased in the offering. The January 2006 prospectus and the securities offered thereunder are subject to Israeli law. The January 2006 prospectus was not filed with the Securities Exchange Commission and the securities offered thereunder are not registered in accordance with the Securities Act. We have not assumed any obligation to register any of the securities offered under the January 2006 prospectus, in accordance with the Securities Act.

In May 2007, we conducted a private placement, pursuant to which we issued to certain accredited investors and qualified institutional purchasers 875,000 ordinary shares at a purchase price of \$20.50 per share and warrants to purchase up to 218,750 ordinary shares at an exercise price of \$28.25 per share. The warrants issued to the investors will expire in July 2010. Net proceeds from the private placement were approximately \$16.8 million, net of \$1.2 million of issuance costs. We issued to the placement agents warrants to purchase up to an aggregate of 10,937 ordinary shares on the same terms as the warrants issued to the investors. As of February 27, 2009 no warrants were exercised into shares related to that issuance.

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## Business Overview

We are currently active in the product line of high-end server networking cards with and without bypass (server adapters), which is described in greater detail below. These are products for which we are leveraging our expertise in networking and operating systems and facilitating improved connectivity for servers by increasing the number of ports on the server adapters and by adding bypass and other special functionality for security appliances, WAN (Wide Area Network) optimization appliances and other network appliances. In 2006, we launched a new product line of encryption acceleration server adapters. Revenues from this line in 2007 and in 2008 were not significant. In 2008, we extended the line of 10Gbps products by adding cards with and without bypass, with a variety of interfaces. Revenues from this product line are not yet substantial but are rising.

### *Server Adapters*

In an effort to leverage our strengths, in late 2002 we began exploring a new direction which has become our primary growth driver and which we project will continue being our main source of growth in the next few years: high-end server networking cards. Our core expertise has always been our broad range of Ethernet and connectivity products, which provided personal computer users with solutions to their connectivity problems. In late 2002, we decided to employ our core know-how in the realm of server-based systems. Doing so takes advantage of our competitive edge by using the expertise we have developed in connectivity solutions for personal computers in industries which require broader connectivity solutions with very high-performance environments. Examples of these industries are security, WAN optimization, load balancing and other network appliances, data storage, video on demand, internet content delivery, high-performance computing and web servers.

We have developed a line of products for the server networking industry which facilitates interaction between servers, allowing them to communicate with each other through a larger number of ports and with higher performance than their original capabilities. These are powerful products that allow server-based systems to fully exploit the high speed potential of Gigabit Ethernet. The products have either one, two, four or six ports, which plug into the servers between which interaction is facilitated. We believe that our products cover a broader scope of features than those of our main competitor, Intel. We believe that our expanded feature set coupled with the fact that our products are based on two different industry leader chip sets (Intel and Broadcom), which makes them more compatible with our potential customers' needs, gives us a competitive edge. To the best of our knowledge we are currently the only company offering such a comprehensive range of server networking products.

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Following demands from customers and potential customers, we developed some of these same products with a bypass feature. Intended for mission-critical environments, the Silicom Gigabit Ethernet Bypass Networking Cards feature innovative bypass circuitry to maintain continuity of network connectivity in the event of an appliance failure. Upon the occurrence of an appliance failure, the card's bypass mechanism automatically reroutes traffic to bypass faulty components, enabling customers to have reliable and always available network accessibility. As with all of Silicom's Multiport Gigabit Ethernet Networking Cards, the Bypass Cards also improve server throughput and performance during normal operations by introducing more ports and better throughput while reducing network congestion, simplifying network management, and minimizing CPU utilization. In addition, we have also developed stand-alone bypass solutions which do not include the networking component. The addition of the innovative bypass capability makes Silicom Gigabit Ethernet Bypass Networking Cards and stand-alone bypass solutions an appropriate connectivity solution for security and WAN optimization appliances, as well as for appliances targeted at other high-potential, growing markets such as network monitoring, load balancing, network event management, network optimization, LAN policy enforcement, intrusion detection, virus protection, e-mail content filtering, and more. To the best of our knowledge we are currently the only company offering such a comprehensive line of bypass products, which offers dual port and quad port cards, copper and fiber interfaces and dual chip set (Intel and Broadcom). Although the situation may change in the future, we believe that our competition in the bypass card market is less significant than our competition in the non-bypass card market.

The products are divided into two groups: One group of products is based on Broadcom's chipset and the other group is based on Intel's chipset.

Examples of products based on Broadcom's chipset are: PXG6, PXG4, PXG2, PXG2F, PEG1, PEG1F, PEG2, PEG4BP, PXG2BP, PXG4BP, PXG2-ROHS. The number in each product name represents the number of Gigabit-Ethernet ports that the product has. The F (in the fourth and sixth products) represents a Fiber-optic Ethernet interface, rather than a copper Ethernet interface as in the other products. The X represents PCI-X based products, while E represents PCI-Express based products, indicating products that are based on the newest PCI-Express bus. The BP represents a card that carries the bypass functionality. The ROHS represents a card that is ROHS compliant. Products based on the Intel chipset carry the same name with an addition of *i* at the end to indicate the Intel chipset. Examples of the Intel based products are: PXG6i, PXG4i, PXG2i, PXG2Fi, PXG4Fi, PXG2BPi, PXG4BPi, PXG4BPi-ROHS, PXG2BPFi and PXG4BPFi. PEG2i, PEG4BPi. Except for the difference in the type of chipset, type of bus, bypass functionality, number of ports and type of Ethernet interface, all of the principal applications are similar.

Principal Applications, all of which demand high performance Multi-Port connectivity:

Security appliances

WAN optimization appliances

Load balancing and traffic management appliances

Network-attached storage (NAS)

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Video on Demand servers

Content Delivery servers

Internet Service Providers / Web Hosting

High end computing

It would be difficult to design such high-end products without a high level of cross-disciplinary knowledge. The products we have developed use our Ethernet and operating systems expertise. The products in this line include more than forty Multi-Port Gigabit-Ethernet Server Networking cards (bypass and non-bypass).

Our business model for our server adapter line of products is called the Design Win Model. The following are the main aspects of this model:

We approach a potential customer or are approached by such customer.

If the customer shows interest in the products and we believe that achievement of a business relationship with the customer is possible, we ship products for such customer's evaluation.

During the evaluation process the customer receives a few of our Server Networking Cards for initial basic testing. If the evaluation process is successful, we ship products for qualification.

During the qualification process the customer receives a larger amount of our Server Networking Cards for more specific testing, which may include certain customization of our products to its specific needs.

If the qualification process is successful, we enter into negotiations regarding the terms of a business relationship.

In some cases, typically with the larger customers, the evaluation and qualification process may take 12 months or more.

Once all phases mentioned above are concluded, the customer will purchase products from us, in order to incorporate them within its server based systems and sell such systems with our cards embedded in them. The sale of our products within such systems is the objective of our Design Win Model. In most cases once we secure a Design Win our customer will continue to buy our cards for as long as it continues to sell its server based system. Yet, in some cases, we may only be a second source from which a customer purchases, in which case the customer may not necessarily make continuous orders.

We believe that the high-end server networking cards (with and without bypass) will continue to be a key driver of our growth in the coming years. A distinct advantage of these products is that the demand in the server based industry has been almost continuously growing. Certain fields within this industry, such as the security appliances market, WAN optimization appliances market, other network appliances market, the storage market and several additional markets have demonstrated strong growth. This industry continues to require innovative solutions that must become faster and must provide additional functionalities each time they are implemented. However, the process of achieving Design Wins and obtaining new customers is time consuming as a result of the fact that the sales cycles for products in this industry are long. Nevertheless, each Design Win we achieve, may represent an opportunity for sustained, long-term revenues.

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**Legacy Products**

We also have a product line of legacy products, including connectivity solutions for portable PCs and Broadband Internet access products. This is our previous area of expertise, in which demand for our products has significantly declined, and we expect our business in this product line to fully phase out over time.

**Principal Markets**

The principal markets in which we compete are set forth more particularly in, and are incorporated by reference to Note 13 to the consolidated financial statements set forth in Item 18 of this annual report. In 2006, 2007 and 2008, approximately 12%, 7% and 8%, respectively, of our sales were in Europe, 72%, 75% and 66%, respectively, were in North America, and 16%, 18% and 26%, respectively, were in other countries. Our main business is not seasonal, and we believe that there are sufficient sources and raw materials available to sustain it.

**Sales and Marketing**

Over the last few years, our sales and marketing has been carried out through a network of strategic relationships with leading original equipment manufacturers which sell our products, generally as a part of their systems and sometimes under their own private labels. Our current original equipment manufacturer customers are mostly active in the security appliances market, WAN optimization market, other network appliances markets (such as load balancing and traffic management), storage market, general servers market and other server based applications. They are referred to in this report as OEMs, or OEM customers. Our strategy of carrying out strategic relationships with OEM customers continues to be the strategy under which we operate. We believe that these relationships enable us to take advantage of the superior financial resources and market presence of these companies to increase our sales and establish, maintain and strengthen our position and reputation in the market. In addition, we believe that relationships with OEMs improve access to new technologies developed by such OEMs, thereby ensuring smooth integration of our products and technology with those of the OEMs. In furtherance of this strategy, in 2005-2008 we entered into additional strategic arrangements with additional OEMs and continued recording Design Wins from OEMs who purchase our products. Revenues from sales of our products to OEM customers in 2008 constituted approximately 99% of our revenues. We expect the percentage of our revenues that is derived from sales of connectivity products to OEM customers to continue being approximately 99% as we continue to focus our efforts on our server adapter products, which are sold mostly to OEMs. As such, the loss of some of our OEM customers may have a material adverse effect on our operations and financial results and we cannot assure you that we will be able to enter into strategic relationships with OEMs in the future. Our other non-OEM products are marketed directly, through our U.S.-based subsidiary and through a network of independent distributors. Normal payment terms of our OEM customers are up to 90 days net. Substantially all of our international sales are denominated in U.S. dollars and may be subject to government controls and other risks, including, in some cases, export licenses, federal restrictions on export, currency fluctuations, political instability, trade restrictions and changes in tariffs and freight rates. We have experienced no material difficulties to date as a result of these factors.

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Our arrangements with OEMs (and distributors and resellers when applicable) are generally non-exclusive. We have generally experienced good relations with our customers and are not aware of any pending terminations other than with respect to products that newer technologies have eliminated the need for.

Our OEMs, distributors and resellers are not within our control. They are not obligated to purchase products from us and may represent other lines of products. A reduction in sales effort or discontinuance of sales of our products by our OEMs could lead to reduced sales and could materially adversely affect our operating results. Use of OEMs also entails the risk that OEMs will build up inventories in anticipation of a growth in sales. If such growth does not occur as anticipated, these OEMs may substantially decrease the amount of products ordered in subsequent quarters, discontinue product orders or even attempt to return unsold products. The loss or ineffectiveness of several of our OEMs at approximately the same time might have a material adverse effect on us.

**Research and Product Development**

Since we commenced operations, we have conducted extensive research, development and engineering activities. Our efforts emphasize the development of new products, cost reduction of current products, and the enhancement of existing products, generally in response to rapidly changing customer preferences, technologies and industry standards. During 2003-2008 we fully matured our Multi-Port line of Server Adapter products and further invested in the development of other products including development of cards incorporating bypass functionality, addition



of a full line of PCI-Express cards based on both chipsets we used for the PCI-X based cards, supplementing a line of PCI-Express bypass cards and adding a line of ROHS compliant cards for PCI-X cards (as PCI-Express cards were originally designed to be ROHS compliant). During 2006 we launched a new product line of high-performance encryption cards designed to improve the throughput of internet security appliances and network gateways. The products improve the performance of networking appliances by independently executing encryption tasks, thereby accelerating the encryption process and freeing the CPUs of such appliances for other activities. During 2007, we enhanced our offering of encryption cards by adding a line of encryption products which is based on a second chipset manufacturer, positioning ourselves again (just like with the networking adapters) as an independent supplier which is able to deliver such cards based on chipsets delivered by the leaders in this industry. In addition, during 2007, we developed a line of stand-alone bypass solutions which allow the use of our solutions even where the networking component of the solution is already present. Also, during 2007, we worked to develop a series of 10Gbps adapters, based both on Intel chips and on Broadcom chips. In 2008, we continued to focus our efforts on the 10Gbps series, and we currently have the following families of 10Gbps cards: 1. Our main family of 10Gbps cards consists of 10Gbps adapters with and without bypass, with both Intel and Broadcom controllers, including several interface options (such as XFP, CX4, SFP+ and 10GbaseT). 2. The family of redirector cards, which was launched during 2008, which integrates intelligent packet filtering, multi-port connectivity and automated bypass on a single networking card. Furthermore, during 2008, due to market demand we added two more stand-alone bypass units: 1. Entry level bypass switch 1/10Gbps, directed at power failure bypass. 2. High end 10Gbps intelligent bypass switch with self generating heartbeat and versatile monitoring and control options.

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We cannot assure you that any of our development efforts will result in commercially successful products, that such products will be released in a timely manner or that we will be able to respond effectively to technological changes or new product announcements by our competitors.

The markets for our products are characterized by rapidly changing technology and evolving industry standards. We believe that success will depend upon our ability to successfully market new networking and connectivity concepts and, to a lesser extent, upon our ability to enhance our existing products and to continue to introduce new products on a timely basis. Accordingly, we intend to make substantial investments in technology development. Notwithstanding these efforts, we cannot assure you that we will be successful in selecting, developing, manufacturing and marketing our technology or our enhanced and new products in a timely manner.

#### **Manufacturing and Suppliers**

Our manufacturing operations consist primarily of producing finished goods from components and sub-assemblies purchased from third parties. In addition, we perform testing and quality assurance procedures with respect to the components and sub-assemblies which are incorporated into our final products and the final products themselves.

We seek to monitor quality with respect to each stage of the production process including, but not limited to, the selection of component suppliers, warehouse procedures and final testing, packaging and shipping. We have been certified as complying with "ISO 9001:2000", which is a quality control standard used in our industry. We believe that our quality assurance procedures have been instrumental in achieving a high degree of reliability for our products. We intend to continue to maintain and improve the efficiency of such procedures. Although we generally use standard parts and components for our products, certain key components used in our products are currently available from only one source, and others are available from a limited number of sources. Components currently available from one source include proprietary Gigabit Ethernet chipsets and other components, including other semiconductor devices and transformers, as well as plastic and metal product housings. We believe that we maintain a sufficient inventory of these components to protect against delays in deliveries. There can be no assurance that we will not experience delays in the supply of critical components in the future or that we will have a sufficient inventory of critical components at such time to produce products at full capacity. If we do experience such delays and there is an insufficient inventory of critical components at that time, our operations and financial results would be adversely affected.

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We are generally required to fill orders for our products within one or two weeks after receipt of a firm purchase order. Consequently, we need to maintain inventory at levels that are in accordance with our forecasts and those of our customers. There can be no assurance that such forecasts will indeed materialize into firm purchase orders and consequently we cannot guarantee that the full volume of such inventory will be delivered against firm purchase orders and not remain unused.

## Competition

The data server adapters industry is highly competitive. We face competition from numerous companies, some of which are more established, benefit from greater market recognition and have greater financial, production and marketing resources than we do. We cannot guarantee that our present or contemplated products will continue to be distinguishable from those of our competitors or that the marketplace will find our products preferable to those of our competitors. Furthermore, there can be no assurance that competitive pressures will not result in price reductions that could materially adversely affect our business and financial condition and the results of our operations.

In the server networking industry for which we have developed our Multi-Port Gigabit-Ethernet Server Networking cards, our main competitor is Intel. In the bypass cards industry, our competition is not as significant. To the best of our knowledge, our only significant competitors in this industry are Interface Masters, Portwell and Adlink. Intel has also begun to offer bypass cards, primarily as a solution to an Intel-based appliance. There also may exist other local solutions which may compete with our products, including solutions which are not an embedded card but rather an external box.

## Intellectual Property Rights and Software Protection

Our success and ability to compete are dependent to a significant degree on our technology. We currently rely on a combination of non-disclosure agreements and technical measures, to establish and protect the technology we use in our products. These measures afford only limited protection, and accordingly, there can be no assurance that the steps we take will be adequate to prevent misappropriation of our technology or the independent development of similar technologies by others. Despite our efforts to protect our technology, unauthorized parties may attempt to copy aspects of our products and develop similar hardware or software or to obtain and use information that we regard as proprietary. In addition, there can be no assurance that one or more parties will not assert infringement claims against us. The cost of responding to claims could be significant, regardless of whether the claims are valid.

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## Governmental Regulation Affecting the Company

We are affected by the terms of research and development grants we have received from the Office of the Chief Scientist of Israel ( OCS ). Under the terms of Israeli Government participation, a royalty of 3% or up to 6% of the net sales of products developed from a project funded by the OCS must be paid, beginning with the commencement of sales of products developed with grant funds and ending when 100% or 150% of the grant is repaid. For projects approved after January 1, 1999, the amount of royalties payable is up to a dollar-linked amount equal to 100% of such grants plus interest at LIBOR. The terms of Israeli Government participation also impose significant restrictions on manufacturing outside Israel of products developed with government grants and the transfer to third parties of technologies developed through such projects is subject to approval of the OCS. There can be no assurance that such approval, if requested, will be granted on reasonable commercial terms.

In addition, we receive certain tax benefits and reduced tax rates from the Israeli government due to our status as an Approved Enterprise under the Law for the Encouragement of Capital Investments-1959, as amended. See Item 10. Additional Information Taxation. The entitlement to these benefits is conditional upon our fulfillment of the conditions stipulated by the law, regulations promulgated thereunder and the instruments of approval for the specific investments. In the event of failure to comply with these conditions, the benefits could be canceled and we would be required to refund the amount of the benefits, in whole or in part, with the addition of linkage differences and interest.

## Organizational Structure

We have one wholly owned subsidiary, which is incorporated in the United States, under the name Silicom Connectivity Solutions, Inc. Two of our founders, Messrs. Yehuda and Zohar Zisapel, are also founders, directors and principal shareholders of several other corporations. See Item 7. Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions .

## Property, Plant and Equipment

We do not own any real property, but we lease property at three locations. Our executive offices and research and development facilities are located in Kfar Sava, Israel. The original term of our lease with respect to such space expired on October 31, 1998 and was renewed for additional one-year periods through October 31, 2007. In November 2007, we signed a lease agreement extending the term of the lease for our Kfar Sava offices until December 31, 2008 and in December 2008, we extended the lease further until December 31, 2009. The facility is 665 square meters in size and we currently pay a monthly rent of approximately \$7,500.

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We conduct our manufacturing from a facility in Yokneam, Israel. In December 31, 2008, we did not renew our lease for the facility we were leasing in Yokneam since 2000, but instead signed a new lease and, as of January 2009, moved to a new facility in Yokneam. This facility is 900 square meters in size, and the monthly rent payments are approximately \$10,000. The lease is for a period of two years, ending in December 31, 2010, with an option to renew the lease for an additional period of three years.

Commencing in February 2004, we began to sub-lease office space in Paramus, New Jersey, from an affiliate. This sub-lease was in effect until January 31, 2006 and was renewed for additional one-year periods through January 31, 2010. Currently, the monthly rent payments for this space are approximately \$500. See Item 7 Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions.

We believe that our facilities in Israel and in the United States are suitable and adequate for our operations as currently conducted. In the event that additional facilities are required or we need to seek alternative rental properties, we believe that we could obtain such additional or alternative facilities at commercially reasonable prices.

**Item 4A. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS**

There are no unresolved staff comments.

**Item 5. OPERATING AND FINANCIAL REVIEW AND PROSPECTS**

**General**

Silicom was incorporated in Israel and commenced operations in 1987. We have traditionally been engaged in the design, manufacture, marketing and support of connectivity solutions for computers. In the years 2000 and 2001, we leveraged the IP developed in this area for use in the broadband internet access market. In late 2002, we leveraged our expertise and know-how in networking and operating systems to develop a line of high-end server networking cards. We made initial sales of these products to a number of customers during 2003 and recorded growing sales of these products throughout 2004-2007, and in 2008 we recorded sales of approximately \$25.6 million. We primarily sell our products through original equipment manufacturers and, to a lesser extent, through independent distributors (on a non-exclusive basis).

**Critical Accounting Policies**

The discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations are based upon our consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of our financial statements. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

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Critical accounting policies are defined as those that are reflective of significant judgments and uncertainties, and could potentially result in materially different results under different assumptions and conditions. We believe that our critical accounting policies are limited to those described below.

**Inventories** Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market. Cost is determined using the average-cost method. We write down obsolete or slow moving inventory to its market value.

**Marketable securities** We account for investments which we intend and are able to hold to maturity, that are classified as held-to-maturity investments as defined in SFAS No. 115, Accounting for Certain Investments in Debt and Equity Securities . A decline in the market value of any held-to-maturity security below cost, that is deemed to be other than temporary, results in a write down of the carrying amount to fair value. The impairment is charged to earnings and a new cost basis is established. To determine whether impairment is other than temporary, we consider whether there is an ability and intent to hold the investment until market price recovers and whether evidence indicating that the cost of the investment can be recovered outweighs evidence to the contrary. Evidence considered in this respect includes reasons for the impairment, the severity and duration of the impairment, changes in value subsequent to the end of the year, forecasted performance of the investee, and the general market condition in the geographic area or industry in which the investee operates.

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**Allowance for doubtful accounts** Trade receivables are recorded less the related allowance for doubtful accounts receivable. We consider accounts receivable to be doubtful when it is probable that we will be unable to collect all amounts, taking into account current information and events regarding our customers' ability to repay their obligations. The balance sheet allowance for doubtful debts is determined as a specific amount for those accounts the collection of which is uncertain. We perform our estimates regarding potential doubtful debts based on payment history and correspondence with our customers, and based on new information we receive about the customers' financial situation. As of December 31, 2008, the allowance for doubtful debts was \$20 thousand.

