

RAMBUS INC
Form 10-Q
April 24, 2015
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UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

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

For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2015

OR

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number: 000-22339

RAMBUS INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

1050 Enterprise Way, Suite 700

Sunnyvale, California

(Address of principal executive offices)

94-3112828

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

94089

(ZIP Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (408) 462-8000

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company

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

The number of shares outstanding of the registrant's Common Stock, par value \$.001 per share, was 115,473,870 as of March 31, 2015.

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NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (“Quarterly Report”) contains forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements include, without limitation, predictions regarding the following aspects of our future:

- Success in the markets of our products and services or our customers’ products;
- Sources of competition;
- Research and development costs and improvements in technology;
- Sources, amounts and concentration of revenue, including royalties;
- Success in signing and renewing license agreements;
- Terms of our licenses and amounts owed under license agreements;
- Technology product development;
- Dispositions, acquisitions, mergers or strategic transactions and our related integration efforts;
- Impairment of goodwill and long-lived assets;
- Pricing policies of our customers;
- Changes in our strategy and business model, including the expansion of our portfolio of inventions and solutions to address additional markets in lighting, chip and system security;
- Deterioration of financial health of commercial counterparties and their ability to meet their obligations to us;
- Effects of security breaches or failures in our or our customers’ products and services on our business;
- Engineering, sales and general and administration expenses;
- Contract revenue;
- Operating results;
- International licenses and operations;
- Effects of changes in the economy and credit market on our industry and business;
- Ability to identify, attract, motivate and retain qualified personnel;
- Effects of government regulations on our industry and business;
- Manufacturing and supply partners and/or sale and distribution channels;
- Growth in our business;
- Methods, estimates and judgments in accounting policies;
- Adoption of new accounting pronouncements;
- Effective tax rates;
 - Realization of deferred tax assets/release of deferred tax valuation allowance;
- Trading price of our common stock;
- Internal control environment;
- The level and terms of our outstanding debt and the repayment or financing of such debt;
- Litigation expenses;
- Protection of intellectual property;
- Any changes in laws, agency actions and judicial rulings that may impact the ability to enforce intellectual property rights;
- Indemnification and technical support obligations;
- Equity repurchase plans;
- Issuances of our securities, which could involve restrictive covenants or be dilutive to our existing stockholders;
- Outcome and effect of potential future intellectual property litigation and other significant litigation; and
- Likelihood of paying dividends.

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You can identify these and other forward-looking statements by the use of words such as “may,” “future,” “shall,” “should,” “expects,” “plans,” “anticipates,” “believes,” “estimates,” “predicts,” “intends,” “potential,” “continue,” “projecting” or the neg terms, or other comparable terminology. Forward-looking statements also include the assumptions underlying or relating to any of the foregoing statements.

Actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of various factors, including those set forth under Item 1A, “Risk Factors.” All forward-looking statements included in this document are based on our assessment of information available to us at this time. We assume no obligation to update any forward-looking statements.

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PART I—FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements

RAMBUS INC.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(Unaudited)

	March 31, 2015	December 31, 2014
	(In thousands, except shares and par value)	
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 171,567	\$ 154,126
Marketable securities	146,194	145,983
Accounts receivable	6,541	6,001
Prepays and other current assets	10,141	8,541
Deferred taxes	1,123	187
Total current assets	335,566	314,838
Intangible assets, net	83,049	89,371
Goodwill	116,899	116,899
Property, plant and equipment, net	61,577	64,023
Deferred taxes, long-term	447	536
Other assets	2,333	2,612
Total assets	\$ 599,871	\$ 588,279
LIABILITIES & STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 5,697	\$ 6,962
Accrued salaries and benefits	10,477	14,840
Deferred revenue	5,405	4,133
Other current liabilities	6,450	8,723
Total current liabilities	28,029	34,658
Convertible notes, long-term	116,508	115,089
Long-term imputed financing obligation	38,974	39,063
Long-term income taxes payable	2,790	2,769
Other long-term liabilities	7,628	5,078
Total liabilities	193,929	196,657
Commitments and contingencies (Notes 9 and 13)		
Stockholders' equity:		
Convertible preferred stock, \$.001 par value:		
Authorized: 5,000,000 shares		
Issued and outstanding: no shares at March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014	—	—
Common stock, \$.001 par value:		
Authorized: 500,000,000 shares		
Issued and outstanding: 115,473,870 shares at March 31, 2015 and 115,161,675 shares at December 31, 2014	115	115
Additional paid-in capital	1,158,200	1,153,435
Accumulated deficit	(752,024) (761,526
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(349) (402
Total stockholders' equity	405,942	391,622
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 599,871	\$ 588,279

See Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

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RAMBUS INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2015	2014
	(In thousands, except per share amounts)	
Revenue:		
Royalties	\$66,963	\$73,637
Contract and other revenue	5,951	4,651
Total revenue	72,914	78,288
Operating costs and expenses:		
Cost of revenue*	10,756	10,022
Research and development*	28,534	26,898
Sales, general and administrative*	18,502	18,820
Gain from sale of intellectual property	(2,260)	(170)
Restructuring charges	—	39
Gain from settlement	(510)	(510)
Total operating costs and expenses	55,022	55,099
Operating income	17,892	23,189
Interest income and other income (expense), net	132	13
Interest expense	(3,083)	(9,926)
Interest and other income (expense), net	(2,951)	(9,913)
Income before income taxes	14,941	13,276
Provision for income taxes	5,439	5,472
Net income	\$9,502	\$7,804
Net income per share:		
Basic	\$0.08	\$0.07
Diluted	\$0.08	\$0.07
Weighted average shares used in per share calculation:		
Basic	115,336	113,590
Diluted	117,442	116,629
<hr/>		
* Includes stock-based compensation:		
Cost of revenue	\$12	\$7
Research and development	\$1,767	\$1,311
Sales, general and administrative	\$1,987	\$1,581

See Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

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RAMBUS INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
(Unaudited)

(In thousands)	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2015	2014
Net income	\$9,502	\$7,804
Other comprehensive income:		
Unrealized gain on marketable securities, net of tax	53	8
Total comprehensive income	\$9,555	\$7,812

See Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

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RAMBUS INC.
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
 (Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2015	2014
	(In thousands)	
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income	\$9,502	\$7,804
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Stock-based compensation	3,766	2,899
Depreciation	3,227	3,481
Amortization of intangible assets	6,322	6,797
Non-cash interest expense and amortization of convertible debt issuance costs	1,559	6,242
Deferred income taxes	644	5,967
Gain from sale of intellectual property	(2,267)	(170)
Change in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(540)	(5,565)
Prepaid expenses and other assets	(1,436)	(183)
Accounts payable	(965)	749
Accrued salaries and benefits and other liabilities	(5,959)	(6,623)
Income taxes payable	(86)	(4,828)
Deferred revenue	1,272	(59)
Net cash provided by operating activities	15,039	16,511
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	(1,095)	(3,145)
Purchases of marketable securities	(46,779)	(34,050)
Maturities of marketable securities	40,070	26,050
Proceeds from sale of marketable securities	6,600	—
Proceeds from sale of intellectual property	2,280	1,250
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	1,076	(9,895)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Proceeds received from issuance of common stock under employee stock plans	1,424	1,352
Principal payments against lease financing obligation	(98)	(60)
Payments under installment payment arrangement	—	(28)
Net cash provided by financing activities	1,326	1,264
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	17,441	7,880
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	154,126	338,696
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$171,567	\$346,576
Non-cash investing activities during the period:		
Property, plant and equipment received and accrued in accounts payable and other liabilities	\$248	\$280

See Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

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RAMBUS INC.

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Rambus Inc. ("Rambus" or the "Company") and its wholly-owned subsidiaries. All intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements. Investments in entities with less than 20% ownership or in which the Company does not have the ability to significantly influence the operations of the investee are being accounted for using the cost method and are included in other assets.

In the opinion of management, the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements include all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring items) necessary to state fairly the financial position and results of operations for each interim period presented. Interim results are not necessarily indicative of results for a full year.

The unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") applicable to interim financial information. Certain information and Note disclosures included in the financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles have been omitted in these interim statements pursuant to such SEC rules and regulations. The information included in this Form 10-Q should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto in Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014.

Operating Segment Definitions

Operating segments are based upon Rambus' internal organization structure, the manner in which its operations are managed, the criteria used by its Chief Operating Decision Maker ("CODM") to evaluate segment performance and availability of separate financial information regularly reviewed for resource allocation and performance assessment. The Company determined its CODM to be the Chief Executive Officer and determined its operating segments to be: (1) Memory and Interface Division ("MID"), which focuses on the design, development and licensing of technology that is related to memory and interfaces; (2) Cryptography Research Division ("CRD"), which focuses on the design, development and licensing of technologies for chip and system security and anti-counterfeiting; (3) Emerging Solutions Division ("ESD"), which includes the computational sensing and imaging group along with the development efforts in the area of emerging technologies; and (4) Lighting and Display Technologies ("LDT"), which focuses on the design, development and licensing of technologies for lighting.

For the three months ended March 31, 2015 only MID and CRD were reportable segments as each of them met the quantitative thresholds for disclosure as a reportable segment. The results of the remaining other operating segment were shown under "Other."

Reclassifications

Certain prior periods' amounts were reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation. None of these reclassifications had an impact on reported net income for any of the periods presented.

2. Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In April 2015, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2015-03, "Simplifying the Presentation of Debt Issuance Costs", which requires debt issuance costs related to a recognized debt liability to be presented in the balance sheet as a direct deduction from the carrying amount of that debt liability, consistent with debt discounts. This ASU requires retrospective adoption and is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015 and interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption is permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the impact that this guidance will have on its financial statements.

In August 2014, the FASB issued ASU No. 2014-15, "Disclosures of Uncertainties About an Entity's Ability to Continue as a Going Concern." The new standard provides guidance around management's responsibility to evaluate whether there is substantial doubt about an entity's ability to continue as a going concern and to provide related footnote disclosures. The new standard is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those fiscal years, beginning after December 15, 2016. Early adoption is permitted. The Company does not expect that this guidance will have a material impact on its financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

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In June 2014, the FASB issued ASU No. 2014-12, "Compensation - Stock Compensation (Topic 718)," which makes amendments to the codification topic 718, "Accounting for Share-Based Payments," when the terms of an award provide that a performance target could be achieved after the requisite service period. The new accounting standards update becomes effective for the Company on January 1, 2016. The Company is currently evaluating the impact that this guidance will have on its financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In May 2014, the FASB and International Accounting Standards Board issued their converged accounting standards update on revenue recognition. The core principle of the new guidance is for companies to recognize revenue to depict the transfer of goods or services to customers in amounts that reflect the consideration (that is, payment) to which the company expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. The new guidance also will result in enhanced disclosures about revenue, provide guidance for transactions that were not previously addressed comprehensively (for example, service revenue and contract modifications) and improve guidance for multiple-element arrangements. The new accounting standards update becomes effective for the Company on January 1, 2017. The Company is currently evaluating the impact that this guidance will have on its financial condition and results of operations.

3. Earnings (Loss) Per Share

Basic earnings (loss) per share is calculated by dividing the net income (loss) by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings per share is calculated by dividing the earnings by the weighted average number of common shares and potentially dilutive securities outstanding during the period.

Potentially dilutive common shares consist of incremental common shares issuable upon exercise of stock options, employee stock purchases, restricted stock and restricted stock units and shares issuable upon the conversion of convertible notes. The dilutive effect of outstanding shares is reflected in diluted earnings per share by application of the treasury stock method. This method includes consideration of the amounts to be paid by the employees, the amount of excess tax benefits that would be recognized in equity if the instrument was exercised and the amount of unrecognized stock-based compensation related to future services. No potential dilutive common shares are included in the computation of any diluted per share amount when a net loss is reported.

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted net income per share:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2015	2014
	(In thousands, except per share amounts)	
Net income per share:		
Numerator:		
Net income	\$9,502	\$7,804
Denominator:		
Weighted-average shares outstanding - basic	115,336	113,590
Effect of potential dilutive common shares	2,106	3,039
Weighted-average shares outstanding - diluted	117,442	116,629
Basic net income per share	\$0.08	\$0.07
Diluted net income per share	\$0.08	\$0.07

For the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, options to purchase approximately 3.8 million and 6.9 million shares, respectively, were excluded from the calculation because they were anti-dilutive after considering proceeds from exercise, taxes and related unrecognized stock-based compensation expense.

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4. Intangible Assets and Goodwill

Goodwill

The following tables present goodwill information for each of the reportable segments for the three months ended March 31, 2015:

Reportable Segment:	As of December 31, 2014 (In thousands)	Additions to Goodwill	Impairment Charge of Goodwill	As of March 31, 2015
MID	\$19,905	\$—	\$—	\$19,905
CRD	96,994	—	—	96,994
Total	\$116,899	\$—	\$—	\$116,899

Reportable Segment:	As of March 31, 2015 Gross Carrying Amount (In thousands)	Accumulated Impairment Losses	Net Carrying Amount
MID	\$19,905	\$—	\$19,905
CRD	96,994	—	96,994
Other	21,770	(21,770)	—
Total	\$138,669	\$(21,770)	\$116,899

Intangible Assets

The components of the Company's intangible assets as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014 were as follows:

	Useful Life	As of March 31, 2015		
		Gross Carrying Amount (In thousands)	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Amount
Existing technology	3 to 10 years	\$185,321	\$(110,130)	\$75,191
Customer contracts and contractual relationships	1 to 10 years	31,093	(23,235)	7,858
Non-compete agreements	3 years	300	(300)	—
Total intangible assets		\$216,714	\$(133,665)	\$83,049
	Useful Life	As of December 31, 2014		
		Gross Carrying Amount (In thousands)	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Amount
Existing technology	3 to 10 years	\$185,321	\$(104,426)	\$80,895
Customer contracts and contractual relationships	1 to 10 years	31,093	(22,617)	8,476
Non-compete agreements	3 years	300	(300)	—
Total intangible assets		\$216,714	\$(127,343)	\$89,371

During the three months ended March 31, 2015, the Company did not purchase any intangible assets.

The favorable contracts (included in customer contracts and contractual relationships) are acquired patent licensing agreements where the Company has no performance obligations. Cash received from these acquired favorable contracts reduces the favorable contract intangible asset. For the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, the Company received zero and \$0.9 million related to the favorable contracts, respectively. As of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, the net balance of the favorable contract intangible assets was \$0.1 million and \$0.1 million, respectively.

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Amortization expense for intangible assets for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 was \$6.3 million and \$6.8 million, respectively. The estimated future amortization expense of intangible assets as of March 31, 2015 was as follows (amounts in thousands):

Years Ending December 31:	Amount
2015 (remaining 9 months)	\$18,776
2016	24,318
2017	23,709
2018	10,827
2019	1,789
Thereafter	3,630
	\$83,049

It is reasonably possible that the businesses could perform significantly below the Company's expectations or a deterioration of market and economic conditions could occur. This would adversely impact the Company's ability to meet its projected results, which could cause the goodwill in any of its reporting units or long-lived assets in any of its asset groups to become impaired. Significant differences between these estimates and actual cash flows could materially affect the Company's future financial results. If the reporting units are not successful in commercializing new business arrangements, if the businesses are unsuccessful in signing new license agreements or renewing their existing license agreements, or if the Company is unsuccessful in managing its costs, the revenue and income for these reporting units could adversely and materially deviate from their historical trends and could cause goodwill or long-lived assets to become impaired. If the Company determines that its goodwill or long-lived assets are impaired, it would be required to record a non-cash charge that could have a material adverse effect on its results of operations and financial position.

