

CUI Global, Inc.  
Form 10-K  
March 31, 2014

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D) OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 (NO FEE REQUIRED)

Commission File Number 0-29923

CUI Global, Inc.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Colorado	(3670)	84-1463284
(State or jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	(Primary Standard Industrial Classification Code Number)	(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

20050 SW 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Tualatin, Oregon 97062  
(503) 612-2300

(Address and Telephone Number of Principal Executive Offices and Principal Place of Business)

William J. Clough, CEO/President  
CUI Global, Inc.  
20050 SW 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Tualatin, Oregon 97062  
(503) 612-2300  
(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Agent for Service)

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

Title of each class	Name of each exchange where registered
Common Stock par value \$0.001 per share	The NASDAQ Stock Market

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

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

Yes  No

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

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

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, 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 Act).  Yes  No

The aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates as of June 30, 2013, computed by reference to the price at which the common equity was last sold, or the average bid and asked price of such common equity, was \$111,546,309.

As of March 31, 2014, the registrant had 20,566,663 shares of common stock outstanding and no shares of Preferred Stock outstanding.

PROCEEDINGS DURING THE PRECEDING FIVE YEARS:

Not Applicable

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

None.

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This Annual Report on Form 10-K and the documents incorporated herein by reference contain forward-looking statements that have been made pursuant to the provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements are based on current expectations, estimates and projections about our industry, management's beliefs and assumptions made by management. Words such as "anticipates," "expects," "intends," "plans," "believes," "seeks," "estimates," variations of such words and similar expressions are intended to identify such forward-looking statements. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions that are difficult to predict; therefore, actual results and outcomes may differ materially from what is expressed or forecasted in any such forward-looking statements.

Consequently, all of the forward-looking statements made in this Annual Report are qualified by these cautionary statements and there can be no assurance that the actual results anticipated by management will be realized or, even if substantially realized, that they will have the expected consequences to or effects on our business operations.

## PART I

### Item 1. Business

#### Corporate Overview and Our Products

CUI Global, Inc. is a Colorado corporation organized on April 21, 1998. The Company's principal place of business is located at 20050 SW 112th Avenue, Tualatin, Oregon 97062, phone (503) 612-2300. CUI Global is a platform company dedicated to maximizing shareholder value through the acquisition, development and commercialization of new, innovative technologies. Through its subsidiaries, CUI Global has built a diversified portfolio of industry leading technologies that touch many markets.

#### CUI, Inc. and CUI Japan - Subsidiaries

CUI, Inc., is based in Tualatin, Oregon and CUI Japan is based in Tokyo, Japan. Both CUI, Inc. and CUI Japan are providers of electronic components including power supplies, transformers, converters, connectors and industrial controls for Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs). Through CUI, Inc., the Company holds 352,589 common shares (representing an 11.54% interest thru June 30, 2013 and 8.62% interest thereafter) in Test Products International, Inc., a provider of handheld test and measurement equipment. Since its inception in 1989, CUI has been delivering quality products, extensive application solutions and superior personal service. CUI's solid customer commitment and honest corporate message are a hallmark in the industry.

Through CUI's capabilities and extensive contacts throughout Asia, CUI Global is able to continue to identify, acquire and commercialize new proprietary technologies. CUI Global will use CUI's market partners and global distribution capabilities to bring other products to market, including the Novum Digital Power Modules, Solus Power Topology, and other proprietary devices, described below. CUI's testing and R&D capabilities allow CUI Global to commercialize and prototype its products more efficiently and economically.

CUI and CUI Japan define their product offering into two categories: components including connectors, speakers,

buzzers, test and measurement devices, and control solutions including encoders and sensors; and power solutions which include Novum and Solus. These offerings provide a technology architecture that addresses power and related accessories to industries as broadly ranging as consumer electronics, medical and defense.

**Power Supply Units**

Our current power line consists of external and embedded ac-dc power supplies, dc-dc converters and basic digital point of load modules. This dynamic, broadly applicable product line accounts for a significant portion of our current revenue and recent revenue growth.

**Digital Power Patent License Agreement with Power-One, Inc.**

The company entered into a non-exclusive Field of Use Agreement with Power-One, Inc. to license Power-One's Digital Power Technology patents. The license provides access to Power-One's portfolio of Digital Power Technology patents for incorporation into the company's new line of digital point of load power modules. The company, through its power division, also manufactures a wide range of embedded and external power electronics devices for OEM manufacturers.

**Novum<sup>®</sup> Advanced Power**

We have developed the first fully featured digital point of load dc-dc converter in the power market under our Novum Advanced Power line of products. This product is a next generation product targeted at the intermediate bus power architecture that is prolifically used in the telecom and networking communications market. In September of 2010 we released full production versions of two point of load modules. We were finalists for the prestigious Golden Mousetrap Award and EDN Innovation Award for these parts in 2010. With the shift towards smarter, smaller, and more energy efficient power requirements, our engineers are seeking innovative solutions that allow them to keep pace with lower core voltages, faster transient response needs and increasing thermal issues that they face in their designs. Our recently introduced Novum NDM2 modules, with a full suite of digital features, specifically address these growing system complexities through intelligent power management. The NDM2 series is the first to be designed by the company as part of the Ericsson cooperation announced in July 2011. The agreement formalizes a plan between the two companies to offer a multisource digital POL platform based on the Ericsson BMR46X series footprint, as well as plans for the co-development of modules outside the existing range of 10~50A. We have also developed a middle ground product to ease the customer base into the benefits of digital in power. We developed a "smart module" that allows for the benefits of digital in the design cycle but when installed functions like a highly optimized analog unit.

**Solus<sup>®</sup> Topology License with California Power Research**

The company entered into an exclusive Field of Use Agreement with California Power Research to license their BPS-5 topology, now marketed as the Solus Topology. This topology provides industry leading efficiencies and densities in power design. The topology is broadly applicable to both DC-DC and AC-DC products. This will allow for the company to have a long roadmap of industry leading products to service its broad customer base. In addition, its first target is the Intermediate Bus Architecture (IBA) where the Digital POL modules are used.

### Solus<sup>®</sup> Power Topology

Through the Solus Topology, we have a proprietary patented power topology for designing unique power circuits. This topology allows for higher efficiencies, densities, response time, and price competitiveness that is otherwise unavailable. Our initial product designed using this topology is in the quarter brick dc-dc converter market. Solus is an entirely new topology, rich in features that accelerate the performance trend trajectories for the big- four power conversion needs in the telecom and server markets: greater efficiency; higher power density; reduced EMI (electro-magnetic interference); and faster transient response four times as fast. We have introduced the NQB2060 Novum<sup>®</sup> one quarter brick bus converter as a prime example of the benchmark 720 watts output power performance using the Solus Topology. Since the Solus Topology maintains its effectiveness independent of the control method used, it can operate with analog voltage mode control, analog current mode control, and various digital control profiles. We believe that unique feature opens the door for the company to implement this topology in a wide variety of power supply product platforms. We also believe that this topology will allow for at least a decade of new product designs and introductions.

As the large scale networking and telecommunications companies convert to digital power, our early entry into the market, our unique Solus Topology, and our relationship with Ericsson should enhance our ability to penetrate this (according to the Darnell Group) multi-billion dollar market.

### Components

#### AMT<sup>®</sup> Encoder

The company has an exclusive agreement to develop, sell and distribute the AMT encoder worldwide. The AMT series modular encoder is designed with proprietary, capacitive, code-generating technology as opposed to optical or magnetic encoding. This unique device allows breakthroughs in selectable resolution, shaft-adaptation and convenient mounting solutions to bring ease of installation, reduction in SKU's and economies of scale in purchasing. The AMT amounts to almost 2000 different encoders in one package. The company is selling and distributing the AMT through various customers. Moreover, the product is being marketed by multiple DC motor manufacturers. The AMT has been awarded several design wins from Motion Control OEM's producing a wide range of products from cash machines to robotics.

#### ISO 9001:2008 Certification

CUI, Inc. is certified to the ISO 9001:2008 Quality Management Systems standards and guidelines. CUI is registered as conforming to the requirements of standard: ISO 9001:2008, The Quality Management System is applicable to Design, Development and Distribution of electro- mechanical components for OEM manufacturing. ISO 9001 is accepted worldwide as the inclusive international standard that defines quality.

The certification of compliance with ISO 9001:2008 recognizes that our policies, practices and procedures ensure consistent quality in the design services, technology and products we provide our customers.

### **Orbital Gas Systems, Ltd. - Subsidiary**

Effective April 1, 2013, CUI Global closed on a share purchase agreement to acquire 100% of the equity interest in Orbital Gas Systems Limited, a company organized under the laws of England and Wales ("Orbital"), from Orbital's sole shareholder.

The acquisition provides us with immediate credibility in the natural gas industry. Orbital is the largest natural gas systems integrator in the U.K. By acquiring Orbital, we have acquired a company that has operated successfully in the natural gas industry for over 25 years. In addition, Orbital is a leading provider of natural gas infrastructure and high-tech solutions to National Grid, the national gas transmission company in the U.K. and one of the most respected specialist gas engineering companies in the world. Orbital has developed its portfolio of products, services and resources to offer a diverse range of personalized gas engineering solutions to the gas utilities, power generation, emissions, manufacturing and automotive industries. Moreover, its proprietary VE<sup>®</sup> Technology enhances the

capability and speed of our GasPT2 Technology.

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### GasPT2

Through an exclusive licensing contract with GL Industrial Services UK, Ltd. (GL), formerly British-based Advantica, Ltd., CUI Global owns exclusive rights to manufacture, sell and distribute a Gas Quality Inferential Measurement Device (GasPT2) designed by GL on a worldwide basis, now marketed as the GasPT2. The Company has minimum commitments under this licensing contract.

The natural gas inferential metering device, the GasPT2, is a low cost solution to measuring natural gas quality. It can be connected to a natural gas system to provide a fast, accurate, close to real time measurement of the physical properties, such as thermal conductivity, speed of sound and carbon dioxide content. From these measurements it infers an effective gas mixture comprising four components: methane, propane, nitrogen, and measured carbon dioxide and then uses ISO6976 to calculate the gas quality characteristics of calorific value (CV), Wobbe index (WI), relative density (RD), and compression factor (Z). An ISO, International Organization for Standardization, is a documented agreement containing technical specifications or other precise criteria to be used consistently as rules, guidelines or definitions of characteristics to ensure that materials, products, processes and services are fit for their purpose.

This new and innovative technology has been certified for use in fiscal monitoring by Ofgem in the United Kingdom, the Polish Oil & Gas Company Department of Testing and Calibration in Warsaw, NOVA Chemical/TransCanada in Canada, the Pipeline Research Counsel International (PRCI) in the US and SNAM RETE in Italy. At present, there is no equivalent product competition. There are instruments like gas chromatographs (“GC”), but they are slow, complicated to use and as much as five times the price of the GasPT2.