**Deferred Taxes** We account for income taxes under Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ( SFAS ) No. 109 Accounting for Income taxes (SFAS No. 109). Under SFAS No. 109, deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases, and operating loss and tax credit carry forwards. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date. Valuation allowances are established when necessary to reduce deferred taxes assets to the amount expected to be realized. Valuation allowances in respect of deferred taxes were recorded in respect of the following matters:

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- <sup>n</sup> Deferred tax assets that, as we believe, are more likely than not to be realized. In assessing the potential of realization of deferred tax assets, we consider projected future taxable income and tax planning strategies.
- <sup>n</sup> Carry forward tax losses As of December 31, 2008, our subsidiary had federal carry forward tax losses of approximately \$598 thousand to be realized through 2028 and New Jersey state carry forward tax losses of approximately \$460 thousand to be realized through 2014. There is no assurance that these carry forwards will be realized.
- <sup>n</sup> Taxes, which may apply upon the realization of investments in consolidated subsidiaries and affiliated companies currently there is no intention to realize such investments.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are classified as current or non-current items in accordance with the nature of the assets or liabilities to which they relate. When there are no underlying assets or liabilities the deferred tax assets and liabilities are classified in accordance with the period of expected reversal. Income tax expenses represent the tax payable for the period and the changes during the period in deferred tax assets and liabilities. As of December 31, 2008, the deferred tax assets were \$444 thousand.

**Accounting for uncertainty in income taxes** Beginning with the adoption of FASB Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes (FIN 48) as of January 1, 2007, the Company recognizes the effect of income tax positions only if those positions are more likely than not of being sustained. Recognized income tax positions are measured at the largest amount that is greater than 50% likely of being realized. Changes in recognition or measurement are reflected in the period in which the change in judgment occurs. Prior to the adoption of FIN 48, the Company recognized the effect of income tax positions only if such positions were probable of being sustained.

FIN 48 clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in an enterprise's financial statements in accordance with SFAS No. 109. This interpretation prescribes a minimum recognition threshold a tax position is required to meet before being recognized in the financial statements. FIN 48 also provides guidance on derecognition of tax positions, classification on the balance sheet, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure, and transition. FIN 48 requires significant judgment in determining what constitutes an individual tax position as well as assessing the outcome of each tax position.

The Company and its subsidiary adopted the provisions of FIN 48 as of January 1, 2007, and there was no material effect on the financial statements. As a result, the Company and its subsidiary did not record any cumulative effect related to adopting FIN 48.

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As of January 1, 2008 and for the twelve months ended December 31, 2008, the Company and its subsidiary did not have any unrecognized tax benefits. In addition, the Company and its subsidiary do not expect that the amount of unrecognized tax benefits will

change significantly within the next 12 months.

**Impairment or disposal of long lived assets** We account for long-lived assets in accordance with the provisions of SFAS No. 144, *Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets*. This Statement requires that long-lived assets be reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of an asset to future undiscounted net cash flows expected to be generated by the asset. If the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its estimated future cash flows, an impairment charge is recognized for the amount by which the carrying amount of the asset exceeds the fair value of the asset. Fair value is being determined using discounted cash flow models. Assets to be disposed would be separately presented in the balance sheet and reported at the lower of the carrying amount or fair value less costs to sell.

**Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation** Effective January 1, 2006, the Company adopted FASB Statement No. 123(R), *Share-Based Payment* (SFAS No. 123(R)). This statement replaces FASB Statement No. 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation* (SFAS No. 123) and supersedes Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees* (APB Opinion No. 25). SFAS No. 123(R) requires that all stock-based compensation be recognized as an expense in the financial statements and that such cost to be measured at the fair value of the award. This Statement was adopted using the modified prospective method of application, which requires the Company to recognize compensation cost on a prospective basis. Under this method, the Company recorded stock-based compensation expense for awards granted prior to, but not yet vested as of January 1, 2006, using the fair value amounts determined for pro-forma disclosures under SFAS No. 123. For stock-based awards granted prior to January 1, 2006 and vested after January 1, 2006, the Company recognizes compensation expense based on estimated grant date fair value using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. The share-based awards granted after January 1, 2008, include features that are not supported by the Black and Scholes valuation model, such as expiration date to occur if the closing price of the Shares falling below 50% of grant date Share price, therefore for share-based awards granted after January 1, 2008, the Company recognizes compensation expense based on estimated grant date fair value using the Monte Carlo option-pricing model.

#### **Recently Enacted Accounting Pronouncements Not Yet Adopted**

In December 2007, the FASB issued FASB Statement No. 141R, *Business Combinations* (Statement 141R) and FASB Statement No. 160, *Non-controlling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements – an amendment to ARB No. 51* (Statement 160). Statements 141R and 160 require most identifiable assets, liabilities, non-controlling interests, and goodwill acquired in a business combination to be recorded at full fair value and require non-controlling interests (previously referred to as minority interests) to be reported as a component of equity, which changes the accounting for transactions with non-controlling interest holders. Both Statements are effective for periods beginning on or after December 15, 2008, and earlier adoption is prohibited. Statement 141R will be applied to business combinations occurring after the effective date. Statement 160 will be applied prospectively to all non-controlling interests, including any that arose before the effective date. The Company believes adopting Statement 141R and Statement 160 will not have a material impact on its results of operations and financial position.

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In May 2008, the FASB issued FASB Statement No. 162, *The Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* (SFAS 162). SFAS 162 identifies the sources of accounting principles and the framework for selecting the principles used in the preparation of financial statements of non-governmental entities that are presented in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) in the United States (the GAAP hierarchy). The Company does not expect the adoption of SFAS 162 to have a material impact on its consolidated results of operations and financial position.

In June 2008, the FASB's Emerging Issues Task Force reached a consensus on EITF Issue No. 07-5, *Determining Whether an Instrument (or Embedded Feature) Is Indexed to an Entity's Own Stock*. This EITF Issue provides guidance on the determination of whether such instruments are classified in equity or as a derivative instrument. The Company will adopt the provisions of EITF 07-5 on January 1, 2009. The Company does not expect the adoption of EITF 07-5 to have a material impact on its consolidated results of operations and financial position.

#### **Operating Results**

You should read the following management's discussion and analysis of our financial condition and operating results in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and the related notes thereto included in this annual report. The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the relationship (in percentages) of items from our Consolidated Statement of Operations Data to our total sales:

**Year Ended December 31,**

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
<b>Sales</b>	100%	100%	100%
<b>Cost of sales</b>	61.0	60.1	60.3
<b>Gross profit</b>	39.0	39.9	39.7
<b>Research and development costs</b>	11.3	8.2	11.9
<b>Selling and marketing expenses</b>	6.8	5.7	8.2
<b>General and administrative expenses</b>	6.1	4.4	5.6
<b>Operating Income</b>	14.8	21.5	14.0
<b>Financial income, net</b>	1.0	3.5	4.7
<b>Income before income taxes</b>	15.8	25.0	18.7
<b>Income tax expenses (benefit)</b>	(0.3)	1.7	0.5
<b>Net Income</b>	16.1	23.3	18.2

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Sales in 2008 decreased by 4.6% to \$25,554 thousand compared to \$26,784 thousand in 2007, primarily due to the global downturn and the difficult market environment, and to a reduction in the orders of the Company's largest customer. Such reduction in orders is attributed to changes in the appliance configuration of the customer, which began offering the Company's copper BYPASS cards as an optional add-on rather than as a standard component.

Sales in 2007 increased by 66.2% to \$26,784 thousand compared to \$16,118 thousand in 2006, mainly due to Design Wins which matured during 2007 and due to additional Design Wins that were secured, all of which were related to our line of Server Adapters.

Gross profit in 2008 was \$10,149 thousand compared to \$10,690 thousand in 2007. Gross profit as a percentage of sales in 2008 was 39.7%, compared to 39.9% in 2007. Our gross profit is largely dependent on the mix of products we sell during a specific year. The slightly lower gross profit percentage in 2008 was primarily a result of such a change to the mix of sold products and the continued weakening of the US Dollar compared to the New Israeli Shekel.

Gross profit in 2007 was \$10,690 thousand compared to \$6,291 thousand in 2006. Gross profit as a percentage of sales in 2007 was 39.9%, compared to 39.0% in 2006. Our gross profit is largely dependent on the mix of products we sell during a specific year. The slightly higher gross profit percentage in 2007 was primarily a result of such a change to the mix of sold products.

Research and development expenses in 2008 increased by 38.0% to \$3,048 thousand compared to \$2,208 thousand in 2007. This increase was mainly attributed to a continued weakening of the US Dollar against the New Israeli Shekel (a significant portion of our Research and development expenses are incurred in New Israeli Shekels) and to our continued investment in new product development, enhancements to existing products and the development of new networking and connectivity technologies.

Research and development expenses in 2007 increased by 21.3% to \$2,208 thousand compared to \$1,820 thousand in 2006. This increase was mainly attributed to our continued investment in new product development, enhancements to existing products, and the development of new networking and connectivity technologies.

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Selling and marketing expenses in 2008 increased by 36.2% to \$2,093 thousand compared to \$1,537 thousand in 2007, mainly due to a continued weakening of the US Dollar against the New Israeli Shekel (a significant portion of our selling and marketing expenses are incurred in New Israeli Shekels) and to our continued investment in the promotion of our server networking products.

Selling and marketing expenses in 2007 increased by 39.1% to \$1,537 thousand compared to \$1,105 thousand in 2006, mainly due to our continued investment in the promotion of our server networking products.

General and administrative expenses in 2008 increased by 20.0% to \$1,427 thousand compared to \$1,189 thousand in 2007, primarily due to a continued weakening of the US Dollar against the New Israeli Shekel (a significant portion of our General and administrative expenses are incurred in New Israeli Shekels).

General and administrative expenses in 2007 increased by 21.3% to \$1,189 thousand compared to \$980 thousand in 2006, mainly due to the growth in our activity as demonstrated by the increase in our sales which amounted to 66.2%.

Financial income in 2008 increased by 24.3% to \$1,188 thousand compared to \$956 thousand in 2007. The increase was primarily a result of an increase in funds available for investments.

Financial income in 2007 increased by 472.5% to \$956 thousand compared to \$167 thousand in 2006. The increase was primarily a result of an increase in funds available for investments.

In 2008 we recorded current income tax expenses of \$438 thousand and deferred income tax benefit of \$314 thousand compared to current income tax expenses of \$424 thousand and deferred income tax expenses of \$8 thousand in 2007.

In 2007 we recorded current income tax expenses of \$424 thousand and deferred income tax expenses of \$8 thousand, compared to no current income tax expenses and deferred income tax benefit of \$46 thousand in 2006.

In 2008 we recorded net income of \$4,645 thousand compared to net income of \$6,280 thousand in 2007, a 26.0% decrease, despite comparable sales in the respective periods. This decrease was mainly due to the increase in our operational expenses as described above.

Net income for 2007 was \$6,280 thousand compared to a net income of \$2,599 thousand in 2006, mainly due to our higher sales in 2007.

#### **Impact of Inflation and Currency Fluctuations on Results of Operations, Liabilities and Assets**

Since the majority of our revenues are denominated and paid in U.S. dollars, we believe that inflation and fluctuations in the U.S. dollar exchange rate have no material effect on our revenue. Inflation in Israel and the Israeli currency as well as U.S. dollar exchange rate fluctuations, may however, have an effect on our expenses and, as a result, on our net income/loss. The cost of our Israeli operations, as expressed in U.S. dollars, is influenced by the extent to which any change in the rate of inflation in Israel is not offset (or is offset on a lagging basis) by a change in valuation of the NIS in relation to the U.S. dollar.

We do not presently engage in any hedging or other transactions intended to manage the risks relating to foreign currency exchange rate or interest rate fluctuations. However, we may in the future undertake such transactions, if management determines that it is necessary to offset such risks.

#### **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

As of December 31, 2008, we had working capital of \$29,174 thousand and our current ratio (current assets to current liabilities) was 7.16. Since inception, our operations have been primarily funded through capital contributions, research and development grants and cash flows from operations. Cash and cash equivalents as of December 31, 2008 increased by \$352 thousand to \$14,568 thousand compared with \$14,216 thousand as of December 31, 2007. Short-term marketable securities increased by \$4,910 thousand to \$8,426 thousand and long-term marketable securities increased by \$994 thousand. The increase of \$6,256 thousand in these three balance sheet items in 2008 was mainly due to the net cash provided by operating activities, and to the exercise of warrants.

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Trade receivables decreased to \$4,849 thousand as of December 31, 2008 from \$6,545 thousand as of December 31, 2007, mainly due to the decrease in sales in the fourth quarter of 2008, as compared to sales in the fourth quarter of 2007. Other receivables increased from \$338 thousand to \$353 thousand.

Trade payables decreased from \$2,997 thousand at the end of 2007 to \$2,681 thousand at the end of 2008, mainly due to a decrease in sales resulting in a decrease in the cost of goods sold. Other payables and accrued liabilities increased from \$1,715 thousand at the end of 2007 to \$2,054 thousand at the end of 2008, mainly due to an increase of income tax payables.

Cash provided by operating activities in 2008 amounted to \$5,756 thousand compared to \$3,668 thousand in 2007. Despite lower net income in 2008 compared to 2007, cash provided by operating activities in 2008 increased, which was primarily the result of a decrease in accounts receivables trade balances.

Inventories increased from \$4,078 thousand at the end of 2007 to \$5,269 thousand at the end of 2008. Our actual sales in Q4 of 2007 were higher than expected in the forecast for this quarter, thus resulting in a lower than planned inventory at the end of 2007. On the other hand, in Q4 of 2008 some of our customers postponed and/or cancelled a few of their purchase orders, thus resulting in an increased inventory at the end of 2008.

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Capital expenditures on property and equipment in 2008 were \$574 thousand compared with \$564 thousand in 2007, mainly due to the fact that in 2008 we increased investment in development and testing tools for our new product lines of server networking cards, and due to the upgrading of our IT systems.

In January 2006, we completed an offering and sale of 10,000 units in Israel, composed of 800,000 of our ordinary shares and 400,000 warrants, pursuant to a prospectus filed with the Israeli Securities Authority and TASE. The sale of units resulted in net proceeds of approximately \$5.6 million. As of January 31, 2008 (i.e. the expiration date of the warrants), 399,934 warrants were exercised, resulting in additional proceeds of approximately \$3.5 million in the aggregate. See Item 4. Information on the Company History and Development of the Company.

In May 2007, we conducted a private placement, pursuant to which we issued to certain accredited investors and qualified institutional purchasers 875,000 ordinary shares at a purchase price of \$20.50 per share and warrants to purchase up to 218,750 ordinary shares at an exercise price of \$28.25 per share. The warrants issued to the investors will expire in July 2010. Net proceeds from the private placement were approximately \$16.8 million, net of \$1.2 million of issuance costs. We issued to the placement agents warrants to purchase up to an aggregate of 10,937 ordinary shares on the same terms as the warrants issued to the investors. As of December 31, 2008, no warrants were exercised into shares related to this issuance.

We have cash and cash equivalents that we believe are sufficient for our present requirements.

### **Research and development, patents and licenses, etc.**

Because the market for our products is characterized by rapidly changing technology and evolving industry standards, our success depends upon our ability to select, develop, manufacture and market new and enhanced products in a timely manner to meet changing market needs. As such, we invest significant resources in research and new product development, enhancements to existing products, and the development of new networking and connectivity technologies, and we expect to continue to do so.

The Government of Israel encourages research and development projects oriented towards products for export or projects which will otherwise benefit the Israeli economy. As indicated below, in each of the three fiscal years from 1999 to 2001, we received grants from the OCS for the development of systems and products. We have received from the OCS approximately 30% of certain research and development expenditures for particular projects. Under the terms of Israeli Government participation, a royalty of 2% or up to 5% of the net sales of products developed from a project funded by the OCS must be paid, beginning with the commencement of sales of products developed with grant funds and ending when 100% or 150% of the grant is repaid. For projects approved after January 1, 1999, the amount of royalties payable is up to a dollar-linked amount equal to 100% of such grants plus interest at LIBOR. The terms of Israeli Government participation also place restrictions on the location of the manufacturing of products developed with government grants, which, in general, must be performed in Israel, and on the transfer to third parties of technologies developed through projects in which the government participates. See Item 10. Additional Information Taxation. We received approximately 20% of certain research and development expenditures for a particular project in 2003 and approximately 30% of a particular project in 2004. We did not have any new grant programs with the OCS in 2005-2008. In August 2005, we received approval for a \$54 thousand dollar grant from the Korea-Israel Industrial Research and Development Foundation, or Koril-RDF, in connection with the joint development of a certain product with a Korean company. Under the terms of this grant we are required to repay the amounts received at a rate of 2.5% per year of our gross sales of the product developed with the grant in each such year, until 100% of the grant (and any other sums



received from Koril-RDF) are repaid. The annual payment for every year following the first sale of the product will not exceed certain percentages of the amounts received from Koril-RDF. We cannot guarantee that any encouragement programs will be continued, or that we will continue to participate in them to the extent they are continued.

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The following table shows, for the periods indicated, our gross research and development expenditures, the portion of such expenditures which was funded by OCS and Koril-RDF, and the net cost to us of our research and development activities:

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>Gross research and development expenses</b>	\$ 1,596	\$ 1,561	\$ 1,820	\$ 2,208	\$ 3,048
<b>Portion funded by Chief Scientist</b>	\$ 145	\$ 44	-	-	-
<b>Portion funded by Korea-Israel Industrial Research and Development Foundation</b>	-	\$ 54	-	-	-
<b>Net research and development expenses</b>	\$ 1,451	\$ 1,463	\$ 1,820	\$ 2,208	\$ 3,048

We expect that we will continue to commit resources to research and development in the future. As of February 27, 2009, the Company employed 23 persons in research and development. In 2006, 2007 and 2008, our research and development expenses constituted approximately 11.3%, 8.2% and 11.9%, respectively, of our sales. For additional information concerning commitments to pay royalties on sales of products developed from projects funded by the OCS, see Note 11A to our financial statements included elsewhere in this annual report and see Item 10. Additional Information – Taxation.

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### Trend Information

In late 2002, we leveraged our expertise and know-how in networking and operating systems to develop a line of high-end server networking cards (Server Adapters). In today's network-based environment, there is a growing demand for server-based systems. The markets for such systems are almost continuously growing. Furthermore, the security market is growing due to an increase in demand for security appliances, most of which are server based, and the WAN optimization market is growing due to an increase in demand for better WAN connection between branch offices and headquarters. These two markets are now the main markets in which our server adapters provide added value. We began investing in marketing and sales of this line to potential markets and customers during 2003 and received initial purchase orders from a number of sources. We continued to invest in the marketing of these products during the course of 2004-2008, and the number of purchase orders for these products increased significantly during 2004-2007, while in 2008 there was a slight decrease in purchase orders as compared with 2007. The sales cycles in these markets are long, but once we establish a customer base, each such customer will represent an opportunity for sustained, long-term revenues. We expect that this product line will continue to be our principal line of business in the coming years, specifically with respect to the 10Gbps cards, higher port density cards and bypass cards. However, there is no assurance that we will continue to generate significant sales in this area.

### Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

On July 22, 2002, our Audit Committee and the Board of Directors approved an Indemnification Agreement with our directors and officers. Our shareholders approved the terms of this agreement in a General and Extraordinary Meeting held on January 7, 2004. In the March 2005 amendment to the Israeli Companies Law-1999, the instances in which a company may indemnify its officers and directors were broadened. In December 2007 each of our Audit Committee and Board of Directors approved a new form of Indemnification Agreement with our directors and officers so as to reflect this amendment. Our shareholders approved the terms of this new Indemnification Agreement in January 2008. The Agreement provides that the directors and officers will be exempt from liability in certain circumstances. The Agreement also provides for the indemnification by the Company for certain obligations and expenses imposed on the officer in connection with an act performed in his or her capacity as an officer of the Company. This right to indemnification is limited, and does not cover, among other things, a breach of an officer's

duty of loyalty, a willful breach of an officer's duty of care, or a reckless disregard for the circumstances or consequences of a breach of duty of care. The right to indemnification also does not cover acts that are taken intentionally to unlawfully realize personal gain. The maximum amount of our liability under these Indemnification Agreements is currently \$3,000,000.

### Tabular disclosure of contractual obligations

The following table shows our outstanding contractual obligations by category and by payments due as of December 31, 2008:

Contractual Obligations	Payments due by period				
	Total	Less than 1 year	1-3 years	3-5 years	More than 5 years
Operating Leases	\$ 819,000	\$ 479,000	\$ 340,000		
Purchase Obligations	\$ 2,101,000	\$ 2,101,000			
Total	\$ 2,920,000	\$ 2,580,000	\$ 340,000		

The Company's total outstanding contingencies in respect of royalty-bearing participations received or accrued, net of royalties paid or accrued before interest, amounted to approximately \$2,963 thousand as of December 31, 2008 (\$2,990 thousand as of December 31, 2007), of which \$2,782 thousand are attributable to sales of our legacy products and \$181 thousand are attributable to sales of our new line of products.

### Item 6. DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND EMPLOYEES

#### Directors and Senior Management

The following table and notes thereto set forth information regarding our officers, directors and senior management as of February 27, 2009.

Name	Age	Position with Company
Avi Eizenman	51	Active Chairman of the Board
Shaike Orbach	57	President, Chief Executive Officer, Director
Yehuda Zisapel	66	Director
Einat Domb-Har	41	External Director
Ilan Kalmanovich	42	External Director
David Hendel	47	Vice-President Research and Development
Eran Gilad	41	Chief Financial Officer

*Avi Eizenman* co-founded the Company in 1987 and has served as its President and as a Director, since its inception. Mr. Eizenman also served as Chief Executive Officer from the Company's inception until April 1, 2001, and on such date, he resigned from his position as Chief Executive Officer and was appointed Active Chairman of the Board of Directors. Mr. Eizenman served as head of the ASIC department at Scitex Ltd. in 1986. From 1979 until 1985, Mr. Eizenman held various positions, including project manager, ASIC specialist and engineer, with the Electronic Research & Development Department of the Israeli Ministry of Defense. Mr. Eizenman holds a B.Sc. degree, with honors, in Electrical Engineering from the Technion, and an M.B.A. from Tel Aviv University.