5. Segments and Major Customers

For the three months ended March 31, 2015, MID and CRD were reportable segments as each of them met the quantitative thresholds for disclosure as a reportable segment. The results of the remaining operating segments were shown under "Other." Additionally, some employees moved departments in the fourth quarter of 2014 causing a change in the prior period reportable segment financial results. The presentation of the 2014 segment data has been updated accordingly to conform with the updated segment presentation.

The Company evaluates the performance of its segments based on segment operating income (loss), which is defined as revenue minus segment operating expenses. Segment operating expenses are comprised of direct operating expenses.

Segment operating expenses do not include sales, general and administrative expenses and the allocation of certain expenses managed at the corporate level, such as stock-based compensation, amortization, and certain bonus and acquisition costs. The "Reconciling Items" category includes these unallocated sales, general and administrative expenses as well as corporate level expenses.

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The tables below present reported segment operating income (loss) for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

	For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2015			
	MID	CRD	Other	Total
	(In thousands)			
Revenues	\$54,733	\$12,826	\$5,355	\$72,914
Segment operating expenses	11,520	7,339	7,259	26,118
Segment operating income (loss)	\$43,213	\$5,487	\$(1,904)	\$46,796
Reconciling items				(28,904)
Operating income				\$17,892
Interest and other income (expense), net				(2,951)
Income before income taxes				\$14,941
	For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2014			
	MID	CRD	Other	Total
	(In thousands)			
Revenues	\$61,156	\$12,903	\$4,229	\$78,288
Segment operating expenses	9,281	6,531	8,653	24,465
Segment operating income (loss)	\$51,875	\$6,372	\$(4,424)	\$53,823
Reconciling items				(30,634)
Operating income				\$23,189
Interest and other income (expense), net				(9,913)
Income before income taxes				\$13,276

The Company's CODM does not review information regarding assets on an operating segment basis. Additionally, the Company does not record intersegment revenue or expense.

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Accounts receivable from the Company's major customers representing 10% or more of total accounts receivable at March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively, was as follows:

Customer	As of March 31, 2015	December 31, 2014
Customer 1 (MID reportable segment)	—%	33%
Customer 2 (Other segment)	67%	50%

Revenue from the Company's major customers representing 10% or more of total revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively, was as follows:

Customer	Three Months Ended March 31,			
	2015		2014	
Customer A (MID and CRD reportable segments)	21	%	19	%
Customer B (MID reportable segment)	16	%	15	%
Customer C (MID reportable segment)	13	%	12	%

Revenue from customers in the geographic regions based on the location of contracting parties was as follows:

(In thousands)	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2015	2014
South Korea	\$26,821	\$26,853
USA	27,707	28,674
Japan	8,491	9,255
Europe	5,175	8,563
Canada	196	1,824
Asia-Other	4,524	3,119
Total	\$72,914	\$78,288

6. Marketable Securities

Rambus invests its excess cash and cash equivalents primarily in U.S. government sponsored obligations, commercial paper, corporate notes and bonds, money market funds and municipal notes and bonds that mature within three years. As of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, all of the Company's cash equivalents and marketable securities had a remaining maturity of less than one year.

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All cash equivalents and marketable securities are classified as available-for-sale. Total cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities are summarized as follows:

(In thousands)	As of March 31, 2015					Weighted Rate of Return	
	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses			
Money market funds	\$151,054	\$151,054	\$—	\$—	0.01	%	
Corporate notes, bonds and commercial paper	146,194	146,254	8	(68)	0.34	%	
Total cash equivalents and marketable securities	297,248	297,308	8	(68)			
Cash	20,513	20,513	—	—			
Total cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities	\$317,761	\$317,821	\$ 8	\$ (68)			
(In thousands)	As of December 31, 2014					Weighted Rate of Return	
	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses			
Money market funds	\$124,938	\$124,938	\$—	\$—	0.01	%	
Corporate notes, bonds and commercial paper	145,983	146,096	1	(114)	0.25	%	
Total cash equivalents and marketable securities	270,921	271,034	1	(114)			
Cash	29,188	29,188	—	—			
Total cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities	\$300,109	\$300,222	\$ 1	\$ (114)			

Available-for-sale securities are reported at fair value on the balance sheets and classified as follows:

	As of	
	March 31, 2015	December 31, 2014
	(In thousands)	
Cash equivalents	\$151,054	\$124,938
Short term marketable securities	146,194	145,983
Total cash equivalents and marketable securities	297,248	270,921
Cash	20,513	29,188
Total cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities	\$317,761	\$300,109

The Company continues to invest in highly rated quality, highly liquid debt securities. As of March 31, 2015, these securities have a remaining maturity of less than one year. The Company holds all of its marketable securities as available-for-sale, marks them to market, and regularly reviews its portfolio to ensure adherence to its investment policy and to monitor individual investments for risk analysis, proper valuation, and unrealized losses that may be other than temporary.

The estimated fair value of cash equivalents and marketable securities classified by the length of time that the securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position at March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014 are as follows:

	Fair Value		Gross Unrealized Loss	
	March 31, 2015	December 31, 2014	March 31, 2015	December 31, 2014
	(In thousands)			
Less than one year				
Corporate notes, bonds and commercial paper	\$110,382	\$139,989	\$(68)	\$(114)

The gross unrealized loss at March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014 was not material in relation to the Company's total available-for-sale portfolio. The gross unrealized loss can be primarily attributed to a combination of market conditions as well as the demand for and duration of the corporate notes and bonds. There is no requirement to sell and the Company believes that it can recover the amortized cost of these investments. The Company has found no evidence of impairment due to credit losses in its portfolio. Therefore, these unrealized losses were recorded in other comprehensive income (loss). However, the Company

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cannot provide any assurance that its portfolio of cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities will not be impacted by adverse conditions in the financial markets, which may require the Company in the future to record an impairment charge for credit losses which could adversely impact its financial results.

See Note 7, "Fair Value of Financial Instruments," for discussion regarding the fair value of the Company's cash equivalents and marketable securities.

7. Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The Company reviews the pricing inputs by obtaining prices from a different source for the same security on a sample of its portfolio. The Company has not adjusted the pricing inputs it has obtained. The following table presents the financial instruments that are carried at fair value and summarizes the valuation of its cash equivalents and marketable securities by the above pricing levels as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014:

	As of March 31, 2015			
	Total	Quoted Market Prices in Active Markets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
	(In thousands)			
Money market funds	\$ 151,054	\$ 151,054	\$—	\$—
Corporate notes, bonds and commercial paper	146,194	—	146,194	—
Total available-for-sale securities	\$ 297,248	\$ 151,054	\$ 146,194	\$—
	As of December 31, 2014			
	Total	Quoted Market Prices in Active Markets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
	(In thousands)			
Money market funds	\$ 124,938	\$ 124,938	\$—	\$—
Corporate notes, bonds and commercial paper	145,983	—	145,983	—
Total available-for-sale securities	\$ 270,921	\$ 124,938	\$ 145,983	\$—

The Company monitors its investments for other-than-temporary impairment and records appropriate reductions in carrying value when necessary. The Company monitors its investments for other-than-temporary losses by considering current factors, including the economic environment, market conditions, operational performance and other specific factors relating to the business underlying the investment, reductions in carrying values when necessary and the Company's ability and intent to hold the investment for a period of time which may be sufficient for anticipated recovery in the market. Any other-than-temporary loss is reported under "Interest and other income (expense), net" in the condensed consolidated statement of operations.

For the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, there were no transfers of financial instruments between different categories of fair value.

The following table presents the financial instruments that are not carried at fair value but require fair value disclosure as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014:

	As of March 31, 2015			As of December 31, 2014		
(In thousands)	Face Value	Carrying Value	Fair Value	Face Value	Carrying Value	Fair Value
1.125% Convertible Senior Notes due 2018 (the "2018 Notes")	\$ 138,000	\$ 116,508	\$ 168,034	\$ 138,000	\$ 115,089	\$ 159,293

The fair value of the convertible notes at each balance sheet date is determined based on recent quoted market prices for these notes which is a level 2 measurement. As discussed in Note 8, "Convertible Notes," as of March 31, 2015, the 2018 Notes are carried at their face value of \$138.0 million, less any unamortized debt discount. The carrying value of other financial

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instruments, including accounts receivable, accounts payable and other liabilities, approximates fair value due to their short maturities.

8. Convertible Notes

The Company's convertible notes are shown in the following table:

(In thousands)	As of March 31, 2015	As of December 31, 2014
1.125% Convertible Senior Notes due 2018	\$ 138,000	\$ 138,000
Unamortized discount	(21,492) (22,911
Total convertible notes	\$ 116,508	\$ 115,089
Less current portion	—	—
Total long-term convertible notes	\$ 116,508	\$ 115,089
Interest expense related to the notes for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 was as follows:		
	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2015	2014
	(In thousands)	
2014 Notes coupon interest at a rate of 5%	\$—	\$2,156
2014 Notes amortization of discount and debt issuance costs at an additional effective interest rate of 11.7%	—	4,769
2018 Notes coupon interest at a rate of 1.125%	403	388
2018 Notes amortization of discount and debt issuance costs at an additional effective interest rate of 5.5%	1,559	1,473
Total interest expense on convertible notes	\$1,962	\$8,786

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9. Commitments and Contingencies

As of March 31, 2015, the Company's material contractual obligations were as follows (in thousands):

	Total	Remainder of 2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Thereafter
Contractual obligations (1)							
Imputed financing obligation (2)	\$32,901	\$ 4,525	\$6,156	\$6,302	\$6,447	\$6,602	\$2,869
Leases and other contractual obligations	7,521	3,809	2,034	1,338	340	—	—
Software licenses (3)	7,968	6,220	1,748	—	—	—	—
Convertible notes	138,000	—	—	—	138,000	—	—
Interest payments related to convertible notes	5,434	776	1,553	1,553	1,552	—	—
Total	\$191,824	\$ 15,330	\$11,491	\$9,193	\$146,339	\$6,602	\$2,869

The above table does not reflect possible payments in connection with uncertain tax benefits of approximately \$21.4 million including \$18.4 million recorded as a reduction of long-term deferred tax assets and \$3.0 million in (1) long-term income taxes payable as of March 31, 2015. As noted below in Note 12, "Income Taxes," although it is possible that some of the unrecognized tax benefits could be settled within the next 12 months, the Company cannot reasonably estimate the outcome at this time.

With respect to the imputed financing obligation, the main components of the difference between the amount reflected in the contractual obligations table and the amount reflected on the condensed consolidated balance sheets (2) are the interest on the imputed financing obligation and the estimated common area expenses over the future periods. The amount includes the amended Ohio lease and the amended Sunnyvale lease.

(3) The Company has commitments with various software vendors for non-cancellable agreements generally having terms longer than one year.

Building lease expense was approximately \$0.7 million and \$0.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Deferred rent of \$1.0 million and \$1.1 million as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively, was included primarily in other long-term liabilities.

Indemnification

The Company enters into standard license agreements in the ordinary course of business. Although the Company does not indemnify most of its customers, there are times when an indemnification is a necessary means of doing business. Indemnification covers customers for losses suffered or incurred by them as a result of any patent, copyright, or other intellectual property infringement or any other claim by any third party arising as result of the applicable agreement with the Company. The Company generally attempts to limit the maximum amount of indemnification that the Company could be required to make under these agreements to the amount of fees received by the Company.

10. Equity Incentive Plans and Stock-Based Compensation

As of March 31, 2015, 8,161,965 shares of the 31,400,000 shares approved under the 2006 Equity Incentive Plan (the "2006 Plan") remain available for grant which included an increase of 10,000,000 shares approved by stockholders on April 24, 2014. The 2006 Plan was the Company's only plan for providing stock-based incentive awards to eligible employees, executive officers, non-employee directors and consultants as of March 31, 2015. However, the 1997 Stock Option Plan (the "1997 Plan") continues to govern awards previously granted under that plan. Additionally, on April 23, 2015, the Company's stockholders approved the 2015 Equity Incentive Plan (the "2015 Plan"), which authorizes 4,000,000 shares for future issuance plus the number of shares that remain available for grant under the 2006 Plan as of the effective date of the 2015 Plan. The 2015 Plan became effective and replaced the 2006 Plan on April 23, 2015. No further awards will be made under the 2006 Plan, but the 2006 Plan will continue to govern awards previously granted under it. In addition, any shares subject to stock options or other awards granted under the 2006 Plan that on or after the effective date of the 2015 Plan are forfeited, cancelled, exchanged or surrendered or terminate under the 2006 Plan will become available for grant under the 2015 Plan.

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A summary of shares available for grant under the Company's plans is as follows:

	Shares Available for Grant
Shares available as of December 31, 2014	10,724,228
Stock options granted	(362,335)
Stock options forfeited	518,778
Stock options expired under former plans	(285,000)
Nonvested equity stock and stock units granted (1) (2)	(2,520,747)
Nonvested equity stock and stock units forfeited (1)	87,041
Total available for grant as of March 31, 2015	8,161,965

For purposes of determining the number of shares available for grant under the 2006 Plan against the maximum (1) number of shares authorized, each share of restricted stock granted reduces the number of shares available for grant by 1.5 shares and each share of restricted stock forfeited increases shares available for grant by 1.5 shares.

(2) Amount includes 238,980 shares that have been reserved for potential future issuance related to certain performance unit awards discussed under the section titled "Nonvested Equity Stock and Stock Units" below.

General Stock Option Information

The following table summarizes stock option activity under the 1997 Plan and 2006 Plan for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and information regarding stock options outstanding, exercisable, and vested and expected to vest as of March 31, 2015.

	Options Outstanding			
	Number of Shares	Weighted Average Exercise Price Per Share	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term (years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
	(In thousands, except per share amounts)			
Outstanding as of December 31, 2014	11,441,646	\$ 10.73		
Options granted	362,335	\$ 11.27		
Options exercised	(217,241)	\$ 6.90		
Options forfeited	(518,778)	\$ 16.37		
Outstanding as of March 31, 2015	11,067,962	\$ 10.55	5.95	\$45,831
Vested or expected to vest at March 31, 2015	10,524,492	\$ 10.64	5.81	\$43,741
Options exercisable at March 31, 2015	6,207,537	\$ 12.84	4.30	\$21,336

No stock options that contain a market condition were granted during the three months ended March 31, 2015. As of both March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, there were 1,315,000 stock options outstanding that require the Company to achieve minimum market conditions in order for the options to become exercisable. The fair values of the options granted with a market condition were calculated, on their respective grant dates, using a binomial valuation model, which estimates the potential outcome of reaching the market condition based on simulated future stock prices. The aggregate intrinsic value in the table above represents the total pre-tax intrinsic value for in-the-money options at March 31, 2015, based on the \$12.58 closing stock price of Rambus' common stock on March 31, 2015 on the NASDAQ Global Select Market, which would have been received by the option holders had all option holders exercised their options as of that date. The total number of in-the-money options outstanding and exercisable as of March 31, 2015 was 8,384,579 and 3,673,017, respectively.