By way of example, in the case of SNAM RETE, the Italian gas transmission company, there are 13 natural gas injection points for the SNAM RETE system. Those injection points will continue to use GC’s for monitoring. On the other hand, there are 1,500 customer access points, servicing 7,500 customers. Those would include city gates, large industrial users, power generation plants and others. All of those customer access ports would be applicable for the GasPT2 Technology.

In addition, there are currently 50,000 gas-fired turbines in operation worldwide. Each of those turbines is subject to variances in natural gas quality. Depending on the quality of the gas, by using our GasPTi Technology, those very expensive machines can be tuned to run more efficiently and therefore longer with much cleaner emissions. Currently, because of the delay in information from the GC’s, such tuning cannot be effectively accomplished. It is this greater efficiency that has lead National Grid in the UK to change its entire turbine control strategy, recently cancelling an order for several GC’s and, in October 2013, replacing those GC’s with an order for eight (8) GasPTi devices specifically designed for natural gas-fired turbine control.

In conjunction with the Orbital acquisition, we have moved the entire GasPT2 technology portfolio, along with the VE-Probe, into Orbital’s product division, Orbital Global Solutions. Orbital-GS has successfully introduced the combined GasPT2 unit and VE-Probe to National Grid, the largest natural gas provider in the UK. In addition, along with passing first phase testing by GE-Energy in October/November 2012, the GasPTi device has now successfully undergone second phase testing with GE-Energy in October 2013.

In January 2012 the company entered into a five (5) year, exclusive distribution agreement for our GasPT2 technology with an Italian company, SOCRATE s.p.a. for sales, marketing, distribution and service of our GasPT2 gas metering device for Italy and North Africa, including Libya and Tunisia. SOCRATE is the “vendor-of-choice” for SNAM RETE GAS (“SRG”) and was referred to the company by SRG. SOCRATE continues to be involved in negotiations with SRG relative to both the 2010 Technical Upgrade of Metering Facilities and 2011/2012 New Capacity and Implementation Plan. In conjunction with those two initiatives, SOCRATE has recently ordered a demonstration unit and several field test units for installation on the SRG transmission system.

Following the acquisition of Orbital and the transfer of gas operations to Orbital-GS, the company has entered into a series of Distribution Agreements with internationally recognized entities in the natural gas industry. These agreements are designed to supplement and enhance our previously announced and continuing agreements with EMC, MGlobal, BWG/Blue Flame and SOCRATE.

#### VE-Probe and VE-Technology

On July 30, 2013 our wholly owned subsidiary, Orbital Gas Systems, Ltd. acquired exclusive worldwide rights to manufacture, sell, design, and otherwise market the VE-Probe and VE-Technology from its United Kingdom-based inventor, EnDet Ltd. The agreement gives Orbital exclusive and sole control of all technology related to its revolutionary GasPT2 and GasPTi natural gas metering systems. The GasPT2 technology, provides fast and accurate measurement of the physical properties of the natural gas mixture. By combining the GasPT2 technology with the equally unique VE-Probe, which is able to provide a gas sample from a high pressure transmission line in less than two seconds, Orbital has created the GasPTi metering system.

The GasPTi system is able to accurately provide almost real-time data to the natural gas operator in a total cycle-time of less than five seconds. Moreover, it provides this real-time analysis at approximately one-fifth of the installation cost of current technology with none of the associated maintenance, carrier gas, calibration gas, or other ancillary costs associated with traditional technology.

This VE-Technology acquisition gives us the ability to control and produce the entire Bill of Materials for our GasPTi systems, thus allowing us to capture a far larger margin as we provide this unique metering solution to the natural gas industry. Additionally, we can now also manufacture, market and sell additional applications for the VE-Technology, including sampling systems separate from the GasPT2 and Thermowells found throughout all pipeline systems.

#### **Anticipated Growth Strategy for Our Electromechanical Product Line**

We hope to grow our electromechanical product line through a planned strategy to increase our name recognition as a technology company. Our plan, already in effect, includes:

Developing collaborative relationships with our customers by seeking to meet their design needs in a timely and cost effective manner.

Developing new technologies and expanded manufacturing capabilities as needed.

Growing our global sales and distribution through our primary international distribution channel, a prominent international sales and distribution strategic partner that ships product to more than 170 countries worldwide from a single location in the United States.

Directing our marketing efforts through one of our two channels, either directly with the sales representative who understands the targets in the area or through our distributor with partnership marketing.

Attending strategic trade shows to grow our brand presence for our proprietary products. Because of our growing recognition in innovation, we need to be where the heads of the industries are, particularly at industry trade shows.

These areas, however, need forward-looking growth investment to understand the customers' needs and develop products accordingly. We are in line with market standards for quality, customer service and pricing. Our plan is to stay with this mark during our anticipated growth. We intend to expand according to our existing model. The expansion means more manufacturer representative coverage and outside sales people in strategic areas throughout the United States. We intend to eventually have field application engineers in the strategic areas driving designs at the customers' facility.

### **Anticipated Growth Strategy for GasPT2**

We are presently in the midst of our marketing efforts for our GasPT2 Inferential Natural Gas Monitoring Device. Our strategy for GasPT2 has been to identify the large gas utility companies who would most likely provide opportunities for batch sales rather than single unit sales. Our 'sale or return' sales approach has been accepted very positively in Europe and the United States. For the past three years, this approach focused strongly on the United Kingdom, Europe and the United States and the Company will continue its efforts in those areas as well as begin the process in the Asian markets, with India identified as the test market. Beyond this, our strategy is based on identification of the main geographical locations for liquefied natural gas importation (pipelines and terminals), mixing and blending points and strategic locations for security of supply strategies which can be current or planned pipelines and import terminals where additional gas quality monitoring may be required.

Additionally, our wholly owned subsidiary, Orbital Gas Systems, Ltd., the largest specialty gas engineering company in England, introduced the combined GasPT2 unit and V-Probe to National Grid, the largest gas transmission/distribution company in the UK. We recently entered into a second five (5) year, exclusive distribution agreement for our GasPT2 technology with an Italian company, SOCRATE s.p.a., for sales, marketing, distribution and service of our GasPT2 gas metering device for Italy and North Africa, including Libya and Tunisia. The agreement calls for sales of as many as 2,000 to 3,000 units and is valued up to \$40,000,000 to \$60,000,000 over the three-year term.

We intend to replicate this type of agreement with other large, regional gas engineering companies in Europe and North America as well as negotiating with several large Middle Eastern groups to place the device in the Gulf Region.

According to Global Industry Analysts, Inc. (GIA), the global GC market will reach more than \$1.5 billion by 2015. Admittedly, that market is mature and, according to GIA, is dominated by “aftermarket and accessories” sales. In contrast, the GasPT2 Technology is less expensive, more efficient and dramatically faster than any available GC. It provides almost real-time monitoring without the need for a large enclosure, carrier gas and, most significantly, regular technical support and calibration. Taking all of those factors into account, it is our intention that the GasPT2 Technology will rapidly and effectively penetrate a large segment of that \$1.5 billion market.

#### **Acquisition Strategy:**

We are constantly alert to potential acquisition targets, both in the form of innovative technology and potential strategic partners. In that regard, we are repeatedly approached by inventors and others, most especially in the power industry, to assess and assist in commercialization and marketing of new technologies. These contacts largely arise because of our reputation and successes as well as our recent technology product line additions including GasPT2, Novum and Solus. Moreover, much like when we acquired CUI, Inc., there are many small, well-run electronics companies that become available for multiple reasons. We will consider each of these potential opportunities as they arise with a careful analysis of the relevant synergies with our current business, along with the potential for increasing revenue and/or market share.

#### **Research and Development Activities**

Research and development costs for CUI Global were \$890,461 for the year ended December 31, 2013 and \$791,332 during 2012. Research and development costs are related to the various technologies for which CUI Global has acquired licensing rights or is developing internally. The expenditures for research and development have been directed primarily towards the further development of Novum Advanced Power technologies including digital POLs and the Solus Topology, AMT Capacitive Encoders and towards the development of the GasPT2. The Company expects that research and development expenses will increase during 2014 as the Company continues to expand its product offering and technologies due to market acceptance and customer integration.

#### **Employees**

As of December 31, 2013, the Company, together with its consolidated subsidiaries, had one hundred seventy full-time employees. None of its employees is represented by a labor union. The Company considers its relations with its employees to be good. The Company plans to add additional staff as needed to handle all phases of its business.

#### **Intellectual Property License Evolution**

##### AMT<sup>®</sup> encoder technology:

Upon the acquisition of CUI, Inc., the Company obtained the relationship with the holder of the AMT encoder technology. Through an exclusive licensing contract with AnderMotion Technologies, LLC, signed on or about April 20, 2009, CUI acquired exclusive rights to manufacture, sell and distribute motion control devices utilizing the AMT encoder technology.

##### Novum<sup>®</sup> Digital POL technology

Through a non-exclusive licensing agreement with Power-One, Inc., signed on or about September 18, 2009, CUI has access to Power-One’s portfolio of Digital Power Technology patents for incorporation into CUI’s new line of digital point of load (POL) power modules.

##### Solus<sup>®</sup> advanced power topology technology

Through an exclusive licensing contract with California Power Research, Inc., signed on or about March 4, 2010, CUI acquired the exclusive rights to manufacture, market, sell, lease, maintain, give over and dispose of licensed product using the BPS-5 advanced power topology technology.



### GasPT2 technology

Through an exclusive licensing contract with GL Industrial Services UK, Ltd. (GL), formerly British-based Advantica, Ltd., signed on or about January 4, 2010, CUI Global acquired exclusive rights to manufacture, sell and distribute a Gas Quality Inferential Measurement Device (GasPT2) designed by GL on a worldwide basis.

### VE-Probe and VE-Technology

On July 30, 2013 our wholly owned subsidiary, Orbital Gas Systems, Ltd. acquired exclusive worldwide rights to manufacture, sell, design, and otherwise market the VE-Probe and VE-Technology from its United Kingdom-based inventor, EnDet Ltd. The agreement gives Orbital exclusive and sole control of all technology related to its GasPT2 and GasPTi natural gas metering systems.

## **Intellectual Property Protection**

The Company relies on various intellectual property laws and contractual restrictions to protect its proprietary rights in products, logos and services. These include confidentiality, invention assignment and nondisclosure agreements with employees, contractors, suppliers and strategic partners. The confidentiality and nondisclosure agreements with employees, contractors and suppliers are in perpetuity or for a sufficient length of time so as to not threaten exposure of proprietary information.