*Shaike Orbach* has been President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company since April 2001. In December 2001, Mr. Orbach was named a Director, replacing Zohar Zisapel, who resigned from the Board of Directors. Prior to that, for a period of four and a half years, Mr. Orbach was President and CEO of Opgal Ltd., a high-tech subsidiary of Israel's Rafael and El-Op corporations. Previously, he was General Manager of Edusoft, an Israeli company the shares of which were traded on the NASDAQ National Market (now, the NASDAQ Global Market), and Managing Director of Tecsys Ltd. He holds a B.Sc degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Technion.

**Yehuda Zisapel** is a co-founder of the Company. He has served as a Director since its inception and served as Chairman of the Board of Directors from 1999 until March 2001. Mr. Zisapel is also a founder and a director of Rad Data Communications Ltd. ( Rad ), Bynet Data Communications Ltd. ( Bynet ) and its subsidiaries and other companies in the Rad Group. The Company has certain dealings with members of the Rad Group (see Item 7. Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions ). In 1966 and 1968, Mr. Zisapel received a B.Sc. and an M.Sc. degree, respectively, in Electrical Engineering from the Technion. In 1975, Mr. Zisapel received an M.B.A. from Tel Aviv University.

**Einat Domb-Har** has served as Chief Financial Officer of Olista Ltd., a company providing unique solutions for the cellular industry, since June 2006. From April 2004 to April 2006 Ms. Domb-Har served as the Chief Financial Officer of Stage One Venture Capital, which focuses on seed investment in the telecom industry. From 2000 to 2004 Ms. Domb-Har served as a controller of Pitango Venture Capital, Israel's largest pool of four venture capital funds. From 1994 to 1999 Ms. Domb-Har served as a senior manager at Kost, Forer and Gabbay, CPA, a member of Ernst & Young International. Ms. Domb-Har is an Israeli Certified Public Accountant and holds a BA in Economics and Accounting from Tel Aviv University. She also holds an M.B.A. from the Israeli extension of Bradford University.

**Ilan Kalmanovich** Mr. Kalmanovich has managed Leader's Consulting & Management, a business consulting firm, since March 2006. Mr. Kalmanovich acted as an independent consultant from 2003 to February 2006 and as Vice-President of Fahn Kaneh Consulting from 2004 to February 2006. From 2001 to 2002, Mr. Kalmanovich served as the Vice-President of Igud Hashkaot Ve'yizum (A.S.I.) Ltd. of the Igud Bank Group. From 1996 to 2000 he served as a senior consultant at BDO Ziv Haft Consulting and Management Ltd. From 2003 to May 2004 Mr. Kalmanovich served as a director on the board of Satcom Systems Ltd. and previously served as a director on the board of Cukierman & Co. Investment House Ltd., and as an alternate director at Catalyst Investments L.P., the general partner of the Catalyst Fund L.P. venture capital fund. Mr. Kalmanovich holds a B.Sc degree (with honors) in Industrial Engineering from Ben-Gurion University and an M.B.A. from Tel Aviv University. He also serves as a court-certified mediator and holds a license for investment consulting from the Israeli Securities Authority.

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**David Hendel** has been Vice-President, Research and Development of the Company since 1995. From 1991 to 1995, he served as a Senior Hardware Engineer of the Company. Mr. Hendel previously served as an engineer in the Intelligence Corps of the Israeli Defense Forces. He holds a B.Sc. degree in Electrical Engineering from Ben-Gurion University.

**Eran Gilad** has been the Chief Financial Officer of the Company since May 2005. From 2002 to 2004 Mr. Gilad served as VP of Finance & Operation at Frontline PCB Solutions Ltd. From 2000 until 2002 Mr. Gilad held senior financial and operational positions at Lynx Photonic Networks Inc. From 1996 until 2000 Mr. Gilad held senior financial positions at Technomatix Technologies Ltd. He is a Certified Public Accountant in Israel and holds an M.A in Economics from Tel-Aviv University and a B.A in Accounting and Economics from Tel-Aviv University.

## Compensation

The aggregate direct remuneration paid to all persons as a group who served in the capacity of director or executive officer during the year ended December 31, 2008 was \$1,147,007. We do not pay cash compensation to Yehuda Zisapel for serving on our board of directors. We do pay cash compensation to Avi Eizenman who is an active Chairman of the Board, to Shaike Orbach, who is the President and Chief Executive Officer, and to Ms. Einat Domb-Har and Mr. Ilan Kalmanovich who are external directors and receive compensation in accordance with the regulations promulgated under the Israeli Companies Law-1999. All our officers work full time for us. Certain of the compensation previously paid to our directors was paid in the form of options under the Silicom Directors Share Incentive Option Plan (1994) and certain of such compensation is paid in the form of options under the Share Option Plan (2004) described below. The Directors Share Incentive Option Plan (1994) was adopted by the board of directors in August 1994, in order to grant options to members of the board of directors who served on the board of directors for at least three fiscal quarters. The Director Share Incentive Option Plan was administered by the board of directors, which designated the optionees, dates of grant and the exercise price of options. Under the Director Share Incentive Option Plan, 500,000 of our ordinary shares were reserved for issuance. The options granted under the Director Share Incentive Option Plan expire at the end of ten years from their date of grant and are non-assignable except by the laws of descent. The grantee is responsible for all personal tax consequences of the grant and the exercise thereof. We believe that we will bear no tax consequences in connection with such grant or exercise. The Director Share Incentive Option Plan was cancelled in July 2004 with respect to any share capital previously reserved and not yet allocated as well as any share capital that becomes unallocated from time to time as outstanding options expire or are forfeited. As of February 27, 2009, 110,000 options are outstanding under the Director Share Incentive Option Plan (1994), all of which were granted to Mr. Avi Eizenman (at an average exercise price of \$5.61 and at termination dates that range from April 2010 to August 2010).

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On October 24, 2000, the board of directors adopted the Silicom Ltd. US Share Option Plan (2000). This Plan is intended to constitute a means of providing additional incentive to officers, consultants and certain other present and future employees and directors of the Company and its subsidiaries. Pursuant to the Plan, the Company may grant both Incentive Stock Options (as such term is defined in Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended; ISOs) and Nonqualified Stock Options (NSOs), provided, however, that only our employees or employees of our subsidiaries can receive ISOs. The Plan is administered by the board of directors, which has full authority to grant options under the Plan. Under the terms of the Plan, up to a maximum of 200,000 of our ordinary shares are reserved for issuance, subject to certain adjustments. The exercise price of the options granted under the Plan shall be not less than 100 percent (or, in the case of a grant of ISOs to a holder of more than 10% of the Company's outstanding shares, 110 percent) of the fair market value (as defined in the Plan) of the ordinary shares subject to the option on the date the option is granted. The vesting period of the options is subject to the discretion of the Board. The term of ISOs shall not exceed 10 years from the date on which they are granted (or 5 years, in the case of optionees who hold more than 10% of our outstanding shares). In total, as of February 27, 2009, we have granted 22,600 options pursuant to the US Share Option Plan (2000) to employees of our US subsidiary Silicom Connectivity Solutions, Inc., of which 11,300 were returned to the Company due to certain employees who left their positions not exercising their options and 2,500 expired without exercise due to the expiration of their term.

On December 30, 2004, our shareholders adopted our Share Option Plan (2004). Under the original terms of the Share Option Plan (2004) up to a maximum of 282,750 of our ordinary shares are reserved for issuance, subject to certain adjustments, upon the exercise of options granted to employees, directors, officers, consultants and service providers. In December 2007, the Board of Directors increased the number of our ordinary shares available for issuance under the Share Option Plan (2004) by 300,000. The Share Option Plan (2004) is administered by the board of directors, which designates the optionees, dates of grant, vesting periods and the exercise price of options. The options are non-assignable except by the laws of descent. Certain tax advantages apply to certain of our directors, officers and employees with respect to options granted to them under the Share Option Plan (2004). As of February 27, 2009, we have granted a total of 653,500 options under the Share Option Plan (2004), of which (i) 110,000 options (30,000 at an exercise price of \$2.53 and at a termination date of December 30, 2014, 40,000 expired in July 2008 and 40,000 at an exercise price of \$3.82 and at a termination date of the earlier to occur of: (a) October 15, 2016; and (b) the closing price of our shares falling below \$1.91) were granted to Mr. Avi Eizenman, (ii) 30,000 options (at an exercise price of \$2.53 and at a termination date of December 30, 2014) were granted to Mr. Yehuda Zisapel, (iii) 110,000 options (30,000 at an exercise price of \$2.53 and at a termination date of December 30, 2014, 40,000 expired in July 2008 and 40,000 at an exercise price of \$3.82 and at a termination date of the earlier to occur of: (a) October 15, 2016; and (b) the closing price of our shares falling below \$1.91) were granted to Mr. Shaikhe Orbach, (iv) 30,000 options (at an exercise price of \$2.53 and at a termination date of December 30, 2014) were granted to Ms. Einat Domb-Har and (v) 30,000 options (at an exercise price of \$2.53 and at a termination date of December 30, 2014) were granted to Mr. Ilan Kalmanovich. 17,000 of the options granted under the Share Option Plan (2004) were returned to the company due to certain employees who left their positions not exercising their options and 197,500 of the options granted under the Share Option Plan (2004) expired without exercise due to the expiration of their term.

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In addition to the Plans described above, the oldest of the Company's share option plans was adopted in December 1993, and amended in 1997. Pursuant to this plan, 300,000 ordinary shares were reserved for issuance upon the exercise of options granted to employees and consultants of the Company. This reserve was increased by the board of directors to 500,000. The Share Option Plan was administered by the board of directors, which designated the optionees, dates of grant, vesting periods and the exercise price of options. The options granted under this plan expire after 10 years from their date of grant and are non-assignable except by the laws of descent. The grantee is responsible for all personal tax consequences of the grant and the exercise thereof. The 1993 share option plan was cancelled in July 2004 with respect to any share capital previously reserved and not yet allocated as well as any share capital that becomes unallocated from time to time as outstanding options expire or are forfeited.

In December 2007 our Audit Committee and Board of Directors approved severance arrangements for each of Mr. Avi Eizenman (our Active Chairman of the Board of Directors) and Mr. Shaikhe Orbach (our President and Chief Executive Officer), which provide for extended notice provisions and severance payments in the event of termination. The arrangements were approved by our shareholders in January 2008.

**Board Practices**

Each of Yehuda Zisapel, Avi Eizenman and Shaikhe Orbach was elected to the board of directors most recently on April 23, 2008 to serve until the next Annual Shareholders Meeting. Messrs. Yehuda Zisapel and Avi Eizenman are both Founders of the Company, and have served as Directors since our inception in 1987. Our external directors Ms. Einat Domb-Har and Mr. Ilan Kalmanovich were elected to the board of directors on June 30, 2004 to hold office as external directors for a period of three years in accordance with Section 245(a) of the Companies Law 1999. On September 23, 2007, the appointments of each of Ms. Einat Domb-Har and Mr. Ilan Kalmanovich as external directors were extended for additional three-year terms. None of the members of the board of directors is entitled to receive any severance or similar benefits upon termination of his or her service with the board of directors, except for Avi Eizenman, who also functions as the active Chairman of the board and Shaikhe Orbach, who also functions as President and Chief Executive Officer (See Item 6. Directors and Senior Management Compensation above).

## Board of Directors

Our Articles of Association provide for a board of directors of not less than two nor more than eight members. Each director (except external directors) is elected to serve until the next annual general meeting of shareholders and until his or her successor has been elected. Officers serve at the discretion of the board of directors. The Articles of Association of the Company provide that any director may, subject to the provisions of the Israeli Companies Law-1999 and the approval by the Board of Directors, appoint another person to serve as a substitute director and may cancel such appointment. Under the Israeli Companies Law-1999, a person who is already serving as a director will not be permitted to act as a substitute director. Additionally, the Israeli Companies Law-1999 prohibits a person from serving as a substitute director for more than one director. Appointment of a substitute director for a member of a board committee is only permitted if the substitute is a member of the board of directors and does not already serve as a member of such committee. If the committee member being substituted is an external director, the substitute may only be another external director who possesses the same expertise as the external director being substituted. The term of appointment of a substitute director may be for one meeting of the board of directors or for a specified period or until notice is given of the cancellation of the appointment. To our knowledge, no director currently intends to appoint any other person as a substitute director, except if the director is unable to attend a meeting of the board of directors.

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## External Directors; Audit Committee

Under the Israeli Companies Law-1999, companies registered under the laws of Israel the shares of which have been offered to the public in or outside of Israel are required to appoint no less than two external directors. No person may be appointed as an external director if such person or the person's relative, partner, employer or any entity under the person's control, has or had, on or within the two years preceding the date of the person's appointment to serve as external director, any affiliation with the company or any entity controlling, controlled by or under common control with the company. The term "affiliation" includes:

an employment relationship;

a business or professional relationship maintained on a regular basis;

control; and

service as an office holder.

A person shall be qualified to serve as an external director only if he or she possesses expertise in finance and accounting or professional qualifications. At least one external director must possess expertise in finance and accounting.

A director can satisfy the requirements of having expertise in finance and accounting if due to his or her education, experience and qualifications he or she has acquired expertise and understanding in business and accounting matters and financial statements, in a manner that allows him or her to understand, in depth, the company's financial statements and to spur a discussion regarding the manner in which the financial data is presented.

A public company's board of directors must evaluate the proposed external director's expertise in finance and accounting, by considering, among other things, such candidate's education, experience and knowledge in the following: (i) accounting and auditing issues typical to the field in which the company operates and to companies of a size and complexity similar to such company; (ii) the company's independent public accountant's duties and obligations; (iii) preparation of the company's consolidated financial statements and their approval in accordance with the Companies Law and the Israeli Securities Law 1961.

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A director is deemed to be professionally qualified if he or she meets any of the following criteria: (i) has an academic degree in any of the following professions: economics, business administration, accounting, law or public administration; (ii) has a different academic degree or has completed higher education in a field that is the company's main field of operations, or a field relevant to his or her position; or (iii) has at least five years experience in any two of the following: (A) a senior position in the business management of a corporation with a significant extent of business, (B) a senior public position or a senior position in public service, or (C) a senior position in the company's main field of operations. As with a candidate's expertise in finance and accounting, the board of directors here too must evaluate the proposed external director's professional

qualification in accordance with the criteria set forth above.

The declaration required by law to be signed by a candidate to serve as an external director must include a statement by such candidate concerning his or her education and experience, if relevant, in order that the board of directors may properly evaluate whether such candidate meets the requirements of having expertise in finance and accounting or being professionally qualified as set forth in the regulations. Additionally, the candidate should submit documents and certificates that support the statements set forth in the declaration.

No person may serve as an external director if the person's position or other business activities create, or may create, a conflict of interest with the person's responsibilities as an external director or may otherwise interfere with the person's ability to serve as an external director. If, at the time external directors are to be appointed, all current members of the board of directors are of the same gender, then at least one external director must be of the other gender.

External directors are to be elected by a majority vote at a shareholders' meeting, provided that either:

the majority of shares voted at the meeting, including at least one-third of the shares held by non-controlling shareholders voted at the meeting, vote in favor of election of the director; or

the total number of shares held by non-controlling shareholders voted against the election of the director does not exceed one percent of the aggregate voting rights in the company.

The initial term of an external director is three years and may be extended for additional terms of three years. External directors may be removed only by the same percentage of shareholders as is required for their election, or by a court, and then only if the external directors cease to meet the statutory qualifications for their appointment, violate their duty of loyalty to the company or are found by a court to be unable to perform their duties on a full time basis. External directors may also be removed by an Israeli court if they are found guilty of bribery, fraud, administrative offenses in a company or use of inside information. Each committee of a company's board of directors must include at least one external director.

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An external director is entitled to compensation as provided in regulations adopted under the Israeli Companies Law-1999 and is otherwise prohibited from receiving any other compensation, directly or indirectly, in connection with service provided as an external director. Ms. Einat Domb-Har and Mr. Ilan Kalmanovich were elected to the board of directors as external directors on June 30, 2004 and were subsequently re-elected on September 23, 2007.

#### **Audit Committee**

The Israeli Companies Law-1999 requires public companies to appoint an audit committee. The responsibilities of the audit committee include identifying irregularities in the management of our business and approving related party transactions as required by law. An audit committee must consist of at least three directors, including all the external directors of the company. The chairman of the board of directors, any director employed by or otherwise providing services to the company, and a controlling shareholder or any relative of a controlling shareholder, may not be a member of the audit committee. Currently, Ms. Einat Domb-Har, Mr. Ilan Kalmanovich and Mr. Yehuda Zisapel serve as members of our audit committee.

#### **Internal Auditor**

Under the Israeli Companies Law-1999, the board of directors must appoint an internal auditor, nominated by the audit committee. The role of the internal auditor is to examine, among other matters, whether our actions comply with the law and orderly business procedure. Under the Israeli Companies Law-1999, the internal auditor may be an employee of the company but not an office holder (as defined in Item 10 below), or an affiliate, or a relative of an office holder or affiliate, and he or she may not be our independent accountant or its representative. Our board of directors appointed Fahn Kaneh Control Management Ltd. to be our internal auditor on April 26, 2005, according to the recommendation of the audit committee.

#### **Employees**

The number of employees over the last three financial years is set forth in the table below.

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As of December 31	2006	2007	2008
Total Employees	55	67	74
Marketing, Sales, Customer Services	6	9	11
Research & Development	21	22	23
Manufacturing	22	28	32
Corporate Operations and Administration	6	8	8

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As of February 27, 2009, we had 73 employees, including 10 in marketing, sales and customer services, 23 in research and development, 32 in manufacturing, and 8 in corporate operations and administration. All such employees, except for 1 employee in the United States, are based in Israel. We consider our relations with our employees excellent and have never experienced a labor dispute, strike or work stoppage. None of our employees is represented by a labor union. We do not employ a significant number of temporary employees, but we do use temporary employees from time to time, as necessary.

Certain provisions of the collective bargaining agreements between the Histadrut (General Federation of Labor in Israel) and the Coordination Bureau of Economic Organizations including the Industrialists Associations are applicable to our Israeli employees by order of the Israeli Ministry of Labor. The laws principally concern the length of the work day, contributions to a pension fund, recuperation pay, travel expenses payment and other conditions of employment. We generally provide our employees with benefits and working conditions beyond the required minimums.

Israeli law generally requires severance pay, which may be funded by managers insurance and/or a pension fund described below, upon the retirement or death of an employee or termination of employment without cause (as defined in the law). The payments to the managers insurance and/or pension fund in respect of severance pay amount to approximately 8.33% of an employee's wages, in the aggregate. Furthermore, Israeli employees and employers are required to pay predetermined sums to the National Insurance Institute, which is similar to the United States Social Security Administration. Such amounts also include payments for national health insurance. The payments to the National Insurance Institute are equal to approximately 16% of an employee's wages, of which the employee contributes approximately 62.5% and the employer contributes approximately 37.5%.

A general practice followed by the Company, is the contribution of funds on behalf of most of its employees either to a fund known as managers insurance or to a pension fund, or to a combination of both. Such practice was further reinforced by the Company in July 1, 2008, when the Company entered into agreements with a majority of its employees in order to implement Section 14 to the Severance Pay Law, according to which the payment of monthly deposits by the Company into managers insurance and/or pension fund are in respect of severance obligation to such employees. See Note 10 of our consolidated financial statements. These funds provide a combination of savings plan, insurance and severance pay benefits to the employee, giving the employee a lump sum payment upon retirement and securing the severance pay or part of it, if legally entitled, upon termination of employment. To the funds, each employee contributes an aggregate amount equal to between 5% and 5.5% of his base salary, and we contribute, in the aggregate, including the 8.33% abovementioned which are contributed as severance pay, between 13.3% and 15.8% of the employee's base salary.

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### Share Ownership

The following table sets forth, as of February 27, 2009, the number of Shares owned by officers, directors and senior management of the Company:

Name and Address	Number of Shares and Options Owned <sup>1</sup>	Percent of Outstanding Shares
Yehuda Zisapel <sup>2</sup>	455,940	6.80%
Avi Eizenmann	248,315	3.63%
Shaika Orbach	*	*

Name and Address	Number of Shares and Options Owned <sup>1</sup>	Percent of Outstanding Shares
Einat Domb Har	*	*
Ilan Kalmanovich	*	*
David Hendel	*	*
Eran Gilad	*	*
All directors and officers as a group	709,255	10.35%

\* Denotes ownership of less than 1% of the outstanding shares.

See also Item 6. Directors and Senior Management Compensation.

## Item 7. MAJOR SHAREHOLDERS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

### Major Shareholders

The shareholders of the Company who beneficially own over 5% or more of each class of shares, as well as the number of shares owned and the percentage of outstanding shares owned by each, and additional information, is set forth below. The voting rights of our major shareholders do not differ from the voting rights of other holders of our ordinary shares.

<sup>1</sup> The table above includes the number of shares and options that are exercisable within 60 days of February 27, 2009. Ordinary shares subject to these options are deemed beneficially owned for the purpose of computing the ownership percentage of the person or group holding these options, but are not deemed outstanding for purposes of computing the ownership percentage of any other person. To our knowledge, the persons and entities named in the table have sole voting and dispositive power with respect to all shares shown as beneficially owned by them.