Employee Stock Purchase Plan

No purchases were made under the 2006 Employee Stock Purchase Plan ("2006 ESPP") during the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. As of March 31, 2015, 923,044 shares under the 2006 ESPP remain available for issuance. On April 23, 2015, the Company's stockholders approved the 2015 Employee Stock Purchase Plan ("2015

ESPP”)

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which reserves an additional 2,000,000 shares of the Company's common stock for purchase. The 2006 ESPP will remain in effect until the Company's next offering period scheduled to begin on November 2, 2015 at which time the 2015 ESPP will become effective.

Stock-Based Compensation

For the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, the Company maintained stock plans covering a broad range of potential equity grants including stock options, nonvested equity stock and equity stock units and performance based instruments. In addition, the Company sponsors the 2006 ESPP and 2015 ESPP, whereby eligible employees are entitled to purchase common stock semi-annually, by means of limited payroll deductions, at a 15% discount from the fair market value of the common stock as of specific dates.

Stock Options

During the three months ended March 31, 2015, the Company granted 362,335 stock options with an estimated total grant-date fair value of \$1.7 million. During the three months ended March 31, 2015, the Company recorded stock-based compensation expense related to stock options of \$2.2 million.

During the three months ended March 31, 2014, the Company granted 1,797,462 stock options with an estimated total grant-date fair value of \$7.0 million. During the three months ended March 31, 2014, the Company recorded stock-based compensation expense related to stock options of \$2.2 million.

As of March 31, 2015, there was \$12.1 million of total unrecognized compensation cost, net of expected forfeitures, related to non-vested stock-based compensation arrangements granted under the stock option plans. That cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 1.9 years. The total fair value of shares vested as of March 31, 2015 was \$51.8 million.

The total intrinsic value of options exercised was \$1.0 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015. The total intrinsic value of options exercised was \$0.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2014. Intrinsic value is the total value of exercised shares based on the price of the Company's common stock at the time of exercise less the cash received from the employees to exercise the options.

During the three months ended March 31, 2015, net proceeds from employee stock option exercises totaled approximately \$1.5 million.

Employee Stock Purchase Plan

For the three months ended March 31, 2015, the Company recorded compensation expense related to the 2006 ESPP of \$0.4 million. For the three months ended March 31, 2014, the Company recorded an immaterial amount of compensation expense related to the 2006 ESPP. As of March 31, 2015, there was \$0.3 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to stock-based compensation arrangements granted under the 2006 ESPP. That cost is expected to be recognized over one month.

There were no tax benefits realized as a result of employee stock option exercises, stock purchase plan purchases, and vesting of equity stock and stock units for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 calculated in accordance with accounting for share-based payments.

Valuation Assumptions

The fair value of stock awards is estimated as of the grant date using the Black-Scholes-Merton ("BSM") option-pricing model assuming a dividend yield of 0% and the additional weighted-average assumptions as listed in the table below.

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The following table presents the weighted-average assumptions used to estimate the fair value of stock options granted that contain only service conditions in the periods presented.

	Stock Option Plans Three Months Ended March 31,			
	2015		2014	
Stock Option Plans				
Expected stock price volatility	41	%	44	%
Risk free interest rate	1.2	%	2.1	%
Expected term (in years)	6.0		6.1	
Weighted-average fair value of stock options granted to employees	\$4.59		\$3.92	

No shares were issued under the 2006 ESPP during the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014.

Nonvested Equity Stock and Stock Units

The Company grants nonvested equity stock units to officers, employees and directors. During the three months ended March 31, 2015, the Company granted nonvested equity stock units totaling 1,521,178 shares under the 2006 Plan.

During the three months ended March 31, 2014, the Company granted nonvested equity stock units totaling 205,808 shares under the 2006 Plan. These awards have a service condition, generally a service period of four years, except in the case of grants to directors, for which the service period is one year. For the three months ended March 31, 2015, the nonvested equity stock units were valued at the date of grant giving them a fair value of approximately \$17.1 million.

For the three months ended March 31, 2014, the nonvested equity stock units were valued at the date of grant giving them a fair value of approximately \$1.8 million. During the first quarter of 2015, the Company granted performance unit awards to certain Company executive officers with vesting subject to the achievement of certain performance conditions. The ultimate number of performance units that can be earned can range from 0% to 150% of target depending on performance relative to target over the applicable period. The shares earned will vest on the third anniversary of the date of grant. The Company's shares available for grant has been reduced to reflect the shares that could be earned at 150% of target. During the three months ended March 31, 2015, the Company recorded \$0.2 million of stock-based compensation expense related to these performance unit awards.

For the three months ended March 31, 2015, the Company recorded stock-based compensation expense of approximately \$1.2 million related to all outstanding nonvested equity stock grants. For the three months ended March 31, 2014, the Company recorded stock-based compensation expense of approximately \$0.7 million related to all outstanding nonvested equity stock grants. Unrecognized stock-based compensation related to all nonvested equity stock grants, net of estimated forfeitures, was approximately \$14.6 million at March 31, 2015. This amount is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 3.3 years.

The following table reflects the activity related to nonvested equity stock and stock units for the three months ended March 31, 2015:

Nonvested Equity Stock and Stock Units	Shares	Weighted-Average Grant-Date Fair Value
Nonvested at December 31, 2014	673,864	\$9.23
Granted	1,521,178	\$11.27
Vested	(138,810)) \$8.55
Forfeited	(58,027)) \$10.35
Nonvested at March 31, 2015	1,998,205	\$10.80

11. Stockholders' Equity**Share Repurchase Program**

During the three months ended March 31, 2015, the Company did not repurchase any shares of its common stock under its share repurchase program.

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On January 21, 2015, the Company's Board approved a new share repurchase program authorizing the repurchase of up to an aggregate of 20.0 million shares. Share repurchases under the plan may be made through the open market, established plans or privately negotiated transactions in accordance with all applicable securities laws, rules, and regulations. There is no expiration date applicable to the plan. This new stock repurchase program replaced the previous program approved by the Board in February 2010 and canceled the remaining shares outstanding as part of the previous authorization. No repurchases have been made under the new plan.

The Company records stock repurchases as a reduction to stockholders' equity. The Company records a portion of the purchase price of the repurchased shares as an increase to accumulated deficit when the price of the shares repurchased exceeds the average original proceeds per share received from the issuance of common stock.

12. Income Taxes

The Company recorded a provision for income taxes of \$5.4 million and \$5.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. The provision for income taxes for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 is primarily comprised of withholding taxes, state taxes and other foreign taxes based upon income earned during the period.

During the three months ended March 31, 2015, the Company paid withholding taxes of \$4.8 million. During the three months ended March 31, 2014, the Company paid withholding taxes of \$5.1 million.

As of March 31, 2015, the Company's condensed consolidated balance sheets included net deferred tax assets, before valuation allowance, of approximately \$189.1 million, which consists of net operating loss carryovers, tax credit carryovers, amortization, employee stock-based compensation expenses and certain liabilities, partially reduced by deferred tax liabilities associated with the convertible notes. As of March 31, 2015, a full valuation allowance has been recorded against the U.S. deferred tax assets.

Management periodically evaluates the realizability of the Company's net deferred tax assets based on all available evidence, both positive and negative. The realization of net deferred tax assets is dependent on the Company's ability to generate sufficient future taxable income during periods prior to the expiration of tax attributes to fully utilize these assets. The Company weighed both positive and negative evidence and determined that there is a continued need for a full valuation allowance on its deferred tax assets in the United States as of March 31, 2015. The Company emerged from a cumulative loss position over the previous three years during the first quarter of 2015. However, given economic uncertainties and the uncertainty of commercializing new business arrangements and new product acceptances, the Company currently believes there is not sufficient positive evidence of future profitability to change its judgment regarding the need for a full valuation allowance on its deferred tax assets in the United States. The continued improvement in the Company's operating results, conditioned on successfully commercializing new business arrangements, signing new or renewing existing license agreements and managing costs would provide additional positive evidence in determining the need for the valuation allowance and could lead to reversal of substantially all of the Company's valuation allowance on its deferred tax assets in the United States. Until such time, consumption of tax attributes to offset profits will reduce the overall level of deferred tax assets subject to valuation allowance. Should the Company determine that it would be able to realize its remaining deferred tax assets in the foreseeable future, an adjustment to its remaining deferred tax assets would cause a material increase to income in the period such determination is made.

The Company maintains liabilities for uncertain tax positions within its long-term income taxes payable accounts and as a reduction to existing deferred tax assets to the extent tax attributes are available to offset such liabilities. These liabilities involve judgment and estimation and are monitored by management based on the best information available including changes in tax regulations, the outcome of relevant court cases and other information.

As of March 31, 2015, the Company had approximately \$21.4 million of unrecognized tax benefits, including \$18.4 million recorded as a reduction of long-term deferred tax assets and \$3.0 million in long-term income taxes payable. If recognized, approximately \$3.0 million would be recorded as an income tax benefit. No benefit would be recorded for the remaining unrecognized tax benefits as the recognition would require a corresponding increase in the valuation allowance. As of December 31, 2014, the Company had \$19.9 million of unrecognized tax benefits, including \$17.8 million recorded as a reduction of long-term deferred tax assets and \$2.1 million recorded in long-term income taxes payable.

Although it is possible that some of the unrecognized tax benefits could be settled within the next 12 months, the Company cannot reasonably estimate the outcome at this time.

The Company recognizes interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions as a component of the income tax provision. At March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, an immaterial amount of interest and penalties is included in long-term income taxes payable.

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Rambus files income tax returns for the U.S., California, India and various other state and foreign jurisdictions. The U.S. federal returns are subject to examination from 2012 and forward. The California returns are subject to examination from 2009 and forward. In addition, any research and development credit carryforward or net operating loss carryforward generated in prior years and utilized in these or future years may also be subject to examination. The India returns are subject to examination from fiscal year ended March 2006 and forward. The Company is currently under examination by California for the 2010 and 2011 tax years. The Company's India subsidiary is under examination by the Indian tax administration for years 2008 through 2010. These examinations may result in proposed adjustments to the income taxes as filed during these periods. Management regularly assesses the likelihood of outcomes resulting from income tax examinations to determine the adequacy of their provision for income taxes and believes their provision for unrecognized tax benefits is adequate.

Additionally, the Company's future effective tax rates could be adversely affected by earnings being higher than anticipated in countries where the Company has higher statutory rates or lower than anticipated in countries where it has lower statutory rates, by changes in valuation of its deferred tax assets and liabilities or by changes in tax laws or interpretations of those laws.

13. Litigation and Asserted Claims

Rambus is not currently a party to any material pending legal proceeding; however, from time to time, Rambus may become involved in legal proceedings or be subject to claims arising in the ordinary course of its business. Although the results of litigation and claims cannot be predicted with certainty, the Company currently believes that the final outcome of these ordinary course matters will not have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, financial position or cash flows. Regardless of the outcome, litigation can have an adverse impact on the Company because of defense and settlement costs, diversion of management resources and other factors.

The Company records a contingent liability when it is probable that a loss has been incurred and the amount is reasonably estimable in accordance with accounting for contingencies.

14. Agreements with SK hynix and Micron

SK hynix

On June 11, 2013, Rambus, SK hynix and certain related entities of SK hynix entered into a settlement agreement, pursuant to which the parties have agreed to release all claims against each other with respect to all outstanding litigation between them. Pursuant to the settlement agreement, Rambus and SK hynix entered into a semiconductor patent license agreement on June 11, 2013, under which SK hynix licenses from Rambus non-exclusive rights to certain Rambus patents and has agreed to pay Rambus cash amounts over the next five years. Under the license agreement, Rambus has granted to SK hynix (i) a paid-up perpetual patent license for certain identified SK hynix DRAM products and (ii) a five-year term patent license to all other DRAM and other semiconductor products. The agreements with SK hynix are considered a multiple element arrangement for accounting purposes. For a multiple element arrangement under the applicable accounting rules, the Company is required to identify specific elements of the arrangement and then determine when those elements should be recognized. The Company identified three elements in the arrangement: antitrust litigation settlement, settlement of past infringement, and license agreement. The Company considered several factors in determining the accounting fair value of the elements of the SK hynix agreements which included a third party valuation using an income approach (collectively the "SK hynix Fair Value"). The inputs and assumptions used in this accounting valuation were from a market participant perspective and included projected customer revenue, royalty rates, estimated discount rates, useful lives and income tax rates, among others. The development of a number of these inputs and assumptions in the model requires a significant amount of management judgment and discretion, and is based upon a number of factors, including the selection of industry comparables, market growth rates and other relevant factors. Changes in any number of these assumptions may have a substantial impact on the SK hynix Fair Value as assigned to each element. These inputs and assumptions represent management's best estimates at the time of the transaction.

During the first quarter of 2015, the Company received cash consideration of \$12.0 million from SK hynix. The amount was allocated between royalty revenue (\$11.8 million) and gain from settlement (\$0.2 million) based on the elements' SK hynix Fair Value.

The remaining \$156.0 million is expected to be paid in successive quarterly payments of \$12.0 million, concluding in the second quarter of 2018.

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The cumulative cash receipts through March 31, 2015 and the remaining future cash receipts from the agreements with SK hynix are expected to be recognized as follows assuming no adjustments to the payments under the terms of the agreements:

	Cumulative Received to-date as of March 31, 2015	Estimated to Be Received in				Total Estimated Cash Receipts
		Remainder of 2015	2016	2017	2018	
(in millions)						
Royalty revenue	\$82.7	\$35.5	\$47.9	\$48.0	\$24.0	\$238.1
Gain from settlement	1.3	0.5	0.1	—	—	1.9
Total	\$84.0	\$36.0	\$48.0	\$48.0	\$24.0	\$240.0

Micron

On December 9, 2013, Rambus, Micron and certain related entities of Micron entered into a settlement agreement, pursuant to which the parties have agreed that they will release all claims against each other with respect to all outstanding litigation between them and certain other potential claims. Pursuant to the settlement agreement, Rambus and Micron entered into a semiconductor patent license agreement on December 9, 2013. Under the license agreement, Rambus has granted to Micron and its subsidiaries and certain affiliated entities (i) a paid-up perpetual patent license for certain identified Micron DRAM products and (ii) a seven-year term patent license to other memory and semiconductor products.

The agreements with Micron are considered a multiple element arrangement for accounting purposes. For a multiple element arrangement under the applicable accounting rules, the Company is required to identify specific elements of the arrangement and then determine when those elements should be recognized. The Company identified three elements in the arrangement: antitrust litigation settlement, settlement of past infringement, and license agreement. The Company considered several factors in determining the accounting fair value of the elements of the Micron agreements which included a third party valuation using an income approach (collectively the “Micron Fair Value”). The inputs and assumptions used in this accounting valuation were from a market participant perspective and included projected customer revenue, royalty rates, estimated discount rates, useful lives and income tax rates, among others. The development of a number of these inputs and assumptions in the model requires a significant amount of management judgment and discretion, and is based upon a number of factors, including the selection of industry comparables, market growth rates and other relevant factors. Changes in any number of these assumptions may have a substantial impact on the Micron Fair Value as assigned to each element. These inputs and assumptions represent management’s best estimates at the time of the transaction.