In an effort to concentrate our business focus on our core product development and marketing, in December 2011, we conveyed our WayCool and WayFast patent portfolio to Olantra Fund X, LLC for a cash payment of \$500,000.

Under the Trademark Act of 1946, as amended, the United States Patent and Trademark Office permitted our registration of the following trademarks that we actively maintain up to date: CUI INC, CUI Europe, V-Infinity, AMT, Novum, CUI Global, Simple Digital, GasPT2 and Solus.

The Company continuously reviews and updates the existing intellectual property filings and files new documentation both nationally and internationally (Patent Cooperation Treaty) in a continuing effort to maintain up to date protection of its intellectual property.

For those intellectual property applications pending, there is no assurance that the registrations will be granted. Furthermore, the Company is exposed to the risk that other parties may claim the Company infringes their existing patent and trademark rights, which could result in the Company's inability to develop and market its products unless the Company enters into licensing agreements with the technology owner or could force the Company to engage in costly and potentially protracted litigation.

### **Competitive Business Conditions**

The industries in which the company competes are very broad. We operate a commoditized electromechanical parts distribution business that is focused on efficiency of delivery and competitive pricing to differentiate our products from competitors. The market is subject to some volatility due to production requirements of larger global firms. We feel that our electromechanical parts distribution business is diverse and broad. We have a very strong retail distribution partner that maximizes our product exposure to new designs and small to medium sized customers. We focus on the OEM market and supply higher levels of support, customer service and a constantly expanding product line, in order to further differentiate with our competitors. This product line ranges from a \$0.02 connector to a \$700 encoder all different products for different customers. Additionally, we utilize third party external sales representative organizations to penetrate new and better customers otherwise not readily available to the company.



CUI is becoming more recognized in the power supply market and has differentiated itself through technology with a foundation of legacy and product quality. As of December 31, 2013, our power and electro-mechanical segment accounted for approximately 71% of our revenues and our gas segment accounted for approximately 29% of our revenues. We have added new products and technologies that will provide us the opportunity to compete outside of price and more on innovative technology and strategic partnerships.

From the first full featured digital point-of-load dc-dc converter, to the highly dense intermediate bus converters that CUI recently released, we believe that we are ahead of the market leaders in our market space and that the market is ready for new technologies and new ideas. We feel that there is a market shift toward digitally-based controllers for power supply switching. Our strategy is to lead a transformation for the industry as it will become a major part of the value to the end customer as well as a data collection point for energy consumption, two important elements for the industry.

Similarly, the natural gas inferential metering device, the GasPT2 along with our VE-Probe, competes in a mature industry with established competitors. There are significant investments being made globally into the natural gas extraction and transportation infrastructure. Our natural gas quality measurement system is a comparably low cost solution to measuring natural gas quality as compared to our best competition. It can be connected to a natural gas system to provide a fast, accurate, close to real time measurement of the physical properties, such as thermal conductivity, speed of sound and carbon dioxide content. From these measurements it infers an effective gas mixture comprising four components: methane, propane, nitrogen and measured carbon dioxide and then uses ISO6976 to calculate the gas quality characteristics of calorific value (CV), Wobbe index (WI), relative density (RD) and compression factor (Z)." This technology has been certified for use in fiscal monitoring by Ofgem in the United Kingdom and SNAM RETE in Italy. At present, there is no equivalent product competition. There are instruments like gas chromatographs, but they are slower and more complicated to use and as much as double the price of the GasPT2 system.



### **Philanthropic Philosophy**

In an industry first, CUI has chosen that, in addition to sales commission, sales representative firms will also receive a charity commission to be donated to charities of their choice. One of CUI's core values is generosity which includes philanthropic giving. We give in our local community and we want to also give in the communities in which we do business.

### **Item 1A. Risk Factors**

#### **RISK FACTORS**

Our business is subject to various risks and uncertainties. Investors should read carefully the following factors as well as the cautionary statements referred to in "Forward-Looking Statements" herein. If any of the risks and uncertainties described below or elsewhere in this Annual Report actually occur, the Company's business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected.

#### **Risks Related to Our Business and Products**

Historically, we have generated annual losses from operations and we may need additional funding in the future.

Historically, on an annual basis, we have not generated sufficient revenues from operations to self-fund our capital and operating requirements. For the year ended 2013, we had a net loss of \$1,758,675 and our accumulated deficit as of December 31, 2013 was \$77,930,497. If we are not able to generate sufficient income and cash flows from operations to fund our operations and growth plans, we may seek additional capital from equity and debt placements or corporate arrangements. Additional capital may not be available on terms favorable to us, or at all. If we raise additional funds by issuing equity securities, our shareholders may experience dilution. Debt financing, if available, may involve restrictive covenants or security interests in our assets. If we raise additional funds through collaboration arrangements with third parties, it may be necessary to relinquish some rights to technologies or products. If we are unable to raise adequate funds or generate them from operations, it may have to delay, reduce the scope of, or eliminate some or all of its growth plans or liquidate some or all of our assets.

There is no assurance we will achieve or sustain profitability.

For the year ended December 31, 2013, we had a net loss of \$1,758,675. There is no assurance that we will achieve or sustain profitability. If we fail to achieve or sustain profitability, the price of our common stock could fall and our ability to raise additional capital could be adversely affected.

We have expanded our business activities and these activities may not be successful and may divert our resources from our existing business activities.

Our historic business was a commoditized electromechanical parts distribution business. In recent years, we have focused our business on the acquisition, development and commercialization of new and innovative electronic technologies/products. We may not be successful in acquiring technologies that are commercially viable. We may fail to successfully develop or commercialize technologies that we acquire. Research, development and commercialization of such acquired technologies may disproportionately divert our resources from our other business activities.

*If our manufacturers or our suppliers are unable to provide an adequate supply of products, our growth could be limited and our business could be harmed.*

We rely on third parties to supply components for and to manufacture our products. In order to grow our business to achieve profitability, we will need our manufacturers and suppliers to increase, or scale-up, production and supply by a significant factor over current levels. There are technical challenges to scaling-up capacity that may require the investment of substantial additional funds by our manufacturers or suppliers and hiring and retaining additional management and technical personnel who have the necessary experience. If our manufacturers and suppliers are unable to do so, we may not be able to meet the requirements to grow our business to anticipated levels. We also may represent only a small portion of our supplier's or manufacturer's business and if they become capacity constrained they may choose to allocate their available resources to other customers that represent a larger portion of their business.

*Our international operations are subject to increased risks which could harm our business, operating results and financial condition.*

Our ability to manage our business and conduct our operations internationally requires considerable management attention and resources and is subject to a number of risks, including the following:

- challenges caused by distance, language and cultural differences and by doing business with foreign agencies and governments;
- longer payment cycles in some countries;
- uncertainty regarding liability for services and content;
- credit risk and higher levels of payment fraud;
- currency exchange rate fluctuations and our ability to manage these fluctuations;
- foreign exchange controls that might prevent us from repatriating cash earned in countries outside the U.S.;
- import and export requirements that may prevent us from shipping products or providing services to a particular market and may increase our operating costs;
- potentially adverse tax consequences;
- higher costs associated with doing business internationally;
- political, social and economic instability abroad, terrorist attacks and security concerns in general;
- reduced or varied protection for intellectual property rights in some countries; and
- different employee/employer relationships and the existence of workers' councils and labor unions.

In addition, compliance with complex foreign and U.S. laws and regulations that apply to our international operations increases our cost of doing business in international venues and could expose us or our employees to fines and penalties. These numerous and sometimes conflicting laws and regulations include import and export requirements, content requirements, trade restrictions, tax laws, sanctions, internal and disclosure control rules, data privacy requirements, labor relations laws, U.S. laws such as the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and local laws prohibiting corrupt payments to governmental officials. Violations of these laws and regulations could result in fines, civil and criminal penalties against us, our officers or our employees, prohibitions on the conduct of our business and damage to our reputation. Any such violations could include prohibitions on our ability to offer our products and services in one or more countries and could also materially damage our reputation, our brand, our international expansion efforts, our ability to attract and retain employees, our business and our operating results.

*Our revenues depend on key customers.*

The Company's major product lines in 2013 were power and electro-mechanical products and natural gas infrastructure and high-tech solutions. During 2012 and 2011, the company's major product lines were power and electro-mechanical products.

During 2013, 50% of revenues were derived from two customers at 33% and 17%. During 2012, 51% of revenues were derived from two customers at 47% and 4%. During 2011, 45% of revenues were derived from two customers at 41% and 4%.

At December 31, 2013, of the gross trade accounts receivable from continuing operations totaling \$9,340,909, 25% was due from one customer. At December 31, 2012, 45% of the gross trade accounts receivable from continuing operations totaling \$5,095,926, 57% was due from two customers: 37% and 8%. At December 31, 2011, 46% of the gross trade accounts receivable from continuing operations totaling \$3,819,641, 53% was due from five customers: 21%, 9%, 7%, 5% and 4%.

There is no assurance that we will continue to maintain all of our existing key customers in the future. Should we, for any reason, discontinue our business relationship with any one of these key customers, the impact to our revenue stream would be substantial.

*We rely on third party distributors to generate a substantial part of our revenue and, if we fail to expand and manage our distribution channels, our revenues could decline and our growth prospects could suffer.*

We derive a substantial portion of our revenues from sales of our electronic component products through distributors and we expect that sales through these distributors will represent a substantial portion of our revenues for the foreseeable future. Our ability to expand our distribution channels depends in part on our ability to educate our distributors about our products, which are complex. Many of our distributors have established relationships with our competitors. If our distributors choose to place greater emphasis on products and services of their own or those offered by our competitors, our ability to grow our business and sell our products may be adversely affected. If our distributors do not effectively market and sell our products, or if they fail to meet the needs of our customers, then our ability to grow our business and sell our products may be adversely affected. The loss of one or more of our larger distributors, who may cease marketing our products with limited or no notice and our possible inability to replace them, could adversely affect our sales. Our failure to recruit additional distributors or any reduction or delay in their sales of our products or conflicts between distributor sales and our direct sales and marketing activities could materially and adversely affect our results of operations.

*We are a relatively small specialty component and solutions business and face formidable competition.*

We define our specialty solutions business into two categories: **PSU** (power supply units) that includes our Novum digital power and Solus advanced power and **Components** including our AMT modular encoder and our GasPT2. We are a relatively small company with limited capitalization in comparison to many of our international competitors. Because of our size and capitalization, we believe that we have not yet established sufficient market awareness in the specialty electronic component and solutions business that is essential to our continued growth and success in all of our markets. We face formidable competition in every aspect of our specialty component and solutions business from other companies many of whom have greater name recognition, more resources and broader product offerings than ours.