<sup>2</sup> Based on Schedule 13G/A filed on February 7, 2008

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Name of Shareholder	Number of Shares and Options Owned <sup>3</sup>	Percentage of Outstanding Shares	Any Significant Change in Past 3 Years
Yehuda Zisapel <sup>4</sup>	455,940	6.80%	(371,646)
Zohar Zisapel <sup>5</sup>	1,511,722	22.53%	837,999

As of February 27, 2009, there were approximately 16 record holders of ordinary shares, including approximately 10 record holders in the United States. Collectively, these 16 record holders held approximately 23% of the outstanding ordinary shares.

### Related Party Transactions

Messrs. Yehuda and Zohar Zisapel are brothers and are our founders. Mr. Yehuda Zisapel currently serves as a Director on our board of directors. Messrs. Yehuda and Zohar Zisapel are also founders, directors and principal shareholders of several other corporations within the Rad Group, as described in Item 6. Directors, Senior Management and Employees.

There are other members of the Rad Group that are actively engaged in designing, manufacturing, marketing and supporting data communications products, none of which are currently the same as our products. Certain products of members of the Rad Group are complementary to, and may be used in connection with, our products. We and other members of the Rad Group also market certain of our products through the same distribution channels. Such products may, to a limited extent, compete with one another for the distributors' time and efforts. Commencing in February 2004, we began to sub-lease space in Paramus, New Jersey, from Radcom Equipmet, Inc., an affiliated



company. This sub-lease was in effect until January 31, 2006 and was renewed for additional one-year periods through January 31, 2010. Currently, the monthly rent payments for this space are approximately \$500.

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<sup>3</sup> The table above includes the number of shares and options that are exercisable within 60 days of February 27, 2009. Ordinary shares subject to these options are deemed beneficially owned for the purpose of computing the ownership percentage of the person or group holding these options, but are not deemed outstanding for purposes of computing the ownership percentage of any other person. To our knowledge, the persons and entities named in the table have sole voting and dispositive power with respect to all shares shown as beneficially owned by them.

<sup>4</sup> Based on Schedule 13G/A filed on February 7, 2008

<sup>5</sup> Based on Schedule 13D/A filed on March 5, 2009

Finally, the Rad Group provides us with certain personnel and other services, and is reimbursed by us for the costs of providing such services. We believe that the terms of the transactions in which we have engaged and are currently engaged with other members of the Rad Group are generally no less favorable to us than terms which might be available to us from unaffiliated third parties. In January 2006 our board of directors approved a resolution under which sales to, or purchases from any members of the Rad Group must meet certain criteria or be specifically approved by the audit committee, board of directors and shareholders, as applicable in accordance with Israeli law. These criteria include a stipulation that the transactions between us and members of the Rad Group relate to standard equipment, services and products purchased or sold by us and the Rad Group, as applicable and that such transactions occur within our ordinary course of business. The resolution of our board of directors also states that transactions with members of the Rad Group must be entered into at least on market terms and at a value lower than 0.5% of our annual turnover per transaction and not more than 1% of our annual turnover in the aggregate for all such transactions in a financial year. All future related party transactions and arrangements (or modifications of existing ones) with members of the Rad Group, transactions in which office holders of the Company have a personal interest, or transactions which raise issues of such office holders' fiduciary duties, may require audit committee, board of directors and shareholder approval under the Israeli Companies Law-1999.

In addition to being a founder, director and principal shareholder of each member of the Rad Group, Yehuda Zisapel is the founder and principal shareholder of Bynet and its subsidiaries. Bynet acts as a distributor in Israel for us and for other members of the Rad Group and also acts as a distributor in Israel for numerous unaffiliated manufacturers of data communications and other equipment. We believe that the terms of our relationship with Bynet are generally no less favorable to us than terms which might be available to us from unaffiliated third parties.

Except as indicated above, we do not directly currently compete with other members of the Rad Group and do not currently contemplate engaging in competition with any other member of the Rad Group in the future. However, opportunities to develop, manufacture or sell new products (or otherwise enter new fields) may arise in the future, which opportunities might be pursued by us or by one or more other members of the Rad Group to the exclusion of (or in competition with) other members of the Rad Group (including us). In the event that any such opportunity arises, the directors then in office will determine whether or not we should seek to pursue it. Any such determination will be based upon such factors as the directors then deem relevant. However, in making any such determination, the directors will be bound by their fiduciary duties to the Company (and to any other corporation or other person to whom they then owe a fiduciary duty).

On July 22, 2002, our audit committee and the Board of Directors approved an Indemnification Agreement with our directors and officers. Our shareholders approved the terms of this agreement in a General and Extraordinary Meeting held on January 7, 2004. In the March 2005 amendment to the Israeli Companies Law-1999, the instances in which a company may indemnify its officers and directors were broadened. In December 2007 each of our Audit Committee and Board of Directors approved a new form of Indemnification Agreement with our directors and officers so as to reflect this amendment. Our shareholders approved the terms of this new Indemnification Agreement in January 2008. The Agreement provides that our directors and officers will be exempt from liability in certain circumstances. The Agreement also provides for the indemnification by the Company for certain obligations and expenses imposed on the officer in connection with act performed in his or her capacity as an officer of the Company. This right to indemnification is limited, and does not cover, among other things, a breach of an officer's duty of loyalty, a willful breach of an officer's duty of care, or a reckless disregard for the circumstances or consequences of a breach of a duty of care. The right to indemnification also does not cover acts that are taken intentionally to unlawfully realize personal gain. The maximum amount of our liability under these Indemnification Agreements is currently \$3,000,000.

We have maintained liability insurance for our directors and officers. On September 23, 2007 our shareholders approved the procurement of a policy, which provides for coverage of up to \$4,000,000. All of our directors are parties to our Indemnification Agreements and are covered by our directors and officers insurance policy.

See also Item 6. Directors and Senior Management Compensation.

## **Item 8. FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Our consolidated financial statements and other financial information are included herein on pages F-1 through F-35.

### **Legal Proceedings**

We are not a party to any material litigation and we are not aware of any pending or threatened litigation that would have a material adverse effect on us or our business.

## **Item 9. THE OFFER AND LISTING**

### **Markets and Share Price History**

The primary trading market for our ordinary shares is the NASDAQ Global Market (previously NASDAQ National Market), where our shares have been listed and traded under the symbol SILC (previously SILCF) since February 11, 2008. Prior thereto, our shares were listed and traded on the NASDAQ Capital Market (previously known as the NASDAQ Small-Cap).

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The table below sets forth the high and low reported sales prices in dollars of our ordinary shares, as reported by NASDAQ during the indicated periods:

<b>PERIOD</b>	<b>HIGH</b>	<b>LOW</b>
<b>LAST 6 CALENDAR MONTHS</b>		
February 2009	6.44	6.29
January 2009	6.50	4.11
December 2008	5.66	4.07
November 2008	5.76	4.75
October 2008	5.60	2.87
September 2008	6.74	4.61
<b>FINANCIAL QUARTERS DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS</b>		
Fourth Quarter 2008	5.76	2.87
Third Quarter 2008	8.25	4.61
Second Quarter 2008	14.65	6.55
First Quarter 2008	16.75	9.28
Fourth Quarter 2007	27.23	11.95
Third Quarter 2007	28.24	17.10
Second Quarter 2007	26.74	16.42
First Quarter 2007	17.88	8.40
<b>FIVE MOST RECENT FULL FINANCIAL YEARS</b>		
2008	16.75	2.87
2007	28.24	8.40
2006	12.46	3.75
2005	9.39	2.34
2004	3.21	1.67

On December 27, 2005, our shares commenced trading on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange in Israel under the symbol SILC (in Hebrew letters). The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the high and low reported sales prices, in NIS, of the ordinary shares on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange:

PERIOD	HIGH	LOW
<b>LAST SIX CALENDAR MONTHS</b>		
February 2009	25.70	20.22
January 2009	25.12	16.20
December 2008	28.50	14.55
November 2008	21.55	18.50
October 2008	19.89	13.05
September 2008	24.23	17.00
<b>FINANCIAL QUARTERS DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS</b>		
Fourth Quarter 2008	28.50	13.05
Third Quarter 2008	28.75	17.00
Second Quarter 2008	53.40	21.88
First Quarter 2008	59.80	34.00
Fourth Quarter 2007	108.90	48.10
Third Quarter 2007	111.70	75.09
Second Quarter 2007	104.90	68.25
First Quarter 2007	74.94	36.31
<b>FIVE MOST RECENT FULL FINANCIAL YEARS</b>		
2008	59.80	13.05
2007	111.70	36.31
2006	56.59	20.16
2005	41.25	39.99
2004	-	-

## **Item 10. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **Memorandum and Articles of Association**

#### ***Articles of Association***

Our shareholders approved our Amended and Restated Articles of Association (Articles) on January 24, 2008. The objective stated in the Articles is to carry on any business and perform any act which is not prohibited by law.

We have currently outstanding only one class of shares, our Ordinary Shares, having a nominal value of NIS 0.01 per share. Holders of Ordinary Shares have one vote per share, and are entitled to participate equally in the payment of dividends and share distributions and, in the event of a liquidation of the Company, in the distribution of assets after satisfaction of liabilities to creditors. No preferred shares are currently authorized.

Our Articles require that we hold our annual general meeting of shareholders each year no later than 15 months from the last annual meeting, at a time and place, either within or without the State of Israel, determined by the board of directors, upon 21 days prior notice to our shareholders or 35 days prior notice to the extent required under the regulations to the Israeli Companies Law-1999. In general, no business may be commenced at a general meeting until a quorum of two or more shareholders holding at least 33 1/3% of the voting rights is present in person or by proxy. Shareholders may vote in person or by proxy.

A simple majority is required to amend the articles of association of a company.

Pursuant to the Israeli Companies Law-1999, resolutions regarding the following matters must be passed at a general meeting of shareholders:

appointment or termination of our auditors;

appointment and dismissal of directors;

approval of interested party acts and transactions requiring general meeting approval as provided in sections 255 and 268 to 275 of the Israeli Companies Law-1999;

a merger as provided in section 320(a) of the Israeli Companies Law-1999;

the exercise of the powers of the board of directors, if the board of directors is unable to exercise its powers and the exercise of any of its powers is vital for our proper management, as provided in section 52(a) of the Israeli Companies Law-1999.

An extraordinary general meeting may be convened by demand of two directors or by written request of one or more shareholders holding at least 5% of our issued share capital and 1% of the voting rights or one or more shareholders holding at least 5% of the voting rights. Shareholders requesting a special meeting must include in their request all relevant information, including the reason that such subject is proposed to be brought before the special meeting.

#### ***The Israeli Companies Law-1999***

We are subject to the provisions of the Israeli Companies Law-1999, which became effective on February 1, 2000. The Israeli Companies Law-1999 codifies the fiduciary duties that office holders, including directors and executive officers, owe to a company. An office holder, as defined in the Israeli Companies Law-1999, is a director, general manager, chief business manager, deputy general manager, vice general manager, executive Vice-President, Vice-President, another manager directly subordinate to the managing director or any other person assuming the responsibilities of any of the foregoing positions without regard to such person's title. Each person listed in the table in Item 6. Directors, Senior Management and Employees above is an office holder.

The Israeli Companies Law-1999 requires that an office holder of a company promptly disclose, no later than the first board meeting in which such transaction is discussed, any personal interest that he or she may have and all related material information known to him or her, in connection with any existing or proposed transaction by the company. In addition, if the transaction is an extraordinary transaction, the office holder must also disclose any personal interest held by the office holder's relative, or by any corporation in which the office holder is a 5% or greater shareholder, holder of 5% or more of the voting power, director or general manager or in which he or she has the right to appoint at least one director or the general manager. An extraordinary transaction is defined as a transaction not in the ordinary course of business, not on market terms, or that is likely to have a material impact on the company's profitability, assets or liabilities.

In the case of a transaction that is not an extraordinary transaction, after the office holder complies with the above disclosure requirement, only board approval is required unless the articles of association of the company provide otherwise. The transaction must not be adverse to the company's interests. If the transaction is an extraordinary transaction, then, in addition to any approval required by the articles of association, it must also be approved by the audit committee and by the board of directors, and, under specified circumstances, by a meeting of the shareholders, as well.

Subject to certain exceptions provided for in the regulations to the Israeli Companies Law-1999, agreements regarding directors' terms of compensation require the approval of the audit committee, board of directors and the shareholders of the company. In all matters in which a director has a personal interest, including matters of his or her terms of compensation, he or she shall not be permitted to vote on the matter or be present in the meeting in which the matter is considered. However, if a majority of the audit committee or of the board of directors has a personal interest in the matter then:

all of the directors are permitted to vote on the matter and attend the meeting in which the matter is considered; and  
the matter requires approval of the shareholders at a general meeting.

According to the Israeli Companies Law-1999, the disclosure requirements discussed above also apply to a controlling shareholder of a public company. Such requirements also apply to certain shareholders of a public company, with respect to private placements that will increase their relative holdings in the company. The term "controlling shareholder" is defined as a shareholder who has the ability to direct the activities of a company, other than if this power derives solely from the shareholder's position on the board of directors or any other position with the company, and the definition for these purposes also includes shareholders that hold 25% or more of the voting rights if no other shareholder owns more than 50% of the voting rights in the company. In general, extraordinary transactions with a controlling shareholder or in which a controlling shareholder has a personal interest, and agreements relating to employment and compensation terms of a controlling shareholder, require the approval of the audit committee, the board of directors and the shareholders of the company. The shareholder approval must either include at least one-third of the shares held by disinterested shareholders who actively participate in the voting process (without taking abstaining votes into account), or, alternatively, the total shareholdings of the disinterested shareholders who vote against the transaction must not represent more than one percent of the voting rights in the company.

Private placements in a public company require approval by a company's board of directors and shareholders in the following cases:

A private placement that meets all of the following conditions:

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The private placement will increase the relative holdings of a shareholder that holds five percent or more of the company's outstanding share capital, assuming the exercise of all of the securities convertible into shares held by that person, or that will cause any person to become, as a result of the issuance, a holder of more than five percent of the company's outstanding share capital.

20 percent or more of the voting rights in the company prior to such issuance are being offered.

All or part of the consideration for the offering is not cash or registered securities, or the private placement is not being offered at market terms.

A private placement which results in anyone becoming a controlling shareholder of the public company.

In addition, under the Companies Law 1999, certain transactions or a series of transactions are considered to be one private placement.

Any placement of securities that does not fit the above description may be issued at the discretion of the board of directors.

Under the Israeli Companies Law-1999, a shareholder has a duty to act in good faith towards the company and other shareholders when exercising his or her rights and refrain from abusing his power in the company, including, among other things, voting in the general meeting of shareholders on the following matters:

any amendment to the articles of association;

an increase of the company's authorized share capital;

a merger; or

approval of interested party acts and transactions that require general meeting approval as provided in sections 255 and 268 to 275 of the Israeli Companies Law-1999.

In addition, any controlling shareholder, any shareholder who knows that it possesses power to determine the outcome of a shareholder vote and any shareholder who has the power to appoint or prevent the appointment of an office holder in the company is under a duty to act with fairness towards the company. The breach of such duty is governed by Israeli contract laws. The Israeli Companies Law-1999 does not describe the substance of this duty. The Israeli Companies Law-1999 requires that specified types of transactions, actions and arrangements be approved as provided for in a company's articles of association and in some circumstances by the audit committee, by the board of directors and by the general meeting of the shareholders. In general, the vote required by the audit committee and the board of directors for approval of these matters, in each case, is a majority of the disinterested directors participating in a duly convened meeting.

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### **NASD Marketplace Rules and Home Country Practices**

In accordance with Israeli law and practice and subject to the exemption set forth in Rule 4350(a)(1) of the NASD Marketplace Rules, we follow the provisions of the Israeli Companies Law 1999, rather than the requirements of Rule 4350 of the Market Place Rules with respect to the following requirements:

*Distribution of annual and quarterly reports to shareholders* Under Israeli law we are not required to distribute annual and quarterly reports directly to shareholders and the generally accepted business practice in Israel is not to distribute such reports to shareholders. We do however make our audited financial statements available to our shareholders prior to our annual general meeting and file our quarterly and annual financial results with the Securities Exchange Commission on Form 6-K.

*Independence, Nomination and Compensation of Directors* A majority of our board of directors is not comprised of independent directors as defined in Rule 4200 of the NASD Marketplace Rules. Our board of directors contains two external directors in accordance with the provisions contained in Sections 239-249 of the Israeli Companies Law 1999. Israeli law does not require, nor do our external directors conduct, regularly scheduled meetings at which only they are present. In addition, with the exception of our external directors, our directors are elected for terms of one year or until the following annual meeting, by a general meeting of our shareholders. The nominations for director which are presented to our shareholders are generally made by our directors. Israeli law does not require the adoption of and our board has not adopted a formal written charter or board resolution addressing the nomination process and related matters. Compensation of our directors and other officers is determined in accordance with Israeli law.

*Audit Committee* Our audit committee does not meet with all the requirements of Rules 4350(d)(2)(A)(i), 4350(d)(2)(A)(iii) and 4350(d)(2)(A)(iv) of the NASD Marketplace Rules. We are of the opinion that the members of our audit committee comply with the requirements of Rule 10A-3(b) of the general rules and regulations promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933 and all requirements under Israeli law. Our audit committee has not adopted a formal written audit committee charter specifying the items enumerated in Rule 4350(d)(1) of the NASD Marketplace Rules.

*Quorum* Under Israeli law a company is entitled to determine in its articles of association the number of shareholders and percentage of holdings required for a quorum at a shareholders meeting. Our Articles of Association provide that a quorum of two or more shareholders, present in person or by proxy, holding shares conferring in the aggregate more than thirty three and a third (33 1/3 %) percent of the voting power of the Company is required for commencement of business at a general meeting.

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*Approval of Related Party Transactions* All related party transactions are approved in accordance with the requirements and procedures for approval of interested party acts and transactions, set forth in sections 268 to 275 of the Israeli Companies Law-1999.

*Shareholder Approval* We seek shareholder approval for all corporate action requiring such approval, in accordance with the requirements of the Israeli Companies Law 1999.

## Material Contracts

All of our contracts over the past two years have been entered into in the ordinary course of business, except for our real property leases. Information regarding our real property leases is provided in Item 4. Information on the Company Property, Plant and Equipment and Item 19. Exhibits .

## Exchange Controls

Under current Israeli regulations, any dividends or other distributions paid in respect of our ordinary shares purchased by nonresidents of Israel with certain non-Israeli currencies (including dollars) and any amounts payable upon the dissolution, liquidation or winding up of our affairs, as well as the proceeds of any sale in Israel of our securities to an Israeli resident, will be freely repatriable in such non-Israeli currencies at the rate of exchange prevailing at the time of conversion pursuant to the general permit issued under the Israeli Currency Law, 1978, provided that Israeli income tax has been paid on (or withheld from) such payments. Because exchange rates between the NIS and the U.S. dollar fluctuate continuously, U.S. shareholders will be subject to any such currency fluctuation during the period from when such dividend is declared through the date payment is made in U.S. dollars.

Investments outside Israel by the Company no longer require specific approval from the Controller of Foreign Currency at the Bank of Israel.

## Taxation

The following is a summary of some of the current tax law applicable to companies in Israel, with special reference to its effect on us. The following also contains a discussion of specified Israeli tax consequences to our shareholders and government programs from which we benefit. To the extent that the discussion is based on tax legislation (including the legislation passed as part of the recent tax reform in Israel) that has not been subject to judicial or administrative interpretation, there can be no assurance that the views expressed in the discussion will be accepted by the tax authorities in question.

The discussion is not intended, and should not be construed, as legal or professional tax advice and is not exhaustive of all possible tax considerations.

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**Holders of our ordinary shares should consult their own tax advisors as to the United States, Israeli or other tax consequences of the purchase, ownership and disposition of ordinary shares, including, in particular, the effect of any foreign, state or local taxes.**

### *General Corporate Tax Structure*

Israeli companies are subject to corporate tax at the rate of 29% in the 2007 tax year, 27% in the 2008 tax year, 26% in the 2009 tax year and 25% from 2010 tax year onward. However, the effective tax rate payable by a company which derives income from an Approved Enterprise (as further discussed below) may be considerably less.

### *Law for the Encouragement of Capital Investments, 1959*

Certain of our facilities have been granted Approved Enterprise status under the Law for the Encouragement of Capital Investments, 1959, as amended (the Investment Law ). The Investment Law provides that a capital investment in eligible facilities may, upon application to the Israel Investment Center of the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the State of Israel (referred to as the Investment Center), be designated as an Approved Enterprise. Each certificate of approval for an Approved Enterprise relates to a specific investment program delineated both by its financial scope, including its capital sources and its physical characteristics, for example, the equipment to be purchased and utilized pursuant to the program. The tax benefits derived from any such certificate of approval relate only to taxable income attributable to the specific Approved Enterprise.

An amendment to the Investment Law which came into effect as of April 1, 2005 (the Amendment ) has significantly changed the provisions of the Investment Law. The Amendment determines criteria for the approval of a facility as an Approved Enterprise, such as provisions generally requiring that at least 25% of the income of an Approved Enterprise will be derived from exports. Additionally, as explained below, the Amendment sets forth major changes in the manner in which tax benefits are awarded under the Investment Law whereby companies no longer require Investment Center approval (and Approved Enterprise status) in order to qualify for tax benefits. However, the Investment Law provides that terms and benefits included in any certificate of approval already granted will remain subject to the provisions of the Investment Law as in effect on the date of such approval. Therefore the tax benefits granted to our Approved Enterprises under the Investment Law will generally not

be subject to the provisions of the Amendment.

### **Tax Benefits Prior to the Amendment**

In general, taxable income of a company derived from an Approved Enterprise was subject to corporate tax at the maximum rate of 25% rather than the rates stated above (this will also apply to Approved Enterprises approved after the Amendment, as explained below). The reduced corporate tax rate applies for a period of time termed the benefit period. The benefit period is a period of seven years commencing with the year in which the Approved Enterprise first generates taxable income. In any event, the benefit period is limited to 12 years from the commencement of production or operation, or 14 years from the year in which the approval was received, whichever is earlier. Under certain circumstances (as further detailed below), the benefit period may extend to a maximum of ten years from the commencement of the benefit period. In the event that a company is operating under more than one approval or that only part of its capital investments are approved (a Mixed Enterprise), its effective corporate tax rate is the result of a weighted combination of the various applicable rates.