During the first quarter of 2015, the Company received cash consideration of \$10.0 million from Micron. The amount was allocated between royalty revenue (\$9.7 million) and gain from settlement (\$0.3 million) based on the elements’ Micron Fair Value.

The remaining \$224.5 million is expected to be paid in successive quarterly payments of \$10.0 million, concluding in the fourth quarter of 2020.

The cumulative cash receipts through March 31, 2015 and the remaining future cash receipts from the agreements with Micron are expected to be recognized as follows assuming no adjustments to the payments under the terms of the agreements:

	Cumulative Received to-date as of March 31, 2015	Estimated to Be Received in					Total Estimated Cash Receipts
		Remainder of 2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	
(in millions)							

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Royalty revenue	\$53.7	\$29.0	\$39.5	\$40.0	\$40.0	\$40.0	\$34.5	\$276.7
Gain from settlement	1.8	1.0	0.5	—	—	—	—	3.3
Total	\$55.5	\$30.0	\$40.0	\$40.0	\$40.0	\$40.0	\$34.5	\$280.0

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Item 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

This report contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These statements relate to our expectations for future events and time periods. All statements other than statements of historical fact are statements that could be deemed to be forward-looking statements, including any statements regarding trends in future revenue or results of operations, gross margin or operating margin, expenses, earnings or losses from operations, synergies or other financial items; any statements of the plans, strategies and objectives of management for future operations; any statements concerning developments, performance or industry ranking; any statements regarding future economic conditions or performance; any statements regarding negotiations, litigation, investigations, claims, disputes or settlements; any statements of expectation or belief; and any statements of assumptions underlying any of the foregoing. Generally, the words “anticipates,” “believes,” “plans,” “expects,” “future,” “intends,” “may,” “should,” “estimates,” “predicts,” “potential,” “continues” and similar expressions identify forward-looking statements. Our forward-looking statements are based on current expectations, forecasts and assumptions and are subject to risks, uncertainties and changes in condition, significance, value and effect. As a result of the factors described herein, and in the documents incorporated herein by reference, including, in particular, those factors described under “Risk Factors,” we undertake no obligation to publicly disclose any revisions to these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances occurring subsequent to filing this report with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

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Differential Power Analysis	DPA
Dynamic Random Access Memory	DRAM
Light Emitting Diodes	LED
Rambus Dynamic Random Access Memory	RDRAM™
eXtreme Data Rate	XDR™

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From time to time we will refer to the abbreviated names of certain entities and, as such, have provided a chart to indicate the full names of those entities for your convenience.

Advanced Micro Devices Inc.	AMD
Broadcom Corporation	Broadcom
Cooper Lighting, LLC	Cooper Lighting
Cryptography Research Division	CRD
Elpida Memory, Inc.	Elpida
Emerging Solutions Division	ESD
Freescale Semiconductor Inc.	Freescale
Fujitsu Limited	Fujitsu
General Electric Company	GE
Intel Corporation	Intel
International Business Machines Corporation	IBM
Lighting and Display Technology	LDT
LSI Corporation (now a division of Avago Technologies Limited)	LSI
Memory and Interfaces Division	MID
Micron Technologies, Inc.	Micron
Mobile Technology Division	MTD
Nanya Technology Corporation	Nanya
NVIDIA Corporation	NVIDIA
Qualcomm Incorporated	Qualcomm
Panasonic Corporation	Panasonic
Renesas Electronics	Renesas
Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd.	Samsung
SK hynix, Inc.	SK hynix
Sony Computer Electronics	Sony
ST Microelectronics N.V.	STMicroelectronics
Toshiba Corporation	Toshiba

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Business Overview

We are an innovative technology solutions company that brings invention to market. Our customers leverage our customizable platforms, services and tools to improve, differentiate and accelerate the development of products and services. Our extensive technology portfolio addresses the evolving power, performance and security requirements of the mobile, cloud computing and connected device markets. We drive innovations in memory, chip interfaces and architectures, end-to-end security, and advanced LED lighting, while also looking to disruptions and opportunities in tomorrow's high-growth markets. We generate revenue by licensing our inventions and solutions and providing services to market-leading companies.

While we have historically focused our efforts on the development of technologies for electronics memory and chip interfaces, we have expanded our portfolio of inventions and solutions to address additional markets in lighting, chip and system security, as well as new areas within the semiconductor industry, such as computational sensing and imaging. We intend to continue our growth into new technology fields, consistent with our mission to create great value through our innovations and to make those technologies available through both our licensing and non-licensing business models.

We have four operational units: (1) Memory and Interfaces Division, or MID, which focuses on the design, development and licensing of technology that is related to memory and interfaces; (2) Cryptography Research Division, or CRD, which focuses on the design, development and licensing of technologies for chip and system security and anti-counterfeiting; (3) Emerging Solutions Division, or ESD, which includes our computational sensing and imaging group along with our development efforts in the area of emerging technologies; and (4) Lighting and Display Technologies, or LDT, which focuses on the design, development and licensing of technologies for lighting. As of March 31, 2015, MID and CRD were considered reportable segments as they met the quantitative thresholds for disclosure as a reportable segment. The results of the remaining operating segments were shown under "Other." For additional information concerning segment reporting, see Note 5, "Segments and Major Customers," of Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements of this Form 10-Q.

Our inventions and technology solutions are primarily offered to our customers through either a patent license or a technology license. Royalties from patent licenses accounted for 89% and 90% of our consolidated revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Royalties from technology licenses accounted for 3% and 4% of our consolidated revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Today, a majority of our revenues are derived from patent licenses, through which we provide our customers a license to use a certain portion of our broad portfolio of patented inventions. The license provides our customers with a defined right to use our innovations in the customer's own digital electronics products, systems or services, as applicable. The licenses may also define the specific field of use where our customers may use or employ our inventions in their products. License agreements are structured with fixed, variable or a hybrid of fixed and variable royalty payments over certain defined periods ranging for periods of up to ten years. Leading consumer product, semiconductor and system companies such as AMD, Broadcom, Cisco, Freescale, Fujitsu, GE, Intel, LSI, Micron, Nanya, Panasonic, Qualcomm, Renesas, Samsung, SK hynix, STMicroelectronics and Toshiba have licensed our patents for use in their own products. The majority of our intellectual property in MID was developed in-house and we have expanded our business strategy of monetizing our MID intellectual property to include the sale of select intellectual property. As any sales executed under this expanded strategy represent a component of our ongoing major or central operations and activities, we will record the related proceeds as revenue.

We also offer our customers technology licenses to support the implementation and adoption of our technology in their products or services. Our customers include leading companies such as Cooper Lighting, GE, IBM, Panasonic, Qualcomm, Samsung, Sony and Toshiba. Our technology license offerings include a range of technologies for incorporation into our customers' products and systems. We also offer a range of services as part of our technology licenses which can include know-how and technology transfer, product design and development, system integration, and other services. These technology license agreements may have both a fixed price (non-recurring) component and ongoing royalties. Further, under technology licenses, our customers typically receive licenses to our patents necessary to implement these solutions in their products with specific rights and restrictions to the applicable patents elaborated in their individual contracts with us.

The remainder of our revenue is contract services revenue which includes license fees and engineering services fees. The timing and amounts invoiced to customers can vary significantly depending on specific contract terms and can therefore have a significant impact on deferred revenue or account receivables in any given period.

We intend to continue making significant expenditures associated with engineering, sales, general and administration and expect that these costs and expenses will continue to be a significant percentage of revenue in future periods.

Whether such expenses increase or decrease as a percentage of revenue will be substantially dependent upon the rate at which our revenue or expenses change.

Our strategy is to evolve from providing primarily patent licenses to providing additional technology, products and services while creating and leveraging strategic synergies to increase revenue. One of our goals is to supplement our patent licensing

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business with additional licensing opportunities for our technologies, products and services to be incorporated into our customers' products and/or systems. Our technology licenses are designed to support the implementation and adoption of our technology into our customers' products or services. As part of these offerings, we can provide a range of services that can include access to technical experts, advanced system design and analysis, hardware and software to enhance design and validation, system IP and specifications, and process-specific hard and soft macros, along with other services. These technology license agreements may have both a fixed price (non-recurring) component and ongoing royalties. Further, under technology licenses, our customers typically receive licenses to our patents necessary to implement these solutions in their products with specific rights and restrictions to the applicable patents elaborated in their individual contracts with us.

We believe that the successful execution of this strategy requires an exceptional business model that relies on the skills and talent of our employees. Accordingly, we seek to hire and retain world-class scientific and engineering expertise in all of our fields of technological focus, as well as the executive management and operating personnel required to successfully execute our business strategy. In order to attract the quality of employees required for this business model, we have created an environment and culture that encourages, fosters and supports research, development and innovation in breakthrough technologies with significant opportunities for broad industry adoption. We believe we have created a compelling company for inventors and innovators who are able to work within a business model and platform that focuses on technology development to drive strong future growth.

As of March 31, 2015, our semiconductor, lighting, security and other technologies are covered by 1,764 U.S. and foreign patents. Additionally, we have 662 patent applications pending. Some of the patents and pending patent applications are derived from a common parent patent application or are foreign counterpart patent applications. We have a program to file applications for and obtain patents in the United States and in selected foreign countries where we believe filing for such protection is appropriate and would further our overall business strategy and objectives. In some instances, obtaining appropriate levels of protection may involve prosecuting continuation and counterpart patent applications based on a common parent application. We believe our patented innovations provide our customers with the ability to achieve improved performance, lower risk, greater cost-effectiveness and other benefits in their products and services.

Executive Summary

During the first quarter of 2015, we signed patent and technology license agreements with IBM. Additionally, industry publication Tom's Hardware granted our Lensless Smart Sensor technology with the Best IoT Innovation Award at Mobile World Congress 2015.

Engineering expenses continue to play a key role in our efforts to maintain product innovations. Our engineering expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2015 increased \$2.4 million as compared to the same period in 2014 primarily due to increased headcount related expenses of \$1.2 million, increased expenses related to software design tools of \$1.0 million, increased cost of sales associated with sales of light guides of \$0.7 million, increased bonus accrual expense of \$0.5 million and increased stock-based compensation expense of \$0.4 million offset by decreased accrual of retention bonuses of \$1.2 million.

Sales, general and administrative expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2015 remained relatively flat as compared to the same period in 2014 primarily due to decreased consulting costs of \$0.9 million, decreased legal patent prosecution costs of \$0.4 million and decreased depreciation expense of \$0.4 million, offset by increased headcount related expenses of \$0.9 million and increased stock-based compensation expense of \$0.4 million.

Trends

There are a number of trends that may have a material impact on us in the future, including but not limited to, the evolution of memory technology, adoption of LEDs in general lighting, the use and adoption of our inventions or technologies and global economic conditions with the resulting impact on sales of consumer electronic systems. We have a high degree of revenue concentration, with our top five customers representing approximately 66% and 64% of our revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. As a result of renewing with Samsung in 2013 and settling with SK hynix and Micron in 2013, Samsung, SK hynix and Micron are expected to

account for a significant portion of our ongoing licensing revenue. For the three months ended March 31, 2015, revenue from Micron, Samsung and SK hynix each accounted for 10% or more of our total revenue. For the three months ended March 31, 2014, revenue from Micron, Samsung and SK hynix each accounted for 10% or more of our total revenue. We expect to continue to experience significant revenue concentration for the foreseeable future. The particular customers which account for revenue concentration have varied from period to period as a result of the addition of new contracts, expiration of existing contracts, renewals of existing contracts, industry consolidation and the

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volumes and prices at which the customers have recently sold to their customers. These variations are expected to continue in the foreseeable future.

Our licensing cycle is lengthy, costly and unpredictable with any degree of certainty. We may incur costs in any particular period before any associated revenue stream begins, if at all. Our lengthy license negotiation cycles could make our future revenue difficult to predict because we may not be successful in entering into licenses with our customers in the amounts projected, or on our anticipated timelines. In addition, while some of our license agreements provide for fixed, quarterly royalty payments, many of our license agreements provide for volume-based royalties, and may also be subject to caps on royalties in a given period. The sales volume and prices of our customers' products in any given period can be difficult to predict. As a result, our actual results may differ substantially from analyst estimates or our forecasts in any given quarter or over the next year.

The semiconductor industry is intensely competitive and highly cyclical, limiting our visibility with respect to future sales. To the extent that macroeconomic fluctuations negatively affect our principal customers, the demand for our technology may be significantly and adversely impacted and we may experience substantial period-to-period fluctuations in our operating results. The royalties we receive from our semiconductor customers are partly a function of the adoption of our technologies by system companies. Many system companies purchase semiconductors containing our technologies from our customers and do not have a direct contractual relationship with us. Our customers generally do not provide us with details as to the identity or volume of licensed semiconductors purchased by particular system companies. As a result, we face difficulty in analyzing the extent to which our future revenue will be dependent upon particular system companies. System companies face intense competitive pressure in their markets, which are characterized by extreme volatility, frequent new product introductions and rapidly shifting consumer preferences.

The highly fragmented general lighting industry is undergoing a fundamental shift from incandescent technology to cold cathode fluorescent lights and LED driven technology due to the need to reduce energy consumption and to comply with government mandates. LED lighting typically saves energy costs as compared to existing installed lighting. Our LDT group's patents in LED edge-lit light guide technology can be applied in the design of next generation LED lighting products.

During 2013, we changed our business strategy to increase our focus on general lighting technologies instead of lower margin bulb products. With this shift to focus on the general lighting market, the strategy of the LDT group is to focus on providing the market with novel, patented light guide technologies and products to customers who are leading the transition to solid-state LED-based lamps and fixtures.

Another shift in our business strategy regarding our core display patents led us in 2013 to sell a set of patent assets where the purchaser of the patents can proceed independently with a licensing program. We have a net proceeds-sharing program in place with the purchaser of the patents upon their licensing of these patent assets. We retain the rights to use certain application techniques and may selectively engage with customers to license our intellectual property and technology for use and applications as permitted under our agreement, including without limitation, display panel and designs.

Global demand for effective security technologies continues to increase. In particular, highly integrated devices such as smart phones and tablets are increasingly used for applications requiring security such as mobile payments, content protection, corporate information and user data. Our CRD is primarily focused on positioning its DPA countermeasures and CryptoFirewall™ technology solutions to capitalize on these trends and growing adoption among technology partners and customers.

Our revenue from companies headquartered outside of the United States accounted for approximately 62%, and 63% of our total revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. We expect that revenue derived from international customers will continue to represent a significant portion of our total revenue in the future. To date, all of the revenue from international customers has been denominated in U.S. dollars. However, to the extent that such customers' sales to their customers are not denominated in U.S. dollars, any revenue that we receive as a result of such sales could be subject to fluctuations in currency exchange rates. In addition, if the effective price of licensed products sold by our foreign customers were to increase as a result of fluctuations in the exchange rate of the

relevant currencies, demand for licensed products could fall, which in turn would reduce our revenue. We do not use financial instruments to hedge foreign exchange rate risk.