We also expect competition to intensify in the future. For example, the market for our electronic components and our inferential natural gas monitoring device, the GasPT2, is emerging and is characterized by rapid technological change, evolving industry standards, frequent new product introductions and shortening product life cycles. Our future success in keeping pace with technological developments and achieving product acceptance depends upon our ability to enhance our current products and to continue to develop and introduce new product offerings and enhanced performance features and functionality on a timely basis at competitive prices. Our inability, for technological or other reasons, to enhance, develop, introduce or deliver compelling products in a timely manner, or at all, in response to changing market conditions, technologies or customer expectations, could have a material adverse effect on our operating results and growth prospects. Our ability to compete successfully will depend in large measure on our ability to maintain a technically skilled development and engineering staff and to adapt to technological changes and advances in the industry, including providing for the continued compatibility of our products with evolving industry standards and protocols and competitive environments.

*Acquisitions could result in operating difficulties, dilution and other harmful consequences.*

We continue our process of integrating recent acquisitions into our own business model and we expect to continue to evaluate and enter into discussions regarding a wide array of potential strategic transactions. These transactions could be material to our financial condition and results of operations. The process of integrating an acquired company, business or technologies may create unforeseen operating difficulties and expenditures. The areas where we face risks include:

- implementation or remediation of controls, procedures and policies of the acquired company;
- diversion of management time and focus from operating our business to acquisition integration challenges;
- coordination of product, engineering and sales and marketing functions;
- transition of operations, users and customers into our existing customs;
- cultural challenges associated with integrating employees from the acquired company into our organization;
- retention of employees from the businesses we acquire;
- integration of the acquired company's accounting, management information, human resource and other administrative systems;
- liability for activities of the acquired company before the acquisition, including patent and trademark infringement claims, violations of laws, commercial disputes, tax liabilities and other known and unknown liabilities;
- litigation or other claims in connection with the acquired company, including claims from terminated employees, customers, former shareholders, or other third parties;
- in the case of foreign acquisitions, the need to integrate operations across different cultures and languages and to address the particular economic, currency, political and regulatory risks associated with specific countries;
- failure to successfully further develop the acquired technologies; and
- other as yet unknown risks that may impact our business.

Our failure to address these risks or other problems encountered in connection with our past or future acquisitions could cause us to fail to realize the anticipated benefits of such acquisitions incur unanticipated liabilities and harm our business generally. For example, a majority of Orbital Gas Systems Limited's revenues for each of its last two fiscal years has come from one customer. If we fail to continue to do business with Orbital's primary customer at substantially similar or greater levels than recent historical levels, our financial condition, results of operations and growth prospects would be significantly harmed.

Future acquisitions could also result in dilutive issuances of our equity securities, the incurrence of debt, contingent liabilities or amortization expenses, write-offs of goodwill, or reductions to our tangible net worth any of which could harm our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects. Also, the anticipated benefit of many of our acquisitions may not materialize.

*We will need to grow our organization and we may encounter difficulties in managing this growth.*

As of December 31, 2013, the Company, together with its consolidated subsidiaries, had one hundred seventy full-time employees . We expect to experience significant growth in the number of our employees and the scope of our operations. To manage our anticipated future growth, we must continue to implement and improve our managerial, operational and financial systems, expand our facilities and continue to recruit and train additional qualified personnel. Also, our management may need to divert a disproportionate amount of its attention away from our day-to-day activities and devote a substantial amount of time to managing these growth activities. Due to our limited resources, we may not be able to effectively manage the expansion of our operations or recruit and train additional qualified personnel, which may result in weaknesses in our infrastructure, give rise to operational mistakes, loss of business opportunities, loss of employees and reduced productivity among remaining employees. The physical expansion of our operations may lead to significant costs and may divert financial resources from other projects, such as the development of new products. If our management is unable to effectively manage our expected growth, our expenses may increase more than expected, our ability to generate or increase our revenue could be reduced and we may not be able to implement our business strategy. Our future financial performance and our ability to commercialize new products including the GasPT2, Novum digital power and Solus advanced power and compete effectively will depend, in part, on our ability to effectively manage any future growth.

*Our operating results will vary over time and such fluctuations could cause the market price of our common stock to decline.*

Our operating results may fluctuate significantly due to a variety of factors, many of which are outside of our control. Because revenues for any future period are not predictable with any significant degree of certainty, you should not rely on our past results as an indication of our future performance. If our revenues or operating results fall below the expectations of investors or securities analysts or below any estimates we may provide to the market, the price of our common shares would likely decline substantially. Factors that could cause our operating results and stock price to fluctuate include:

- varying demand for our products due to the financial and operating condition of our distributors and their customers, distributor inventory management practices and general economic conditions;
- inability of our contract manufacturers and suppliers to meet our demand;
- success and timing of new product introductions by us and the performance of our products generally;
- announcements by us or our competitors regarding products, promotions or other transactions;
- costs related to responding to government inquiries related to regulatory compliance;
- our ability to control and reduce product costs;
- changes in the manner in which we sell products;
- volatility in foreign exchange rates, changes in interest rates and/or the availability and cost of financing or other working capital to our distributors and their customers; and
- the impact of write downs of excess and obsolete inventory.

*Our operating expenses will increase as we make further expenditures to enhance and expand our operations in order to support additional growth in our business and national stock market reporting and compliance obligations.*

Historically, we limited our investment in operations, but in the future we expect our operations and marketing investments to increase substantially to support our anticipated growth and as a result of our recent listing on the NASDAQ Stock Market. We are making significant investments in using more professional services and expanding our operations outside the United States. We intend to make additional investments in personnel and continue to expand our operations to support anticipated growth in our business. In addition, we may determine the need in the future to build a direct sales force to market and sell our products or provide additional resources or cooperative funds to our distributors. Such changes to our existing sales model would likely result in higher selling, general and administrative expenses as a percentage of our revenues. We expect our increased investments to adversely affect operating income in the short term while providing long term benefit.

*Our business depends on a strong brand and failing to maintain and enhance our brand would hurt our ability to expand our base of distributors, customers and end-users.*

We believe that we have not yet established sufficient market awareness in the electronic component market. Market awareness of our capabilities and products is essential to our continued growth and our success in all of our markets. We expect the brand identity that we have developed through CUI, GasPT2, Novum, AMT, Solus, and CUI Japan to significantly contribute to the success of our business. Maintaining and enhancing these brands and any brands we might acquire, such as Orbital Gas Systems, is critical to expanding our base of distributors, customers and end-users. If we fail to maintain and enhance our brands, or if we incur excessive expenses in this effort, our business, operating results and financial condition will be materially and adversely affected. Maintaining and enhancing our brands will depend largely on our ability to be a technology leader and continue to provide high-quality products, which we may not do successfully.

*New entrants and the introduction of other distribution models in our markets may harm our competitive position.*

The markets for development, distribution and sale of our products are rapidly evolving. New entrants seeking to gain market share by introducing new technology and new products may make it more difficult for us to sell our products and could create increased pricing pressure, reduced profit margins, increased sales and marketing expenses or the loss of market share or expected market share, any of which may significantly harm our business, operating results and financial condition.

*Adverse conditions in the global economy and disruption of financial markets may significantly restrict our ability to generate revenues or obtain debt or equity financing.*

The global economy continues to experience volatility and uncertainty and governments in many countries continue to evaluate and implement spending cuts designed to reduce budget deficits. These conditions and deficit reduction measures could reduce demand for our products and services, including through reduced government infrastructure projects, which would significantly jeopardize our ability to achieve our sales targets. These conditions could also affect our potential strategic partners, which, in turn, could make it more difficult to execute a strategic collaboration. Moreover, volatility and disruption of financial markets could limit our customers' ability to obtain adequate financing or credit to purchase and pay for our products and services in a timely manner, or to maintain operations and result in a decrease in sales volume. General concerns about the fundamental soundness of domestic and international economies may also cause customers to reduce purchases. Changes in governmental banking, monetary and fiscal policies to restore liquidity and increase credit availability may not be effective. Economic conditions and market turbulence may also impact our suppliers' ability to supply sufficient quantities of product components in a timely manner, which could impair our ability to fulfill sales orders. It is difficult to determine the extent of the economic and financial market problems and the many ways in which they may affect our suppliers, customers, investors and business in general. Continuation or further deterioration of these financial and macroeconomic conditions could significantly harm sales, profitability and results of operations.



*One of our subsidiaries and certain suppliers are in Japan and located in areas subject to natural disasters or other events that could stop us from having our products made or shipped or could result in a substantial delay in our production or development activities.*

We have research, development and manufacturing resources in Japan. The risk of earthquakes, typhoons and other natural disasters in this geographic area is significant due to the proximity of major earthquake fault lines. Despite precautions taken by us and our third-party providers, over which we have no control, a natural disaster or other unanticipated problems at our location in Japan or a third-party provider could cause interruptions in the products that we provide. Earthquakes, fire, flooding or other natural disasters could result in the disruption of our development, manufacturing, assembly, testing or shipping capacity. Any disruption resulting from these events could cause significant delays in product development or shipments of our products until we are able to shift our development, manufacturing, assembly or testing from the affected contractor to another third party vendor or our research and development activities to another location. We cannot assure you that alternative capacity could be obtained on favorable terms, if at all.

*Defects in our products could harm our reputation and business.*

Our electronic products are complex and have contained and may contain undetected defects or errors, especially when first introduced or when new versions are released. Defects in our products may lead to product returns and require us to implement design changes or updates.

Any defects or errors in our electronic products, or the perception of such defects or errors, could result in:

- expenditure of significant financial and product development resources in efforts to analyze, correct, eliminate or work around errors or defects;
- loss of existing or potential customers or distributors;
- delayed or lost revenue;
- delay or failure to attain market acceptance;
- delay in the development or release of new products or services;
- negative publicity, which will harm our reputation; warranty claims against us, which could result in an increase in our provision for doubtful accounts;
- an increase in collection cycles for accounts receivable or the expense and risk of litigation; and
- harm to our results of operations.

*We and our contract manufacturers purchase some components, subassemblies and products from a limited number of suppliers. The loss of any of these suppliers may substantially disrupt our ability to obtain orders and fulfill sales as we design and qualify new components.*

We rely on third party components and technology to build and operate our products and we rely on our contract manufacturers to obtain the components, subassemblies and products necessary for the manufacture of our products. Shortages in components that we use in our products are possible and our ability to predict the availability of such components is limited. If shortages occur in the future, as they have in the past, our business, operating results and financial condition would be materially adversely affected. Unpredictable price increases of such components due to market demand may occur. While components and supplies are generally available from a variety of sources, we and our contract manufacturers currently depend on a single or limited number of suppliers for several components for our products. If our suppliers of these components or technology were to enter into exclusive relationships with other providers of electronic components or were to discontinue providing such components and technology to us and we were unable to replace them cost effectively, or at all, our ability to provide our products would be impaired. Therefore, we may be unable to meet customer demand for our products, which would have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results and financial condition.