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A company which qualifies as a Foreign Investors Company is entitled to an extended benefit period and to further reductions in the tax rate normally applicable to Approved Enterprises. Subject to certain conditions, a Foreign Investors Company is a company which has more than 25% of its combined shareholders' investment in share capital (in terms of rights to profits, voting and the appointment of directors) and in long term shareholders' loans, as defined in the Investment Law, made by persons who are not residents of Israel. The percentage owned by nonresidents of Israel for any tax year will be determined by the lowest percentage in any of the above rights held by nonresidents during that year. Foreign Investors Company will pay Company Tax at reduced rates for an extended ten-year (rather than the otherwise applicable seven-year) period as detailed below:

<b>Level of Foreign Investment</b>	<b>Company Tax Rate</b>	<b>Benefit period (years)</b>
Over 0% but less than 25%	25%	7
Over 25% but less than 49%	25%	10
49% or more but less than 74%	20%	10
74% or more but less than 90%	15%	10
90% or more	10%	10

There can be no assurance that the above-mentioned shareholding proportion will be reached for each subsequent year.

Prior to the Amendment, a company owning an Approved Enterprise approved after April 1, 1986 (or prior thereto provided no government grants or loans had previously been granted regarding such enterprise) was entitled to elect (as we have) to forego certain Government grants extended to Approved Enterprises in return for an alternative route of tax benefits (the Alternative Route). Under the Alternative Route, a company's undistributed income derived from an Approved Enterprise is exempt from corporate tax for a period of between two and ten years from the first year of taxable income, depending on the geographic location of the Approved Enterprise within Israel, and such company is eligible for the reduced tax rates under the Investment Law for the remainder of the benefit period as mentioned above.

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Our production facilities have been granted Approved Enterprise status under the Alternative Route according to the Investment Law. The initial Approved Enterprise status was granted in 1988 (Initial Approved Enterprise). An extension program was granted Approved Enterprise status in 1995 (the Extended Approved Enterprise). Income derived from our Approved Enterprises is tax exempt during six years of the seven year tax benefit period and is subject to a reduced tax rate of 25% in the seventh year. The seven year period of benefits commences in the year the Approved Enterprise first earns taxable income but is limited to twelve years from commencement of production or fourteen years from date of approval, whichever is earlier. The period of tax benefits, relating to our Initial Approved Enterprise, commenced in 1991 and expired in 1997. The period of tax benefits relating to our Extended Approved Enterprise commenced in 1997 and expired in 2006, as explained below.



In June 1995, we reached an agreement with the tax authorities regarding our entitlement to benefits under the Investment Law. The agreement, effective from tax year 1994 and thereafter, relates to the method of determination of taxable income from our research and development activities. Pursuant to the agreement, for the purpose of determining our tax liability, our income will be allocated to our manufacturing plant and to our research and development center, according to a formula based on the net costs plus royalties of the research and development center and our profitability. Income allocated to the expansion of the manufacturing plant will benefit from a ten-year tax exemption, while income allocated to the research and development center will benefit from a two-year exemption, and for a five-year period immediately following will be taxed at a 25% rate.

Our income to be attributed to our Extended Approved Enterprise in any year will be computed as a ratio of the increase in our sales turnover, if any, in that year to our turnover in the year before the Extended Approved Enterprise commenced its tax benefits entitlement. The tax authorities have reserved their right to reconsider our claim to such tax benefits in future years.

The entitlement to the above benefits is conditional upon our fulfillment of the conditions stipulated by the law, regulations published thereunder and the instruments of approval for the specific investments in the Approved Enterprise. In the event of failure to comply with these conditions, the benefits may be canceled and we may be required to refund the amount of the benefits, in whole or in part, with the addition of linkage differences, interest and penalties.

Should we derive income from sources other than the Approved Enterprise during the relevant periods of benefits, such income will be taxable at regular corporate tax rates stated above.

A company that elected the Alternative Route prior to the Amendment and that subsequently pays a dividend out of income derived from the Approved Enterprise(s) during the tax exemption period will be subject to Company Tax in the year the dividend is distributed in respect of the amount distributed (including the corporate tax thereon), at the rate that would have been applicable had the company not elected the Alternative Route (10%-25%, depending on the level of foreign investment in the company, as explained above). In addition, the dividend recipient is taxed at the reduced rate applicable to dividends from Approved Enterprises (15%), if the dividend is distributed during the tax exemption period or within a specified period thereafter. (In the event, however, that the company qualifies as a Foreign Investors Company, there is no such time limitation). This tax must be withheld by the company at source, regardless of whether the dividend is converted into foreign currency.

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Subject to certain provisions concerning income subject to the Alternative Route, all dividends are considered to be attributable to the entire enterprise and the effective tax rate is the result of a weighted combination of the various applicable tax rates. Under the Investment Law, a company that has elected the alternative package of benefits is not required to distribute exempt retained profits, and may generally decide from which year's profits to declare dividends.

The Investment Law also provides that an Approved Enterprise is entitled to accelerated depreciation on its property and equipment that are included in an approved investment program. We have not utilized this benefit.

Grants and certain other incentives received by a company in accordance with the Investment Law remain subject to final ratification by the Israel Investment Center and final determination by the Israel Tax Authority. Such ratification and determination are conditional upon fulfillment of all of the terms of the approved program.

#### **Tax Benefits under the Amendment**

As a result of the Amendment, a company is no longer required to acquire Approved Enterprise status in order to receive the tax benefits previously available under the Alternative Route and therefore such companies need not apply to the Investment Center for this purpose. However, the Investment Center will continue to grant Approved Enterprise status to companies seeking Governmental grants. A company may claim the tax benefits offered by the Investment Law directly in its tax returns, provided that its facilities meet the criteria for tax benefits set forth in the Amendment (a Benefited Enterprise). Companies are also entitled to approach the Israeli Tax Authority for a pre-ruling regarding their eligibility for benefits under the Amendment. The Amendment includes provisions intended to ensure that a company will not enjoy both government grants and tax benefits for the same investment program.

Tax benefits are available under the Amendment to production facilities and other eligible facilities, which are generally required to derive more than 25% of their business income from exports. In order to receive the tax benefits, the Amendment states that the company must make an investment in the Benefited Enterprise exceeding a minimum amount specified in the Investment Law. Such investment may be made over a period of no more than three years, such period concluding at the end of the year in which the company requests to have the tax benefits apply to its Benefited Enterprise (the Year of Election). Where the company requests to have the tax benefits apply to an expansion of existing facilities, only the expansion will be considered a Benefited Enterprise and the company's effective tax rate will be the result of a weighted combination of

the applicable rates. In the case of an expansion of existing facilities, the minimum investment required in order to qualify as a Benefited Enterprise is determined as a certain percentage of the company's production assets before the expansion.

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The tax benefits available under the Amendment to qualifying income of a Benefited Enterprise are determined by the geographic location of the Benefited Enterprise in Israel. The Investment Law divides the country into three zones – A, B and C, so that a Benefited Enterprise operating in Zone A (which generally includes areas remote from the center of Israel) will receive the greatest benefits and Benefited Enterprises in Zone C will receive the least benefits.

The Amendment provides that a company producing income from a Benefited Enterprise in Zone A may elect either that (i) the undistributed income derived from the Benefited Enterprise will be fully tax exempt for the entire benefit period described below ( tax exemption ), in which case the ordinary provisions described below concerning the taxation of the company and shareholder for distribution of dividends will apply; or (ii) that the income from its Benefited Enterprise will be subject to corporate tax at a rate of a 11.5%, in which case dividends paid out of such income to a foreign resident will be taxed at a rate of 4% and to an Israeli resident will be taxed at a rate of 15%, and the company will not be subject to additional tax upon dividend distribution. Further benefits are available in the event of certain large investments by multinational companies. Benefited Enterprises located in Zones B and C will be exempt from tax for six and two years, respectively, and subject to tax at a rate of 10%-25% for the remainder of the benefit period, depending on the extent of foreign investment in the Company, as described above.

Dividends paid out of income derived by a Benefited Enterprise, or out of dividends received from a company whose income is derived from a Benefited Enterprise, are generally subject to withholding tax at the rate of 15% or less under certain anti double-taxation treaties, such tax being deductible at source. The reduced withholding tax rate of 15% is limited to dividends and distributions out of income derived during the benefit period and actually paid at any time up to 12 years thereafter. A company qualifying for tax benefits under the Amendment which pays a dividend out of income derived by its Benefited Enterprise during the tax exemption period will be subject to corporate tax in respect of the gross amount of the dividend. The rate of the tax will be the rate which would have been applicable had the company not been tax exempt. Such tax rate is lower in the case of a qualified Foreign Investors Company .

The period for which tax benefits are available under the Amendment is also determined by the geographical location of the Benefited Enterprise in Israel. The benefit period for Benefited Enterprises in Zone A will end on the earlier of (i) a period of ten years from the tax year in which the company first derived taxable income from the Benefited Enterprise (the Commencement Year ); or (ii) twelve years (or in certain cases fourteen years) from the first day of the Year of Election. The benefit period for Benefited Enterprises in Zones B and C will extend until the earlier of (i) seven years from the Commencement Year or (ii) 12 years from the first day of the Year of Election. This period may be extended for Benefited Enterprises owned by a Foreign Investors Company during all or part of the benefit period.

Additionally, the Amendment sets forth a minimal amount of foreign investment required for a company to be regarded a Foreign Investors Company.

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We have selected and the Israeli Tax Authority has approved that the 2004 tax year and the 2006 tax year be our Year of Election, from which the period of benefits under the Investment Law commenced.

There can be no assurance that we will attain approval for additional tax benefits under the Amendment, or receive approval for Approved Enterprises in the future.

***Law for the Encouragement of Industrial Research and Development, 1984***

Under the Law for the Encouragement of Industrial Research and Development (the Research Law ), research and development programs approved by the Research Committee (the Research Committee ) of the Office of the Chief Scientist ( OCS ) are eligible for grants or loans if they meet certain criteria, in return for the payment of royalties from the sale of the product developed in accordance with the program and subject to other restrictions. Once a project is approved, the OCS will award grants of up to 50% of the project's expenditures in return for royalties, usually at the rate of 3% to 6% of sales of products developed with such grants, up to a dollar-linked amount equal to 100% or 150% of such grants. For projects approved after January 1, 1999, the amount of royalties payable is up to a dollar-linked amount equal to 100% of such grants plus interest at LIBOR. There is no further liability for payment.

The terms of these grants prohibit the manufacture outside of Israel of the product developed in accordance with the program without the prior consent of the Research Committee of the OCS. Such approval, if granted, is generally subject to an increase in the total amount to be repaid to the OCS to between 120% and 300% of the amount granted, depending on the extent of the manufacturing to be conducted outside of Israel.

The Research Law also provides that know-how from the research and development, which is used to produce the product, may not be transferred to Israeli third parties without the approval of the Research Committee. Until 2005, the Research Law stated that such know-how may not be transferred to non-Israeli third parties at all. An amendment to the Research Law has set forth certain exceptions to this rule, however, the practical implications of such exceptions are quite limited. The Research Law has stressed, that it is not just transfer of know-how that is prohibited, but also transfer of any rights in such know-how. Such restriction does not apply to exports from Israel of final products developed with such technologies. Approval of the transfer may be granted only if the transferee undertakes to abide by all of the provisions of the Research Law and regulations promulgated thereunder, including the restrictions on the transfer of know-how and the obligation to pay royalties. There can be no assurance that such consent, if requested, will be granted or, if granted, that such consent will be on reasonable commercial terms.

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#### ***Tax Benefits for Research and Development***

Israeli tax law allows, under certain conditions, a tax deduction in the year incurred for expenditures (including capital expenditures) in scientific research and development projects, if the expenditures are approved by the relevant Israeli Government Ministry (determined by the field of research) and the research and development is for the promotion of the enterprise and is carried out by or on behalf of the company seeking such deduction. Such expenditures not so approved are required to be deducted over a three-year period. Though we received such approvals for the years 2006 and 2007 and could deduct the tax in the year the expenditures were incurred, we chose to deduct the tax over a three-year period.

#### ***Law for the Encouragement of Industry (Taxes), 1969***

Under the Law for the Encouragement of Industry (Taxes), 1969 (the *Industry Encouragement Law*), Industrial Companies (as defined below) are entitled to the following tax benefits:

- (a) Amortization of purchases of know-how and patents over eight years for tax purposes.
- (b) Amortization of expenses incurred in connection with certain public securities issuances over a three-year period.
- (c) Accelerated depreciation rates on equipment and buildings.

Eligibility for benefits under the Industry Encouragement Law is not subject to receipt of prior approval from any governmental authority. Under the Industry Encouragement Law, an *Industrial Company* is defined as a company resident in Israel, at least 90% of the income of which, in any tax year, determined in Israeli currency, exclusive of income from government loans, is derived from an *Industrial Enterprise* owned by it. An *Industrial Enterprise* is defined as an enterprise whose major activity in a given tax year is industrial production activity.

We believe that we currently qualify as an Industrial Company within the definition of the Industry Encouragement Law. No assurance can be given that we will continue to qualify as an Industrial Company or that the benefits described above will be available in the future.

#### ***Calculation of Results for Tax Purposes***

The Israeli Income Tax Regulations (Rules for Maintaining Accounting Records of Foreign Investors Companies and Certain Partnerships and Determining Their Taxable Income) 1986 provide that as a Foreign Investors Company (as defined in the Investment Law described above) is eligible to calculate its taxable income in accordance with these regulations, and therefore, if we elect to follow such regulations, our taxable income or loss is to be calculated in dollars. We have elected to apply these regulations and accordingly our taxable income or loss is calculated in dollars in the manner set forth in such regulations.

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#### ***Capital Gains Tax on Sales of Our Ordinary Shares***

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Until the end of the year 2002 and provided we maintained our status as an industrial corporation, capital gains from the sale of our securities were generally exempt from Israeli Capital Gains Tax. This exemption did not apply to companies, to a shareholder whose taxable income is determined pursuant to the Israeli Income Tax Law (Inflationary Adjustments) 1985, or to a person whose gains from selling or otherwise disposing of our securities were deemed to be business income.

On January 1, 2006 an amendment to the Israeli tax regime, or the 2006 Tax Reform, became effective. The 2006 Tax Reform significantly changed the tax rates applicable to income derived from shares.

According to the 2006 Tax Reform, an individual is subject to a 20% tax rate on real capital gains derived from the sale of shares, as long as the individual is not a substantial shareholder (generally a shareholder with 10% or more of the right to profits, right to nominate a director and voting rights) in the company issuing the shares. The tax rate for gains from publicly traded shares realized before January 1, 2006 was 15%.

A substantial shareholder will be subject to tax at a rate of 25% in respect of real capital gains derived from the sale of shares issued by a company in which he or she is a substantial shareholder. The determination of whether the individual is a substantial shareholder will be made on the date on which the securities are sold. In addition, the individual will be deemed to be a substantial shareholder if at any time during the 12 months preceding the date of sale, he or she was a substantial shareholder.

Non-Israeli residents are exempt from Israeli capital gains tax on any gains derived from the sale of shares in an Israeli corporation publicly traded on TASE and/or on a foreign stock exchange, provided such gains do not derive from a permanent establishment of such shareholders in Israel and that such shareholders did not acquire their shares prior to the issuer's initial public offering. However, non-Israeli corporations will not be entitled to such exemption if an Israeli resident has a controlling interest of 25% or more in such non-Israeli corporation, or is the beneficiary of, or is entitled to, 25% or more of the revenues or profits of such non-Israeli corporation, whether directly or indirectly.

In some instances where our shareholders may be liable for Israeli tax on the sale of their ordinary shares, the payment of the consideration may be subject to the withholding of Israeli tax at the source.

Pursuant to the treaty between the governments of the United States and Israel with respect to taxes on income, or the U.S.-Israel tax treaty, the sale, exchange or disposition of our ordinary shares by a person who qualifies as a resident of the United States under the treaty and who is entitled to claim the benefits afforded by the treaty, will generally not be subject to Israeli capital gains tax.

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This exemption does not apply to a person who held, directly or indirectly, shares representing 10% or more of the voting power in our company during any part of the 12 month period preceding the sale, exchange or disposition, subject to certain conditions. A sale, exchange or disposition of our shares by a U.S. resident qualified under the treaty, who held, directly or indirectly, shares representing 10% or more of the voting power in our company at any time during the 12 month period preceding such sale, exchange or disposition, would be subject to Israeli tax, to the extent applicable; however, under the treaty, this U.S. resident would be permitted to claim a credit for these taxes against the U.S. income tax with respect to the sale, exchange or disposition, subject to the limitations in U.S. laws applicable to foreign tax credits.

### ***Taxation of Dividends***

Non-residents of Israel are subject to income tax on income accrued or derived from sources in Israel. These sources of income include passive income such as dividends, royalties and interest, as well as non-passive income from services rendered in Israel. On distributions of dividends (other than bonus shares or stock dividends) to Israeli individuals and foreign resident individuals and corporations we would be required to withhold income tax at the rate of 20%. If the income out of which the dividend is being paid is attributable to an Approved Enterprise or Benefited Enterprise under the Investment Law, the rate is 15%. A different rate may be provided for in a treaty between Israel and the shareholder's country of residence. Under the U.S.-Israel tax treaty, if the income out of which the dividend is being paid is not attributable to an Approved Enterprise or Benefited Enterprise, then we are required to withhold income tax at a rate of 12.5% with respect to shareholders that are U.S. corporations and held at least 10% of our voting power in the 12 month period preceding the distribution of such dividends.

Residents of the United States will generally have taxes in Israel withheld at source. Such persons generally would be entitled to a credit or deduction for United States Federal income tax purposes for the amount of such taxes withheld, subject to limitations applicable to foreign tax credits.

### ***Passive Foreign Investment Company Status under U.S. Federal Income Tax Law***

In general, a non-U.S. corporation will be classified for U.S. tax purposes as a passive foreign investment company (hereafter also referred to as a PFIC) in any taxable year in which either (i) 75% or more of its gross income (including the pro-rata gross income of any company (U.S. or

foreign) in which it is considered to own 25% or more of the ordinary shares by value) for the taxable year is passive income, or (ii) at least 50% of the average value of all of its gross assets (including the pro-rata fair market value of the assets of any company in which it is considered to own 25% or more of the ordinary shares by value) during the taxable year, calculated quarterly by value, produce, or are held for the production of, passive income. Passive income for these purposes includes items such as dividends, interest, royalties, rents and gains from commodities and securities transactions.

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**If we are classified as a passive foreign investment company, highly complex rules will apply to our U.S. shareholders. Accordingly, U.S. shareholders are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding the application of such rules.**

If a corporation is a passive foreign investment company, a U.S. shareholder will be subject to one of three alternative taxing regimes:

The simplest is the QEF regime. If the shareholder elects to treat the PFIC as a qualified electing fund ( QEF ), then each year the shareholder includes in its gross income a proportionate share of the PFIC's ordinary income and net capital gain. We do not currently intend to prepare or provide the information that would enable you to make a Qualified Election Fund election. A second regime may be elected if the PFIC stock is marketable. The U.S. shareholder may elect to mark the stock to market each year. At the end of each taxable year, the shareholder recognizes gain equal to the excess of the fair market value of the PFIC stock over the shareholder's tax basis in the stock. (Losses may also be recognized to the extent of previously recognized gains.)

A U.S. shareholder making neither of these elections is subject to the excess distribution regime. The tax is triggered when the shareholder receives an excess distribution from the PFIC. An excess distribution is either (1) a distribution with respect to stock that is greater than 125% of the average of such distributions over the preceding three years, or (2) 100% of the gain from the disposition of shares in the PFIC.

An excess distribution is subject to special tax rules. In most cases, only a portion of it is included in the gross income of the U.S. shareholder and taxed at normal rates. The remainder is never so included, but is used as the basis for calculating a deferred tax amount, which is simply added to the shareholder's tax liability.

The deferred tax amount is computed as follows. The excess distribution is first ratably allocated, share by share, to each day of the shareholder's holding period. Portions allocated to the current year, and to any pre-PFIC years (that is, years before 1987, when there were no PFICs, or years before the first year in which the company was a PFIC with respect to that shareholder), are included in ordinary income for the current year. Portions allocated to prior PFIC years are hypothetically taxed at the highest marginal rate in effect for those years (without regard to the shareholder's actual rate or to any deductions or credits for those years). To this hypothetical tax is added the interest that the shareholder would have paid if it were simply paying that tax late for that year. The sum of the tax and the interest charge is the deferred tax amount, which cannot be offset or otherwise affected by current net operating losses or other deductions.

A U.S. person who inherits shares in a foreign corporation that was a PFIC in the hands of the decedent (who did not make either of the elections described above), is denied the otherwise available step-up in the tax basis of such shares to fair market value at the date of death. The U.S. person steps into the shoes of the decedent and will be subject to the rules described above.

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Although a determination as to a corporation's PFIC status is made annually, an initial determination that a corporation is a PFIC for any taxable year generally will cause the above-described consequences to apply for all future years as to U.S. shareholders who held shares in the corporation at any time during the PFIC taxable year and who made neither a valid QEF election with respect to such shares nor a valid election to mark such shares to market. This will be true even if the corporation loses its PFIC status in later years. However, with respect to a PFIC that does not make any distributions or deemed distributions, the above tax treatment would apply only to gains realized on the disposition of such shares by a U.S. shareholder.

If we are classified as a PFIC, complicated rules will apply to our U.S. shareholders. Our status in future years will depend on our assets and activities in those years, although shareholders will be treated as continuing to own an interest in a passive foreign investment company if we are a passive foreign investment company in any year in which a shareholder owns our shares, unless certain elections are made.