For additional information concerning international revenue, see Note 5, "Segments and Major Customers," of Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements of this Form 10-Q.

Engineering costs in the aggregate and as a percentage of revenue increased for the three months ended March 31, 2015 as compared to the same period in the prior year. In the near term, we expect engineering costs in the aggregate to be higher as we intend to continue to make investments in the infrastructure and technologies required to maintain our product innovation in semiconductor, lighting, security and other technologies.

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Sales, general and administrative expenses in the aggregate decreased and as a percentage of revenue increased for the three months ended March 31, 2015 as compared to the same period in the prior year. In the past, our litigation expenses have been high and difficult to predict. Because we have successfully negotiated settlements and license agreements with SK hynix, Micron and Nanya during the course of 2013 and 2014, we have settled all outstanding litigation and should no longer have material litigation expenses related to these specific matters. In the near term, we expect our sales, general and administrative costs in the aggregate to remain relatively flat. To the extent litigation is again necessary, our expectations on the amount and timing of any future general and administrative costs is uncertain.

Our continued investment in research and development projects, involvement in any future litigation or other legal proceedings and any lower revenue from our customers in the future, will negatively affect our cash from operations. As a part of our overall business strategy, from time to time, we evaluate businesses and technologies for potential acquisition that are aligned with our core business and designed to supplement our growth. In the first quarter of 2015, we did not identify any acquisition opportunities that met our criteria from a strategic and valuation perspective.

We continue to evaluate our acquisition options, but to provide us with more flexibility in returning capital back to our stockholders, on January 21, 2015, our Board authorized a new share repurchase program authorizing the repurchase of up to an aggregate of 20.0 million shares, which we may opportunistically execute from time to time.

Results of Operations

The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the percentage of total revenue represented by certain items reflected in our unaudited condensed consolidated statements of operations:

	Three Months Ended			
	March 31,			
	2015	2014		
Revenue:				
Royalties	91.8	% 94.1		%
Contract and other revenue	8.2	% 5.9		%
Total revenue	100.0	% 100.0		%
Operating costs and expenses:				
Cost of revenue*	14.8	% 12.8		%
Research and development*	39.1	% 34.4		%
Sales, general and administrative*	25.4	% 24.1		%
Gain from sale of intellectual property	(3.1))% (0.2))%
Gain from settlement	(0.7))% (0.7))%
Total operating costs and expenses	75.5	% 70.4		%
Operating income	24.5	% 29.6		%
Interest income and other income (expense), net	0.2	% 0.0		%
Interest expense	(4.2))% (12.7))%
Interest and other income (expense), net	(4.0))% (12.7))%
Income before income taxes	20.5	% 17.0		%
Provision for income taxes	7.5	% 7.0		%
Net income	13.0	% 10.0		%

* Includes stock-based compensation:

Cost of revenue	0.0	% 0.0		%
Research and development	2.4	% 1.7		%
Sales, general and administrative	2.7	% 2.0		%

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(Dollars in millions)	Three Months		Change in Percentage
	Ended March 31, 2015	2014	
Total Revenue			
Royalties	\$67.0	\$73.6	(9.1)%
Contract and other revenue	5.9	4.7	28.0%
Total revenue	\$72.9	\$78.3	(6.9)%

Royalty Revenue

Patent Licenses

Our patent royalties decreased approximately \$5.4 million to \$65.0 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015 from \$70.4 million for the same period in 2014. The decrease was primarily due to lower royalty revenue from Nanya, NVIDIA and STMicroelectronics, offset by higher royalty revenue recognized from the agreements signed with IBM and Qualcomm. Of the \$65.0 million patent royalties for the three months ended March 31, 2015, \$21.5 million is related to royalty revenue from settlement of past legal proceedings with SK Hynix and Micron.

We are continuously in negotiations for licenses with prospective customers. We expect patent royalties will continue to vary from period to period based on our success in adding new customers, renewing or extending existing agreements, as well as the level of variation in our customers' reported shipment volumes, sales price and mix, offset in part by the proportion of customer payments that are fixed or hybrid in nature.

Technology Licenses

Royalties from technology licenses decreased approximately \$1.2 million to \$2.0 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015 from \$3.2 million for the same period in 2014. The decrease was primarily due to lower royalties reported from decreased shipments of the Sony PlayStation®3 product, DDR2 technology products and Serial Link products.

We expect future technology licensing royalties from the Sony PlayStation®3 product to continue to decrease. In the future, we expect technology royalties will continue to vary from period to period based on our customers' shipment volumes, sales prices, and product mix.

Royalty Revenue by Reportable Segments

Royalty revenue from the MID reportable segment, which includes patent and technology license royalties, decreased approximately \$7.0 million to \$54.2 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015 from \$61.2 million for the same period in 2014. The decrease was primarily due to lower royalty revenue from Nanya, NVIDIA and STMicroelectronics offset by higher royalty revenue from agreements signed with IBM and Qualcomm.

Royalty revenue from the CRD reportable segment remained relatively flat at \$12.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015 compared to the same period in 2014.

Royalty revenue from the Other segment was immaterial for both the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, and increased period over period.

Contract and Other Revenue

Contract and other revenue consists of revenue from technology development and sale of LED edge-lit products.

Contract and other revenue increased approximately \$1.2 million to \$5.9 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015 from \$4.7 million for the same period in 2014. The increase was primarily due to increased lighting technology development projects and sales of light guides as well as various other development projects.

We believe that contract and other revenue will fluctuate over time based on our ongoing technology development contractual requirements, the amount of work performed, the timing of completing engineering deliverables, and the changes to work required, as well as new technology development contracts booked in the future.

Contract and Other Revenue by Reportable Segments

Contract and other revenue from the MID reportable segment increased to \$0.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015 as compared to the same period in 2014, primarily due to new development projects.

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Contract and other revenue from the CRD reportable segment decreased approximately \$0.1 million to \$0.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015 from \$0.5 million for the same period in 2014, primarily due to lower revenue from evaluation and test equipment contracts.

Contract and other revenue from the Other segment increased approximately \$0.8 million to \$5.0 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015 from \$4.2 million for the same period in 2014. The increase was primarily due to increased lighting technology development projects and sales of light guides.

Engineering costs:

(Dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended		Change in Percentage	
	March 31, 2015	2014		
Engineering costs				
Cost of revenue	\$5.1	\$4.3	17.8	%
Amortization of intangible assets	5.7	5.7	—	%
Stock-based compensation	0.0	0.0	—	%
Total cost of revenue	10.8	10.0	7.3	%
Research and development	26.7	25.6	4.6	%
Stock-based compensation	1.8	1.3	34.8	%
Total research and development	28.5	26.9	6.1	%
Total engineering costs	\$39.3	\$36.9	6.4	%

Total engineering costs increased \$2.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015 as compared to the same period in 2014 primarily due to increased headcount related expenses of \$1.2 million, increased expenses related to software design tools of \$1.0 million, increased cost of sales associated with sales of light guides of \$0.7 million, increased bonus accrual expense of \$0.5 million and increased stock-based compensation expense of \$0.4 million offset by decreased accrual of retention bonuses of \$1.2 million.

In the near term, we expect engineering costs to be higher as we intend to continue to make investments in the infrastructure and technologies required to maintain our product innovation in semiconductor, lighting, security and other technologies.

Sales, general and administrative costs:

(Dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended		Change in Percentage	
	March 31, 2015	2014		
Sales, general and administrative costs				
Sales, general and administrative costs	\$16.5	\$17.2	(4.2))%
Stock-based compensation	2.0	1.6	25.7	%
Total sales, general and administrative costs	\$18.5	\$18.8	(1.7))%

Total sales, general and administrative costs remained relatively flat for the three months ended March 31, 2015 as compared to the same period in 2014 primarily due to decreased consulting costs of \$0.9 million, decreased legal patent prosecution costs of \$0.4 million and decreased depreciation expense of \$0.4 million, offset by increased headcount related expenses of \$0.9 million and increased stock-based compensation expense of \$0.4 million.

In the future, sales, general and administrative costs will vary from period to period based on the trade shows, advertising, legal, acquisition and other sales, marketing and administrative activities undertaken, and the change in sales, marketing and administrative headcount in any given period. In the near term, we expect our sales, general and administrative costs to remain relatively flat.

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Gain from sale of intellectual property:

(Dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended		Change in Percentage
	March 31		
	2015	2014	
Gain from sale of intellectual property	\$2.3	\$0.2	NM*

*NM — percentage is not meaningful

During 2013, we sold portfolios of our patent assets covering lighting technologies. As part of these transactions, we received an initial upfront payment and expect to receive subsequent payments if and when the purchaser of the patents is successful in licensing that portfolio. During the first quarter of 2015, we received \$2.3 million from the purchaser of the patents related to this transaction which was recorded as gain from sale of intellectual property.

During first quarter of 2014, we sold portfolios of our patent assets covering wireless and other technologies.

Gain from settlement:

(Dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended		Change in Percentage
	March 31,		
	2015	2014	
Gain from settlement	\$0.5	\$0.5	— %

The settlements with SK hynix and Micron are multiple element arrangements for accounting purposes. For a multiple element arrangement, we are required to determine the fair value of the elements. We considered several factors in determining the accounting fair value of the elements of the settlement with SK hynix and the settlement with Micron which included a third party valuation using an income approach (the “SK hynix Fair Value” and “Micron Fair Value”, respectively). The total gain from settlement related to the settlements with SK hynix and Micron was \$1.9 million and \$3.3 million, respectively. During each of the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, we recognized \$0.5 million as gain from settlement, which represents the portion of the SK hynix Fair Value and Micron Fair Value of the cash consideration allocated to the resolution of the antitrust litigation settlements. Refer to Note 14, “Agreements with SK hynix and Micron,” of Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements of this Form 10-Q for further discussion.

Interest and other income (expense), net:

(Dollars in millions)	Three Months		Change in Percentage
	Ended March 31,		
	2015	2014	
Interest income and other income (expense), net	\$0.1	\$0.0	NM*
Interest expense	(3.1)	(9.9)	(68.9)%
Interest and other income (expense), net	\$(3.0)	\$(9.9)	(70.2)%

*NM — percentage is not meaningful

Interest income and other income (expense), net, consists primarily of interest income generated from investments in high quality fixed income securities.

Interest expense consists of interest expense associated with our imputed facility lease obligations on the Sunnyvale and Ohio facilities and non-cash interest expense related to the amortization of the debt discount and issuance costs on the 5% convertible senior notes due 2014 (the “2014 Notes”) and 1.125% convertible senior notes due 2018 (the “2018 Notes”) as well as the coupon interest related to the notes. Interest expense decreased for the three months ended March 31, 2015 as compared to the same period in 2014 primarily due to the repayment of the 2014 Notes in second quarter of 2014. We expect our non-cash interest expense to increase steadily as the 2018 Notes reach maturity.

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Provision for income taxes:

(Dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended		Change in Percentage
	March 31, 2015	2014	
Provision for income taxes	\$5.4	\$5.5	(0.6)%
Effective tax rate	36.4	% 41.2	%

Our effective tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2015 was different from the U.S. statutory tax rate applied to our pretax income primarily due to a full valuation allowance on our U.S. deferred tax assets, foreign withholding and income taxes. The effective tax rate decreased for the three months ended March 31, 2015 as compared to the three months ended March 31, 2014, despite a relatively consistent provision for income taxes, due to higher quarterly pre-tax book income.

During the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, we paid withholding taxes of \$4.8 million and \$5.1 million, respectively. We recorded a provision for income taxes of \$5.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015, which is primarily comprised withholding taxes, other foreign taxes and current state taxes.

Our effective tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2014 was different from the U.S. statutory tax rate applied to our pretax income primarily due to a full valuation allowance on our U.S. deferred tax assets, foreign withholding and foreign income taxes, and state income taxes.

We periodically evaluate the realizability of our net deferred tax assets based on all available evidence, both positive and negative. The realization of net deferred tax assets is dependent on our ability to generate sufficient future taxable income during periods prior to the expiration of tax attributes to fully utilize these assets. We weighed both positive and negative evidence and determined that there is a continued need for a full valuation allowance on our deferred tax assets in the United States as of March 31, 2015. We emerged from a cumulative loss position over the previous three years during the first quarter of 2015. However, given economic uncertainties and the uncertainty of commercializing new business arrangements and new product acceptances, we currently believe there is not sufficient positive evidence of future profitability to change our judgment regarding the need for a full valuation allowance on our deferred tax assets in the United States. The continued improvement in our operating results, conditioned on successfully commercializing new business arrangements, signing new or renewing existing license agreements and managing costs would provide additional positive evidence in determining the need for the valuation allowance and could lead to reversal of substantially all of our valuation allowance on our deferred tax assets in the United States. Until such time, consumption of tax attributes to offset profits will reduce the overall level of deferred tax assets subject to valuation allowance. Should we determine that we would be able to realize our remaining deferred tax assets in the foreseeable future, an adjustment to our remaining deferred tax assets would cause a material increase to income in the period such determination is made.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

	As of	
	March 31, 2015	December 31, 2014
	(In millions)	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$171.6	\$154.1
Marketable securities	146.2	146.0
Total cash, cash equivalents, and marketable securities	\$317.8	\$300.1
	Three Months Ended	
	March 31, 2015	2014
	(In millions)	
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$15.1	\$16.5
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	\$1.1	\$(9.9)
Net cash provided by financing activities	\$1.3	\$1.3

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Liquidity

We currently anticipate that existing cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities balances and cash flows from operations will be adequate to meet our cash needs for at least the next 12 months. Additionally, substantially all of our cash and cash equivalents are in the United States. Our cash needs for the three months ended March 31, 2015 were funded primarily from cash collected from our customers.

We do not anticipate any liquidity constraints as a result of either the current credit environment or investment fair value fluctuations. Additionally, we have the intent and ability to hold our debt investments that have unrealized losses in accumulated other comprehensive loss for a sufficient period of time to allow for recovery of the principal amounts invested. Additionally, we have no significant exposure to European sovereign debt. We continually monitor the credit risk in our portfolio and mitigate our credit risk exposures in accordance with our policies.

As a part of our overall business strategy, from time to time, we evaluate businesses and technologies for potential acquisition that are aligned with our core business and designed to supplement our growth. In the first quarter of 2015, we did not identify any acquisition opportunities that met our criteria from a strategic and valuation perspective.

We continue to evaluate our acquisition options, but to provide us with more flexibility in returning capital back to our stockholders, on January 21, 2015, our Board authorized a new share repurchase program authorizing the repurchase of up to an aggregate of 20.0 million shares, which we may opportunistically execute from time to time.

Operating Activities

Cash provided by operating activities of \$15.1 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015 was primarily attributable to the cash generated from customer licensing. Changes in operating assets and liabilities for the three months ended March 31, 2015 primarily included a decrease in accrued salaries and benefits and other liabilities mainly due to the payout of the 2014 Corporate Incentive Plan, an increase in deferred revenue and an increase in prepaids and other current assets.