*We depend on key personnel and will need to recruit new personnel as our business grows.*

As a small company, our future success depends in a large part upon the continued service of key members of our senior management team who are critical to the overall management of CUI Global and our subsidiary companies, Orbital Gas Systems, Ltd., CUI, Inc. and CUI Japan (formerly Comex Instruments, Ltd.), as well as the development of our technologies, our business culture and our strategic direction. The loss of any of our management or key personnel could seriously harm our business and we do not maintain any key-person life insurance policies on the lives of these critical individuals.

If we are successful in expanding our product and customer base, we will need to add additional key personnel as our business continues to grow. If we cannot attract and retain enough qualified and skilled staff, the growth of the business may be limited. Our ability to provide services to customers and expand our business depends, in part, on our ability to attract and retain staff with professional experiences that are relevant to technology development and other functions the Company performs. Competition for personnel with these skills is intense. We may not be able to recruit or retain the caliber of staff required to carry out essential functions at the pace necessary to sustain or expand our business.

We believe our future success will depend in part on the following:

- the continued employment and performance of our senior management;
- our ability to retain and motivate our officers and key employees; and
- our ability to identify, attract, hire, train, retain and motivate other highly skilled technical, managerial, marketing, sales and customer service personnel.

**Risks Related to Our Intellectual Property and Technology**

*If we fail to protect our intellectual property rights adequately, our ability to compete effectively or to defend ourselves from litigation could be impaired.*

We rely primarily on patent, copyright, trademark and trade secret laws, as well as confidentiality and non-disclosure agreements and other methods, to protect our proprietary technologies and know-how. Given the costs of obtaining patent protection, we may choose not to protect certain innovations that later turn out to be important. Furthermore, there is always the possibility, despite our efforts, that the scope of the protection gained will be insufficient or that an issued patent may be deemed invalid or unenforceable. We license a significant amount of our underlying intellectual property from third parties, i. e., AMT Encoder Technology, Novum Digital Point of Load Technology, Solus Advanced Power Topology Technology, GasPT2 Technology and VE-Technology. The loss of our rights as a licensee under any of these or future technology licensing arrangements, or the exclusivity provisions of these agreements, could have a material adverse impact upon our financial position and results of operations.

Monitoring unauthorized use of our intellectual property is difficult and costly. Unauthorized use of our intellectual property may occur in the future without our knowledge. The steps we have taken may not prevent unauthorized use of our intellectual property. Further, we may not be able to detect unauthorized use of, or take appropriate steps to enforce our intellectual property rights. Our competitors may also independently develop similar technology. Our failure to effectively protect our intellectual property could reduce the value of our technology in licensing arrangements or in cross-licensing negotiations and could impair our ability to compete. Any failure by us to meaningfully protect our intellectual property could result in competitors offering products that incorporate our most technologically advanced features, which could seriously reduce demand for our products.

We may in the future need to initiate infringement claims or litigation. Litigation, whether we are a plaintiff or a defendant, can be expensive and time-consuming and may divert the efforts of our technical staff and managerial personnel, which could result in lower revenues and higher expenses, whether or not such litigation results in a determination favorable to us.

*Confidentiality agreements with employees and others may not adequately prevent disclosure of our trade secrets and other proprietary information.*

We have devoted substantial resources to the development of our proprietary technology and trade secrets. In order to protect our proprietary technology and trade secrets, we rely in part on confidentiality agreements with our key employees, licensees, independent contractors and other advisors. These agreements may not effectively prevent disclosure of our trade secrets and may not provide an adequate remedy in the event of unauthorized disclosure of our trade secrets. We may have difficulty enforcing our rights to our proprietary technology and trade secrets, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results and financial condition. In addition, others may independently discover trade secrets and proprietary information and in such cases we could not assert any trade secret rights against such parties. Costly and time consuming litigation could be necessary to determine and enforce the scope of our proprietary rights and failure to obtain or maintain trade secret protection could adversely affect our competitive business position.

*If a third party asserts that we are infringing on its intellectual property, whether successful or not, it could subject us to costly and time-consuming litigation and our business may be adversely affected.*

The technology industry is characterized by the existence of a large number of patents, trademarks and copyrights and by frequent litigation based on allegations of infringement or other violations of intellectual property rights. Third parties may assert patent and other intellectual property infringement claims against us or the parties from whom we license our technological rights in the form of lawsuits, letters or other forms of communication. These claims, whether or not successful, could:

- divert management's attention;
- result in costly and time-consuming litigation;
- require us to enter into royalty or licensing agreements, which may not be available on acceptable terms, or at all; and
- require us to redesign our products to avoid infringement.

As a result, any third-party intellectual property claims against us could increase our expenses and adversely affect our business. Even if we have not infringed any third parties' intellectual property rights, we cannot be sure our legal defenses will be successful and even if we are successful in defending against such claims, our legal defense could require significant financial resources and management time. Finally, if a third party successfully asserts a claim that our products infringe its proprietary rights, royalty or licensing agreements might not be available on terms we find acceptable or at all and we may be required to pay significant monetary damages to such third party.

*If our contract manufacturers do not respect our intellectual property and trade secrets, our business, operating results and financial condition could be materially adversely affected.*

Because most of our contract manufacturers operate outside the United States, where prosecution of intellectual property infringement and trade secret theft is more difficult than in the United States, certain of our contract manufacturers, their affiliates, their other customers or their suppliers may attempt to use our intellectual property and trade secrets to manufacture our products for themselves or others without our knowledge. Although we attempt to enter into agreements with our manufacturers to preclude them from using our intellectual property and trade secrets, we may be unsuccessful in monitoring and enforcing our intellectual property rights. Although we take steps to stop counterfeits, we may not be successful and customers who purchase these counterfeit goods may have a bad experience and our brand may be harmed. If such an impermissible use of our intellectual property or trade secrets were to occur, our ability to sell our products at competitive prices and to be the sole provider of our products may be adversely affected and our business, operating results and financial condition could be materially and adversely affected.

### **Risks Related to Our Common Stock**

*Our common stock price may be volatile, which could result in substantial losses for individual shareholders.*

The market price for the Company's common stock is volatile and subject to wide fluctuations in response to factors, including the following, some of which are beyond our control, which means our market price could be depressed and could impair our ability to raise capital:

- actual or anticipated variations in our quarterly operating results;
- announcements of technological innovations or new products or services by the Company or our competitors;
- conditions or trends relating to our inferential natural gas monitoring device or electromechanical component technologies;
- changes in the economic performance and/or market valuations of other electromechanical, electronic component and industrial controls related companies;
- conditions or trends relating to the marketing, sale or distribution of electromechanical components and industrial controls to OEM manufacturing customers;
- changes in the economic performance and/or market valuations of other inferential natural gas monitoring device or electromechanical components and industrial electronic component related companies;
- additions or departures of key personnel;
- fluctuations of the stock market as a whole;
- announcements about our earnings that are not in line with expectations;
- announcements by our competitors of their earnings that are not in line with expectations;
- the volume of shares of common stock available for public sale;
- sales of stock by us or by our shareholders;
- short sales, hedging and other derivative transactions on shares of our common stock;
- our ability to retain existing customers, attract new customers and satisfy our customers' requirements;
- general economic conditions;
- changes in our pricing policies;

- our ability to expand our business;
- the effectiveness of our personnel;
- new product and service introductions;
- technical difficulties or interruptions in our services;
- the timing of additional investments in our products;
- regulatory compliance costs;
- costs associated with future acquisitions of technologies and businesses; and
- extraordinary expenses such as litigation or other dispute-related settlement payments.

These factors may materially and adversely affect the market price of our common stock, regardless of our performance. In addition, the stock market in general and the market for technology companies in particular, have experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations that have often been unrelated or disproportionate to the operating performance of those companies. These broad market and industry factors may seriously harm the market price of our common stock, regardless of our actual operating performance. Additionally, because our stock is thinly trading, there is a disparity between the bid and the asked price that may not be indicative of the stock's true value.

*Offers or availability for sale of a substantial number of shares of our common stock may cause the price of our common stock to decline.*

Sales of a significant number of shares of our common stock in the public market could harm the market price of our common stock and make it more difficult for us to raise funds through future offerings of common stock.

*We have never paid dividends on our common stock and do not expect to pay any in the foreseeable future.*

Potential purchasers should not expect to receive a return on their investment in the form of dividends on our common stock. The Company has never paid cash dividends on its common stock and the Company does not expect to pay dividends in the foreseeable future.

We currently anticipate that we will retain future earnings for the development, operation and expansion of our business and do not anticipate declaring or paying any cash dividends for the foreseeable future. Our payment of any future dividends will be at the discretion of our board of directors after taking into account various factors, including but not limited to our financial condition, operating results, cash needs, growth plans and the terms of any credit agreements that we may be a party to at the time. Our ability to pay dividends on our common stock is limited by our existing line of credit, and may be further restricted by the terms of any of our future debt or preferred securities. Accordingly, investors must rely on sales of their own common stock after price appreciation, which may never occur, as the only way to realize their investment. Investors seeking cash dividends should not purchase shares.

*There is a limited public trading market for our common stock so you may not be able to resell your stock and may not be able to turn your investment into cash.*

Our common stock is currently traded on the NASDAQ Stock Market under the trading symbol "CUI". Our shares of common stock are thinly traded. Due to the illiquidity, the market price may not accurately reflect our relative value. There can be no assurance that there will be an active market for our shares of common stock either now or in the future. Because our common stock is thinly traded, a large block of shares traded can lead to a dramatic fluctuation in the share price and investors may not be able to liquidate their investment in us at all or at a price that reflects the value of the business.

### **Risks Relating to Shareholder Rights**

*Our board of directors has the authority, without shareholder approval, to issue preferred stock with terms that may not be beneficial to existing common shareholders and with the ability to affect adversely shareholder voting power and perpetuate their control over us.*

Although we do not have any preferred stock outstanding presently, our Articles of Incorporation allow us to issue shares of preferred stock without any vote or further action by our shareholders. Our board of directors has the authority to issue preferred stock without further shareholder approval, including large blocks of preferred stock as well as the authority to fix and determine the relative rights and preferences of preferred stock. As a result, our board of directors could authorize the issuance of a series of preferred stock that would grant to holders the preferred right to our assets upon liquidation, the right to receive dividend payments before dividends are distributed to the holders of common stock or other preferred shareholders and the right to the redemption of the shares, together with a premium, prior to the redemption of our common stock.