This discussion does not address all aspects of U.S. federal income taxation that may be relevant to a U.S. shareholder in light of his or her particular circumstances or to a U.S. shareholder subject to special treatment under U.S. federal income tax law. We do not currently intend to prepare or provide the information that would enable you to make a Qualified Election Fund election. U.S. shareholders are urged to consult

their tax advisors about the U.S. federal income taxation rules to which they will be subject, as well as the PFIC rules, including the advisability, procedure and timing of making a mark-to-market election, in connection with their holding of our shares, including warrants or rights to acquire our shares.

#### **Tax Assessment**

The Company and its subsidiary file income tax returns in Israel and in the US. The Israeli tax returns of the Company are open to examination by the Israeli tax authorities for the tax years beginning in 2005. The US tax returns of the US subsidiary are open to examination by the US tax authorities for tax years beginning in 2005.

#### **Documents on Display**

We are required to file reports and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act) and the regulations thereunder applicable to foreign private issuers. Although as a foreign private issuer we are not required to file periodic information as frequently or as promptly as United States companies, we generally do publicly announce our quarterly and year-end results promptly and file periodic information with the SEC under cover of Form 6-K. We are also exempt from the rules under the Exchange Act prescribing the furnishing and content of proxy statements and our officers, directors and principal shareholders are exempt from the reporting and other provisions in Section 16 of the Exchange Act.

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You may review a copy of our filings with the SEC, including any exhibits and schedules, at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference room. As a foreign private issuer, all documents which were filed after November 4, 2002 on the SEC's EDGAR system will be available for retrieval on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). These SEC filings are also available to the public on the Israel Securities Authority's Magna website at [www.magna.isa.gov.il](http://www.magna.isa.gov.il) and from commercial document retrieval services. The documents referred to in this document may be inspected at the Company's offices, located at 8 Hanagar Street, Kfar Sava, Israel 44000.

Any statement in this annual report about any of our contracts or other documents is not necessarily complete. If the contract or document is filed as an exhibit to the annual report the contract or document is deemed to modify the description contained in this annual report. We urge you to review the exhibits themselves for a complete description of the contract or document.

#### **Item 11. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK**

Market risk applicable to the Company represents the risk of changes in the value of a financial instrument caused by fluctuations in interest rates and foreign exchange rates.

##### **Interest Rate Risk**

As of December 31, 2008 we did not have any short or long term interest bearing loans or debts, hence there was no exposure to interest rate risk.

##### **Foreign Currency Exchange Risk**

As of December 31, 2008 we had accounts receivable in New Israeli Shekels (NIS) or in funds linked thereto in the amount of \$423,135. Market risk was estimated as the potential decrease in fair value resulting from a hypothetical 10% increase in the year-end Dollar exchange rate. Assuming such increase in the Dollar exchange rate, the fair value of our accounts receivable would decrease by \$38,467. As of December 31, 2008 we had accounts payable in New Israeli Shekels (NIS) linked thereto in the amount of \$4,080,818. Market risk was estimated as the potential increase in fair value resulting from a hypothetical 10% decrease in the year-end Dollar exchange rate. Assuming such decrease in the Dollar exchange rate, the fair value of our accounts payable would increase by \$453,424.

In 2008 there was a decrease of 1.14% in the Dollar exchange rate which resulted in an aggregate increase in the fair value of our assets of \$9,960 and an aggregate increase in the fair value of our liabilities of \$49,279.

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As of December 31, 2008 we were not engaged in any hedging transactions.

**Item 12. DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES OTHER THAN EQUITY SECURITIES**

Not Applicable.

**PART II.**

**Item 13. DEFAULTS, DIVIDEND ARREARAGES AND DELINQUENCIES**

None.

**Item 14. MATERIAL MODIFICATIONS TO THE RIGHTS OF SECURITY HOLDERS AND USE OF PROCEEDS**

None.

**Item 15. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

Our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, after evaluating the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(e)) as of December 31, 2008, have concluded that, as of such date, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective to ensure that the information required in the reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported, within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms, and such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

**Item 15T. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

**Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in its Exchange Act reports is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. Our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, conducted an evaluation of our disclosure controls and procedures, as defined under Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(e), as of the end of the period covered by this Annual Report on Form 20-F. Based upon that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that, as of such date, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective.

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**Management's Annual Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act) to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of our financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Management assessed our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2008, the end of our fiscal year. 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, management has concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2008 to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external reporting purposes in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. We reviewed the results of management's assessment with the Audit Committee of our Board of Directors.

This annual report does not include an attestation report of the Company's registered public accounting firm regarding the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Management's report was not subject to attestation by the Company's registered public accounting firm due to the fact that we were classified as a non accelerated filer in 2008 (in light the Company's public float dropping below \$50 million), as opposed to 2007 when we were classified as an accelerated filer and were thus required to provide such a report of the Company's accounting firm.

**Inherent Limitations on Effectiveness of Controls**

Internal control over financial reporting has inherent limitations. Internal control over financial reporting is a process that involves human diligence and compliance and is subject to lapses in judgment and breakdowns resulting from human failures. Internal control over financial reporting also can be circumvented by collusion or improper management override. Because of such limitation, there is a risk that material misstatements will not be prevented or detected on a timely basis by internal control over financial reporting. However, these inherent limitations are known features of the financial reporting process. Therefore, it is possible to design into the process safeguards to reduce, though not eliminate, this risk.

**Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

There was no change in our internal controls over financial reporting that occurred during the period covered by this annual report that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal controls over financial reporting.

**Item 16. Reserved**

**Item 16A. AUDIT COMMITTEE FINANCIAL EXPERT**

Our board of directors has determined that Ms. Einat Domb-Har is our audit committee financial expert, and that Ms. Domb-Har is independent as such term is defined under the Nasdaq Capital Market listing requirements.

**Item 16B. CODE OF ETHICS**

Our company has adopted a code of ethics, which applies to all of our employees, officers and directors, including our Chief Executive Officer, our Chief Financial Officer and our principal accountant. A copy of the code of ethics is attached as an exhibit to this annual report.

**Item 16C. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES**

The following table presents fees for professional services for the audit of the Company's consolidated annual financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, audit-related services and tax services rendered by Somekh Chaikin, a member firm of KPMG International.

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Audit Fees(1)	\$ 100,000	\$ 156,000
Audit-Related Fees(2)	-	-
Tax Fees(3)	\$ 5,000	\$ 18,000
All Other Fees	-	-

(1) Audit fees consist of fees for professional services rendered for the audit of the Company's annual consolidated financial statements and services normally provided by the independent auditor in connection with statutory and regulatory filings or engagements.

(2) Audit-Related Fees consist of accounting consultation and consultation on financial accounting standards, not arising as part of the audit.

(3) Tax services fees consist of compliance fees for the preparation of original and amended tax returns and claims for refunds.



**Item 16D. EXEMPTIONS FROM THE LISTING STANDARDS FOR AUDIT COMMITTEES**

Not Applicable.

**Item 16E. PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES BY THE ISSUER AND AFFILIATED PURCHASERS**

Not Applicable.

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**Item 16F. CHANGE IN REGISTRANT S CERTIFYING ACCOUNTANT**

Not Applicable.

**Item 16G. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

Our corporate governance practices differ from those followed by domestic companies as required under the listing standards of the NASDAQ Global Market, due to an exemption that we obtained from NASDAQ as foreign private issuer which enables us to comply with our home country laws of the State of Israel in lieu of NASDAQ Marketplace Rules. We follow the provisions of the Israeli Companies Law 1999, rather than the requirements of the Market Place Rules with respect to the following:

We are not required to distribute annual and quarterly reports directly to shareholders, but we do make our audited financial statements available to our shareholders prior to our annual general meeting and file our quarterly and annual financial results with the Securities Exchange Commission on Form 6-K.

A majority of our board of directors is not comprised of independent directors as defined in the NASD Marketplace Rules, but our board of directors contains two external directors in accordance with the Israeli Companies Law 1999. Israeli law does not require, nor do our external directors conduct, regularly scheduled meetings at which only they are present. In addition, with the exception of our external directors, our directors are elected for terms of one year or until the following annual meeting, by a general meeting of our shareholders. The nominations for director which are presented to our shareholders are also generally made by our directors. Israeli law does not require the adoption of and our board has not adopted a formal written charter or board resolution addressing the nomination process and related matters. Compensation of our directors and other officers is determined in accordance with Israeli law.

Our audit committee has not adopted a formal written audit committee charter specifying the items enumerated in Rule 4350(d)(1) of the NASD Marketplace Rules. We believe that the members of our audit committee comply with the requirements of the Israeli law, as well as Rule 10A-3(b) of the general rules and regulations promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933. For a detailed discussion please refer to Item 6. Directors, Senior Management and Employees- Audit Committee .

As opposed to Rule 4350(f) of the NASD Marketplace Rules, which sets forth a required quorum for a shareholders meeting, under Israeli law a company is entitled to determine in its articles of association the number of shareholders and percentage of holdings required for a quorum at a shareholders meeting. Our current articles of association provide that a quorum of two or more shareholders, present in person or by proxy, holding shares conferring in the aggregate more than thirty three and a third (33 1/3 %) percent of the voting power of the Company is required.

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All related party transactions are approved in accordance with the requirements and procedures for approval of interested party acts and transactions set forth in the Israeli Companies Law-1999, and are not subject to the review process set forth in Rule 4350(h) of the NASD Marketplace Rules. For a detailed discussion please refer to Item 10. Additional Information- the Israeli Companies Law-1999".

We seek shareholder approval for all corporate action requiring such approval in accordance with the requirements of the Israeli Companies Law 1999 rather than under the requirements of the NASDAQ Marketplace Rules, including (but not limited to) the

appointment or termination of auditors, appointment and dismissal of directors, approval of interested party acts and transactions requiring general meeting approval as discussed above and a merger.

**PART III.**

**Item 17. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Not Applicable

**Item 18. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

See pages F-1 to F-35.

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**Item 19. EXHIBITS**

- 1.1 Amended and Restated Articles of Association, adopted on January 24, 2008, filed by us as an Exhibit to our registration statement on Form S-8, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 11, 2008, and incorporated herein by reference.
- 4.1. Lease between the Company and Yaakov Metzkin and Dov Segev, for premises in Kfar Sava, Israel, dated November 1, 1994, and amendment dated March 17, 2002, filed by us as an Exhibit to our annual report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2001, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 27, 2002, and incorporated herein by reference. As this lease and the amendment are written in Hebrew, a summary of each was included in the Exhibit.
- 4.2 Lease between the Company and Naji Yechezkel Yokenam Industrial Center Ltd. for manufacturing facility in Yokneam, Israel, dated November 20, 2008. As this lease is written in Hebrew, a summary is filed by us as an Exhibit to this annual report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.
- 4.3 Lease between Silicom Connectivity Solutions, Inc. and RAD Data Communications Inc., for space in Mahwah, New Jersey, dated as of September 1, 1997, filed by us as an Exhibit to our annual report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2000, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 30, 2001, and incorporated herein by reference.
- 4.4 Sublease Agreement between Silicom Connectivity Solutions, Inc. and Radcom Equipmet, Inc., for space in Paramus, New Jersey, dated as of February 1, 2004, filed by us as an Exhibit to our annual report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 30, 2004, and incorporated herein by reference.
- 8. List of subsidiaries, filed by us as an Exhibit to our annual report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2000, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 30, 2001, and incorporated herein by reference.
- 11.1 Code of Ethics, filed by us as an Exhibit to our annual report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 26, 2008, and incorporated herein by reference.
- 12.1 Certification by Chief Executive Officer pursuant to section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

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- 12.2 Certification by Chief Financial Officer pursuant to section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 13.1 Certification by Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

- 13.2 Certification by Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 14.1 Opinion of McGladrey & Pullen, LLP, dated January 6, 2003, on the financial statements of Silicom Connectivity Solutions, Inc., for the two years ended December 31, 2001 and 2002, filed by us as an Exhibit to our annual report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 30, 2004, and incorporated herein by reference.
- 14.2 Opinion of McGladrey & Pullen, LLP, dated January 6, 2003, on the financial statements of Silicom Connectivity Solutions, Inc., for the year ended December 31, 2002 filed by us as an Exhibit to our annual report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 31, 2005, and incorporated herein by reference.
- 15.1 Consent of KPMG Somekh Chaikin, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.

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**SIGNATURES**

The Registrant hereby certifies that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form 20-F and that it has duly caused and authorized the undersigned to sign this annual report on its behalf.

**SILICOM LIMITED**

By: /s/ Shaike Orbach

Shaike Orbach  
Chief Executive Officer

March 22, 2009

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**Silicom Ltd.  
and its Consolidated Subsidiary**

**Consolidated  
Financial Statements**

**As at and for the year ended  
December 31, 2008**

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

Consolidated Financial Statements as at December 31, 2008

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**Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of Silicom Ltd.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Silicom Ltd. (the Company) and its subsidiary as of December 31, 2008 and 2007 and the related consolidated statements of income, changes in shareholders' equity and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2008. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's Board of Directors and of its management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our 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 audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company and its subsidiary as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, and the consolidated results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2008, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Somekh Chaikin  
 Certified Public Accountants (Isr.)  
 Member Firm of KPMG International

Tel Aviv, Israel  
 March 22, 2009

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

**Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31**

2007                      2008

	Note	US\$ thousands	US\$ thousands
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	14,216	14,568
Marketable securities	4	3,516	8,426
Accounts receivable:			
Trade, net		6,545	4,849
Other	5	338	353
Inventories	6	4,078	5,269
Deferred tax assets	15H	73	210
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>28,766</b>	<b>33,675</b>
<b>Marketable securities</b>	4	15,210	16,204
<b>Assets held for employees' severance benefits</b>	10	952	1,066
<b>Deferred tax assets</b>	15H	-	234
<b>Property, plant and equipment, net</b>	7	675	795
<b>Other assets, net</b>	8	39	-
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>45,642</b>	<b>51,974</b>

Avi Eizenman  
Chairman of the Board of Directors

Shaiké Orbach  
Chief Executive Officer

Eran Gilad  
Chief Financial Officer

Kfar-Saba, Israel  
March 22, 2009

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

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

**Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31 (Continued)**

		2007	2008
	Note	US\$ thousands	US\$ thousands
<b>Liabilities and shareholders' equity</b>			

		<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade accounts payable		2,997	2,681
Other accounts payable and accrued expenses	9	1,715	2,054
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<u>4,712</u>	<u>4,735</u>
<b>Long-term liability</b>			
Liability for employees' severance benefits	10	1,596	1,905
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<u>6,308</u>	<u>6,640</u>
<b>Commitments and contingencies</b>	11		
<b>Shareholders' equity</b>	12		
Ordinary shares, NIS 0.01 par value; 10,000,000 shares authorized; 6,585,847 and 6,709,034 issued as at December 31, 2007 and 2008, respectively; 6,570,876 and 6,694,063 outstanding as at December 31, 2007 and 2008, respectively		20	20
Additional paid-in capital		31,727	33,082
Treasury shares (at cost) - 14,971 ordinary shares as at December 31, 2007 and 2008		(38)	(38)
Retained earnings		7,625	12,270
<b>Total shareholders' equity</b>		<u>39,334</u>	<u>45,334</u>
<b>Total liabilities and shareholders' equity</b>		<u>45,642</u>	<u>51,974</u>

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

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

**Consolidated Statements of Income for the Year Ended December 31**

		<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
	Note	US\$ thousands Except for share and per share data		
Sales	13	16,118	26,784	25,554
Cost of sales		9,827	16,094	15,405

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	2006	2007	2008
<b>Gross profit</b>	6,291	10,690	10,149
<b>Operating expenses</b>			
Research and development	1,820	2,208	3,048
Sales and marketing	1,105	1,537	2,093
General and administrative	980	1,189	1,427
Total operating expenses	3,905	4,934	6,568
<b>Operating income</b>	2,386	5,756	3,581
Financial income, net	14	167	956
<b>Income before income taxes</b>	2,553	6,712	4,769
Income tax expense (benefit)	15	(46)	432
<b>Net income</b>	2,599	6,280	4,645
<b>Income per share:</b>			
Basic income per ordinary share	0.506	1.026	0.695
Diluted income per ordinary share	0.487	0.995	0.685
Weighted average number of ordinary shares used to compute basic income per share (in thousands)	5,138	6,122	6,685
Weighted average number of ordinary shares used to compute diluted income per share (in thousands)	5,341	6,309	6,780

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

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

**Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders' Equity**

Ordinary shares	Additional paid-in capital	Treasury shares	Retained earnings (accumulated)	Total shareholders' Equity
-----------------	----------------------------	-----------------	---------------------------------	----------------------------

			deficit)			
	Number of shares <sup>(1)</sup>	US\$ thousands				
<b>Balance at January 1, 2006</b>	4,336,079	14	5,950	(38)	(1,254)	4,672
Exercise of options	62,550	*-	202	-	-	202
Issuance of shares and warrants <sup>(2)</sup>	800,000	2	5,563	-	-	5,565
Share-based compensation	-	-	143	-	-	143
Net income	-	-	-	-	2,599	2,599
<b>Balance at December 31, 2006</b>	5,198,629	16	11,858	(38)	1,345	13,181
Exercise of options	205,800	1	569	-	-	570
Exercise of warrants	291,447	1	2,471	-	-	2,472
Issuance of shares and warrants <sup>(2)</sup>	875,000	2	16,778	-	-	16,780
Share-based compensation	-	-	51	-	-	51
Net income	-	-	-	-	6,280	6,280
<b>Balance at December 31, 2007</b>	6,570,876	20	31,727	(38)	7,625	39,334
Exercise of options	14,700	*-	38	-	-	38
Exercise of warrants	108,487	*-	983	-	-	983
Share-based compensation	-	-	334	-	-	334
Net income	-	-	-	-	4,645	4,645
<b>Balance at December 31, 2008</b>	6,694,063	20	33,082	(38)	12,270	45,334

<sup>(1)</sup> Net of 14,971 shares held by the subsidiary

<sup>(2)</sup> Net of issuance cost of US\$ 405 thousands in 2006 and, in 2007 US\$ 1,192 thousands, less income tax benefit of US\$ 35 thousand in 2007 and US\$ 57 in 2008.

\* Less than 1 thousand.

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

**Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the Year Ended December 31**

2006                      2007                      2008



	US\$ thousands		
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net income	2,599	6,280	4,645
<b>Adjustments required to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:</b>			
Depreciation and amortization	179	277	450
Write-off of other assets	-	-	39
Write-down of obsolete inventory	5	381	915
Liability for employees' severance benefits, net	46	154	195
Income from marketable securities	(46)	(683)	(96)
Share-based compensation expense	143	51	334
Deferred tax assets	(46)	(27)	(314)
<b>Changes in assets and liabilities:</b>			
Accounts receivable - trade	(882)	(3,268)	1,696
Accounts receivable - other	143	(204)	(15)
Inventories	(750)	(720)	(2,106)
Trade accounts payable	461	516	(316)
Other accounts payable and accrued expenses	149	911	339
Capital gain	-	-	(10)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>2,001</u>	<u>3,668</u>	<u>5,756</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	(257)	(564)	(574)
Proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	14
Proceeds from maturity of marketable securities	500	4,571	6,500
Purchases of marketable securities	(5,274)	(17,794)	(12,308)
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(5,031)</u>	<u>(13,787)</u>	<u>(6,368)</u>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Short-term bank credit	(500)	-	-
Issuance of shares and warrants	5,565	16,780	-
Exercise of options and warrants	202	3,042	964
Net cash provided by financing activities	<u>5,267</u>	<u>19,822</u>	<u>964</u>
<b>Increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>2,237</b>	<b>9,703</b>	<b>352</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year</b>	<b>2,276</b>	<b>4,513</b>	<b>14,216</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>	<b><u>4,513</u></b>	<b><u>14,216</u></b>	<b><u>14,568</u></b>
<b>Supplementary cash flow information</b>			
Cash paid during the year for:			
Income taxes	17	51	76

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

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**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements**

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**Note 1 General**

Silicom Ltd. is an Israeli corporation engaged in designing, manufacturing, marketing and supporting server networking solutions for a broad range of servers and server based systems. It also offers a broad range of its traditional PC cards, PCI cards and USB products.

The Company's shares have been traded in the United States on the National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation System (NASDAQ), since February 1994 and in Israel on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange (TASE), since December 2005. Since February 11, 2008, the Company's shares have been traded on the NASDAQ Global Market (prior thereto they were traded on the NASDAQ Capital Market).

Silicom markets its products directly, through (i) Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) which sell the Company's connectivity products under their own private labels or incorporate the Company's products into their products, (ii) a worldwide network of independent distributors and (iii) its US-based subsidiary.

In these financial statements the terms Company or Silicom refer to Silicom Ltd. and its wholly owned subsidiary, Silicom Connectivity Solutions, Inc., whereas the term subsidiary refers to Silicom Connectivity Solutions, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Silicom Ltd.

**Note 2 Significant Accounting Policies**

The significant accounting policies, which are applied consistently throughout the periods presented, are as follows:

**A. Financial statements in US dollars**

Substantially all sales of the Company are made outside of Israel (see Note 13A regarding geographical destination), in US dollars (dollars). Most purchases of materials and components, and most marketing costs are made or incurred, primarily in dollars. Therefore, the functional currency of the Company is the dollar.

Transactions and balances in other currencies are remeasured into dollars in accordance with the principles set forth in Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 52, Foreign Currency Translations.

All exchange gains and losses from remeasurement of monetary balance sheet items denominated in non-dollar currencies are reflected in earnings when they arise.

**B. Principles of consolidation**

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with principles generally accepted in the United States of America and include the accounts of Silicom Ltd. and its wholly-owned subsidiary. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

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**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements**

**Note 2 Significant Accounting Policies (cont d)**

**C. Estimates and assumptions**

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Significant items subject to such estimates and assumptions include the useful lives of fixed assets; allowances for doubtful accounts; deferred tax assets, fixed assets, inventory, investments, and share-based compensation; income tax uncertainties and other contingencies. The current economic environment has increased the degree of uncertainty inherent in those estimates and assumptions.