Cash provided by operating activities of \$16.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2014 was primarily attributable to the cash generated from customer licensing. Changes in operating assets and liabilities for the three months ended March 31, 2014 primarily included a decrease in accrued salaries and benefits and other accrued liabilities, an increase in accounts receivable mainly due to higher receivables from two customers, and a decrease in income taxes payable.

Investing Activities

Cash provided by investing activities of \$1.1 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015 primarily consisted of proceeds from the maturities and sales of available-for-sale marketable securities of \$40.1 million and \$6.6 million, respectively, offset by cash paid for purchases of available-for-sale marketable securities of \$46.8 million. In addition, we received \$2.3 million from the sale of intellectual property. We also paid \$1.1 million to acquire property, plant and equipment.

Cash used in investing activities of \$9.9 million for the three months ended March 31, 2014 primarily consisted of cash paid for purchases of available-for-sale marketable securities of \$34.1 million, offset by proceeds from the maturities of available-for-sale marketable securities of \$26.1 million. In addition, we paid \$3.1 million to acquire property, plant and equipment, primarily related to the payment for software design tools. We also received \$1.3 million from the sale of intellectual property.

Financing Activities

Cash provided by financing activities was \$1.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2015. We received proceeds of \$1.4 million from the issuance of common stock under equity incentive plans and paid \$0.1 million due to principal payments against the lease financing obligation.

Cash provided by financing activities was \$1.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2014. We received proceeds of \$1.4 million from the issuance of common stock under equity incentive plans, offset by \$0.1 million due to payments under installment payment arrangements for fixed assets and principal payments against the lease financing obligation.

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Contractual Obligations

As of March 31, 2015, our material contractual obligations were (in thousands):

	Total	Remainder of 2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Thereafter
Contractual obligations (1)							
Imputed financing obligation (2)	\$32,901	\$ 4,525	\$6,156	\$6,302	\$6,447	\$6,602	\$2,869
Leases and other contractual obligations	7,521	3,809	2,034	1,338	340	—	—
Software licenses (3)	7,968	6,220	1,748	—	—	—	—
Convertible notes	138,000	—	—	—	138,000	—	—
Interest payments related to convertible notes	5,434	776	1,553	1,553	1,552	—	—
Total	\$191,824	\$ 15,330	\$11,491	\$9,193	\$146,339	\$6,602	\$2,869

(1) The above table does not reflect possible payments in connection with uncertain tax benefits of approximately \$21.4 million including \$18.4 million recorded as a reduction of long-term deferred tax assets and \$3.0 million in long-term income taxes payable as of March 31, 2015. As noted in Note 12, "Income Taxes," of Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements of this Form 10-Q, although it is possible that some of the unrecognized tax benefits could be settled within the next 12 months, we cannot reasonably estimate the outcome at this time.

(2) With respect to the imputed financing obligation, the main components of the difference between the amount reflected in the contractual obligations table and the amount reflected on the condensed consolidated balance sheets are the interest on the imputed financing obligation and the estimated common area expenses over the future periods. The amount includes the amended Ohio lease and the amended Sunnyvale lease.

(3) We have commitments with various software vendors for non-cancellable agreements generally having terms longer than one year.

Share Repurchase Program

During the three months ended March 31, 2015, we did not repurchase any shares of our common stock.

On January 21, 2015, our Board approved a new share repurchase program authorizing the repurchase of up to an aggregate of 20.0 million shares. Share repurchases under the plan may be made through the open market, established plans or privately negotiated transactions in accordance with all applicable securities laws, rules, and regulations.

There is no expiration date applicable to the plan. This new stock repurchase program replaced the previous program approved by the Board in February 2010 and canceled the remaining shares outstanding as part of the previous authorization. No repurchases have been made under the new plan.

We record stock repurchases as a reduction to stockholders' equity. We record a portion of the purchase price of the repurchased shares as an increase to accumulated deficit when the price of the shares repurchased exceeds the average original proceeds per share received from the issuance of common stock.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations are based upon our condensed 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 amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. On an ongoing basis, we evaluate our estimates, including those related to revenue recognition, expense accrual, investments, income taxes and other contingencies. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions. Our critical accounting estimates include those regarding (1) revenue recognition, (2) goodwill and intangible assets,

(3) income taxes and (4) stock-based compensation. For a discussion of our critical accounting estimates, see “Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations — Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates” in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014.

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Recent Accounting Pronouncements

See Note 2, “Recent Accounting Pronouncements,” of Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements of this Form 10-Q for discussion of recent accounting pronouncements including the respective expected dates of adoption.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

We are exposed to financial market risks, primarily arising from the effect of interest rate fluctuations on our investment portfolio. Interest rate fluctuation may arise from changes in the market’s view of the quality of the security issuer, the overall economic outlook, and the time to maturity of our portfolio. We mitigate this risk by investing only in high quality, highly liquid instruments. Securities with original maturities of one year or less must be rated by two of the three industry standard rating agencies as follows: A1 by Standard & Poor’s, P1 by Moody’s and/or F-1 by Fitch. Securities with original maturities of greater than one year must be rated by two of the following industry standard rating agencies as follows: AA- by Standard & Poor’s, Aa3 by Moody’s and/or AA- by Fitch. By corporate investment policy, we limit the amount of exposure to \$15.0 million or 10% of the portfolio, whichever is lower, for any single non-U.S. Government issuer. A single U.S. Agency can represent up to 25% of the portfolio. No more than 20% of the total portfolio may be invested in the securities of an industry sector, with money market fund investments evaluated separately. Our policy requires that at least 10% of the portfolio be in securities with a maturity of 90 days or less. We may make investments in U.S. Treasuries, U.S. Agencies, corporate bonds and municipal bonds and notes with maturities up to 36 months. However, the bias of our investment portfolio is shorter maturities. All investments must be U.S. dollar denominated. Additionally, we have no significant exposure to European sovereign debt.

We invest our cash equivalents and marketable securities in a variety of U.S. dollar financial instruments such as U.S. Treasuries, U.S. Government Agencies, commercial paper and corporate notes. Our policy specifically prohibits trading securities for the sole purposes of realizing trading profits. However, we may liquidate a portion of our portfolio if we experience unforeseen liquidity requirements. In such a case, if the environment has been one of rising interest rates we may experience a realized loss, similarly, if the environment has been one of declining interest rates we may experience a realized gain. As of March 31, 2015, we had an investment portfolio of fixed income marketable securities of \$297.2 million including cash equivalents. If market interest rates were to increase immediately and uniformly by 1.0% from the levels as of March 31, 2015, the fair value of the portfolio would decline by approximately \$0.7 million. Actual results may differ materially from this sensitivity analysis.

The fair value of our convertible notes is subject to interest rate risk, market risk and other factors due to the convertible feature. The fair value of the convertible notes will generally increase as interest rates fall and decrease as interest rates rise. In addition, the fair value of the convertible notes will generally increase as our common stock price increases and will generally decrease as our common stock price declines in value. The interest and market value changes affect the fair value of our convertible notes but do not impact our financial position, cash flows or results of operations due to the fixed nature of the debt obligation.

We invoice our customers in U.S. dollars. Although the fluctuation of currency exchange rates may impact our customers, and thus indirectly impact us, we do not attempt to hedge this indirect and speculative risk. Our overseas operations consist primarily of design centers in India and France and small business development offices in Japan, Korea and Taiwan. We monitor our foreign currency exposure; however, as of March 31, 2015, we believe our foreign currency exposure is not material enough to warrant foreign currency hedging.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports we file or submit pursuant to the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 as amended (“Exchange Act”) is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the rules and forms of the Securities and Exchange Commission, and that 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.

Management, with the participation of the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Exchange Act as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based on this evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that, as of March 31, 2015, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective.

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Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There were no changes in internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act) during the quarter ended March 31, 2015, that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

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PART II—OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

We are not currently a party to any material pending legal proceeding; however, from time to time, we may become involved in legal proceedings or be subject to claims arising in the ordinary course of our business. Although the results of litigation and claims cannot be predicted with certainty, we currently believe that the final outcome of these ordinary course matters will not have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, financial position or cash flows. Regardless of the outcome, litigation can have an adverse impact on us because of defense and settlement costs, diversion of management resources and other factors.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

Because of the following factors, as well as other variables affecting our operating results, past financial performance may not be a reliable indicator of future performance, and historical trends should not be used to anticipate results or trends in future periods. See also “Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements” at the beginning of this report.

Risks Associated With Our Business, Industry and Market Conditions

The success of our business depends on sustaining or growing our licensing revenue and the failure to achieve such revenue would lead to a material decline in our results of operations.

Our revenue consists mainly of patent and technology license fees paid for access to our patents, developed technology and development and support services provided to our customers. Our ability to secure and renew the licenses from which our revenues are derived depends on our customers adopting our technology and using it in the products they sell. Once secured, license revenue may be negatively affected by factors within and outside our control, including reductions in our customers’ sales prices, sales volumes, our failure to timely complete engineering deliverables, and the terms of such licenses. In addition, we cannot provide any assurance that we will be successful in renewing existing license agreements on equal or favorable terms or at all. If we do not achieve our revenue goals, our results of operations could decline.

We have traditionally operated in industries that are highly cyclical and competitive.

Our target customers are companies that develop and market high volume business and consumer products in semiconductors, computing, tablets, handheld devices, mobile applications, gaming and graphics, high-definition televisions and displays, general lighting, cryptography and data security. The electronics industry is intensely competitive and has been impacted by price erosion, rapid technological change, short product life cycles, cyclical market patterns and increasing foreign and domestic competition. We are subject to many risks beyond our control that influence whether or not we are successful in winning target customers or retaining existing customers, including, primarily, competition in a particular industry, market acceptance of such customers' products and the financial resources of such customers. In particular, DRAM manufacturers, which make up many of our customers, have suffered material losses and other adverse effects to their businesses, leading to industry consolidation from time-to-time that may result in loss of revenues under our existing license agreements or loss of target customers. As a result of ongoing competition in the industries in which we operate and volatility in various economies around the world, we may achieve a reduced number of licenses or may experience tightening of customers' operating budgets, difficulty or inability of our customers to pay our licensing fees, lengthening of the approval process for new licenses and consolidation among our customers. All of these factors may adversely affect the demand for our technology and may cause us to experience substantial fluctuations in our operating results.

We face competition from semiconductor and digital electronics products and systems companies, other semiconductor intellectual property companies that provide security cores and non-edge lit LED lighting options that are available to the market. We believe the principal competition for our technologies may come from our prospective customers, some of whom are evaluating and developing products based on technologies that they contend or may contend will not require a license from us. Some of our competitors use a system-level design approach similar to ours, including activities such as board and package design, power and signal integrity analysis, and thermal management. Many of these companies are larger and may have better access to financial, technical and other resources than we possess.

To the extent that alternatives might provide comparable system performance at lower than or similar cost to our technologies, or are perceived to require the payment of no or lower royalties, or to the extent other factors influence the industry, our customers and prospective customers may adopt and promote alternative technologies. Even to the extent we determine that such alternative technologies infringe our patents, there can be no assurance that we would be able to negotiate

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agreements that would result in royalties being paid to us without litigation, which could be costly and the results of which would be uncertain.

We may have to invest more resources in research and development than anticipated, which could increase our operating expenses and negatively impact our operating results.

If new competitors, technological advances by existing competitors, and/or development of new technologies or other competitive factors require us to invest significantly greater resources than anticipated in our research and development efforts, our operating expenses could increase. If we are required to invest significantly greater resources than anticipated in research and development efforts without an increase in revenue, our operating results would decline. We expect these expenses to increase in the foreseeable future as our technology development efforts continue.

Our revenue is concentrated in a few customers, and if we lose any of these customers through contract terminations or acquisitions, our revenue may decrease substantially.

We have a high degree of revenue concentration. Our top five customers for each reporting period represented approximately 66% and 64% of our revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. For the three months ended March 31, 2015, revenue from Micron, Samsung and SK hynix each accounted for 10% or more of our total revenue. For the three months ended March 31, 2014, revenue from Micron, Samsung and SK hynix each accounted for 10% or more of our total revenue. Additionally, our top five customers represented approximately 62% of our revenue for both of the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013. For the year ended December 31, 2014, revenue from Micron, Samsung and SK hynix each accounted for 10% or more of our total revenue. For the year ended December 31, 2013, revenue from Samsung accounted for 10% or more of our total revenue. We extended our license agreement with Samsung in December 2013, and we expect Samsung to continue to account for a significant portion of our licensing revenue. We also entered into settlement agreements with each of SK hynix and Micron (which included Elpida, which Micron had acquired in July 2013) in June 2013 and December 2013, respectively. As a result of the renewal and such settlements, we expect each of Samsung, SK hynix and Micron to account for a significant portion of our licensing revenue in the future. We expect to continue to experience significant revenue concentration for the foreseeable future.

In addition, our license agreements are complex and some contain terms that require us to provide certain customers with the lowest royalty rate that we provide to other customers for similar technologies, volumes and schedules. These clauses may limit our ability to effectively price differently among our customers, to respond quickly to market forces, or otherwise to compete on the basis of price. These clauses may also require us to reduce royalties payable by existing customers when we enter into or amend agreements with other customers. Any adjustment that reduces royalties from current customers or licensees may have a material adverse effect on our operating results and financial condition.

We continue to negotiate with customers and prospective customers to enter into license agreements. Any future agreement may trigger our obligation to offer comparable terms or modifications to agreements with our existing customers, which may be less favorable to us than the existing license terms. We expect licensing fees will continue to vary based on our success in renewing existing license agreements and adding new customers, as well as the level of variation in our customers' reported shipment volumes, sales price and mix, offset in part by the proportion of customer payments that are fixed. In particular, under our license agreement with Samsung, the license fees payable by Samsung are subject to certain adjustments and conditions, and we therefore cannot provide assurances that the revenues generated by this license will not decline in the future. In addition, some of our material license agreements may contain rights by the customer to terminate for convenience, or upon certain other events, such as change of control, material breach, insolvency or bankruptcy proceedings. If we are unsuccessful in entering into license agreements with new customers or renewing license agreements with existing customers, on favorable terms or at all, or if they are terminated, our results of operations may decline significantly.

Our business and operations could suffer in the event of security breaches.

Attempts by others to gain unauthorized access to our information technology systems are becoming more sophisticated. These attempts, which might be related to industrial or other espionage, include covertly introducing malware to our computers and networks and impersonating authorized users, among others. We seek to detect and

investigate all security incidents and to prevent their recurrence, but in some cases, we might be unaware of an incident or its magnitude and effects. While we have not identified any material incidents of unauthorized access to date, the theft, unauthorized use or publication of our intellectual property and/or confidential business information could harm our competitive position and reputation, reduce the value of our investment in research and development and other strategic initiatives or otherwise adversely affect our business. To the extent that any future security breach results in inappropriate disclosure of our customers' confidential information, we may incur liability.