Preferred stock could be used to dilute a potential hostile acquirer. Accordingly, any future issuance of preferred stock or any rights to purchase preferred shares may have the effect of making it more difficult for a third party to acquire control of us. This may delay, defer or prevent a change of control or an unsolicited acquisition proposal. The issuance of preferred stock also could decrease the amount of earnings attributable to and assets available for distribution to, the holders of our common stock and could adversely affect the rights and powers, including voting rights, of the holders of our common stock and preferred stock.

*Our Articles of Incorporation limits director liability, thereby making it difficult to bring any action against them for breach of fiduciary duty.*

The Company is a Colorado corporation. As permitted by Colorado law, the Company's Articles of Incorporation limits the liability of directors to the Company or its shareholders for monetary damages for breach of a director's fiduciary duty, with certain exceptions. These provisions may discourage shareholders from bringing suit against a director for breach of fiduciary duty and may reduce the likelihood of derivative litigation brought by shareholders on behalf of the Company against a director.

*Our charter documents and outstanding note to IED, Inc. may inhibit a takeover that shareholders consider favorable.*

Provisions of our Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws may delay or discourage transactions involving an actual or potential change in control of the Company, including transactions in which shareholders might otherwise receive a premium for their shares, or transactions that our shareholders might otherwise deem to be in their best interests.

These provisions:

- provide that the authorized number of directors may be changed by resolution of the board of directors;
- provide that all vacancies, including newly created directorships, may, except as otherwise required by law, be filled by the affirmative vote of a majority of directors then in office, even if less than a quorum; and
- do not provide for cumulative voting rights.

Our operating subsidiary, CUI, Inc. issued a note to IED, Inc. in connection with our acquisition of CUI, Inc. The note provides that, for so long as any obligations are outstanding under the note, IED will have a right to match any bona fide offer from a third party to acquire CUI, Inc. by any means. This matching right could discourage third parties from making an offer to acquire us, which would involve indirectly acquiring CUI, Inc., or from acquiring CUI, Inc. directly, in a transaction our shareholders might find advantageous because any such offer could be matched by IED and result in the third party utilizing time and resources to formulate an offer without being able to complete a transaction.

### **Risks Related to Our Recent Acquisition of Orbital Gas Systems/GasPT2 Device**

As a private company, Orbital Gas Systems may not have in place a system of internal control over financial reporting that is adequate to manage that business effectively as part of a public company.

Through our Orbital Gas Systems acquisition, we acquired shares of a private company that were not previously subject to financial reporting on the basis of U.S. GAAP, and have not been subject to periodic reporting as a public company. There can be no assurance that Orbital Gas Systems has in place a system of internal control over financial reporting that is required for public companies. Establishing, testing and maintaining an effective system of internal control over financial reporting requires significant resources and time commitments on the part of our management and our finance and accounting staff, may require additional staffing and infrastructure investments, and would increase our costs of doing business. Moreover, if we discover aspects of the Orbital Gas Systems internal controls that need improvement, we cannot be certain that our remedial measures will be effective. Any failure to implement required new or improved controls, or difficulties encountered in their implementation could harm our operating results or increase our risk of material weakness in internal controls.

A significant portion of our total assets consists of goodwill, which is subject to a periodic impairment analysis, and a significant impairment determination in any future period could have an adverse effect on our results of operations even without a significant loss of revenue or increase in cash expenses attributable to such period.

We have goodwill totaling approximately \$18.5 million following the acquisition of Orbital Gas Systems. We will be required to evaluate this goodwill for impairment based on the fair value of the operating business units to which this goodwill relates, at least once a year. This estimated fair value could change if we are unable to achieve operating results at the levels that have been forecasted, the market valuation of those business units decreases based on transactions involving similar companies, or there is a permanent, negative change in the market demand for the services offered by the business units. These changes could result in an impairment of the existing goodwill balance that could require a material non-cash charge to our results of operations.

Our operating results may be affected by fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates, which may affect our operating results in U.S. dollar terms.

A portion of our revenue arises from our international operations and we anticipate that, as we grow, our revenues from international operations will increase. Revenues generated and expenses incurred by our international operations are often denominated in local currencies. As a result, our consolidated U.S. dollar financial statements are subject to fluctuations due to changes in exchange rates as revenues and expenses of our international operations are translated from local currencies into U.S. dollars. In addition, our financial results are subject to changes in exchange rates that impact the settlement of transactions. The Company does not undertake any hedges to protect against adverse foreign currency exposure.

Our gas quality inferential measurement device, GasPT2, has not gained market acceptance as rapidly as we anticipated. There is no assurance our acquisition of Orbital will accelerate sales of the GasPT2 device.

Our future financial performance and ability to commercialize the GasPT2 device and compete successfully will depend on our ability to effectively manage acceptance and introduction of our GasPT2 device in the natural gas quality inferential measurement device market. Although we have entered into agreements and letters of understanding with third parties, which could result in substantial sales of the GasPT2 device over the next several years, there is no assurance we will sell at or near the number of units forecasted under these contracts.

Several factors have and may continue to contribute to the slower than anticipated market acceptance of the GasPT2 device, such as: disruptive technologies, such as the GasPT2 device, are slow to be accepted in a mature industry, such as natural gas distribution; extensive testing and research required by large natural gas distribution customers takes an extended period of time before such potential customers place firm orders; macro-economic issues in the natural gas industry may slow or impede capital expenditures; registration, regulatory approvals, certifications and licensing requirements in foreign countries.

Our strategy has been to establish market acceptance and credibility with potential customers through a campaign of product exposure and disclosure of highly acceptable test results of recognized international testing laboratories along with industry seminars, conventions, trade shows, professional periodicals and public relations. While we believe that the base has been laid for substantial sales of our GasPT2 device over the next several years, there is no assurance that our strategy and efforts will be successful. Also, while our management is optimistic that the acquisition of Orbital will stimulate and accelerate sales of the GasPT2 device, there is no assurance that GasPT2 device sales will actually increase in the near future due to the Orbital acquisition.

*The loss of any of Orbital's key management or employees could harm Orbital's future business prospects.*

We will be dependent upon the existing management team and key employees of Orbital for the foreseeable future. Orbital currently has approximately 105 employees, who are primarily focused on engineering, sales and manufacturing. Andrew Ridge continues to be primarily responsible for the day-to-day operations of Orbital since 2010 as Managing Director of Orbital. The company has identified and is currently training two middle-managers to take over day-to-day operation of Orbital in order to provide: (1) an organized succession plan; and (2) the ability to allow Mr. Ridge to direct more of his attention to sales, marketing and technical issues.

## **Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments**

None.

## **Item 2. Properties**

On September 27, 2013, our wholly owned subsidiary, CUI Properties, LLC, signed closing documents on the purchase of our Tualatin, Oregon corporate office real estate located at 20050 SW 112th Avenue in the Tualatin Franklin Business Park. The purchase price for this acquisition was \$5,050,000 and was partially funded by a promissory note payable to Wells Fargo Bank in the amount of \$3,693,750 plus interest at the rate of 2.0% above LIBOR, payable over ten years.

Additionally, subsequent to the acquisition of CUI Japan the Company has subleased space in Tokyo, Japan from Comex Electronics.

As an integrated part of the Orbital Gas Systems Limited acquisition, CUI Global, Inc. acquired the land and buildings owned by Orbital. In addition to the land and buildings owned by Orbital, the Orbital leases facilities for office and manufacturing space requirements.

## **Item 3. Legal Proceedings**

The Company and its subsidiaries are not a party in any legal proceedings. No director, officer or affiliate of the Company, any owner of record or beneficially of more than five percent of any class of voting securities of the Company or any associate of any such director, officer, affiliate of the Company or security holder is a party adverse to the Company or any of its subsidiaries or has a material interest adverse to the Company or any of its subsidiaries.

## **Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosure**

Not applicable.



## PART II

### Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

#### Description of Securities

The Company's Common Stock is traded on The NASDAQ Stock Market under the trading symbol "CUI". The Company currently has authorized 325,000,000 common shares, par value \$0.001 per share, and as of December 31, 2013, the Company's issued and outstanding shares consisted of 20,566,663 shares of common stock of which 20,220,613 shares are freely tradable without restriction or limitation under the Securities Act. As of December 31, 2013, the Company had in excess of 3,000 shareholders of record. Effective September 17, 2012, the Board of Directors passed a resolution eliminating and discontinuing all Series A and B Convertible Preferred and Series C Preferred stock. As of December 31, 2013, no shares of Preferred Stock are issued or outstanding.

The holders of Common Stock are entitled to one vote per share and do not have cumulative voting rights. Holders of the Company's Common Stock do not have any pre-emptive or other rights to subscribe for or purchase additional shares of capital stock and no conversion rights, redemption or sinking-fund provisions.

#### Our 2012 Public Offering

On August 23, 2011 the shareholders approved a reverse split of the issued and outstanding shares of \$0.001 par value common stock. The reverse split ratio was set at one for thirty (1:30) that became effective February 17, 2012. The reverse split was an element necessary for up-listing the common stock on The NASDAQ Stock Market that became effective February 17, 2012 under the trading symbol "CUI".

The reverse split did not affect any stockholder's proportionate equity interest in the Company or the rights, preferences, privileges or priorities of any stockholder, other than an adjustment due to fractional shares. The reverse split did not cause a significant change in the number of beneficial owners of our common stock. Likewise, the reverse split did not affect the total stockholders' equity in the Company or any components of stockholders' equity as reflected on the financial statements of the Company except to change the number of issued and outstanding shares of capital stock.

The company filed a Form S-1 registration statement to register 2,222,222 shares of \$0.001 par value common stock that became effective February 14, 2012. These shares of registered stock were sold to or through Merriman Capital, Inc. as our underwriter for ten million dollars (\$10,000,000). Our underwriting agreement contained an over-allotment provision that permitted our underwriter to purchase an additional 333,333 shares of our common stock which were purchased by our underwriter for one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000).

We received \$8,913,302 in net proceeds from our sale of 2,222,222 common shares sold by us in the Form S-1 offering. Our net proceeds from this offering represent the amount we received after paying the underwriter commissions of \$750,000 and underwriting expenses of \$200,000. In conjunction with the Form S-1 Offering, we received \$1,387,499 in net proceeds from our sale of 333,333 common shares sold by us in the over-allotment offering. Our net proceeds from this offering represent the amount we received after paying the underwriter discount of \$112,500 and total expenses of \$136,698.

The following schedule shows the common stock issuances and remaining balance after each issuance resulting from the one for thirty (1:30) reverse split that became effective February 17, 2012 and the Form S-1 registration statement that became effective February 14, 2012.