**D. Cash and cash equivalents**

All highly liquid deposits with original maturities of three months or less from the date of purchase are considered to be cash equivalents.

**E. Marketable securities**

Investments which the Company has the intent and ability to hold to maturity are classified as held-to-maturity investments as defined in SFAS No. 115, Accounting for Certain Investments in Debt and Equity Securities, and are recorded at amortized cost adjusted for the amortization or accretion of premiums or discounts.

A decline in the market value of any held-to-maturity security below cost, that is deemed to be other than temporary, results in a write down of the carrying amount to fair value. The impairment is charged to earnings and a new cost basis is established. To determine whether impairment is other than temporary, the Company considers whether it has the ability and intent to hold the investment until a market price recovery and considers whether evidence indicating the cost of the investment is recoverable outweighs evidence to the contrary. Evidence considered in this assessment includes the reasons for the impairment, the severity and duration of the impairment, changes in value subsequent to year-end, forecasted performance of the investee, and the general market condition in the geographic area or industry the investee operates in.

Premiums and discounts are amortized or accreted over the life of the related held-to-maturity security as an adjustment to yield using the effective interest method. Such amortization and accretion is included in the financial income, net line item in the consolidated statements of income.

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements**

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**Note 2 Significant Accounting Policies (cont d)**

**F. Provision for doubtful accounts receivable**

The provision for doubtful accounts receivable is calculated on the basis of specific identification of balances, the collection of which, in management's opinion, is doubtful. In determining the adequacy of the provision, management bases its opinion on the estimated risk, in reliance on available information with respect to the debtor's financial position and an evaluation of any collateral received.

As of December 31, 2007 and 2008, the provision for doubtful accounts receivable amounted to US\$ 20 thousand.

**G. Inventories**

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market. Cost is determined using the average-cost method.

The Company writes down obsolete or slow moving inventory to its market value, on a quarterly basis.

**H. Assets held for employees severance benefits**

Assets held for employees severance benefits represent contributions to severance pay funds and cash surrender value of life insurance policies. The assets are recorded at their current cash redemption value.

**I. Property, plant and equipment**

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost. Depreciation is calculated on the straight-line method over the estimated useful life of the assets at the following annual rates:

	%
Machinery and equipment	20 - 33
Motor vehicles	15
Office furniture and equipment	6 - 20
Leasehold improvements	*

\* Leasehold improvements are amortized straight-line over the shorter of the lease term or estimated useful life of the assets.

**J. Other assets**

Other assets consisted of a patent. The Company has abandoned the asset and wrote-off its remaining cost in 2008.

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements**

**Note 2 Significant Accounting Policies (cont d)**

**K. Impairment or disposal of long-lived assets**

The Company accounts for long-lived assets in accordance with the provisions of SFAS No. 144, Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets. This Statement requires that long-lived assets be reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of an asset to future undiscounted net cash flows expected to be generated by the asset. If the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its estimated future cash flows, an impairment charge is recognized for the amount by which the carrying amount of the asset exceeds the fair value of the asset. Fair value is being determined using discounted cash flow models. Assets to be disposed would be separately presented in the balance sheet and reported at the lower of the carrying amount or fair value less costs to sell.

**L. Revenue recognition**

The Company recognizes revenue on sales when delivery has occurred, collectibility is reasonably assured, price is fixed and determinable, and the customer takes ownership and assumes risk of loss.

The Company routinely evaluates its products for inclusion of any embedded software that is more than incidental thereby requiring consideration of AICPA Statement of Position 97-2, Software Revenue Recognition . Based on such evaluation, the Company has concluded for all reported periods that none of its products have such embedded software.

Sales taxes collected from customers and remitted to governmental authorities are accounted for on a net basis and, therefore, are excluded from revenues in the consolidated statements of income.

**M. Research and development costs**

Research and development costs are expensed as incurred.

**N. Royalty bearing participations**

Royalty bearing participations from the Government of Israel for funding research and development activities are recognized at the time the Company is entitled to such grants based on the related cost incurred. See also Note 11A.

Royalty expenses are recognized pursuant to sale of related products and are classified as cost of sales.

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

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**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements**

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**Note 2 Significant Accounting Policies (cont d)**

**O. Allowance for product warranty**

The Company grants service warranties related to certain products to end-users. The Company estimates its obligation for such warranties to be immaterial on the basis of historical experience. Accordingly, these financial statements do not include an accrual for warranty obligations.

**P. Treasury shares**

Treasury shares are recorded at cost and presented as a reduction of shareholders' equity.

**Q. Income taxes**

The Company accounts for income taxes in accordance with SFAS No. 109, Accounting for Income Taxes . Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statements carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases, and operating loss and tax credit carryforwards. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in the consolidated statement of income in the period that includes the enactment date. The Company provides a valuation allowance to reduce deferred tax assets to the extent it believes it is more likely than not that such benefits will not be realized.

Beginning with the adoption of FASB Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes (FIN 48) as of January 1, 2007, the Company recognizes the effect of income tax positions only if those positions are more likely than not of being sustained. Recognized income tax positions are measured at the largest amount that is greater than 50% likely of being realized. Changes in recognition or

measurement are reflected in the period in which the change in judgment occurs.

The Company records interest related to unrecognized tax benefits in interest expense and penalties in general, and administrative expenses.

**R. Share-based compensation**

Effective January 1, 2006, the Company adopted FASB Statement No. 123(R), *Share-Based Payment* (Statement 123(R)). This statement replaces FASB Statement No. 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation* (Statement 123) and supersedes Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees*. Statement 123(R) requires that all stock-based compensation be recognized as an expense in the financial statements and that such cost to be measured at the fair value of the award. This Statement was adopted using the modified prospective method of application, which requires the Company to recognize compensation cost on a prospective basis. Under this method, the Company recorded stock-based compensation expense for awards granted prior to, but not yet vested as of January 1, 2006, using the fair value amounts determined for pro-forma disclosures under Statement 123.

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements**

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**Note 2 Significant Accounting Policies (cont d)**

**R. Share-based compensation (cont d)**

For stock-based awards granted prior to January 1, 2006 and vested after January 1, 2006, the Company recognizes compensation expense based on estimated grant date fair value using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model.

The share-based awards granted after January 1, 2008, include features that are not supported by the Black and Scholes valuation model, such as expiration date to occur if the closing price of the Shares falling below 50% of grant date Share price, therefore for share-based awards granted after January 1, 2008, the Company recognizes compensation expense based on estimated grant date fair value using the Monte Carlo option-pricing model; with the weighted average assumptions detailed in Notes 12B(7) and 12B(8).

**S. Income per share**

Basic and diluted income per ordinary share is presented in conformity with Statement No. 128, *Earnings Per Share*, for all years presented. Basic income per ordinary share is calculated by dividing the net income attributable to ordinary shares, by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding. Diluted income per ordinary share calculation is similar to basic income per ordinary share except that the weighed average of common shares outstanding is increased to include the number of additional common shares that would have been outstanding if the dilutive potential common shares from options and warrants had been exercised.

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements**

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**Note 2 Significant Accounting Policies (cont d)****S. Income per share (cont d)**

The following table summarizes information related to the computation of basic and diluted income per ordinary share for the years indicated.

	Year ended December 31		
	2006	2007	2008
Net income attributable to ordinary shares (US\$ thousands)	2,599	6,280	4,645
Weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding used in basic income per ordinary share calculation	5,138,172	6,121,591	6,684,905
Add assumed exercise of outstanding dilutive potential ordinary shares	203,815	187,877	95,075
Weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding used in diluted income per ordinary share calculation	5,341,987	6,309,468	6,779,980
Basic income per ordinary shares (US\$)	0.506	1.026	0.695
Diluted income per ordinary shares (US\$)	0.487	0.995	0.685
Number of options and warrants excluded from the diluted earnings per share calculation because of anti-dilutive effect	400,000	229,687	229,687

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements****Note 2 Significant Accounting Policies (cont d)****T. Accounting pronouncements adopted in 2008**

In September 2006, the FASB issued FASB Statement No. 157, Fair Value Measurement (Statement 157). Statement 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for the measurement of fair value, and enhances disclosures about fair value measurements. The Statement does not require any new fair value measures. The Statement is effective for fair value measures already required or permitted by other standards for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. The Company adopted Statement 157 beginning on January 1,

2008, except with respect to fair value measurement requirements for non-financial assets and liabilities that are not required or permitted to be measured at fair value on a recurring basis, as the Company applying the one year deferral allowed by the FASB. Any transition adjustment will be recognized as an adjustment to opening retained earnings in the year of adoption.

In February 2007, the FASB issued FASB Statement No. 159, "The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities, including an amendment of FASB No. 115" (Statement 159). Statement 159 gives the Company the irrevocable option to carry most financial assets and liabilities at fair value that are not currently required to be measured at fair value. The adoption of FSP FAS 159 did not have an impact on the Company's consolidated results of operations and financial position.

On October 10, 2008, the FASB issued FSP FAS 157-3 to clarify the application of Statement No. 157, in an inactive market and to illustrate how an entity would determine fair value in an inactive market. The FSP augments the guidance in a Questions and Answers document that was released jointly by the SEC Chief Accountant's Office and FASB Staff. The FSP is effective immediately and applies to prior periods for which financial statements have not been issued. The adoption of FSP FAS 157-3 did not have an impact on the Company's consolidated results of operations and financial position.

**U. Recent accounting pronouncements not yet adopted**

In December 2007, the FASB issued FASB Statement No. 141R, "Business Combinations" (Statement 141R) and FASB Statement No. 160, "Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements—an amendment to ARB No. 51" (Statement 160). Statements 141R and 160 require most identifiable assets, liabilities, noncontrolling interests, and goodwill acquired in a business combination to be recorded at full fair value and require noncontrolling interests (previously referred to as minority interests) to be reported as a component of equity, which changes the accounting for transactions with noncontrolling interest holders. Both Statements are effective for periods beginning on or after December 15, 2008, and earlier adoption is prohibited. Statement 141R will be applied to business combinations occurring after the effective date. Statement 160 will be applied prospectively to all noncontrolling interests, including any that arose before the effective date. The Company believes adopting Statement 141R and Statement 160 will not have a material impact on its results of operations and financial position.

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

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**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements**

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**Note 2 Significant Accounting Policies (cont d)**

**U. Recent accounting pronouncements (cont d)**

In May 2008, the FASB issued FASB Statement No. 162, "The Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles" (SFAS 162). SFAS 162 identifies the sources of accounting principles and the framework for selecting the principles used in the preparation of financial statements of non-governmental entities that are presented in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) in the United States (the GAAP hierarchy). The Company does not expect the adoption of SFAS 162 to have a material impact on its consolidated results of operations and financial position.

In June 2008, the FASB's Emerging Issues Task Force reached a consensus on EITF Issue No. 07-5, "Determining Whether an Instrument (or Embedded Feature) Is Indexed to an Entity's Own Stock." This EITF Issue provides guidance on the determination of whether such instruments are classified in equity or as a derivative instrument. The Company will adopt the provisions of EITF 07-5 on January 1, 2009. The Company does not expect the adoption of EITF 07-5 to have a material impact on its consolidated results of operations and financial position.

**V. Concentrations of risks**

(1) Credit risk



Financial instruments, which potentially subject the Company to significant concentrations of credit risk, consist principally of cash and cash equivalents, marketable securities and trade receivables. Cash and cash equivalents balances of the Company, which are subject to credit risk, consist of cash accounts held with major financial institutions. Concentrations of credit risk with respect to trade receivables are limited due to the Company's diverse customer base and their wide geographical dispersion. The Company closely monitors extensions of credit and has never experienced significant credit losses.

(2) Concentrations of Trade accounts payable

Certain key components used in the Company's products are currently available from only one source and others are available from a limited number of sources. The Company believes it maintains inventory of these components to protect against delays in deliveries.

**W. Reclassifications**

Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to the current year presentation. Such reclassifications did not have any impact on the Company's shareholders' equity or net income.

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements**

**Note 3 Cash and Cash Equivalents**

	December 31	
	2007	2008
	US\$ thousands	
Cash	2,464	3,251
Cash equivalents *	11,752	11,317
	<b>14,216</b>	<b>14,568</b>

\* Comprised mainly of deposits in bank as at December 31, 2007 and 2008 carrying interest of 4.88% and 1.14%, respectively.

**Note 4 Marketable Securities**

As at December 31, 2007 and 2008, investment securities consist of corporate debt securities and US government agencies (the Bonds), which the Company classified as held-to-maturity.

The amortized cost, gross unrealized losses and fair value of the Bonds by major interest type were as follows:

December 31, 2007		
Amortized cost	Gross unrealized holding losses	Fair value

	December 31, 2007		
	US\$ thousands		
Up to 5%	803	-	803
5.01% - 5.3%	17,923	(96)	17,827
	<u>18,726</u>	<u>(96)</u>	<u>18,630</u>
	<b>18,726</b>	<b>(96)</b>	<b>18,630</b>

  

	December 31, 2008		
	Amortized cost	Gross unrealized holding losses	Fair value
	US\$ thousands		
Up to 5%	11,867	(324)	11,543
5.01% - 5.34%	12,763	(213)	12,550
	<u>24,630</u>	<u>(537)</u>	<u>24,093</u>
	<b>24,630</b>	<b>(537)</b>	<b>24,093</b>

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements****Note 4 Marketable Securities (cont d)**

Maturities of the Bonds were as follows as at December 31, 2008:

	Amortized cost	Fair value
	US\$ thousands	
Current maturities	8,426	8,292
Due after one year through 1.38 years	16,204	15,801
	<u>24,630</u>	<u>24,093</u>
	<b>24,630</b>	<b>24,093</b>

The following table summarizes the gross unrealized losses on investment securities and the fair value of the related securities, aggregated by investment category and length of time that individual securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position, at December 31, 2008:

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Held to maturity	Less than 12 months		12 months or more		Total	
	Unrealized Losses	Fair value	Unrealized Losses	Fair value	Unrealized Losses	Fair value
Corporate and US Government Agencies debt securities	385	14,503	152	9,590	537	24,093

The unrealized losses on the investments were caused by interest rate increases. The Company has the ability and intent to hold these investments until maturity; therefore these investments are not considered other than temporary impaired.

**Note 5 Accounts Receivable Other**

	December 31	
	2007	2008
	US\$ thousands	
VAT	128	182
Advanced to suppliers	78	80
Other	132	91
	338	353

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements**

**Note 6 Inventories**

	December 31	
	2007	2008
	US\$ thousands	
Raw materials and components	1,585	2,282
Products in process	2,402	2,858
Finished products	91	129
	4,078	5,269

**Note 7 Property, Plant and Equipment, Net**

	December 31	
	2007	2008
	US\$ thousands	
Machinery and equipment	2,145	2,499
Motor vehicles	46	-
Office furniture and equipment	261	249
Leasehold improvements	220	220
	<u>2,672</u>	<u>2,968</u>
Property, plant and equipment		
Accumulated depreciation	(1,997)	(2,173)
	<u>675</u>	<u>795</u>

Depreciation expense for the years ended December 31, 2006, 2007 and 2008 was US\$ 170 thousand, US\$ 268 thousand and US\$ 450 thousand, respectively.

**Note 8 Other Assets, Net**

	December 31	
	2007	2008
	US\$ thousands	
License fee for patent costs	150	-
Accumulated amortization	(111)	-
	<u>39</u>	<u>-</u>

Amortization expense for each of the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2007 was US\$ 9 thousand. In 2008 the asset was written off completely.

**Note 9 Other Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses**

	December 31	
	2007	2008
	US\$ thousands	
Employees and related liabilities	693	496
Provision for vacation pay	342	421
Royalty payable	14	15
Income tax payable	280	642
Accrued expenses	212	287
Other	174	193
	1,715	2,054

**Note 10 Assets Held and Liability for Employees Severance Benefits**

- A. Under Israeli law and labor agreements, Silicom is required to make severance payments to retired or dismissed employees and to employees leaving employment in certain other circumstances.

In respect of the liability to the employees, individual insurance policies are purchased and deposits are made with recognized severance pay funds.

The liability for severance pay is calculated on the basis of the latest salary paid to each employee multiplied by the number of years of employment. The liability is covered by the amounts deposited including accumulated income thereon as well as by the unfunded provision.

- B. According to Section 14 to the Severance Pay Law ( Section 14 ) the payment of monthly deposits by a company into recognized severance and pension funds or insurance policies releases it from any additional severance obligation to the employees that have entered into agreements with the company pursuant to such Section 14. Commencing July 1st, 2008, the Company has entered into agreements with a majority of its employees in order to implement Section 14. Therefore, as of that date, the payment of monthly deposits by the Company into recognized severance and pension funds or insurance policies releases it from any additional severance obligation to those employees that have entered into such agreements and therefore the Company incurs no additional liability since that date with respect to such employees. Amounts accumulated in the pension funds or insurance policies pursuant to Section 14 are not supervised or administrated by the Company and therefore neither such amounts nor the corresponding accrual are reflected in the balance sheet.
- C. Consequently, the assets held for employee severance benefits reported on the balance sheet, in respect of deposits for those employees who have signed agreements pursuant to Section 14, represent the redemption value of deposits made through June 30, 2008. The liability for employee severance benefits, with respect to those employees, represents the liability of the Company for employee severance benefits as of June 30, 2008.

**Note 10 Asset Held and Liability for Employees Severance Benefits (cont d)**

As a result of the implementation of Section 14, as described above, the liability with respect to those employees will remain constant, until such liability will be removed, either by termination of employment or retirement.

- D. The expenses recorded in respect to employee severance payments for the years ended December 31, 2006, 2007 and 2008 were US\$ 189 thousand, US\$ 291 thousand and US\$ 416 thousand, respectively.

**Note 11 Commitments and Contingencies****A. Royalty commitments**

The Company is obligated to pay royalties to the Government of Israel and the Korea Israel Industrial Research and Development Foundation on revenues from product sales related to research and development, which was undertaken with Government grants and other grants. Since January 1, 1997, royalty rates are 2% to 5%. The royalty rates applicable for the Company's research and development projects are 2% - 3.5%, except for one project that took place in the period July 1, 1997 - January 31, 2000, where the royalty rate is 4%.

Royalties are payable from the commencement of sales of each of these products until the cumulative amount of the royalties paid equals 100% of the dollar linked amounts of the grants received, without interest for projects approved prior to December 31, 2000 and with LIBOR interest for amounts received after that date.

The Company's total outstanding contingencies in respect of royalty-bearing participations received or accrued, net of royalties paid or accrued before interest, amounted to approximately US\$ 2,963 thousand as at December 31, 2008 (US\$ 2,990 thousand as at December 31, 2007).

**B. Lease commitments**

The premises and facilities occupied by the Company are leased under various operating lease agreements. Furthermore, the Company has entered into several operating lease agreements for motor vehicles in Israel.

The agreements are in New Israeli Shekel (NIS) or linked to the dollar or to the Israeli Consumer Price Index.

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements****Note 11 Commitments and Contingencies (Cont d)****B. Lease commitments (cont d)**

The minimum future rental payments under the above leases at exchange rates in effect on December 31, 2008, are as follows:

	<u>US\$ thousands</u>
<b><u>Year ended December 31</u></b>	
2009	479
2010	278
2011	59

2012

3

Rental expenses under the lease agreements for the years ended December 31, 2006, 2007 and 2008 were US\$ 142 thousand, US\$ 167 thousand and US\$ 236 thousand, respectively.

### C. Credit line

The Company has one line of credit provided to it by Bank Hapoalim (approximately US\$ 158 thousand). The Bank Hapoalim is allowed to cancel or change the line of credit with no notice.

As at December 31, 2008, this credit line has not been used.

### D. Bank guarantee

The Company has provided a bank guarantee to a third party in respect of certain future rental payments in the amount of US\$ 67 thousand. The guarantee has been provided for one year and is renewed each year according to the contract terms and conditions. The guarantee may be exercised by the third party subject to the terms in the rental agreement between the Company and the third party.

## Note 12 Shareholders Equity

### A. Share capital and warrants

- On January 25, 2006, the Company completed a public offering of ordinary shares and warrants (Series 1) in Israel on the Tel-Aviv Stock Exchange. The Company issued a total of 10,000 units at a price of NIS 2,771.20 (approximately US\$ 600) per unit, with each unit comprising 80 shares and 40 warrants. Each warrant is exercisable into one ordinary share until January 31, 2008 at an exercise price per share of NIS 39.84 (equivalent to US\$ 8.64) calculated on the date on the exercise of such warrant.

Net proceeds to the Company from the offering were approximately US\$ 5.6 million at the time of the sale, net of US\$ 405 thousand of issuance costs. Neither the shares, warrants nor the shares issuable upon exercise of warrants have been registered under the US Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### Note 12 Shareholders Equity

As of January 31, 2008 (i.e. the expiration date of the warrants), 399,934 warrants were exercised, of which 108,487 were exercised in January 2008, resulting in additional net proceeds of approximately \$3.5 million in the aggregate (\$964 thousand for 2008).

- In May 2007, the Company conducted a private placement, pursuant to which the Company issued to certain accredited investors and qualified institutional purchasers 875,000 ordinary shares at a purchase price of US\$20.50 per share and warrants to purchase up to 218,750 ordinary shares at an exercise price of US\$28.25 per share. The warrants issued to the investors will expire in July 2010. Net proceeds from the private placement were approximately US\$16.8 million, net of US\$1.2 million of issuance costs. In addition, the Company issued to the placement agents warrants to purchase up to an aggregate of 10,937 ordinary shares on the same terms as the warrants issued to the investors.

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As at December 31, 2008, no warrants were exercised into shares related to this issuance.