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

Because the techniques used by hackers to access or sabotage secure chip and other technologies change frequently and generally are not recognized until launched against a target, we may be unable to anticipate these techniques and may not address them in our data security technologies. Furthermore, our data security technologies may fail to detect or prevent security breaches due to a number of reasons such as the evolving nature of such threats and the continual emergence of new threats. An actual or perceived security breach of our customers or their end-customers, regardless of whether the breach is attributable to the failure of our data security technologies, could adversely affect the market's perception of our security technologies. We may not be able to correct any security flaws or vulnerabilities promptly, or at all. Any breaches, defects, errors or vulnerabilities in our data security technologies could result in:

- expenditure of significant financial and research and development resources in efforts to analyze, correct, eliminate or work-around breaches, errors or defects or to address and eliminate vulnerabilities;
- financial liability to customers for breach of certain contract provisions;
- loss of existing or potential customers;
- delayed or lost revenue;
- delay or failure to attain market acceptance;
- negative publicity, which would harm our reputation; and
- litigation, regulatory inquiries or investigations that would be costly and harm our reputation.

Some of our revenue is subject to the pricing policies of our customers over whom we have no control.

We have no control over our customers' pricing of their products and there can be no assurance that licensed products will be competitively priced or will sell in significant volumes. Any premium charged by our customers in the price of memory and controller chips or other products over alternatives must be reasonable. If the benefits of our technology do not match the price premium charged by our customers, the resulting decline in sales of products incorporating our technology could harm our operating results.

Our licensing cycle is lengthy and costly, and our marketing and licensing efforts may be unsuccessful.

The process of persuading customers to adopt and license our chip interface, lighting, data security, and other technologies can be lengthy. Even if successful, there can be no assurance that our technologies will be used in a product that is ultimately brought to market, achieves commercial acceptance or results in significant royalties to us. We generally incur significant marketing and sales expenses prior to entering into our license agreements, generating a license fee and establishing a royalty stream from each customer. The length of time it takes to establish a new licensing relationship can take many months or even years. We may incur costs in any particular period before any associated revenue stream begins, if at all. If our marketing and sales efforts are very lengthy or unsuccessful, then we may face a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations as a result of failure to obtain or an undue delay in obtaining royalties.

Future revenue is difficult to predict for several reasons, and our failure to predict revenue accurately may result in our stock price declining.

Our lengthy license negotiation cycles could make our future revenue difficult to predict because we may not be successful in entering into licenses with our customers on our anticipated timelines.

In addition, while some of our license agreements provide for fixed, quarterly royalty payments, many of our license agreements provide for volume-based royalties, and may also be subject to caps on royalties in a given period. The sales volume and prices of our customers' products in any given period can be difficult to predict. As a result, our actual results may differ substantially from analyst estimates or our forecasts in any given quarter.

Furthermore, a portion of our revenue comes from development and support services provided to our customers.

Depending upon the nature of the services, a portion of the related revenue may be recognized ratably over the support period, or may be recognized according to contract revenue accounting. Contract revenue accounting may result in deferral of the service fees to the completion of the contract, or may result in the recognition of service fees over the period in which services are performed on a percentage-of-completion basis.

We may fail to meet our publicly announced guidance or other expectations about our business, which would likely cause our stock price to decline.

We provide guidance regarding our expected financial and business performance including our anticipated future revenues and operating expenses. Correctly identifying the key factors affecting business conditions and predicting future events is inherently an uncertain process.

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Such guidance may not always be accurate or may vary from actual results due to our inability to meet our assumptions and the impact on our financial performance that could occur as a result of the various risks and uncertainties to our business as set forth in these risk factors. We offer no assurance that such guidance will ultimately be accurate, and investors should treat any such guidance with appropriate caution. If we fail to meet our guidance or if we find it necessary to revise such guidance, even if such failure or revision is seemingly insignificant, investors and analysts may lose confidence in us and the market value of our common stock could be materially adversely affected. We have in the past made and may in the future make acquisitions or enter into mergers, strategic investments, sales of assets or other arrangements that may not produce expected operating and financial results.

From time to time, we engage in acquisitions, strategic transactions and strategic investments. We completed a number of acquisitions from 2009 to 2012. Many of our acquisitions or strategic investments entail a high degree of risk, including those involving new areas of technology and such investments may not become liquid for several years after the date of the investment, if at all. Our acquisitions or strategic investments may not generate the financial returns we expect, we may discover unidentified issues not discovered in due diligence, and we may be subject to liabilities that either are not covered by indemnification protection we may obtain or become subject to litigation. Achieving the anticipated benefits of business acquisitions depends in part upon our ability to integrate the acquired businesses in an efficient and effective manner. The integration of companies that have previously operated independently may result in significant challenges, including, among others: retaining key employees; successfully integrating new employees, business systems and technology; retaining customers of the acquired business; minimizing the diversion of management's attention from ongoing business matters; coordinating geographically separate organizations; consolidating research and development operations; and consolidating corporate and administrative infrastructures.

Our strategic investments in new areas of technology may involve significant risks and uncertainties, including distraction of management from current operations, greater than expected liabilities and expenses, inadequate return of capital, and unidentified issues not discovered in due diligence. These investments are inherently risky and may not be successful.

In addition, we may record impairment charges related to our acquisitions or strategic investments. For example, in the third quarter of 2013, we recorded an impairment of goodwill related to our MTD reporting unit. Any losses or impairment charges that we incur related to acquisitions, strategic investments or sales of assets will have a negative impact on our financial results, and we may continue to incur new or additional losses related to acquisitions or strategic investments.

We may have to incur debt or issue equity securities to pay for any future acquisition, which debt could involve restrictive covenants or which equity security issuance could be dilutive to our existing stockholders.

From time to time, we may also divest certain assets, where we may be required to provide certain representations, warranties and covenants to their buyers. While we would seek to ensure the accuracy of such representations and warranties and fulfillment of any ongoing obligations, we may not be completely successful and consequently may be subject to claims by a purchaser of such assets.

A substantial portion of our revenue is derived from sources outside of the United States and this revenue and our business generally are subject to risks related to international operations that are often beyond our control.

For the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, revenues received from our international customers constituted approximately 62% and 63%, respectively, of our total revenue. Additionally, for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, revenues received from our international customers constituted approximately 63% and 70%, respectively, of our total revenue. We expect that future revenue derived from international sources will continue to represent a significant portion of our total revenue.

To date, all of the revenue from international customers has been denominated in U.S. dollars. However, to the extent that such customers' sales are not denominated in U.S. dollars, any royalties which are based on a percentage of the customers' sales that we receive as a result of such sales could be subject to fluctuations in currency exchange rates. In addition, if the effective price of licensed products sold by our foreign customers were to increase as a result of fluctuations in the exchange rate of the relevant currencies, demand for licensed products could fall, which in turn would reduce our royalties. We do not use financial instruments to hedge foreign exchange rate risk.

We currently have international design operations in India and France and business development operations in Japan, Korea and Taiwan. Our international operations and revenue are subject to a variety of risks which are beyond our control, including:

- hiring, maintaining and managing a workforce and facilities remotely and under various legal systems;
- natural disasters, acts of war, terrorism, widespread illness or security breaches;
- export controls, tariffs, import and licensing restrictions and other trade barriers;

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- profits, if any, earned abroad being subject to local tax laws and not being repatriated to the United States or, if repatriation is possible, limited in amount;
- adverse tax treatment of revenue from international sources and changes to tax codes, including being subject to foreign tax laws and being liable for paying withholding, income or other taxes in foreign jurisdictions;
- unanticipated changes in foreign government laws and regulations;
- lack of protection of our intellectual property and other contract rights by jurisdictions in which we may do business to the same extent as the laws of the United States;
- social, political and economic instability;
- geopolitical issues, including changes in diplomatic and trade relationships; and
- cultural differences in the conduct of business both with customers and in conducting business in our international facilities and international sales offices.

We and our customers are subject to many of the risks described above with respect to companies which are located in different countries. There can be no assurance that one or more of the risks associated with our international operations will not result in a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations. Weak global economic conditions may adversely affect demand for the products and services of our customers. Our operations and performance depend significantly on worldwide economic conditions. Uncertainty about global or regional economic conditions poses a risk as consumers and businesses may postpone spending in response to tighter credit, negative financial news and declines in income or asset values, which could have a material negative effect on the demand for the products of our customers in the foreseeable future. If our customers experience reduced demand for their products as a result of global or regional economic conditions or otherwise, this could result in reduced royalty revenue and our business and results of operations could be harmed.

If our counterparties are unable to fulfill their financial and other obligations to us, our business and results of operations may be affected adversely.

Any downturn in economic conditions or other business factors could threaten the financial health of our counterparties, including companies with whom we have entered into licensing and/or settlement agreements, and their ability to fulfill their financial and other obligations to us. Such financial pressures on our counterparties may eventually lead to bankruptcy proceedings or other attempts to avoid financial obligations that are due to us. Because bankruptcy courts have the power to modify or cancel contracts of the petitioner which remain subject to future performance and alter or discharge payment obligations related to pre-petition debts, we may receive less than all of the payments that we would otherwise be entitled to receive from any such counterparty as a result of bankruptcy proceedings.

If we are unable to attract and retain qualified personnel, our business and operations could suffer.

Our success is dependent upon our ability to identify, attract, compensate, motivate and retain qualified personnel, especially engineers, senior management and other key personnel. We recently have faced retention issues, such as when our employee turnover accelerated after our reduction-in-force efforts in 2012 and 2013 and subsequent voluntary and involuntary separations. The loss of the services of any key employees could be disruptive to our development efforts or business relationships and could cause our business and operations to suffer.

We are subject to various government restrictions and regulations, including on the sale of products and services that use encryption technology and those related to privacy and other consumer protection matters.

Various countries have adopted controls, license requirements and restrictions on the export, import and use of products or services that contain encryption technology. In addition, governmental agencies have proposed additional requirements for encryption technology, such as requiring the escrow and governmental recovery of private encryption keys. Restrictions on the sale or distribution of products or services containing encryption technology may impact the ability of CRD to license its data security technologies to the manufacturers and providers of such products and services in certain markets or may require CRD or its customers to make changes to the licensed data security technology that is embedded in such products to comply with such restrictions. Government restrictions, or changes to the products or services of CRD's customers to comply with such restrictions, could delay or prevent the acceptance and use of such customers' products and services. In addition, the United States and other countries have imposed export controls that prohibit the export of encryption technology to certain countries, entities and individuals. Our

failure to comply with export and use regulations concerning encryption technology of CRD could subject us to sanctions and penalties, including fines, and suspension or revocation of export or import privileges.

We are subject to a variety of laws and regulations in the United States, the European Union and other countries that involve, for example, user privacy, data protection and security, content and consumer protection. A number of proposals are pending before federal, state, and foreign legislative and regulatory bodies that could significantly affect our business. Existing

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and proposed laws and regulations can be costly to comply with and can delay or impede the development of new products, result in negative publicity, increase our operating costs and subject us to claims or other remedies. In accordance with the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, the SEC established new disclosure and reporting requirements for those companies who use "conflict" minerals mined from the Democratic Republic of Congo and adjoining countries in their products, whether or not these products are manufactured by third parties. While these requirements continue to be the subject of ongoing litigation and, as a result, uncertainty, we submitted a conflicts minerals report on Form SD with the SEC on May 30, 2014. These requirements could affect the sourcing and availability of minerals that are used in the manufacture of our products. We have to date incurred costs and expect to incur significant additional costs associated with complying with the disclosure requirements, including for example, due diligence in regard to the sources of any conflict minerals used in our products, in addition to the cost of remediation and other changes to products, processes, or sources of supply as a consequence of such verification activities. Additionally, we may face reputational challenges with our customers and other stakeholders if we are unable to sufficiently verify the origins of all minerals used in our products through the due diligence procedures that we implement. We may also face challenges with government regulators and our customers and suppliers if we are unable to sufficiently verify that the metals used in our products are conflict free.

Our operations are subject to risks of natural disasters, acts of war, terrorism, widespread illness or security breach at our domestic and international locations, any one of which could result in a business stoppage and negatively affect our operating results.

Our business operations depend on our ability to maintain and protect our facilities, computer systems and personnel, which are primarily located in the San Francisco Bay Area and Bangalore, India. The San Francisco Bay Area is in close proximity to known earthquake fault zones. Our facilities and transportation for our employees are susceptible to damage from earthquakes and other natural disasters such as fires, floods and similar events. Should a catastrophe disable our facilities, we do not have readily available alternative facilities from which we could conduct our business, so any resultant work stoppage could have a negative effect on our operating results. We also rely on our network infrastructure and technology systems for operational support and business activities which are subject to physical and cyber damage, and also susceptible to other related vulnerabilities common to networks and computer systems. Acts of terrorism, widespread illness, war and any event that causes failures or interruption in our network infrastructure and technology systems could have a negative effect at our international and domestic facilities and could harm our business, financial condition, and operating results.

We do not have extensive experience in manufacturing and marketing products and, as a result, may be unable to sustain and grow a profitable commercial market for new and existing products.

We do not have extensive experience in manufacturing and marketing products and, as a result, we rely, and may rely in the future, on manufacturing supply chain partners and/or sales and distribution channels for certain of our new and existing products. Certain of these partners are, and may be, our sole manufacturer or sole source of production materials. In addition, many of our purchases are on a purchase order basis, and we do not generally have long-term contracts with our contract manufacturers or suppliers. If we are unable to secure and manage manufacturing supply chain partners and/or sales and distribution channels, or if our partners do not effectively manufacture and/or sell our products, or if we are unable to obtain the necessary production materials to produce our products, our operating results may be adversely affected.

Warranty and product liability claims brought against us could cause us to incur significant costs and adversely affect our operating results as well as our reputation and relationships with customers.

We may from time to time be subject to warranty and product liability claims with regard to product performance and effects of our lighting solutions. We could incur losses as a result of repair and replacement costs in response to customer complaints or in connection with the resolution of contemplated or actual legal proceedings relating to such claims. In addition to potential losses arising from claims and related legal proceedings, product liability claims could affect our reputation and our relationship with customers.

Our business and operating results could be harmed if we undertake any restructuring activities.

From time to time, we may undertake restructurings of our business. There are several factors that could cause restructurings to have adverse effects on our business, financial condition and results of operations. These include potential disruption of our operations, the development of our technology, the deliveries to our customers and other aspects of our business. Loss of sales, service and engineering talent, in particular, could damage our business. Any restructuring would require substantial management time and attention and may divert management from other important work. Employee reductions or other restructuring activities also would cause us to incur restructuring and related expenses such as severance expenses. Moreover, we could encounter delays in executing any restructuring plans, which could cause further disruption and additional unanticipated expense.

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Risks Related to Capitalization Matters and Corporate Governance

The price of our common stock may continue to fluctuate.

Our common stock is listed on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "RMBS." The trading price of our common stock has at times experienced price volatility and may continue to fluctuate significantly in response to various factors, some of which are beyond our control. Some of these factors include:

any progress, or lack of progress, real or perceived, in the development of products that incorporate our innovations and technology companies' acceptance of our products, including the results of our efforts to expand into new target markets;

our signing or not signing new licenses and the loss of strategic relationships with any customer;

announcements of technological innovations or new products by us, our customers or our competitors;

changes in our strategies, including changes in our licensing focus and/or acquisitions of companies with business models or target markets different from our own;

positive or negative reports by securities analysts as to our expected financial results and business developments;

developments with respect to patents or proprietary rights and other events or factors;

new litigation and the unpredictability of litigation results or settlements; and

issuance of additional securities by us, including in acquisitions.