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	Common Stock Issued and Outstanding	Total Issued and Outstanding	Common Stock Available for Issuance
Total common stock outstanding and available prior to the 1:30 reverse-split	219,432,472	219,432,472	105,567,528
Total common stock outstanding and available after the reverse-split declared effective February 14, 2012	7,314,416	7,314,416	317,685,584
Total of all fractional shares that were rounded up as a result of the reverse-split	97	7,314,513	317,685,487
Common stock sold for \$10,000,000 under our S-1 registration statement that the SEC declared effective February 14, 2012	2,222,222	9,536,735	315,463,265
Common stock sold for \$1,499,999 under the over-allotment provision of our underwriter agreement that was included in our S-1 registration statement	333,333	9,870,068	315,129,932

In February 2012, the company utilized \$4.0 million to repay the principal balance in full under the \$4.0 million term note with the Business Credit division of Wells Fargo Capital Finance, Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. Also in February 2012, the company paid \$3.0 million toward the principal balance of the IED note payable associated with the acquisition of CUI, Inc. and \$35,000 was utilized to repay a convertible note payable owed to an officer of the company.

Our 2012 Private Placement

We received \$2,253,008 in net proceeds from our sale of 570,000 common shares. These 570,000 shares of common stock were included in an S-3 Registration Statement that the Company filed April 13, 2012 that became effective upon filing. Net proceeds from this sale represent the amount received by CUI Global after paying \$312,017 expenses of sale. The net proceeds from this sale were used for general corporate purposes.

Our 2013 Public Offering

During April 2013, in conjunction with an SEC Form S-1 registration statement that became effective by the SEC on April 11, 2013, 8,400,000 shares of common stock were issued. The Company received \$42,000,000 before related costs from this transaction. Also, during April 2013, 1,260,000 additional shares were issued that are included in the S-1 registration statement pursuant to an over-allotment provision contained in our underwriting agreement. The Company received \$6,300,000 before related costs from the sale of the over-allotment shares. Net proceeds from the April 2013 common stock sales pursuant to the S-1 registration statement and over-allotment provision were \$45,135,280 after paying costs of \$3,164,720 which were recorded as reductions of additional paid in capital.

Use of Proceeds

Effective April 1, 2013, CUI Global closed on a share purchase agreement to acquire 100% of the equity interest in Orbital Gas Systems Limited, a company organized under the laws of England and Wales ("Orbital"), from Orbital's sole shareholder. The Company completed the strategic acquisition of Orbital for 17 million British Pounds Sterling, approximately \$26.2 million. Based on the actual exchange rate for British Pounds Sterling to U.S. dollars achieved on the date of funding April 18, 2013.



In May 2013, the Company paid to IED, Inc. \$2,000,000 in principal, thereby reducing the balance of the note payable to \$5,303,683. In conjunction with this payment, the maturity date of the note was extended to May 15, 2020 and the interest was reduced to 5% per annum, payable monthly, with the principal due as a balloon payment at the maturity date.

As of December 31, 2013, the Company has invested \$10,868,961 in short term investments classified as held to maturity. These investments included money market securities, certificates of deposit, commercial paper and corporate notes.

The balance of the net proceeds are intended to be used to fund working capital, capital expenditures and other general corporate purposes.

Market Value

The Company's Common Stock is traded on the NASDAQ Stock Market under the trading symbol "CUI". The following table sets forth, the high and low bid prices of our Common Stock for the four quarters of 2012 and 2013 as reported by the National Quotation Bureau and reflect inter-dealer prices without retail mark-up, markdown or commission and may not represent actual transactions.

Quarter	High Bid	Low Bid
2012		
First Quarter	\$ 6.90	\$ 4.50
Second Quarter	\$ 7.00	\$ 3.81
Third Quarter	\$ 7.48	\$ 5.06
Fourth Quarter	\$ 6.40	\$ 4.34
2013		
First Quarter	\$ 6.00	\$ 4.80
Second Quarter	\$ 6.15	\$ 4.60
Third Quarter	\$ 6.40	\$ 5.00
Fourth Quarter	\$ 6.45	\$ 5.05

Dividend Policy

The Company has never paid cash dividends on its Common Stock and the Company does not expect to pay dividends in the foreseeable future.

We currently expect to retain future earnings to finance the growth and development of our business. The timing, amount and form of future dividends, if any, will depend, among other things, on our future results of operations and cash flows; our general financial condition and future prospects; our capital requirements and surplus; contractual restrictions; the amount of distributions, if any, received by us from our subsidiaries; and other factors deemed relevant by our board of directors. Any future dividends on our common shares would be declared by and subject to the discretion of our board of directors.

Common Stock Reserved for Future Issuances

Set forth below is a summary of the outstanding securities, transactions and agreements, which relate to 1,030,807 shares of common stock the Company is required to reserve for potential future issuances.

1. 1,030,807 common shares reserved for outstanding options issued under our Equity Compensation Plans

As of December 31, 2013, there were reserved for issuance an aggregate of 1,030,807 shares of common stock for options outstanding under the Company's 2008 Equity Incentive Plan and the Company's 2009 Equity Incentive Plan (Executive).

2. 1,613,112 common shares authorized for issuance under our Equity Compensation Plans

As of December 31, 2013, the Company has 1,613,112 common shares authorized and available for issuance under the Company option plans.

The approximate 346,050 shares of Common Stock held by existing shareholders as of December 31, 2013 that are "restricted" within the meaning of Rule 144 adopted under the Securities Act (the "Restricted Shares"), may not be sold unless they are registered under the Securities Act or sold pursuant to an exemption from registration, such as the exemption provided by Rule 144 promulgated under the Securities Act. The Restricted Shares were issued and sold by us in private transactions in reliance upon exemptions from registration under the Securities Act and may only be sold in accordance with the provisions of Rule 144 of the Securities Act, unless otherwise registered under the Securities Act.

Other than as described herein, as of the date of this report, there are currently no plans, arrangements, commitments or understandings for the issuance of additional shares of Common Stock.

Employee Equity Incentive Plans

At December 31, 2013, the Company had outstanding the following equity compensation plan information:

Plan Category	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights (a)	Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights (b)	Number of securities remaining available for future issuances under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a)) (c)
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	48,583	\$ 5.47	1,313,862
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	982,224	\$ 6.44	299,250
Total	1,030,807	\$ 6.39	1,613,112

Equity Compensation Plans Approved by Shareholders

On May 16, 2008 the Company's Board of Directors adopted the 2008 Equity Incentive Plan and authorized 1,500,000 shares of Common Stock to fund the Plan. At the 2008 Annual Meeting of Shareholders the Equity Incentive Plan was approved by the Company shareholders. At the 2009 Annual Meeting of Shareholders the shareholders approved an amendment to the 2008 Equity Incentive Plan to increase the number of common shares issuable under the plan from 1,500,000 to 3,000,000. All of these shares have been registered under Form S-8.

The 2008 Equity Incentive Plan is intended to: (a) provide incentive to employees of the Company and its affiliates to stimulate their efforts toward the continued success of the Company and to operate and manage the business in a manner that will provide for the long-term growth and profitability of the Company; (b) encourage stock ownership by employees, directors and independent contractors by providing them with a means to acquire a proprietary interest in the Company by acquiring shares of Stock or to receive compensation which is based upon appreciation in the value of Stock; and (c) provide a means of obtaining and rewarding employees, directors, independent contractors and advisors.

The 2008 Equity Incentive Plan provides for the issuance of incentive stock options (ISOs) and Non Statutory Options (NSOs) to employees, directors and independent contractors of the Company. The Board shall determine the exercise price per share in the case of an ISO at the time an option is granted and such price shall be not less than the fair market value or 110% of fair market value in the case of a ten percent or greater stockholder. In the case of an NSO, the exercise price shall not be less than the fair market value of one share of stock on the date the option is granted. Unless otherwise determined by the Board, ISOs and NSOs granted under the both plans have a maximum duration of 10 years.

Equity Compensation Plans Not Approved by Shareholders

In January 2009 the Company Board of Directors received and approved a written report and recommendations of the Compensation Committee which included a detailed executive equity compensation report and market analysis and the recommendations of Compensia, Inc., a management consulting firm that provides executive compensation advisory services to compensation committees and senior management of knowledge-based companies. The Compensation Committee used the report and analysis as a basis for its formal written recommendation to the board. Pursuant to a board resolution the 2009 Equity Incentive Plan (Executive), a Non-Qualified Stock Option Plan, was created and funded with 4,200,000 shares of \$0.001 par value common stock. The Compensation Committee was appointed as the Plan Administrator to manage the plan.

October 11, 2010, the Board of Directors authorized an additional 3,060,382 options under the 2009 Equity Incentive Plan (Executive) that are to be granted at post-reverse split quantities. On October 11, 2010, the following were granted: 3,300 to each director of the Company with an exercise price of \$9.00 per share and vesting one year after the October 11, 2010 date of grant. Two employees who also serve as directors received 52,277 bonus options as employees and 29,936 stock options were granted to corporate officers and employees. The employee bonus options have an exercise price of \$9.00 per share and vest over four years, 25% at year one and thereafter in equal monthly installments.

The 2009 Equity Incentive Plan (Executive) provides for the issuance of stock options to attract, retain and motivate executive and management employees and directors and to encourage these individuals to acquire an equity interest in the Company, to make monetary payments to certain management employees and directors based upon the value of the Company's stock and to provide these individuals with an incentive to maximize the success of the Company and further the interest of the shareholders. The 2009 Plan provides for the issuance of Incentive Non Statutory Options. The Administrator of the plan is authorized to determine the exercise price per share at the time the option is granted, but the exercise price shall not be less than the fair market value on the date the option is granted. Stock options granted under the 2009 Plan have a maximum duration of 10 years.

The Company has outstanding at December 31, 2013, the following options issued under equity compensation plans not approved by security holders:

During 2009, the Company issued under the 2009 Equity Incentive Plan (Executive) to officers and directors options to purchase restricted common stock at \$7.50 per share as follows: 85,009 fully vested shares; 28,800 shares that vest over four years, 25% at year one and thereafter in equal monthly installments; and 19,800 shares that fully vested one year after the date of grant.

During 2010 the Company issued under the 2009 Equity Incentive Plan (Executive) to officers and directors options to purchase restricted common stock at \$9.00 per share as follows: 19,800 options that vest one year after the October 11, 2010 grant date and 82,213 options that vest over four years, 25% at one year after the grant date, thereafter in equal monthly installments.

During 2012 the Company issued under the 2009 Equity Incentive Plan (Executive) to officers and directors options to purchase restricted common stock at \$4.56 per share as follows: 19,800 options that vest one year after the April 16, 2012 grant date, 64,875 options that vest over four years, 25% at one year after the grant date, thereafter in equal monthly installments and 330,000 options at \$6.00 per share to an officer that vest in equal monthly installments over the course of forty-eight consecutive months beginning September 2012.