### **B. Stock options to employees and directors**

1. In 1993 the Board of Directors of Silicom adopted the Share Option Plan covering up to 88,676 options at a conversion rate of 1:1, to be granted to certain of its employees and consultants. In June 1997 the Board of Directors of Silicom expanded the number of options covered by this plan by 211,324 options to 300,000 options. In April 2002, the Board of Directors expanded the number of options covered by this plan by 200,000 options to 500,000 options. The share Option Plan is administered by the Board of Directors, which designates the options and dates of grant. The price of shares to be issued under this plan is equal to the market price of Silicom shares on the date upon which the options were granted. The options are for a 10-year term and are non-assignable except by the laws of succession.
2. In 1994 the Board of Directors of Silicom approved a Directors Share Incentive Option Plan (1994) (the Directors Plan) covering up to 200,000 options at a conversion rate of 1:1.

In June 1999, the Board of Directors of Silicom expanded the number of options covered by this plan by 120,000 options to 320,000 options.

In January 2002, the Board of Directors of Silicom expanded again the number of options covered by this plan by 180,000 options to 500,000 options.

The exercise price of the options to be issued to the directors under the Directors Plan is equal to the market price of Silicom shares on the dates upon which the options were granted.

3. In October 2000, the Board of Directors of Silicom adopted the Silicom Ltd. US Share Option Plan (2000) (the US Plan). The US Plan provides that options may be granted to any officer, consultants and certain other present and future employees and directors of Silicom and its subsidiary. Under the terms of the US Plan, up to a maximum of 200,000 ordinary shares of Silicom are reserved for issuance, subject to certain adjustments. The exercise price of the options granted under the US Plan shall be not less than 100 percent (or, in the case of a grant to a holder of more than 10% of Silicom's outstanding shares, 110 percent) of the fair market value of the ordinary shares subject to the option on the date the option is granted. The vesting period of the options is subject to the discretion of the Board. The term of the option shall not exceed 10 years from the date that the option was granted (or five years, in the case of optionees who hold more than 10% of Silicom's outstanding shares).

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

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### **Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements**

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#### **Note 12 Shareholders Equity (cont d)**

4. On July 21, 2004, the Board resolved, subject to shareholder approval that was given on December 30, 2004, to adopt the Share Option Plan (2004) (the 2004 Plan) and to cancel any authorized share capital of the Company that had been previously reserved and unexercised under the 1993 and 1994 plans, which was not then allocated under such plans or which would become unallocated from time to time as outstanding options expire or are forfeited collectively (the Cancelled Reserve). The Cancelled Reserve consisted of 282,750 authorized Ordinary Shares of the Company.

The 2004 Plan, covers up to 582,750 options at a conversion rate of 1:1 to be granted to Israeli employees and directors. Option grants to employees under the 2004 Plan, including, terms of vesting and the exercise price are subject to the Board of Director's approval. Option grants to directors are subject to the approvals of the Audit Committee, Board of Directors and Shareholders. The term of the options shall not exceed 10 years from the date that the option was granted.

5. No options have been granted by the Company other than to employees and directors.



6. Options granted to Israeli residents may be granted under Section 102 of the Israeli Income Tax Ordinance pursuant to which the awards of the ordinary shares issued upon their exercise must be deposited with a trustee following the date of the grant. Under Section 102, any tax payable by an employee from the grant or exercise of the awards is deferred until the transfer of the awards or ordinary shares by the trustee to the employee or upon the sale of the awards or ordinary shares.
7. On January 24, 2008 the Company granted, in the aggregate, 200,000 options to certain of its directors and employees under its Share Option Plan (2004) and US Share Option Plan (2000). In relation to this grant:
- a. The exercise price for the options (per ordinary share) was \$US 11.20 and the Option expiration date was the earlier to occur of: (a) January 24, 2016; and (b) the closing price of the Shares falling below \$US 5.60 at any time after the date of grant. 50% of the options vest and become exercisable on the second anniversary of the date of grant and an additional 50% of the options vest and become exercisable on the third anniversary of the date of the grant.

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements**

**Note 12 Shareholders Equity (cont d)**

**B. Stock options to employees and directors (cont d)**

- b. The Company recognizes compensation expense on these options based on estimated grant date fair value using the Monte Carlo option-pricing model with the following assumptions:

Average Risk-free interest rate <sup>(1)</sup>	3.36%
Expected dividend yield	0.0%
Average expected volatility <sup>(2)</sup>	116.24%
Termination rate	11%
Suboptimal rate <sup>(3)</sup>	3.4

<sup>(1)</sup> Risk-free interest rate represents risk free US\$ zero-coupon US Government Bonds at time of grant.

<sup>(2)</sup> Expected average volatility represents a weighted average standard deviation rate for the price of the Company's ordinary shares on the NASDAQ National Market.

<sup>(3)</sup> Suboptimal rate represents the multiple of the increase in the market share price on the day of grant of the option which, should it come to pass, will lead to exercise of the option by the employee. It is the average suboptimal rate of the Company and similar companies.

- c. Expenses incurred during the year ended December 31, 2008 in relation to this grant were approximately US\$ 310 thousand. As at December 31, 2008, there was approximately US\$ 454 thousand of unrecognized compensation costs related to this grant to be recognized over a weighted average period of 2.07 years.
- d. All of these options expired by their terms on July 30, 2008 without exercise.
8. On October 15, 2008 the Company granted, in the aggregate, 200,000 options to certain of its directors and employees under its Share Option Plan (2004) and US Share Option Plan (2000). In relation to this grant:
- a. The exercise price for the options (per ordinary share) was US\$ 3.82 and the Option expiration date was the earlier to occur of: (a) October 15, 2016; and (b) the closing price of the Shares falling below US\$ 1.91 at any time after the date of

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grant. 50% of the options vest and become exercisable on the second anniversary of the date of grant and an additional 50% of the options vest and become exercisable on the third anniversary of the date of the grant.

- b. The Company recognizes compensation expense on these options based on estimated grant date fair value using the Monte Carlo option-pricing model with the following assumptions:

Average Risk-free interest rate <sup>(1)</sup>	3.73%
Expected dividend yield	0.0%
Average expected volatility <sup>(2)</sup>	112.42%
Termination rate	11%
Suboptimal rate <sup>(3)</sup>	3.45

<sup>(1)</sup> Risk-free interest rate represents risk free US\$ zero-coupon US Government Bonds at time of grant.

<sup>(2)</sup> Expected average volatility represents a weighted average standard deviation rate for the price of the Company's ordinary shares on the NASDAQ National Market.

<sup>(3)</sup> Suboptimal rate represents the multiple of the increase in the market share price on the day of grant of the option which, should it come to pass, will lead to exercise of the option by the employee. It is the average suboptimal rate of the Company and similar companies.

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

### Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

#### Note 12 Shareholders' Equity (cont'd)

##### B. Stock options to employees and directors (cont'd)

- c. Expenses incurred during the year ended December 31, 2008 in relation to this grant were approximately US\$ 24 thousand. As at December 31, 2008, there was approximately US\$ 247 thousand of unrecognized compensation costs related to this grant to be recognized over a weighted average period of 2.87 years.

The following table summarizes information regarding stock options as at December 31, 2008:

Exercise price US\$	Options outstanding	
	Number of options	Weighted average remaining contractual life (in years)
0.90	1,950	3.07
2.53	40,500	5.99
3.19 - 5.75	315,000	5.59
	357,450	

Exercise price US\$	Options exercisable	
	Number of options	Weighted average remaining contractual life (in years)
0.90	1,950	3.07
2.53	40,500	5.99
3.19 - 5.75	115,000	1.77
	<u>157,450</u>	

The aggregate intrinsic value of options outstanding as of December 31, 2007 and 2008 is US\$ 1,629 thousand and US\$ 155 thousand, respectively. The aggregate intrinsic value of options exercisable as of December 31, 2007 and 2008 is US\$ 1,629 thousand and US\$ 79 thousand, respectively.

The total intrinsic value of options exercised during the year ended December 31, 2007 and 2008, is US\$ 3,300 thousand and US\$ 120 thousand, respectively.

The intrinsic value of the options at the date of grant is zero.

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### Note 12 Shareholders Equity (cont d)

#### B. Stock options to employees and directors (cont d)

The stock option activity under the abovementioned plans is as follows:

	Number of options	Weighted average exercise price	Weighted average grant date fair value
		US\$	US\$
<b>Balance at January 1, 2006</b>	452,000		
Forfeited	(11,500)	2.50	2.06
Exercised	(62,550)	3.22	2.75
	<u>377,950</u>		
<b>Balance at December 31, 2006</b>	377,950		
Exercised	(205,800)	2.79	2.41

	Number of options	Weighted average exercise price	Weighted average grant date fair value
<b>Balance at December 31, 2007</b>	172,150		
Granted	400,000	7.51	3.42
Expired	(200,000)	11.20	5.04
Exercised	(14,700)	1.86	2.60
	<hr/>		
<b>Balance at December 31, 2008</b>	357,450		
	<hr/>		
<b>Exercisable at December 31, 2008</b>	157,450		
	<hr/>		

During 2007 and 2008, the Company recorded share-based compensation expenses. The following summarizes the allocation of the stock-based compensation expenses:

	Year ended December 31	
	2007	2008
	US\$ thousands	US\$ thousands
Cost of sales	2	49
Research and development costs	13	103
Selling and marketing expenses	8	96
General and administrative expenses	28	86
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	51	334
	<hr/>	<hr/>

As of December 31, 2008, there was approximately US\$ 701 thousand of unrecognized compensation cost related to non-vested options to be recognized over a weighted average period of 2.87 years. No options were vested during 2008. The total grant date fair value of options vested during 2007 was US\$ 26 thousand.

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### Note 13 Sales

#### A. Information on sales by geographic distribution:

The Company has one operating segment.

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Sales are attributed to geographic distribution based on the location of the customer.

	Year ended December 31		
	2006	2007	2008
	US\$ thousands		
North America	11,550	20,041	16,808
Europe	1,978	2,012	2,114
Rest of the world	2,590	4,731	6,632
	16,118	26,784	25,554

**B. Sales to single customers exceeding 10% of sales (US\$ thousands):**

Customer "A"	3,156	7,438	5,108
Customer "B"	*	*	3,521
Customer "C"	*	*	2,702

\* Less than 10% of sales.

**Note 14 Financial Income (Expenses), Net**

	Year ended December 31		
	2006	2007	2008
	US\$ thousands		
Interest income	313	1,085	1,361
Exchange rate differences, net	(108)	(69)	(75)
Bank charges	(38)	(60)	(98)
	167	956	1,188

**Note 15 Taxes on Income****A. Measurement of results for tax purposes under the Israeli Income Tax Regulations (Rules for Maintaining Accounting Records of Foreign Invested Companies and Certain Partnerships and Determining Their Taxable Income) 1986**

As a foreign invested company (as defined in the Israeli Law for the Encouragement of Capital Investments-1959), the Company's management has elected to apply Income Tax Regulations (Rules for Maintaining Accounting Records of Foreign Invested Companies and Certain Partnerships and Determining Their Taxable Income) 1986 from January 1, 2002. Accordingly, its taxable income or loss is calculated in US Dollars.

**B. Israel tax reform**

On July 25, 2005, the Israeli Parliament passed the Law for the Amendment of the Income Tax Ordinance (No. 147 and Temporary Order) 2005. This Amendment provides for a gradual reduction in the company tax rate in the following manner: in 2006 31%, in 2007 29%, in 2008 27%, in 2009 26% and from 2010 onward the tax rate will be 25%. Furthermore, as from 2010, upon reduction of the company tax rate to 25%, real capital gains will be subject to tax of 25%.

**C. Tax benefits under the Israeli Law for the Encouragement of Capital Investments, 1959 (hereinafter the Law )****1. Rates**

- a. The Company has been granted for its first investment program an Approved Enterprise status in 1988 under the Law. For this program, the Company has elected to be taxed under the alternative benefits method, whereby the Company waives grants in return for tax exemptions. Pursuant thereto, the income of the Company derived from this first investment program was tax-exempt until 1997.
- b. The Company's program for expansion of its Approved Enterprise in Yokneam was approved in September 1995. As the Company elected to apply the alternative benefits method for this program, the Company was entitled to a tax exemption with respect to the additional income derived from that expansion for ten years. In June 1995, the Israeli Tax Authorities and the Company have agreed that for the purpose of determining the Company's tax liability, the Company's taxable income deriving from the Approved Enterprise sources will be allocated to its manufacturing plant and to its research and development center, according to a formula based on the net costs plus royalties of the research and development center and the Company's level of annual taxable income. The tax exemption of the manufacturing plant expired in 2006 and tax benefits allocated to the research and development center expired in 2004.

The final report as to the completion of investments under this program was approved by the Investment Center in October 2001.

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements****Note 15 Taxes on Income (cont d)****C. Tax benefits under the Israeli Law for the Encouragement of Capital Investments, 1959 (hereinafter the Law ) (cont d)****1. Rates (cont d)**

- c. In the event of distribution by the Company of cash dividends out of its retained earnings that were tax exempt due to the Approved Enterprise status, the Company would be subject to a 25% corporate tax on the amount distributed, and a further 15% withholding tax would be deducted from the amounts distributed to the shareholders.

- d. Should the Company derive income from sources other than the Approved Enterprise during the relevant period of benefits, such income will be taxable at the regular corporate tax rates for the applicable year.

2. Accelerated depreciation

The Company is entitled to claim accelerated depreciation for a period of five years in respect of property, plant and equipment of an Approved Enterprise. The Company has not utilized this benefit to date.

3. Conditions for entitlement to the tax benefits

Entitlement to the tax benefits of the Company's Approved Enterprise is dependent upon the Company fulfilling the conditions stipulated by the Law and the regulations published thereunder, as well as the criteria set forth in the approval for the specific investment in the Company's Approved Enterprise.

In the event of failure to comply with these conditions, the tax benefits may be canceled, and the Company may be required to refund the amount of the cancelled benefits, with the addition of linkage differences and interest. As of the date of these financial statements, the Company believes it is in compliance with these conditions.

4. Amendments to the Law

On March 30, 2005, the Israeli Parliament approved a reform of the above Law. The primary changes are as follows:

- (a) Companies that meet the criteria of the Alternate Path of tax benefits will receive those benefits without prior approval. In addition, there will be no requirement to file reports with the Investment Center. Companies will be required to notify the Israeli Tax Authorities regarding the implementation of the Alternate Path of tax benefits. Audits will take place via the Israeli Income Tax Authorities as part of the tax audits. Request for pre-ruling is possible.

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

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**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements**

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**Note 15 Taxes on Income (cont d)**

**C. Tax benefits under the Israeli Law for the Encouragement of Capital Investments, 1959 (hereinafter the Law ) (cont d)**

4. Amendments to the Law (cont d)

- (b) Tax benefits of the Alternate Path include lower tax rates or no tax depending on the area and the path chosen, lower tax rates on dividend income and accelerated tax depreciation.
- (c) In order to receive the tax benefits in the Grant Path or the Alternate Path, the Industrial Company must contribute to the economic independence of Israel's economy in one of the following ways:
1. Its primary activity is in the Biotechnology or Nanotechnology fields and pre-approval is received from the head of research and development at the Office of the Chief Scientist;
  2. Its revenue from a specific country is not greater than 75% of its total revenues that year;
  3. 25% or more of its revenues are derived from a specific foreign market of at least 12 million residents.

- (d) Upon the establishment of an Approved Enterprise, an investment of at least NIS 300 thousand in production machinery and equipment within three years is required.
- (e) For an expansion, a company is required to invest within three years the higher of NIS 300 thousand in production machinery and equipment or a certain percentage of its existing production machinery and equipment.

The amendments to the Law do not retroactively apply for investment programs having an Approved Enterprise approval certificate from the Investment Center issued up to December 31, 2004. Therefore, the amendments do not impact an existing Approved Enterprise that received prior written approval. The new tax regime shall apply for a new Approved Enterprise and for an Approved Enterprise expansion for which the elected year is 2004.

In respect to the abovementioned amendments to the Law, the Company selected the tax years 2004 and 2006 as the years of election and received the Israeli Tax Authorities pre-ruling acknowledging 2004 and 2006 as the years of election. Additionally, the Israeli Tax Authorities pre-ruling granted a formula to determine allocation of the Company's taxable income that will be subject to different tax rates as allowed under the amendments to the Law.

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements**

**Note 15 Taxes on Income (cont d)**

**D. Tax benefits under the Israeli Law for Encouragement of Industry (Taxes), 1969**

The Company considers that it currently qualifies as an Industrial Company under the above Law. As such, it is entitled to certain tax benefits, mainly the right to deduct share issuance costs over three years for tax purposes in the event of a public offering, and to deduct purchases of know-how and patents over an eight-year period for tax purposes.

**E. Tax assessments**

The Company received final tax assessments for all years up to and including the tax year ended December 31, 2004.

**F. Taxation of the subsidiary**

At December 31, 2008, the Company's subsidiary had approximately US\$ 598 thousand net operating loss carryforwards for US federal income tax reporting purposes, which will expire through 2028. In addition, at December 31, 2008, the subsidiary had approximately US\$ 460 thousand net operating loss carryforwards for state income tax reporting purposes, which will expire through 2014.

**G. Income before income taxes and income taxes expense (benefit) included in the consolidated statements of income**

Year ended December 31		
2006	2007	2008
US\$ thousands		

Income before income taxes:

Israel	2,542	6,671	4,746
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	Year ended December 31		
Foreign jurisdiction	11	41	23
	2,553	6,712	4,769
<b>Income tax expense (benefit)</b>			
Current taxes:			
Israel	-	424	438
Foreign jurisdiction	-	-	-
	-	424	438
Deferred taxes:			
Israel	(42)	15	(307)
Foreign jurisdiction	(4)	(7)	(7)
	(46)	8	(314)
Total	(46)	432	124

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

### Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

#### Note 15 Taxes on Income (cont d)

##### H. Deferred income taxes

- Most of Silicom's income is tax exempt due to the Approved Enterprise status granted to its production facilities. Silicom has decided to indefinitely reinvest the amount of the said tax-exempt income, and not to distribute such income as dividends.
- The tax effects of significant items comprising the Company's deferred tax assets are as follows:

	December 31 2007	December 31 2008
	US\$ thousands	US\$ thousands
Deferred tax assets:		
Accrued employee benefits	170	282
Research and development costs	158	456
Tax loss carryforwards	120	120
Other	85	77

	December 31 2007	December 31 2008
Total gross deferred tax assets	533	935
Less: valuation allowance	(460)	(491)
Net deferred tax assets	73	444

The net change in valuation allowance for the years ended December 31, 2006, 2007 and 2008 was a decrease of US\$ 1,298 thousand, an increase of US\$ 77 thousand, and an increase of US\$ 31 thousand, respectively.

In assessing the realizability of deferred tax assets, management considers whether it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. The ultimate realization of deferred tax assets is dependent upon the generation of future taxable income during the periods in which those temporary differences become deductible. Management considers projected future taxable income and tax planning strategies in making this assessment.

Based upon projections for future taxable income over the periods in which the deferred tax assets are deductible, management believes it is more likely than not that the Company will realize the benefits of these deductible differences, net of the existing valuation allowances at December 31, 2008. The amount of the deferred tax asset considered realizable, however, could be reduced in the near term if estimates of future taxable income during the carryforward period are reduced.

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

### Note 15 Taxes on Income (cont d)

#### I. Reconciliation of the statutory tax expense (benefit) to actual tax expense (benefit)

	Year ended December 31		
	2006	2007	2008
	US\$ thousands		
Income before income taxes	2,553	6,712	4,769
Statutory tax rate	31%	29%	27%
Computed expected tax	791	1,946	1,288
<u>Increase (decrease) in taxes resulting from:</u>			
Non-deductible (deductible) operating expenses	57	121	105
Prior year adjustments	-	(31)	-
Change in valuation allowance	(1,298)	8	88
Tax effect due to "Approved Enterprise" status	359	(1,612)	(1,324)
Other	45	-	(33)

	Year ended December 31		
	2008	2007	2006
Income tax expense (benefit)	(46)	432	124
Basic earnings per share amounts of the benefit resulting from the "Approved Enterprise" status	(0.07)	0.26	0.20
Diluted earnings per share amounts of the benefit resulting from the "Approved Enterprise" status	(0.07)	0.26	0.20

**J. Accounting for uncertainty in income taxes**

FIN 48 clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in an enterprise's financial statements in accordance with FAS 109. This interpretation prescribes a minimum recognition threshold a tax position is required to meet before being recognized in the financial statements. FIN 48 also provides guidance on derecognition of tax positions, classification on the balance sheet, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure, and transition. FIN 48 requires significant judgment in determining what constitutes an individual tax position as well as assessing the outcome of each tax position.

As of January 1, 2007 and 2008 and for the twelve months ended December 31, 2007 and 2008, the Company and its subsidiary did not have any unrecognized tax benefits. In addition, the Company and its subsidiary do not expect that the amount of unrecognized tax benefits will change significantly within the next twelve months. No interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits had been accrued as of January 1, 2007 and 2008 and for the twelve months ended December 31, 2007 and 2008.

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Silicom Ltd. and its Consolidated Subsidiary

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements**

**Note 15 Taxes on Income (cont'd)**

**J. Accounting for uncertainty in income taxes (cont'd)**

The Company and its subsidiary file income tax returns in Israel and in the US. The Israeli tax returns of the Company are open to examination by the Israeli tax authorities for the tax years beginning in 2005. The US tax returns of the US subsidiary are open to examination by the US tax authorities for tax years beginning in 2005.

**Note 16 Fair Value of Financial Instruments**

The Company's financial instruments consist of cash and cash equivalents, marketable securities, trade and other receivables and trade accounts payable. The carrying amounts of these financial instruments, except for marketable securities, approximate fair value because of the short maturity of these investments. Assets held for severance benefits are recorded at their current cash redemption value.

The fair value of marketable securities is presented in Note 4 to these consolidated financial statements.