In addition, the stock market in general, and prices for companies in our industry in particular, have experienced extreme volatility that often has been unrelated to the operating performance of such companies. These broad market and industry fluctuations may adversely affect the price of our common stock, regardless of our operating performance.

We have outstanding senior convertible notes in an aggregate principal amount totaling \$138.0 million. Because these notes are convertible into shares of our common stock, volatility or depressed prices of our common stock could have a similar effect on the trading price of such notes. In addition, the existence of these notes may encourage short selling in our common stock by market participants because the conversion of the notes could depress the price of our common stock.

We have been party to, and may in the future be subject to, lawsuits relating to securities law matters which may result in unfavorable outcomes and significant judgments, settlements and legal expenses which could cause our business, financial condition and results of operations to suffer.

We and certain of our current and former officers and directors, as well as our current auditors, were subject from 2006 to 2011 to several stockholder derivative actions, securities fraud class actions and/or individual lawsuits filed in federal court against us and certain of our current and former officers and directors. The complaints generally alleged that the defendants violated the federal and state securities laws and stated state law claims for fraud and breach of fiduciary duty. Although to date these complaints have either been settled or dismissed, the amount of time to resolve any future lawsuits is uncertain, and these matters could require significant management and financial resources.

Unfavorable outcomes and significant judgments, settlements and legal expenses in litigation related to any future securities law claims could have material adverse impacts on our business, financial condition, results of operations, cash flows and the trading price of our common stock.

We are leveraged financially, which could adversely affect our ability to adjust our business to respond to competitive pressures and to obtain sufficient funds to satisfy our future research and development needs, to protect and enforce our intellectual property, and to meet other needs.

We have material indebtedness. In August 2013, we issued \$138.0 million aggregate principal amount of our 2018 Notes which remain outstanding. The degree to which we are leveraged could have negative consequences, including, but not limited to, the following:

- we may be more vulnerable to economic downturns, less able to withstand competitive pressures and less flexible in responding to changing business and economic conditions;

- our ability to obtain additional financing in the future for working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions, litigation, general corporate or other purposes may be limited;

a substantial portion of our cash flows from operations in the future may be required for the payment of the principal amount of our existing indebtedness when it becomes due at maturity in August 2018; and we may be required to make cash payments upon any conversion of the 2018 Notes, which would reduce our cash on hand.

A failure to comply with the covenants and other provisions of our debt instruments could result in events of default under

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such instruments, which could permit acceleration of all of our outstanding 2018 Notes. Any required repurchase of the 2018 Notes as a result of a fundamental change or acceleration of the 2018 Notes would reduce our cash on hand such that we would not have those funds available for use in our business.

If we are at any time unable to generate sufficient cash flows from operations to service our indebtedness when payment is due, we may be required to attempt to renegotiate the terms of the instruments relating to the indebtedness, seek to refinance all or a portion of the indebtedness or obtain additional financing. There can be no assurance that we will be able to successfully renegotiate such terms, that any such refinancing would be possible or that any additional financing could be obtained on terms that are favorable or acceptable to us.

Compliance with changing regulation of corporate governance and public disclosure may result in additional expenses.

Changing laws, regulations and standards relating to corporate governance and public disclosure have historically created uncertainty for companies such as ours. Any new or changed laws, regulations and standards are subject to varying interpretations due to their lack of specificity, and as a result, their application in practice may evolve over time as new guidance is provided by regulatory and governing bodies. This could result in continuing uncertainty regarding compliance matters and higher costs necessitated by ongoing revisions to disclosure and governance practices.

Our certificate of incorporation and bylaws, Delaware law and our outstanding convertible notes contain provisions that could discourage transactions resulting in a change in control, which may negatively affect the market price of our common stock.

Our certificate of incorporation, our bylaws and Delaware law contain provisions that might enable our management to discourage, delay or prevent a change in control. In addition, these provisions could limit the price that investors would be willing to pay in the future for shares of our common stock. Pursuant to such provisions:

our board of directors is authorized, without prior stockholder approval, to create and issue preferred stock, commonly referred to as “blank check” preferred stock, with rights senior to those of common stock, which means that a stockholder rights plan could be implemented by our board;

our board of directors is staggered into two classes, only one of which is elected at each annual meeting;

stockholder action by written consent is prohibited;

nominations for election to our board of directors and the submission of matters to be acted upon by stockholders at a meeting are subject to advance notice requirements;

certain provisions in our bylaws and certificate of incorporation such as notice to stockholders, the ability to call a stockholder meeting, advance notice requirements and action of stockholders by written consent may only be amended with the approval of stockholders holding 66 2/3% of our outstanding voting stock;

our stockholders have no authority to call special meetings of stockholders; and

our board of directors is expressly authorized to make, alter or repeal our bylaws.

We are also subject to Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, which provides, subject to enumerated exceptions, that if a person acquires 15% or more of our outstanding voting stock, the person is an “interested stockholder” and may not engage in any “business combination” with us for a period of three years from the time the person acquired 15% or more of our outstanding voting stock.

Certain provisions of our outstanding 2018 Notes could make it more difficult or more expensive for a third party to acquire us. Upon the occurrence of certain transactions constituting a fundamental change, holders of such 2018 Notes will have the right, at their option, to require us to repurchase, at a cash repurchase price equal to 100% of the principal amount plus accrued and unpaid interest on such 2018 Notes, all or a portion of their 2018 Notes. We may also be required to increase the conversion rate of such 2018 Notes in the event of certain fundamental changes.

Unanticipated changes in our tax rates or in the tax laws and regulations could expose us to additional income tax liabilities which could affect our operating results and financial condition.

We are subject to income taxes in both the United States and various foreign jurisdictions. Significant judgment is required in determining our worldwide provision for income taxes and, in the ordinary course of business, there are many transactions and calculations where the ultimate tax determination is uncertain. Our effective tax rate could be adversely affected by changes in the mix of earnings in countries with differing statutory tax rates, changes in the

valuation of deferred tax assets and liabilities, changes in tax laws and regulations as well as other factors. Our tax determinations are regularly subject to audit by tax authorities and developments in those audits could adversely affect our income tax provision, and we are currently undergoing such audits of certain of our tax returns. Although we believe that our tax estimates are reasonable, the final determination of tax audits or tax disputes may be different from what is reflected in our historical income tax provisions which could affect our operating results.

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Litigation, Regulation and Business Risks Related to our Intellectual Property

We have in the past, and may in the future, become engaged in litigation stemming from our efforts to protect and enforce our patents and intellectual property and make other claims, which could adversely affect our intellectual property rights, distract our management and cause substantial expenses and declines in our revenue and stock price. We seek to diligently protect our intellectual property rights and will continue to do so. While we are not currently involved in intellectual property litigation, any future litigation, whether or not determined in our favor or settled by us, would be expected to be costly, may cause delays applicable to our business (including delays in negotiating licenses with other actual or potential customers), would be expected to tend to discourage future design partners, would tend to impair adoption of our existing technologies and would divert the efforts and attention of our management and technical personnel from other business operations. In addition, we may be unsuccessful in any litigation if we have difficulty obtaining the cooperation of former employees and agents who were involved in our business during the relevant periods related to our litigation and are now needed to assist in cases or testify on our behalf. Furthermore, any adverse determination or other resolution in litigation could result in our losing certain rights beyond the rights at issue in a particular case, including, among other things: our being effectively barred from suing others for violating certain or all of our intellectual property rights; our patents being held invalid or unenforceable or not infringed; our being subjected to significant liabilities; our being required to seek licenses from third parties; our being prevented from licensing our patented technology; or our being required to renegotiate with current customers on a temporary or permanent basis.

From time to time, we are subject to proceedings by government agencies that may result in adverse determinations against us and could cause our revenue to decline substantially.

An adverse resolution by or with a governmental agency could result in severe limitations on our ability to protect and license our intellectual property, and could cause our revenue to decline substantially. Third parties have and may attempt to use adverse findings by a government agency to limit our ability to enforce or license our patents in private litigations, to challenge or otherwise act against us with respect to such government agency proceedings.

Further, third parties have sought and may seek review and reconsideration of the patentability of inventions claimed in certain of our patents by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (“PTO”) and/or the European Patent Office (the “EPO”). Any re-examination proceedings may be reviewed by the PTO's Patent Trial and Appeal Board (“PTAB”). The PTAB and the related former Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences (BPAI) have previously issued decisions in a few cases, finding some challenged claims of Rambus' patents to be valid, and others to be invalid. Decisions of the PTAB are subject to further PTO proceedings and/or appeal to the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. A final adverse decision, not subject to further review and/or appeal, could invalidate some or all of the challenged patent claims and could also result in additional adverse consequences affecting other related U.S. or European patents, including in any intellectual property litigation. If a sufficient number of such patents are impaired, our ability to enforce or license our intellectual property would be significantly weakened and could cause our revenue to decline substantially.

The pendency of any governmental agency acting as described above may impair our ability to enforce or license our patents or collect royalties from existing or potential customers, as any litigation opponents may attempt to use such proceedings to delay or otherwise impair any pending cases and our existing or potential customers may await the final outcome of any proceedings before agreeing to new licenses or to paying royalties.

Litigation or other third-party claims of intellectual property infringement could require us to expend substantial resources and could prevent us from developing or licensing our technology on a cost-effective basis. Our research and development programs are in highly competitive fields in which numerous third parties have issued patents and patent applications with claims closely related to the subject matter of our programs. We have also been named in the past, and may in the future be named, as a defendant in lawsuits claiming that our technology infringes upon the intellectual property rights of third parties. As we develop additional products and technology, we may face claims of infringement of various patents and other intellectual property rights by third parties. In the event of a third-party claim or a successful infringement action against us, we may be required to pay substantial damages, to

stop developing and licensing our infringing technology, to develop non-infringing technology, and to obtain licenses, which could result in our paying substantial royalties or our granting of cross licenses to our technologies. We may not be able to obtain licenses from other parties at a reasonable cost, or at all, which could cause us to expend substantial resources, or result in delays in, or the cancellation of, new products.

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If we are unable to protect our inventions successfully through the issuance and enforcement of patents, our operating results could be adversely affected.

We have an active program to protect our proprietary inventions through the filing of patents. There can be no assurance, however, that:

• any current or future U.S. or foreign patent applications will be approved and not be challenged by third parties;

• our issued patents will protect our intellectual property and not be challenged by third parties;

• the validity of our patents will be upheld;

• our patents will not be declared unenforceable;

• the patents of others will not have an adverse effect on our ability to do business;

• Congress or the U.S. courts or foreign countries will not change the nature or scope of rights afforded patents or

• patent owners or alter in an adverse way the process for seeking or enforcing patents;

• changes in law will not be implemented, or changes in interpretation of such laws will occur, that will affect our ability to protect and enforce our patents and other intellectual property;

• new legal theories and strategies utilized by our competitors will not be successful;

• others will not independently develop similar or competing chip interfaces or design around any patents that may be issued to us; or

• factors such as difficulty in obtaining cooperation from inventors, pre-existing challenges or litigation, or license or

• other contract issues will not present additional challenges in securing protection with respect to patents and other intellectual property that we acquire.

If any of the above were to occur, our operating results could be adversely affected.

Furthermore, policymakers, including the President, as well as certain industry stakeholders, have proposed reforming U.S. patent laws and regulations to address perceived issues surrounding patent litigation initiated by non-practicing entities. The federal courts, the USPTO, the Federal Trade Commission, and the U.S. International Trade Commission have also recently taken certain actions and issued rulings that have been viewed as unfavorable to patentees. While we cannot predict what form any new patent reform laws or regulations may ultimately take, or what impact they may have on our business, any laws or regulations that restrict or negatively impact our ability to enforce our patent rights against third parties could have a material adverse effect on our business.

In addition, our patents will continue to expire according to their terms, with expiration dates ranging from 2015 to 2038. Our failure to continuously develop or acquire successful innovations and obtain patents on those innovations could significantly harm our business, financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows.

Our inability to protect and own the intellectual property we create would cause our business to suffer.

We rely primarily on a combination of license, development and nondisclosure agreements, trademark, trade secret and copyright law and contractual provisions to protect our non-patentable intellectual property rights. If we fail to protect these intellectual property rights, our customers and others may seek to use our technology without the payment of license fees and royalties, which could weaken our competitive position, reduce our operating results and increase the likelihood of costly litigation. The growth of our business depends in large part on the use of our intellectual property in the products of third party manufacturers, and our ability to enforce intellectual property rights against them to obtain appropriate compensation. In addition, effective trade secret protection may be unavailable or limited in certain foreign countries. Although we intend to protect our rights vigorously, if we fail to do so, our business will suffer.

We rely upon the accuracy of our customers' recordkeeping, and any inaccuracies or payment disputes for amounts owed to us under our licensing agreements may harm our results of operations.

Many of our license agreements require our customers to document the manufacture and sale of products that incorporate our technology and report this data to us on a quarterly basis. While licenses with such terms give us the right to audit books and records of our customers to verify this information, audits rarely are undertaken because they can be expensive, time consuming, and potentially detrimental to our ongoing business relationship with our customers. Therefore, we typically rely on the accuracy of the reports from customers without independently verifying the information in them. Our failure to audit our customers' books and records may result in our receiving more or less

royalty revenue than we are entitled to under the terms of our license agreements. If we conduct royalty audits in the future, such audits may trigger disagreements over contract terms with our customers and such disagreements could hamper customer relations, divert the efforts and attention of our management from normal operations and impact our business operations and financial condition.

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Any dispute regarding our intellectual property may require us to indemnify certain customers, the cost of which could severely hamper our business operations and financial condition.

In any potential dispute involving our patents or other intellectual property, our customers could also become the target of litigation. While we generally do not indemnify our customers, some of our license agreements provide limited indemnities, and some require us to provide technical support and information to a customer that is involved in litigation involving use of our technology. In addition, we may agree to indemnify others in the future. Any of these indemnification and support obligations could result in substantial expenses. In addition to the time and expense required for us to indemnify or supply such support to our customers, a customer's development, marketing and sales of licensed semiconductors, lighting, mobile communications and data security technologies could be severely disrupted or shut down as a result of litigation, which in turn could severely hamper our business operations and financial condition as a result of lower or no royalty payments.

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

None.

Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

None.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not Applicable.

Item 5. Other Information

None.

Item 6. Exhibits

A list of exhibits to this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q is set forth on the Exhibit Index immediately preceding such exhibits and is incorporated herein by reference.

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SIGNATURE

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

RAMBUS INC.

Date: April 24, 2015

By: /s/ Satish Rishi
Satish Rishi
Senior Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial
Officer
(Principal Financial Officer and Duly Authorized
Officer)

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INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit Number	Description of Document
10.1	Form of Change of Control Severance Agreement for Executive Officers (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed March 9, 2015).
31.1	Certification of Principal Executive Officer, pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2	Certification of Principal Financial Officer, pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.1*	Certification of Principal Executive Officer, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.2*	Certification of Principal Financial Officer, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document

The certifications furnished in Exhibit 32.1 and 32.2 hereto are deemed to accompany this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q and will not be deemed “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. *Such certifications will not be deemed to be incorporated by reference into any filings under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, except to the extent that the registrant specifically incorporates it by reference.