During 2013 the Company issued under the 2009 Equity Incentive Plan (Executive) to three officers three hundred fifty thousand (350,000) options to purchase restricted common stock at \$6.25 per share as follows: one third that vest one year after the June 24, 2013 grant date, one third that vest two years after the grant date and the balance that vest three years after the grant date.

The description of the Company's capital stock does not purport to be complete and is subject to and qualified by its Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, amendments thereto and by the provisions of applicable Colorado law. The Company's transfer agent is Computershare Trust Company, Inc., 350 Indiana Street, Suite 800, Golden, Colorado 80401.

#### **RECENT SALES OF UNREGISTERED SECURITIES**

Following is a list of all securities we sold within the past three years which were not registered under the Securities Act. The Company relied on Section 4(2) of the Securities Act of 1933 as the basis for an exemption from registration for the following issuances.



## **2011 Sales of Unregistered Securities**

### Common Stock Issued During 2011

On January 6, 2011, the 1,667 issuable shares listed on the balance sheet as of December 31, 2010 were issued.

On February 7 and 10, 2011, two former employees completed cashless exercises of their options for which 269 shares of common stock were issued. The Company did not receive funds from these options exercises as they were cashless.

On March 11, 2011, 5,957 shares of common stock were issued pursuant to a consultant agreement for strategic investor marketing services. The shares were priced at \$7.05 per share based on the ten day trailing average closing price at the time of the issuance in accordance with the agreement and a \$42,000 consulting expense was recorded in relation to this transaction.

On April 19, 2011, a member of the Board of Directors exercised 23,333 warrants which he previously received in exchange for a personal guarantee of a bank note provided on behalf of the Company in May 2008. The Company received \$7,000 from the exercise of these warrants.

On May 4, 2011, a beneficial owner of more than 5% of the outstanding common stock, exercised 10,000 warrants which he previously received in exchange for a personal guarantee of a bank note provided on behalf of the Company in May 2008. The Company received \$3,000 from the exercise of these warrants.

On May 15, 2011, a beneficial owner of more than 10% of the outstanding common stock, exercised 133,333 warrants which he previously received in exchange for a personal guarantee of a bank note provided on behalf of the Company in May 2008. The Company received \$40,000 from the exercise of these warrants.

On December 27, 2011, 5,000 shares of common stock were issued to a former consultant in consideration for the release of a claim on intellectual property with a related expense of \$19,500 recorded.

### Warrants and Options Issued During 2011

There were no warrants or options issued during 2011.

### Series A and Series B Convertible Preferred Stock Issued During 2011

There were no shares of Series A or Series B Convertible Preferred Stock issued during 2011.

### Series C Preferred Stock Issued During 2011

There were no shares of Series C Convertible Preferred Stock issued during 2011.

## **2012 Sales of Unregistered Securities**

### Common Stock Issued During 2012

Effective February 17, 2012, the issued and outstanding shares of the Company's \$0.001 par value common stock were reverse split at a ratio of one for thirty (1:30). All fractional shares resulting from the reverse split were rounded up to the next full numbers. As a result of the rounding up effect, 97 additional shares of common stock were issued that are included in the S-1 registration statement. The company received no monetary consideration for these 97 shares.

March 16, 2012, 10,071 shares of common stock were issued in relation to a warrant exercise. The company received \$3,021 from this transaction.

March 20, 2012, 15,000 shares of common stock were issued in consideration for strategic investor marketing services rendered for the benefit of the company. A \$69,450 consulting expense was recorded in relation to this transaction based on the fair market value of the stock on the date of grant.

Between April 4-12, 2012, 57,000 shares of common stock were issued in relation to common stock bonuses granted to officers and employees. 50,750 of these common shares were issued to three officers with a fair value of \$243,600 in accordance with their employment agreement bonus provisions. Two employees were awarded a total of 6,250 common shares with a fair value total of \$30,000.

On April 12, 2012, a holder of 2,500 shares of convertible Series A preferred stock completed the conversion of those shares into common shares. At the same time, the holder also converted an accrued preferred stock dividend of \$250 into common shares. For these conversions, the holder received 458 common shares based upon the conversion features of the convertible Series A preferred stock and accrued preferred stock dividends.

On May 4, 2012, a holder of 45,000 shares of convertible Series A preferred stock completed the conversion of those shares into common shares. At the same time, the holder also converted an accrued preferred stock dividend of \$4,500 into common shares. For these conversions, the holder received 8,645 common shares based upon the conversion features of the convertible Series A preferred stock and accrued preferred stock dividends.

On May 30, 2012, a holder of 3,043 shares of convertible Series A preferred stock completed the conversion of those shares into common shares. At the same time, the holder also converted an accrued preferred stock dividend of \$304 into common shares. For these conversions, the holder received 558 common shares based upon the conversion features of the convertible Series A preferred stock and accrued preferred stock dividends.

On June 21, 2012, 1,000 shares of common stock were issued to a consultant in consideration for strategic investor marketing services rendered for the benefit of the company and a \$6,450 consulting expense was recorded in relation to these issuances based on the fair market value of the stock on the date of the grant.

On June 28 and 29, July 2, 3, 16 and 27, 2012, 234,332 shares of common stock were sold to investors at \$4.50 per share pursuant to stock purchase agreements with proceeds of \$1,054,500 before related costs from this transaction of \$79,045 which were recorded as reductions of additional paid in capital.

On September 7, 2012, 1,052 shares of common stock were issued as a royalty to James McKenzie, majority owner of CUI, Inc. prior to the May 2008 asset acquisition by CUI Global. The shares were valued at \$6,638.

On September 27, 2012, 4,596 shares of common stock were issued to an employee as a bonus. These shares were expensed at a fair value of \$25,000 as of the date of issuance.

On each of April 5, May 7, June 6, July 2, August 1, September 7, October 1 and November 1, 2012, the company issued 13,500 shares of common stock to a consultant in consideration for strategic investor marketing services rendered for the benefit of the company. A \$569,970 consulting expense was recorded in relation to these issuances based on the fair market value of the stock on the dates of the grants.

On October 16, 2012, 2,500 shares of common stock were issued to a consultant in consideration for strategic investor marketing services rendered for the benefit of the company and a \$12,825 consulting expense was recorded in relation to these issuances based on the fair market value of the stock on the date of the grant.

Warrants and Options Issued During 2012

During April 2012, 84,675 options to purchase restricted common stock were issued to officers and directors under the 2009 Equity Incentive Plan (Executive) with the following assumptions: exercise price of \$4.56 per share, volatility of 90%, risk-free interest rate of 0.27% and a term of 2 years. The 19,800 director related options vest one year from the date of grant while the 64,875 officer options have a four year vesting period with 25% vesting one year from date of grant and monthly thereafter.

During May 2012, 11,167 fully vested options were granted to employees under the 2008 Equity Incentive Plan to purchase common stock with the following assumptions: exercise price of \$4.58 per share, volatility of 91%, risk-free interest rate of 0.27% and a term of 2 years.

During September 2012, 330,000 options to purchase common stock were issued to an officer under the 2009 Equity Incentive Plan (Executive) with the following assumptions: exercise price of \$6.00 per share, volatility of 84%, risk-free interest rate of 0.27% and a term of 2 years. The 330,000 options vest in equal monthly installments over the course of forty-eight consecutive months beginning September 2012.

Series A and Series B Convertible Preferred Stock Issued During 2012

There were no shares of Series A or Series B Convertible Preferred Stock issued during 2012.

Series C Preferred Stock Issued During 2012

There were no shares of Series C Convertible Preferred Stock issued during 2012.

**2013 Sales of Unregistered Securities**

Common Stock Issued During 2013

During June 2013, 16,305 shares of common stock were issued in relation to common stock bonuses granted to twenty-two employees with a fair value of \$91,348 as of the grant date.

On June 13, 2013, 4,578 shares of common stock were issued in accordance with a royalty agreement on the GasPT2 products to James McKenzie, majority owner of CUI, Inc. prior to the May 2008 asset acquisition by CUI Global. The fair value of these shares as of the date of issuance was \$24,813.

On December 27, 2013, 2,500 shares of common stock were issued to a consultant for services. These shares were expensed at a fair value of \$15,399 as of the date of issuance.

Warrants and Options Issued During 2013

June 24, 2013 options to purchase 350,000 shares of restricted common stock at a price of \$6.25 per share were granted to three officers under the 2009 Equity Incentive Plan (Executive) with the following assumptions: exercise price of \$6.25 per share, volatility of 44%, risk-free interest rate of 0.73% and a term of 3 years. These options vest: one third per year beginning at one year from the date of grant.

**Note:** Effective September 17, 2012, the Board of Directors passed a resolution eliminating and discontinuing all Series A and B Convertible Preferred and Series C Preferred stock. As of December 31, 2013, no shares of Series A and Series B Convertible Preferred or Series C Preferred Stock are issued and outstanding.

**Shares Eligible for Future Sale**

As of December 31, 2013, we had outstanding 20,566,663 shares of Common Stock. Of these shares, 20,220,613 shares are freely tradable without restriction or limitation under the Securities Act.

The 346,050 shares of Common Stock held by existing shareholders as of December 31, 2013 that are "restricted" within the meaning of Rule 144 adopted under the Securities Act (the "Restricted Shares"), may not be sold unless they are registered under the Securities Act or sold pursuant to an exemption from registration, such as the exemption provided by Rule 144 promulgated under the Securities Act. The Restricted Shares were issued and sold by us in private transactions in reliance upon exemptions from registration under the Securities Act.

## Item 6. Selected Financial Data

The following tables set forth selected consolidated financial data as of the dates and for the periods presented. The selected consolidated balance sheet data as of December 31, 2013 and 2012 and the selected consolidated statement of operations data for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012, and 2011 have been derived from our audited consolidated financial statements and related notes that we have included elsewhere in this filing. The selected consolidated balance sheet data as of December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009 and the selected consolidated statement of operations data for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009 have been derived from audited consolidated financial statements that are not presented in this filing. The timing of acquisitions and divestitures completed during the years presented affects the comparability of the selected financial data. The selected financial data excludes the operations as well as assets and liabilities of our discontinued operations from our consolidated financial statements.

The selected historical consolidated financial data as of any date and for any period are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be achieved as of any future date or for any future period. You should read the following selected historical financial data in conjunction with the more detailed information contained in Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and our consolidated financial statements and the related notes that we have presented elsewhere in this filing.

For information regarding the Company's acquisitions, see Note 4, ACQUISITION.

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For the Years Ended December 31,  
2013                      2012                      2011                      2010